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Troubleshooting for Printed Board
Assembly Processes

An international standard developed by IPC

Association Connecting Electronics Industries



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Developed by Assembly Process Effects Handbook Subcommittee (7-23)
of the Process Control Management Committee (7-20) of IPC

Users of this publication are encouraged to participate in the
development of future revisions.

Contact:

IPC
3000 Lakeside Drive, Suite 105N
Bannockburn, Illinois
60015-1219
Tel 847 615.7100
Fax 847 615.7105

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Process Control Management Committee	Assembly Process Effects Handbook Subcommittee	Technical Liaison of the IPC Board of Directors
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Vern Solberg, Solberg Technical
Consulting

Andy Bester, U.S. Army Aviation &
Missile Command

David Carlton, U.S. Army Aviation &
Missile Command

Calette Chamness, U.S. Army
Aviation & Missile Command

Sharon Ventress, U.S. Army Aviation
& Missile Command

Stephen Meeks, ViaSat

Table of Contents

1 GENERAL INTRODUCTION	1-1		
1.1 Purpose and Format	1-1		
1.2 Guidelines for Effective Troubleshooting and Process Control	1-2		
1.3 Parameter Analysis	1-3		
1.3.1 Brainstorming	1-3		
1.3.2 Process Audit	1-3		
1.3.3 Initial Capability Study	1-3		
1.3.4 Optimization	1-3		
1.3.5 Confirmation and Final Capability Assessment	1-3		
1.3.6 Parameter Control	1-4		
1.3.7 Corrective Action Plan	1-4		
1.4 Applicable Documents	1-4		
1.4.1 IPC	1-4		
2 DESIGN AND DOCUMENTATION	2-1		
2.1 Component Positioning	2-1		
Issue: SMT chip components twist off lands during reflow	2-1		
Issue: Insufficient toe and heel fillets	2-1		
Issue: Through hole components do not consistently go into mounting holes during automatic assembly	2-2		
Issue: Cannot access component for repair	2-2		
Issue: Delicate component bodies crack during the thermal cycles of assembly	2-2		
Issue: Small components exhibit poor solder joint formation	2-2		
Issue: Unable to maximize manufacturing capability, or optimize construction and assembly choices to obtain best solutions for end product functionality and performance	2-2		
Issue: Unable to determine acceptance criteria	2-2		
3 TOOLING AND FIXTURING	3-1		
3.1 Terminals	3-1		
Issue: Terminals and eyelets, swaged base split	3-1		
			Issue: Terminal and eyelets, mounts are cracked
			3-1
			Issue: Incorrect stress relief
			3-1
			Issue: Cracked or fractured meniscus
			3-1
		3.2 Assembly Fixture	3-1
		Issue: Components damaged by assembly fixturing	3-1
			3-1
		Issue: Board Pad Cratering	3-2
			3-2
		Issue: Solder Joint Cracking	3-2
			3-2
		Issue: Stencil and Printer Tooling Issues	3-3
			3-3
		Issue: Damaged Squeegee Blade	3-3
			3-4
		Issue: Damaged printer wiper	3-4
			3-4
		Issue: Tooling incorrectly set or placed	3-4
			3-5
		Issue: Tooling Missing	3-5
			3-5
		Issue: Incorrect print height	3-5
			3-6
		Issue: Tooling is not level	3-6
			3-6
		Issue: Incorrect squeegee type fitted	3-6
			3-7
		Issue: Insufficient paste in print area	3-7
			3-7
		Issue: Squeegees are dirty	3-7
			3-8
		Issue: Understencil cleaner	3-8
			3-8
		Issue: Damaged Screen/stencil	3-8
			3-9
		Issue: Screen Apertures Blocked with solder paste	3-9
			3-9
		4 HANDLING AND STORAGE	4-1
		4.1 Component Mounting Solderability and Contamination	4-1
			4-1
		Issue: Leads do not accept solder	4-1
			4-1
		Issue: Leads do not float	4-1
			4-2
		4.2 Board Preparation	4-2
		Issue: Residue at incoming inspection. Incoming residue may be associated with either the manufacture of the boards and components, or their handling and storage	4-2
			4-2
		Issue: Paste is dry	4-2
			4-2
		Issue: PWB warps or delaminates after reflow	4-2
			4-3
		Issue: Poor SOT 23 Component Compatibility	4-3
			4-3
		Issue: QFP Cracking Popcorning	4-3

