

The Chain

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NEWSLETTER FOR IPS TECHNOLOGY BUSINESS RELATIONS

NUMBER 5 / 2012

The right choice precisely

IPS Technology participating in the Precision Fair turned out to be the right choice. The fair, the largest event in the Benelux in the area of precision technology, was held between 30 November and 1 December of last year.

A record number of fair visitors visited the IPS Technology stand at the Conference Centre Koningshof in Veldhoven. There was also great interest in the parallel lectures in the conference programme given by IPS employee Marten Ries about "Testing and Reliability" and Govert Hamelink and Cees van Duijn about "Cleanroom packaging at the kitchen table" of Innovar, IPS' sister company.

Great result

"We are very proud of the result," says IPS CEO Peter Geerts. "We held many interesting conversations at our stand. This resulted in a few new customers. It should, therefore, not come as a surprise that we have again registered for the 2012 edition of the Precision Fair."

Packaging and shipping 4.5 tons

How do you package and ship a precision measuring machine that weighs 4.5 tons? IPS Technology came up with the right solution for its customer IBS Precision Engineering. Erik Pennings, Engineering Manager at IBS, tells us about this on page 3.



CHERISHING INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS



Vibrating light

Philips Lighting has discovered IPS Technology's testing laboratory. System architect Erwin Altewischer of Large Luminous Surfaces, Philips Lighting, had vibration tests performed on luminous textile panels. An innovative wall and ceiling panel in which a combination is integrated of textile and Philips LEDs.



As a system architect, Altewischer determines, designs, implements and monitors architecture in a similar way as a regular architect does. After a customer had told him about IPS Technology, he arrived at our door and testing laboratory. "We decided to use IPS' services because our own vibration tester and the room at the Philips campus were not really fit for purpose. They were not sufficiently large to test the luminous textile panels."

Philips' LEDs have been integrated in the acoustic panels with textile strips in the luminous textile panels. The user can control the LEDs individually and per colour. Altewischer: "The product is a unique combination of textile, acoustics and light. Architects and interior and lighting designers are given more freedom to embellish a room with this mood lighting."

Vibration tests

A high mechanical load was exerted on the different product components during the vibration tests at IPS. Altewischer: "We, naturally, were curious about whether

there were weak links and, if so, where they were. The result was that, even during the maximum load, only one small error was generated. A component at the soldered joint turned out to be vulnerable." Altewischer explains the test result in two ways. "On the one hand, it is a pity that so few improvement points came to light. But it is a sign that the luminous textile panels have been correctly constructed." A few small corrections were also implemented because of the test result. Now, the light panels have already been on sale worldwide for a few months. Altewischer review of the past few months is, therefore, positive. "Despite the few surprising results, we are very pleased with our partnership with IPS. If a similar situation presents itself in the future, I'll not hesitate in again approaching IPS."



Hydraulic vibration tester

IPS Technology has a robust vibration tester that is suitable for products with a maximum weight of 2,200 kg and table dimensions of 153x153 cm. The vibration tester stimulates the conditions under which a product could be shipped and used. The natural product and system frequency is determined through the vibration tester. You can also determine the service life and reliability of those products and systems. This concerns both packaging and product testing.

CHERISHING INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS



IPS Technology
Packaging Tooling Testing

With thanks to hovercraft

The Isara 400 precision measuring machine is shipped to customers by IBS Precision Engineering based in Eindhoven on air cushions. The idea that remotely resembles the concept of the hovercraft has been developed by IPS Technology. The packaging has also been developed by IPS.

IBS is a developer and producer of high-tech precision measuring machines. The Isara 400, developed last year, is one of these machines. The machine measures small components or workpieces with nanometre accuracy; that is, with a precision of a millionth of a millimetre. IBS developed the machine at the instructions of the Leibniz Institute based in Leipzig, Germany. Erik Pennings, Engineering Manager at IBS, says that IPS Technology's contribution was vital. "The Isara 400 is a device that is very sensitive to shocks, temperature fluctuations and contamination. The biggest challenge was to get the machine out of the factory and into its packaging. A 'hovercraft-like shipping system' was conceived using air cushions together with IPS."



