

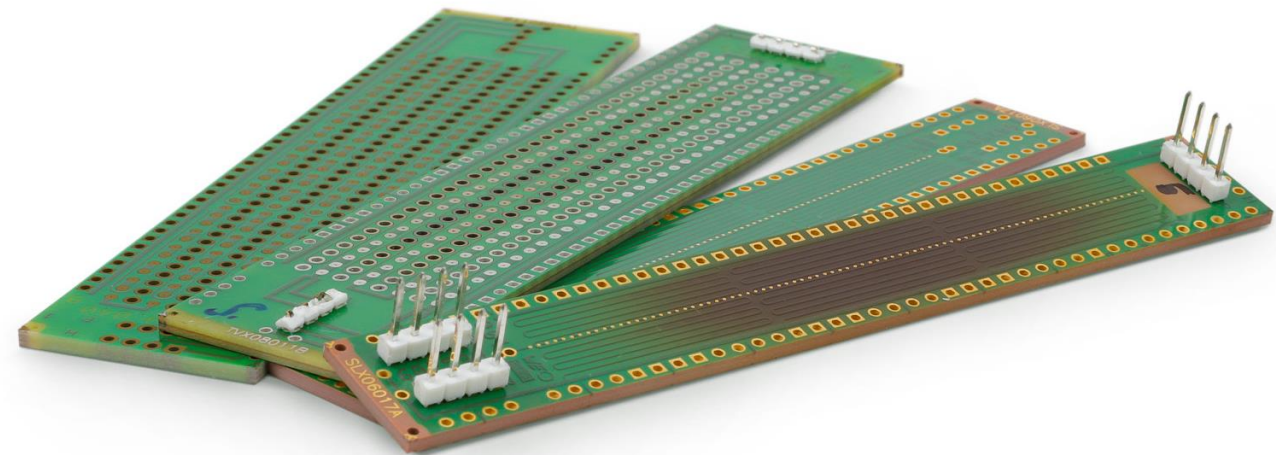
# Proof of reliability using Interconnect Stress Test

A close-up, high-angle photograph of a printed circuit board (PCB) with various electronic components. The board is illuminated with a warm, orange-red light, creating a glowing effect on the traces and components. The word 'Reliability' is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

# Reliability

# Content

- **Reliability and product classification according to IPC**
- **Where are robustness and safety relevant?**
- **Interconnect Stress Test (IST)**
  - Fields of application
  - Customer benefits
  - Procedure and options
  - Example of a test report
- **Customer Solution Assessment**
  - Objectives and benefits
  - Assessment procedure
- **Developing reliability step by step**



# Reliability



- **What consequences can a lack of reliability have on your products?**
- **Have there been cases where reliability expectations were not met?**  
**What part did the printed circuit board play in this?**
- **How do you currently ensure the reliability of your products?**
- **How do you ensure the reliability of new technologies?**

**Reliability is the probability that a product will perform its intended function for a specified time interval under specified conditions.**

**„The reliability of a product is ...also the result of combining knowledge and experience during the design phase.“**

# Short survey no.1



- Have you heard about the Interconnect Stress Test? Have you already used it yourself?



# Product classification according to IPC



## Class 1

### General Electronic Products

Includes **limited life** products suitable for applications where the requirement is function of the completed product.

## Class 2

### Dedicated Service Electronic Products

Includes products where continued performance and extended life is required, and for which **uninterrupted service** is desired but not critical.

## Class 3

### High Reliability Electronic Products

Includes products where **continued high performance** or performance-on-demand is critical, product downtime cannot be tolerated, and the product must function when required.

Source: IPC

# Short survey no.2



- What branch are you from?



# Where are robustness and safety critical?

## Typical applications



- **Medical Technology**
  - Implants
  - Endoscopes
  - Radiotherapy
- **Military**
- **Aerospace**
- **Commercial vehicles**
- **Motorsports**
- ...