5 ASSEMBLY MATERIAL	5-1	Issue: Excess solder paste deposited	6-10
Issue: Flux on top of paste	5-1	Issue: Misaligned solder paste deposits	6-11
Issue: Crust on top of paste	5-1	6.5 Syringe Dispensing	6-11
Issue: Dry solder paste	5-2	Issue: Solder paste flow stops	6-11
Issue: Conformal Coating bubbles	5-2	Issue: Dispenser has difficulty delivering consistent amounts with each shot (a sure sign is solder paste strings when the dispensing head moves from one pad to another)	6-11
6 MECHANICAL OPERATION	6-1	Issue: Solder paste deposit not rounded enough	6-11
6.1 Stencil Printing: Insufficient solder paste	6-1	Issue: Solder paste deposit not peaked enough	6-11
Issue: Insufficient solder paste deposited to form a reliable solder joint	6-1	Issue: Solder paste will not adhere to the pad	6-12
Issue: Insufficient print quality in only one section of the circuit board while the rest of the circuit board is printed cleanly. A number of factors can contribute to this.	6-2	Issue: Tooling pin error	6-12
Issue: Inconsistent print when the squeegee travels in opposite directions	6-3	Issue: Panel stuck on conveyor	6-12
Issue: Insufficient paste	6-3	6.6 Other	6-12
Issue: Skip Un-Soldered Surface Mount Termination	6-4	Issue: Inconsistent solder paste deposition on surface mount assembly	6-12
6.2 Stencil Printing: Excessive Solder Paste	6-4	7 COMPONENT PREPARATION	7-1
Issue: Excess solder paste deposited. Excess solder after reflow or solder shorts caused by excess solder paste deposits and wet bridging	6-4	7.1 Pre-tinning	7-1
Issue: Excessive Paste	6-5	Issue: Leads do not accept solder	7-1
Issue: Paste Smear	6-6	Issue: Leads do not float	7-1
6.3 Stencil Printing: General Observations	6-6	7.2 Pre-forming	7-1
Issue: Uneven marks on stencil	6-6	Issue: Bent IC leads	7-1
Issue: Paste misalignment	6-6	Issue: Improper lead bend	7-1
Issue: Paste fringing on stencil after printing	6-7	Issue: Nicked leads	7-1
Issue: Thin streaks of paste across stencil	6-7	Issue: Incorrect stress relief	7-1
Issue: Uneven print across board	6-7	Issue: Cracked or Fractured Meniscus	7-2
Issue: Ridges around top of paste bricks	6-7	7.3 Pre-cutting	7-2
Issue: Foreign material in paste on board	6-8	Issue: Uneven leads	7-2
Issue: Excess flux on panel	6-8	Issue: Burrs on leads	7-2
Issue: Paste covering land but metallization showing through	6-8	Issue: Leads with flanged ends	7-2
Issue: Paste slump	6-8	Issue: Leads too long or too short	7-2
Issue: Misaligned print	6-9	7.4 Lead Pre-Cutting	7-2
Issue: Paste misalignment during component printing	6-9	Issue: Uneven leads	7-2
6.4 Screen Printing	6-10	Issue: Burrs on leads	7-2
Issue: Insufficient solder paste deposited	6-10	Issue: Leads with flanged ends	7-2
		Issue: Leads too long or too short	7-3
		Issue: Improper lead bend	7-3

