

Automation of Large and Heavy Probe Card Exchange, Handling and Storage

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Introduction

New Generation Probe Cards



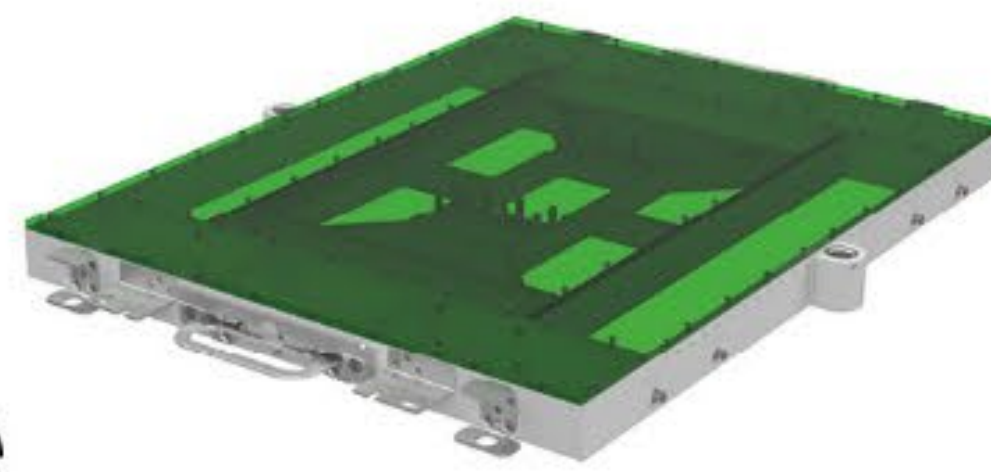
Problems, Risks and Costs



Large

Heavy >20kg

Very expensive



Ergonomic handling limits

High damaging risk

- from test cell to storage
- at maintenance



Automation Issue:

- Test floor environment is requiring
- 5 axis collaborating robots
- Weight handling limit is < 20 kg
- Very high initial invest & risk for full automation at test floor and maintenance

Resolution:

- Manual portal robot
- Precision alignment support for operator
- Weight handling capability > 45 kg
- Step by step automation scalability
 - Semi automation
 - Full automation

Probe Card Storage

Semi/Auto Probe Card Transport

Probe Card Exchange

Production Storage



Engineering/ Maintenance Storage



Auto Probe Card Trolley XL

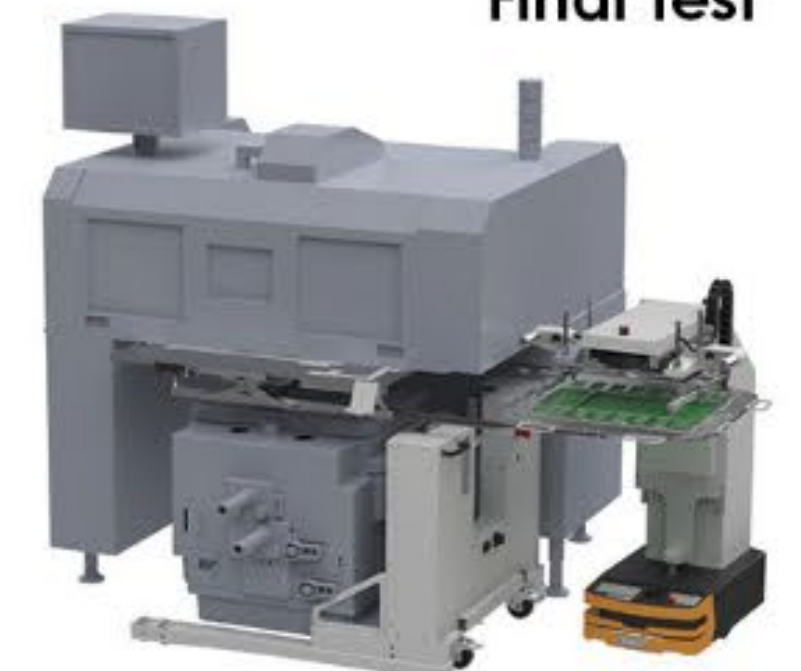


Common Platform Architecture
supporting parallel use and scalability

Manual Probe Card Trolley XL



Final Test



Probing



Maintenance



Interface for Box Storage



Case Study

3 Years of Production Experience with Semi automated Probe Card Exchange, Handling & Storage

Probe Card Storage



- Automated Probe Card Stocker
- I/O for probe card trolley
- Precision registration with catch bracket technology

Semi/Auto Probe Card Transport



- Manual Probe Card Trolley
- Handling by operator
- Transport by operator or AGV

Probe Card Exchange



- Prober card loading to SACC
- Precision registration with patented catch bracket technology

Learnings:

- **Precision Registration** of Probe Card to SACC most reliable with mechanical support means
- **Trolley needs to provide**
 - **Sufficient compliance** to accommodate floor tolerances
 - **Gripper flip and turn capability** to support removal of probe head cover and orientation change for transport box removal
 - **Easy adaptation to different target heights**
 - **Typical maintenance requirement to flip probe card upside down needs support as well** at test floor and maintenance

Conclusion: New Developments of

- **Catch Bracket Technology** to provide precision registration
- **2nd Generation Manual Trolley** providing
 - 6 DOF compliance at probe card gripper
 - **Flip and turn capability**
- **Drive support for auto height adjustment**
- **Flip trolley and maintenance tables**

2nd Generation Trolley

- For largest probe cards
- Drive supported auto adjusts
- Probe card flipping & 90° turn



Maintenance Tables

- For unboxing or maintenance
- With **catch bracket technology**



Flip Trolley

- Flipping probe card upside down
- With **catch bracket technology**



Future Outlook



Auto Probe Card Trolley:

- **Autonomously driven AGV robot**
- **Collaborating** with human operator
- **Usable in parallel** to
 - Manual trolley
 - Other AGV brands
- **Precision Registration** with Catch Bracket Techn.
- **Reliable** manual trolley gripper technology
- **Incorporating learnings** from 3 years production

Benefits:

- **Step-by-step scalable Automation Solution**
 - Start with manual/semi automation setup
 - Extension and scale up on demand
- **Lights out Factory supported** for
 - Probing
 - Final Test
- **Complete Eco-System** from
 - Production to
 - Maintenance



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