Erik Pennings: "The idea of using air cushions turned out to be a bull's-eye."

IPS designed two main shipping beams for the Isara 400 that are secured under the machine to link as many parts as possible to each other. The air cushion system is slid under these beams for internal conveyance. The beams also have gripping points for a forklift truck that are used to place the whole unit on to the packaging.

IPS Technology's expertise assisted Pennings in finding the correct shipping system. "The original plan was to move the Isara 400 using rollers. But it turned out to be very difficult to steer with this system. It also costs too much power to drive the machine that weighs 4.5 tons out of the cleanroom. The air cushion solution turned out to be a bull's-eye because it made manoeuvring the machine very easy."

Sustainability

"High-quality packaging goes hand-in-hand with a high-quality machine," says Pennings. "We aren't ourselves packaging experts. We, therefore, searched for a party who had experience in this area: IPS Technology." The Engineering Manager explains the IPS added value through examples. "We don't know how you produce a packaging system that will protect the machine appropriately against moisture and dirt and what the regulations are in relation to air transport. Or how you calculate machine attenuation values in combination with packaging during shipment. And I can continue in this vein for hours. The expertise did not only result in a flawless delivery of the Isara 400 but delivery was also on time. We couldn't have managed that ourselves."

What also is a source of satisfaction for Pennings is that: "A sustainable packaging system was developed that can be easily reused in future. We are currently holding initial meetings with customers to deliver more Isara 400 machines. We'll be reusing the same packaging system. And this is a great advantage. We don't have to later reinvent the wheel."

Nice feeling

Pennings will again call in IPS if new precision measuring machines have to be packaged or shipped in future. "I already had a good feeling as from the preliminary process. This feeling stayed with me during the whole process. IPS has large customers such as ASML and, therefore, we already knew that we were playing it safe with IPS," says the Engineering Manager. The fact that both companies are established in Eindhoven is an added bonus for Pennings. "It was important to both parties that we consulted on a regular basis. On site. This is the only way in which you can discuss the options from the packaging and machine side. You simply cannot do that over the telephone."

CHERISHING INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS



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Packaging Tooling Testing

Job satisfaction

The cross country and marathon bikers of the IPS Technology Cycling Team are 'proper hench'. The team members won great prizes in 2011. Gijs Derksen, for example, became Dutch Cross Country Champion in the Amateur class. And Ivan Peeters can call himself Dutch Marathon Champion in the Master class.



IPS is the main sponsor of the team. We are not just sponsors for the show. As important is that it is fun for us, IPS employees, to share in the joy experienced by a group of fanatical sports addicts. As it is also truly fun to roll up our sleeves on a free Saturday and to do odd jobs in the house of Stichting Zelo for youths with an impairment.

When we started to offer our support to the cycling team and Stichting Zelo, we could not have envisaged what a great side effect this would have. Because these activities ensure that the interrelationships between IPS employees are strengthened. This is simply great. A strong interrelationship increases employee job satisfaction and, therefore, the quality of the work produced.

And this, in turn, is great news for you!

Peter Geerts
Director IPS Technology



Doing odd jobs at Zelo

Many IPS Technology employees spent a free Saturday doing odd jobs for the Stichting Zelo charity based in Uden the past autumn. They levelled the floor at the De Wieken site in Uden so that underfloor heating could be installed.

Stichting Zelo is working on setting up a small-scale living unit for twelve youths with an impairment. Remco den Herder works at IPS and is one of the driving forces behind the charity. "By taking charge of a mountain of work, we can keep renovation costs down and we'll be lowering the final rental. All renovation and demolition work taken as a whole could be split over approximately seventy man-days in terms of the work this entailed. Zelo is, therefore, very thankful for the extra assistance that IPS employees gave."



Colophon

The Chain is IPS Technology's newsletter. IPS Technology ensures that industrial products can be delivered and installed efficiently and in perfect condition. IPS Technology does this by cherishing the products themselves and their added value.

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CU4EVER
Printing:
Drukkerij NPC

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