8 COMPONENT MOUNTING SITE PREPARATION	8-1	Issue: Lost components (most frequently related to insufficient cure, poor bond or adhesive, or non-wetted component)	8-4
8.1 Jetting solder paste	8-1	Issue: Adhesive voids (most frequently related to the presence of moisture in adhesive or on surfaces)	8-4
Issue: Solder paste flow stops	8-1	8.5 Dispensing	8-5
Issue: Jet printer has difficulty delivering consistent amounts with each shot	8-1	Issue: Stringing (most frequently related to withdrawal rate and viscosity)	8-5
Issue: Solder not wetting land area	8-1	Issue: Skipping and insufficient adhesive (most frequently related to amount of adhesive on pins)	8-5
Issue: Solder paste printing problems	8-2	Issue: Excessive adhesive (most frequently related to flow properties of adhesive and variations in temperature of the reservoir)	8-5
8.2 Syringe Dispensing	8-2	8.6 Adhesive Application	8-6
Issue: Solder paste flow stops	8-2	8.6.1 Dispensing	8-6
Issue: Dispenser has difficulty delivering consistent amounts with each shot (a sure sign is solder paste strings when the dispensing head moves from one pad to another)	8-2	Issue: Stringing (most frequently related to both dispenser and adhesive)	8-6
Issue: Solder paste deposit not rounded enough	8-2	Issue: Nozzle clogging (most frequently related to down time, curing, and foreign matter)	8-6
Issue: Solder paste deposit not peaked enough	8-2	Issue: Skipping and insufficient adhesive (most frequently related to clogged nozzle)	8-6
Issue: Solder paste will not adhere to the pad	8-3	Issue: Excessive adhesive (most frequently related to thixotropic properties of adhesive, temperature of reservoir, and equipment controls)	8-7
8.3 Adhesive Application Dispensing	8-3	Issue: Insufficient cure (most frequently related to insufficient curing energy leaving soft, gummy, or tacky adhesive)	8-7
Issue: Stringing (most frequently related to both dispenser and adhesive)	8-3	Issue: Lost components (most frequently related to insufficient cure, poor bond or adhesive, or non-wetted component)	8-7
Issue: Nozzle clogging (most frequently related to down time, curing, and foreign matter)	8-3	Issue: Adhesive voids (most frequently related to the presence of moisture in adhesive or on surfaces)	8-7
8.4 Pin Dip Transfer	8-3	Issue: Tombstoning	8-8
Issue: Skipping and insufficient adhesive (most frequently related to clogged nozzle)	8-3		
Issue: Excessive adhesive (most frequently related to thixotropic properties of adhesive, temperature of reservoir, and equipment controls)	8-4		
Issue: Insufficient cure (most frequently related to insufficient curing energy leaving soft, gummy, or tacky adhesive)	8-4		

9 COMPONENT PLACEMENT	9-1	9.7 Automatic Insertion (Through-Hole)	9-5
9.1 Component Placement/Positioning	9-1	Issue: Mis-insertion	9-5
Issue: Inaccurate component placement (all or many components on a board)	9-1	Issue: Reversed part	9-5
Issue: Inaccurate component placement (occasional component on board)	9-1	Issue: Part off-center	9-5
Issue: Inaccurate component placement (one component type affected)	9-1	Issue: Damaged part	9-5
Issue: Feeder is not feeding parts correctly (sensor will stop the machine)	9-1	Issue: Mis-insertion	9-6
Issue: Machine stops; component not picked up	9-1	Issue: Over crimp	9-6
9.2 Component Insertion (Through-hole) Manual/Semi-Automatic	9-2	Issue: Under crimp	9-6
Issue: Incorrect Laser placement marking	9-2	Issue: Leads too long or too short	9-6
9.3 Component Orientation/Alignment	9-2	9.8 Manual/Semi-automatic through insertion	9-6
Issue: Wrong component orientation	9-2	Issue: Terminals and eyelets, swaged base split	9-6
Issue: Cocking of passive chip components ...	9-2	Issue: Terminal and eyelets, mounts are cracked	9-6
Issue: Component Misalignment	9-2	9.9 Automatic Insertion (Through-Hole)	9-6
9.4 Machine Errors	9-3	Issue: Mis-insertion	9-6
Issue: Missing component	9-3	Issue: Reversed Part	9-6
Issue: Wrong component placed	9-3	Issue: Part off-center	9-7
9.5 Component Condition After Placement	9-4	Issue: Damaged part	9-7
Issue: Damaged component	9-4	Issue: Mis-insertion	9-7
Issue: Metallized termination of ceramic component cracked or separated from component body	9-4	Issue: Over crimp	9-7
Issue: Cracked multilayer ceramic component with crack(s) originating under the metallized termination	9-4	Issue: Under crimp	9-7
Issue: Cracked multilayer ceramic component with crack(s) originating between the metallized terminations	9-4	Issue: Leads too long or too short	9-7
9.6 Machine Errors	9-5	Issue: Inaccurate component placement (all or many components on a board)	9-7
Issue: Can't read fiducial(s)	9-5	Issue: Inaccurate component placement (occasional component on board)	9-7
Issue: Mis-pick from tape feeder	9-5	Issue: Inaccurate component placement (one component type affected)	9-8
Issue: Panel stuck on conveyor	9-5	Issue: Feeder is not feeding parts correctly (sensor will stop the machine)	9-8
		Issue: Machine stops; component not picked up	9-8

