

Lead Times and Costs Cut as China and UK Join Forces

Submitted by: Republica PR

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Huntingdon, Cambs, 16th Feb 2009: Aggressive measures to help the UK electronics manufacturing industry by cutting lead times, reducing costs and improving flexibility have been announced by Components Bureau.

In association with its official manufacturing partners in China, SMT Holdings Ltd, Commercial Manager of Components Bureau, Andrew Ferrier has announced a three point plan which includes:

- * Lead times cut by up to one third
- * More competitive pricing
- * Greater flexibility in production

The measures have been enabled by close co-operation and consultation with SMT, one of the largest independent electronics manufacturers in China. "Teamwork is the key to producing these substantial new benefits. We've worked with SMT for many years and have a relationship based on partnership and co-operation. China has its problems, the UK has its problems, so it makes sense to get together and work out a formula that helps everyone to the maximum. These measures are really significant and should give a boost to any electronics manufacturer in the UK."

Luis Capelo is European Marketing Manager for SMT, "We are able to offer this package through a policy of stringent cost savings that we have implemented throughout our production process. Yes we have reduced our workforce, but that has mainly been the number of migrant workers on temporary contracts. We still retain a vast number of employees and can run double shifts as orders dictate.

"We've always been a leader in green manufacturing in China but combining this with even more lean strategies contributes towards cost-savings. Simple energy-saving habits make their own contribution. We have new covers on our ovens to maintain high temperatures; lights are not left on constantly. Instead of daily shipping we ship three times a week, it is a question of increased efficiency and the savings we make we can pass on through lower costs."

Andrew Ferrier again: "Our customers have always benefitted from our open book policy but now we have introduced a further 'level of trust' along with SMT. This gives much greater visibility on all sides and enables a shortening of timescale when it comes to production as we don't take an order and then leave it at that, we are constantly checking on progress, order authenticity and scale. The faster our customers can receive their goods the better their cashflow situation is. Many companies are being absolutely tortured through delayed supplies of components or finished products which in turn delays payment from their final customer. This is a bold move to speed all the processes up."

To find out more about Components Bureau's services go to:
<http://www.componentsbureau.com/site/services.php>

Notes for Editors:

For a photo to accompany this release please visit: <http://www.republicapr.co.uk/cb/smtcb.jpg>

Caption: Luis Capelo (left) European Marketing Manager of SMT Holdings Ltd., and Andrew Ferrier, Commercial Manager of Components Bureau.

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About the company

Established in 1985 Components Bureau sources, co-ordinates, facilitates and manages production of components and products for all sectors of the UK electronics industry. From its Huntingdon base, the company provides global solutions backed by commercial and technical authority. As sole, official UK partner to Surface Mount Technology Holdings Limited (SMT), one of China's largest independent manufacturing facilities, the company has access to four production plants across China which operate on a 24/7 basis. In addition it has partners in Asia and the UK to provide outsourcing at every point in the manufacturing process from tooling to delivery.

<http://www.componentsbureau.com>

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