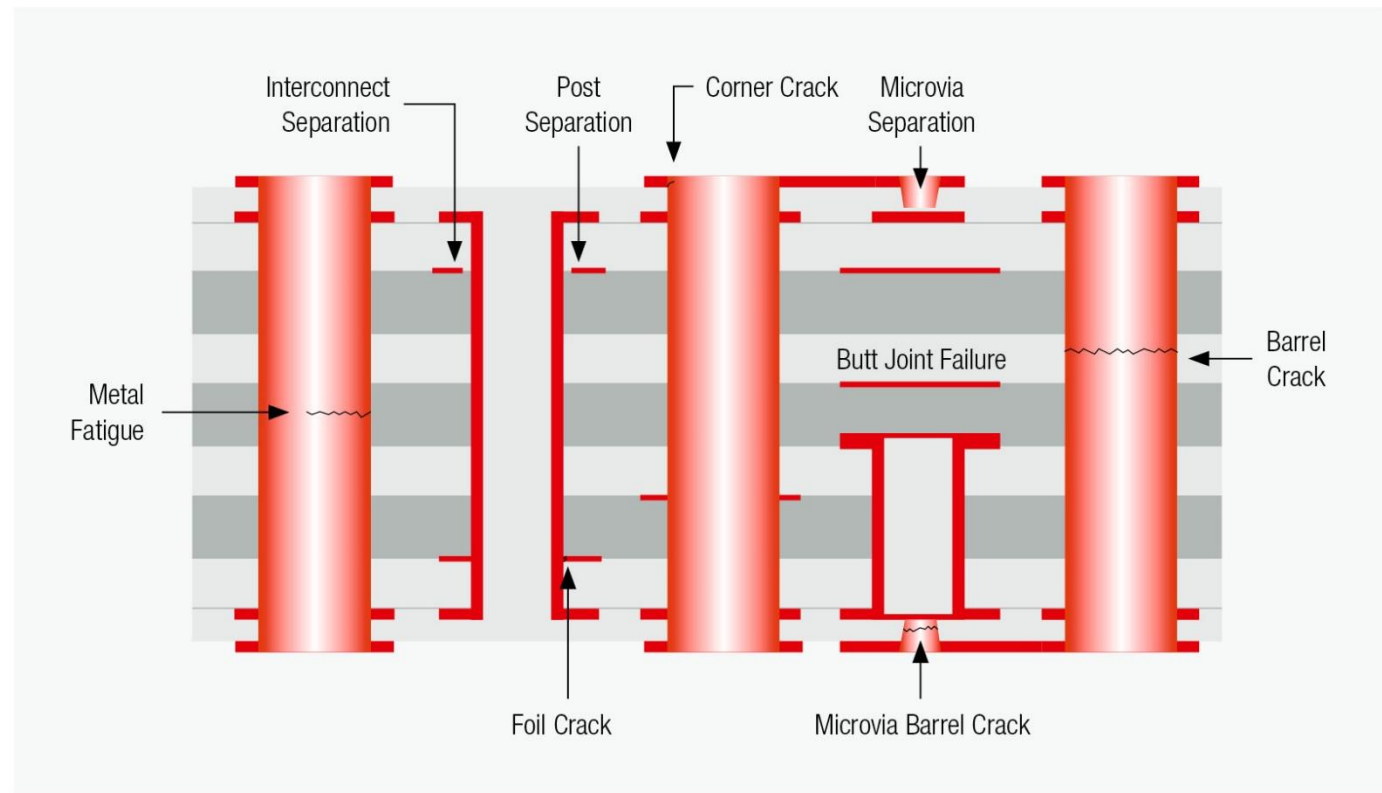
# Interconnect Stress Test (IST)

## Fields of application



- Proof of reliability for product qualification
- Securing the introduction of new technologies
- Investigation of design and technology changes
- Process and product troubleshooting (optimization)

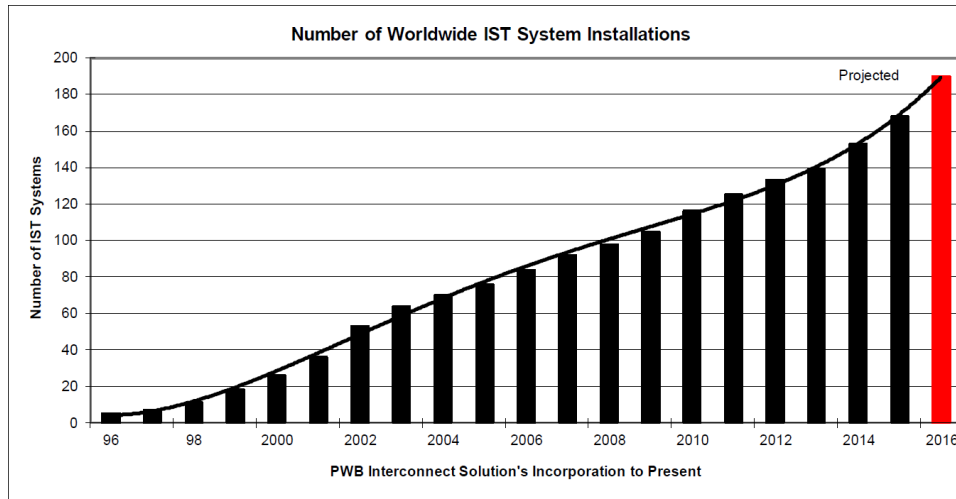
**Failure due to cycling thermal stress**





# Interconnect Stress Test (IST)

## Experience and references



Source: PWB Inc.