10 COMPONENT ATTACHMENT	10-1	10.3.2 Equipment/Process-Related Problems	10-6
10.1 Design	10-1	Issue: No reflow of paste or preforms	10-6
10.1.1 Design Related Problems	10-1	Issue: Dull, graying, crystallized solder	10-6
Issue: Solder skips	10-1	Issue: Opens	10-6
Issue: Solder bridges	10-1	Issue: Tombstoning	10-7
Issue: Unfilled via holes	10-1	Issue: Bridges (most frequently caused by solder application registration tolerance)	10-7
Issue: Solder projections	10-1	Issue: Solder Balls	10-7
10.2 Materials	10-2	Issue: Component alignment	10-7
10.2.1 Material/Prior Process Related Problems	10-2	Issue: Capacitor cracking	10-7
Issue: Solder skips	10-2	Issue: Plastic package cracking	10-8
Issue: Solder bridges	10-2	Issue: Low surface insulation resistance	10-8
Issue: Unfilled via holes	10-3	Issue: Insufficient solder fillets	10-8
Issue: Solder wave over-flooding board	10-3	Issue: Non-soldering (electrical open)	10-8
Issue: Grainy or disturbed joints	10-3	10.3.3 Material/Prior-Process Related Problems	10-9
Issue: Cold joints	10-3	Issue: No reflow of solder paste/cold solder joints, nonwetting	10-9
Issue: Solder balls on assembly	10-4	Issue: No solders: Dewetting	10-9
Issue: Cracked chip components or plastic-bodied leaded components	10-4	Issue: Uneven reflow	10-9
Issue: Solder projections	10-4	Issue: Solder balls (often due to excessive outgassing of the paste or boards during reflow, or an excess of oxide on the paste particles, components, or boards)	10-9
Issue: Lead does not accept solder	10-4	Issue: Charring of board/components (thermal damage to the boards or components during reflow can be due to oven temperature or uneven thermal transfer during reflow)	10-10
10.3 Reflow	10-4	Issue: Damaged components	10-10
10.3.1 Infrared/Convection Reflow Soldering	10-4	Issue: Cracked joints (physical damage to the solder joints can occur if the assemblies are moved while the solder joints are still liquid, or if the assemblies are handled in such a way as to damage the cooled solder joints)	10-10
Issue: No reflow of paste or preforms	10-4	Issue: Voids (result of entrapment of flux or other volatiles in the solder joints during reflow)	10-10
Issue: Dull, graying, crystallized solder	10-4	Issue: Opens	10-10
Issue: Opens (most frequently caused by lead coplanarity or solder wicking)	10-5	Issue: Spatter (related to solder balling)	10-10
Issue: Tombstoning (most frequently caused by unequal melt or solder paste quantity)	10-5	Issue: Tombstoning (the raising up of one end of a chip component during reflow)	10-11
Issue: Solder balls (most frequently caused by outdated paste or insufficient preheat)	10-5	10.3.4 Equipment/Process-Related Problems	10-11
Issue: Component alignment (most frequently caused by pad design or placement error)	10-5	Issue: No reflow of solder paste/cold solder joints	10-11
Issue: Capacitor cracking (most frequently caused by thermal shock or placement handling)	10-5	Issue: No solder (solder not present)	10-11
Issue: Plastic package cracking (most frequently caused by water entrapped in plastic)	10-5	Issue: Nonwetting	10-11
Issue: Low surface insulation resistance (most frequently caused by flux entrapped under component)	10-5	Issue: Dewetting	10-12
Issue: Insufficient solder fillets (most frequently caused by insufficient solder paste)	10-6	Issue: Uneven reflow	10-12
Issue: Non-soldering (electrical open)	10-6		

