FEINMETALL
Contact technologies for electronics

Press Release

New side access unit for test fixtures

Herrenberg, Germany, March 26th 2010 – The design of test fixtures often requires a horizontal contacting of the DUT additionally to the standard vertical board contacting, especially for connecting sockets or plugs. Such a horizontal contact can be realized either by a mechanical side access unit or by a selective pneumatic activation. The side access unit converts the vertical closing travel of the fixture directly into a horizontal movement. This solution is much more simple and cost-efficient than a pneumatic version. However, up to now it was limited to a maximum travel of 6 mm. FEINMETALL now offers a mechanical side access unit with a maximum travel of 14 mm. Thus many fixture solutions can now be realized in a more cost-saving way.

The new FEINMETALL side access unit is very robust and enables simple and flexible mounting into the fixture. The smart design is based on ball-bearing and excentric mechanics and realizes a long travel and an optimum force transmission. Thereby outstanding contact forces are possible, for example up to 100 spring contact probes can be activated in parallel by each side access unit. This solution can be used in all mechanical and vacuum fixtures. The twist proof implementation of the travel-bolt guarantees a precise contacting of the DUT and supersedes an expensive additional linear guiding.

Specifications:
Dimensions: 63,5 mm x 30 mm x 40 mm (L x W x H)
Travel: max. 14 mm
Force: max. 15 kg (e.g. 100 spring contact probes of each 150cN)
Travel conversion: 1 : 2,3 (vertical input travel : horizontal output travel)
Life cycle > 150 000 strokes

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About FEINMETALL:

FEINMETALL was established in 1964 in Herrenberg, Germany, and has specialized in the field of precision engineering and micro-mechanical contact technology. The product portfolio includes spring contact probes, test fixtures and probe cards. The products are designed and developed for application in the electronic and automotive industries. Currently FEINMETALL has approximately 200 employees at the German headquarter. Additionally, there are six subsidiaries in the Czech Republic, France, USA, Taiwan, Singapore and Mexico as well as partners and distributors in 37 countries across the globe. Wolfgang Bürkle is the Managing Director of the concern since 1997.

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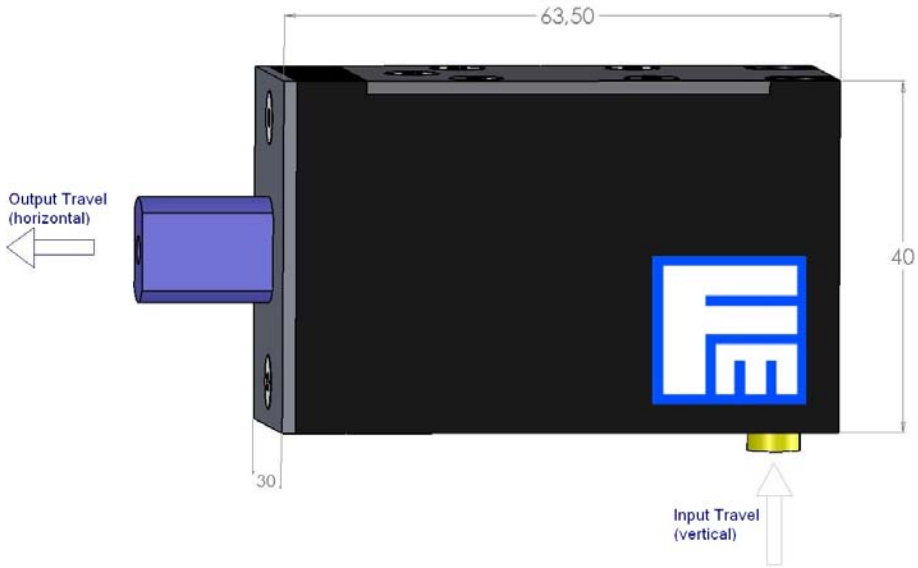
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