

## **APS revolutionizes setting of support pins**

**EKRA's new APS (Automatic Pin Setting) automates the setting of support pins in a process machine. Now, pins are automatically set and verified in one process step – without human intervention. The removal is also done automatically; distorted pins are directly rejected.**

APS aligns the support pins accordingly to the requested job, verifies the process and if necessary, performs the required corrections, as well as removing the pins fully automatically. Consequently the operator could focus on other, more important tasks.

### **Sophisticated technique**

Each product must be supported from the bottom side to ensure perfect printing results. Inefficient or inappropriate support leads to volume variations, misprints and rejects. The setting of support pins becomes more and more complex because of narrow support areas and the processing of such highly populated products. APS captures the product with the fiducial camera and displays a clear image of it. Thus, the positions of the pins could be securely and precisely defined. For this no further CAD data is necessary. As soon as all positions are defined, the system loads the pins from the magazine and places them onto the print table. The integrated vision system verifies the positions. In case the vision system detects a deviation, APS automatically repositions the pin by applying the appropriate offset. The system frequently performs a verification cycle to ensure fail-free operation. When the job is finished or a new job is loaded, APS automatically removes all pins from the table and stores them in the magazine or places the pins accordingly for the new product.

**About EKRA Automatisierungssysteme GmbH**

EKRA specializes in high-quality, high-performance screen and stencil printing systems, as well as services and products related to all aspects of the printing process. The unique portfolio includes products and solutions for applications in the fields of SMT, hybrid thickfilm, and advanced packaging. The portfolio ranges from manual laboratory printers through fully automatic inline systems and flexible dual-track solutions to complete customized production lines.

**About ASYS Group**

The ASYS Group is a global technology company and a leading manufacturer of handling, process and special machines for the electronics, solar and life science industries. The corporate headquarters in Dornstadt near Ulm, Germany controls the activities of the subsidiaries in more than 40 countries. The ASYS Group employs over 1000 staff worldwide and supplies both standard products and customized solutions.

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