	Issue: Solder balls	10-12			
	Issue: Charring of board/components	10-12			
	Issue: Cracked joints	10-12	10.5	Hand Soldering	10-23
	Issue: Insufficient solder	10-12		Issue: Terminal does not accept solder	10-23
	Issue: Bridging	10-13		Issue: Connection surface will not accept solder	10-24
	Issue: Voids	10-13	10.6	Rework – General	10-24
	Issue: Opens, electrical	10-13	10.6.1	Rework: Modification, Rework and Repair. Component Removal and Replacement	10-24
	Issue: Splatter	10-13		Issue: Insufficient solder reflow to effect component removal	10-24
	Issue: Tombstoning	10-13		Issue: Component not removable after solder reflow or lifted lands upon attempted removal	10-24
	Issue: Excessive solder after reflow	10-14		Issue: Lands being lifted or damaged during removal of old solder	10-24
	Issue: Insufficient solder after reflow	10-14		Issue: Insufficient or poor adhesion of solder on lands during pretinning operation	10-24
	Issue: Missing solder	10-15		Issue: Dispersion or solder balling of solder paste during reflow	10-25
	Issue: Component Misalignment/ Tombstoning	10-15		Issue: Lead-Free Through Hole Copper Erosion	10-25
	Issue: Solder balls	10-16	10.7	Soldering: General Issues	10-25
	Issue: Solder Bridging After Reflow	10-16	10.7.1	Soldering General Problems	10-25
	Issue: BGA Open Solder Joint – Head In Pillow	10-17		Issue: Lead does not solder	10-25
	Issue: Poor Wetting or Non-Wetting	10-18		Issue: Defective solder joints	10-25
	Issue: Dewetting	10-18		Issue: Rosin solder connection	10-25
	Issue: Incomplete Reflow	10-19		Issue: Nonwetting/dewetting	10-26
	Issue: Inconsistent Paste In Hole Reflowed Joints	10-19		Issue: Insufficient solder reflow to effect SMD removal	10-26
	Issue: Solder Beading/Mid-Chip Solder Balls	10-20		Issue: Misalignment of component to land pattern during SMD installation	10-26
10.4	Wave Soldering	10-20		Issue: Dispersion or solder balling of solder paste during reflow	10-26
	Issue: Cold solder joints on power or ground connections for through hole components	10-20		Issue: Blistering or measling of substrate, or lifted lands during installation or removal ..	10-26
	Issue: Reflow soldered surface mount lands with via connections demonstrate solder depletion after wave solder	10-20		10.8	Heat Transfer
	Issue: Inconsistent solder volume when wave soldering surface mount components ..	10-20		10.8.1	Convective Heating Methods
10.4.1	Equipment Related Problems	10-21			Issue: Insufficient solder reflow to effect removal
	Issue: Solder skips	10-21			Issue: Misalignment of component to land pattern during SMD installation
	Issue: Solder bridges	10-21			Issue: Dispersion or solder balling of solder paste during reflow
	Issue: Unfilled via holes	10-21			Issue: Blistering or measling of substrate, or lifted lands during installation or removal
	Issue: Solder wave-over-flooding board	10-22			Issue: PCB Edge Delamination
	Issue: Grainy or disturbed joints	10-22			
	Issue: Cold joints	10-22			
	Issue: Solder balls on assembly	10-22			
	Issue: Cracked chip components or plastic-bodied leaded components	10-22			
	Issue: Solder projections components-	10-23			
	Issue: Excessive or insufficient solder	10-23			
	Issue: Overheated solder connection	10-23			