# Interconnect Stress Test (IST)

## Customer benefits



### Fast, time-saving simulation of manufacturing and operating conditions

- Multiple reflow simulation, accelerated life testing



### Intensive monitoring for the precise detection of weak points

- Permanent recording of the "state of health" of the test coupons
- Time of occurrence of failure precisely identifiable, 100% documented
- Exact localisation of the fault position, precise microsection preparation



### Statistical analysis

- Lifetime data
- Failure types



### Identification of impact variables and definition of design recommendations

# Interconnect Stress Test (IST)

## Procedure and options



- **Coupon design based on your PCB**
  - Material, stack-up and design
  - Via types, drill hole diameters and distances
  - Solder surface
- **Determination of test scope and test parameters in coordination with you**
  - Number of IST test cycles
  - Soldering simulation
  - Test temperature
- **Test preparation and execution (8 test coupons at the same time)**
- **IST Test Report**
  - Microsection analysis of the faults (first, middle and last failure)
  - Statistical analysis
  - Thermomechanical analysis of the stack-up
  - Design recommendations (optional)



# Interconnect Stress Test (IST)

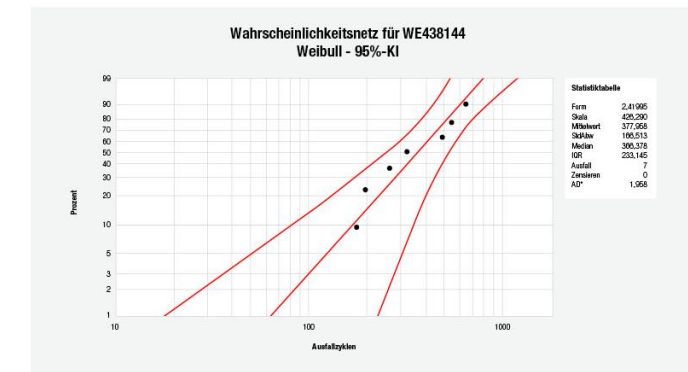
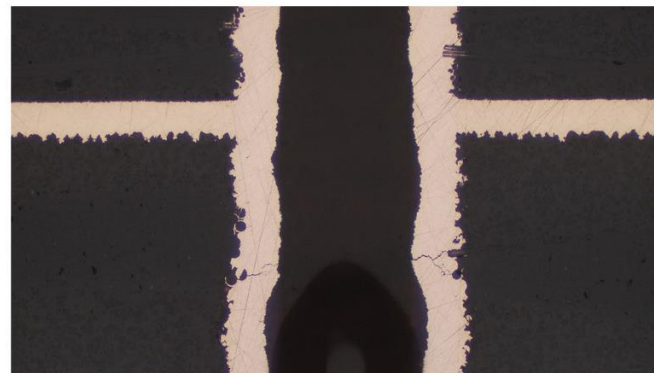
## Example test report



- Product documentation
- Description Test coupon
- Test sequence and test parameters
- Measurement data
- Statistical analysis
- Microsection documentation
- Thermomechanical analysis (CTE, Tg)
- Optional: Recommendations for further action
- Summary



Coupon ID	Zyklen Powerkette	Widerstand Änderung [%]	Zyklen Sensekette	Widerstand Änderung [%]	Fehler in
1	N/A	0,5	300	10	Sensekette
2	N/A	0,1	250	10	Sensekette
3	N/A	1,5	233	10	Sensekette
4	N/A	0,7	162	10	Sensekette
5	N/A	0,3	232	10	Sensekette
6	N/A	1,4	274	10	Sensekette
7	N/A	1,1	235	10	Sensekette
8	N/A	0,9	318	10	Sensekette



# Customer Solution Assessment

## Objectives and benefits



### Concept

for project-related, transparent visualization and evaluation of different electronic interconnection systems