10.9	Depaneling (See also Section 3, Tooling and Fixtures)	10-27	12.4.1	Effects on Components	12-1
10.9.1	Depaneling	10-27		Issue: Component loses marking	12-1
	Issue: Solder joints crack when depanelizing PWB from a panel array	10-27		Issue: Cob webbing	12-2
11	CLEANING	11-1	12.4.2	Defects – Bubbles	12-2
11.1	Inspection and Test Cleanliness Ionic Contamination	11-1		Issue: Bubbling.....	12-2
	Issue: Results indicate excessive contamination or wide variations in readings among test parts within the same lot	11-1	12.4.3	Defects – Dewetting	12-3
	Issue: Machine keeps running and does not reach an endpoint, and/or readings are inconsistent.....	11-1		Issue: Dewetting during coating application.....	12-3
11.2	Cleaning Solder Flux Removal	11-2	12.4.4	Defects – Variations In Uniformity.....	12-3
	Issue: Flux residue (aqueous).....	11-2		Issue: Inconsistent coating thickness	12-3
	Issue: Flux residue (solvent).....	11-3	12.4.5	Coating outside designed area	12-4
	Issue: White residue (aqueous).....	11-3		Issue: Coating penetration under mask.....	12-4
	Issue: White residue (solvent).....	11-4	12.5	Problems due to Coating Curing Methods	12-4
	Issue: High solvent extract resistivity (aqueous).....	11-4		Issue: Incomplete cure.....	12-4
	Issue: High solvent extract resistivity (solvent).....	11-4	12.6	Problems Due to Environmental Stress Testing	12-5
	Issue: Component/PWB degradation (aqueous).....	11-5		Issue: Coating Cracking	12-5
	Issue: Component/PWB degradation (solvent).....	11-5		Issue: Mealing.....	12-5
	Issue: Excessive cleaner loss (aqueous)	11-5		Issue: Milky appearance of coating film	12-5
	Issue: Excessive cleaner loss (solvent).....	11-6	12.7	Problems Specific To Coating Types	12-6
	Issue: Detergent foaming (aqueous).....	11-6	12.7.1	Polyurethane Coatings	12-6
11.3	Legend Ink Removal	11-6		Issue: Coating has runs or sags	12-6
	Issue: Inadequate removal (aqueous).....	11-6		Issue: Coating does not wet some areas of some components on the PWB assembly	12-6
	Issue: Inadequate removal (solvent)	11-6		Issue: “Fish eyes” in coating.....	12-6
12	COATING AND MARKING	12-1		Issue: Bubbles in coating	12-6
12.1	General Overview	12-1		Issue: Poor adhesion.....	12-6
12.2	Problems with Coating Storage	12-1	12.7.2	Silicone Conformal Coatings	12-7
	Issue: Skinning over in the can	12-1		Issue: Coating takes excessive amount of time to fully cure	12-7
12.3	Problems with Base Material Preparation	12-1		Issue: Silicone coated PWB assembly attracts foreign particles which cannot be removed by normal cleaning process.....	12-7
	Issue:	12-1	12.7.3	Paraxylylene Conformal Coatings	12-7
12.4	Problems Due to Coating Application Methods	12-1		Issue: Coating is on areas which do not require coating	12-7
				Issue: Coating exhibits poor adhesion to PWB assembly which had been previously coated with paraxylylene.....	12-7
				Issue: Coating chamber does not seal adequately.....	12-7

13 INSPECTION	13-1	15 RELIABILITY STRESS CONDITIONING	15-1
13.1 Inspection	13-1	15.1 Reliability	15-1
Issue: Unable to perform inspections	13-1	Issue: Installed printed board assembly experiences intermittent failures; returns to operational condition after being removed and reinstalled	15-1
14 TESTING	14-1	Issue: Installed printed board assembly fails in operational environment where equipment experiences shock and vibration	15-1
14.1 Electrical Continuity	14-1	Issue: Solder joint cracked	15-1
Issue: Test shows failures that cannot be verified.....	14-1	Issue: Ceramic capacitor crack	15-2
Issue: Opens on surface that cannot be verified.....	14-1	Issue: Corrosion under Conformal Coating	15-2
Issue: Shorts on surface	14-2	Issue: Crack after thermocycling	15-3
Issue: Unable to perform and complete testing of printed boards.....	14-2	Issue: Solder Joint Crack on Flexible Circuit	15-3
Issue: Test opens on boards that are verifiable.....	14-2	Issue: Solder Joint Failure SOT23	15-4
14.2 Test	14-3	Issue: Tin Whiskers	15-4
Issue: Unable to perform tests	14-3		
Issue: BGA Pad Cratering.....	14-3		

Table of Contents

Section 1

1	GENERAL INTRODUCTION	1-1
1.1	Purpose and Format	1-1
1.2	Guidelines for Effective Troubleshooting and Process Control	1-2
1.3	Parameter Analysis	1-3
1.3.1	Brainstorming	1-3
1.3.2	Process Audit	1-3
1.3.3	Initial Capability Study	1-3
1.3.4	Optimization	1-3
1.3.5	Confirmation and Final Capability Assessment	1-3
1.3.6	Parameter Control	1-4
1.3.7	Corrective Action Plan	1-4
1.4	Applicable Documents	1-4
1.4.1	IPC	1-4

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Troubleshooting for Printed Board Assembly Processes

Section 1 – General Introduction

1 GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The Process Effects Committee of the IPC has developed this Process Control Handbooks for Printed Board Manufacture and Assembly, which is a documentation of problems, process causes, and the possible corrective action that may be taken. The inputs were voluntarily established by technical representatives of IPC member companies and have been reviewed in open discussion at the Process Effects Handbook meetings prior to publication.

New inputs are encouraged to help assure that the future Process Control Handbooks are complete and match the latest state-of-the-art in a particular subject.

1.1 Purpose and Format

The purpose of this Handbook is to provide guidance in the form of troubleshooting examples, process cause and effect information and statistical methods for correcting problems in all areas relating to the design, manufacture, assembly, and test of printed wiring products. A comprehensive Table of Contents deals with all of the various aspects of the design through delivery cycle.

The Guideline has been segmented into 16 major sections:

Section	Topic Descriptions	Comments
1	General information	Terminology
2	Documentation	Assembly drawing, Bill of Materials (BOM), Specification Control details, work instructions, routers, Specifications
3	Tooling and Fixturing	Stencils, Holding devices, Calipers, Torque devices
4	Handling and Storage	Materials, PWBs, and components
5	Assembly Material	Solder, flux, paste, adhesive, encapsulation
6	Mechanical Operation	Stenciling, paste deposition, conveyerization
7	Component Preparation	Lead forming and trimming, verification, and kitting
8	Component Mounting Site Preparation	Land pattern redressing, solder dotting, adhesive application, solder jetting
9	Component Placement	Insertion, SMT, bare die
10	Component Attachment	Reflow, wave solder, fountain soldering, hand soldering, welding, surface contact, press fit
11	Cleaning	Manual and automated; in-process and final
12	Coating and Marking	Conformal coating, assembly serialization, and labels
13	Inspection	Visual, magnification, measurement, go/no-go, x-ray
14	Testing	In-circuit, physical, end-use, material testing
15	Reliability Stress Conditioning	Thermal Cycling, Vibration, Humidity Testing