### An early support

of the customers in the development process of an electronic system



### Identification and documentation

of project-specific requirements, e.g. reliability requirements



### Early clarification

of feasibility, cost trends and testability

# Customer Solution Assessment

## Assessment procedure



# Customer Solution Assessment

## Assessment procedure



**Reliability in  
Harsh Environment  
Applications**

**Proof of  
reliability by IST**

Decision criteria	Selection options				
	Weighting	Homogeneous system		Inhomogeneous system	
	G	B	G x B	B	G x B
<b>1. Assembly production</b>	<u>5</u>				
1.1 Design	5	5	25	1	5
<b>2. Assembly</b>	<u>40</u>				
2.1 Complexity	10	5	50	2	20
2.2 Reduction of errors during installation	20	6	120	5	100
2.3 Service (Removing)	10	5	50	1	10
<b>3. Conditions of use</b>	<u>30</u>				
3.1 Dynamic bending	5	6	30	6	30
3.2 Wiring Reliability	25	6	150	2	50
<b>4. Electrical requirements</b>	<u>10</u>				
4.1 Signal integrity	10	6	60	5	50
<b>5. Cost of the non populated system</b>	<u>5</u>	5	25	3	15
<b>6. Awareness / experience with flex-rigid</b>	<u>10</u>	5	50	5	50



# Short survey no.3



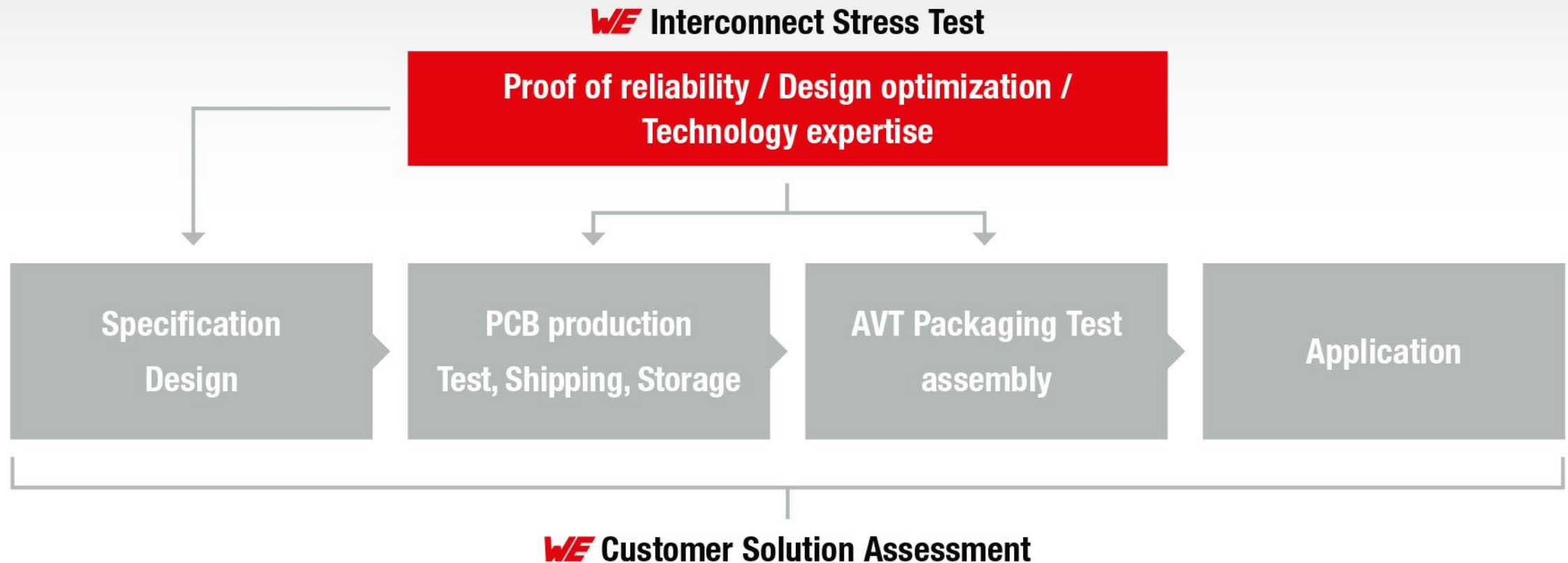
- Do you currently see opportunities for using the Interconnect Stress Test?





# Developing reliability step by step

The life cycle of a PCB



**Thanks for your Attention!**



**What kind of  
application  
do you have?**

**HOW can WE  
support you?**

Hotline: [flex@we-online.de](mailto:flex@we-online.de)