

Press Release

Focus on Surface Metrology

Aerotech launches Peak Metrology subsidiary

Ramsdell / Pittsburgh, 6 September 2021 - Aerotech, manufacturer of high-performance motion control and positioning systems, has founded a new subsidiary, Peak Metrology. The aim is to concentrate all activities around high-precision metrology. Headed by RJ Hardt, a long-time Aerotech engineer, Peak Metrology draws on Aerotech's extensive know-how in positioning systems, but focuses exclusively on supporting industrial customers with solutions for surface metrology up to complete integration. The first exhibits from the cooperation with metrology specialist Keyence will be seen at Control 2022 from 5 to 6 May in Stuttgart, including the integration of 3D laser microscopes and Aerotech positioning system.

"We have already achieved impressive successes when Peak Metrology operated as an internal division," emphasises Mark Botos, CEO of Aerotech, "and we know that the Peak Metrology team is on a rapid growth trajectory." Both Aerotech and Peak Metrology customers are expected to benefit from the company's technological and financial resources, as well as competitive pricing and delivery times. Based at Aerotech's Pittsburgh headquarters, Peak Metrology provides product development, engineering, installation and training services. As a division

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of Aerotech, Peak Metrology has already built a broad customer base around standard and customised precision surface metrology solutions.

"We have the knowledge, experience and equipment to take on customers' complex surface metrology challenges and develop optimal solutions for them," explains RJ Hardt, President of Peak Metrology. "Industrial customers who do not specialise in surface metrology are a perfect fit for us, allowing them to focus on what they do best." Although many Aerotech customers have a long history of success with motion control and automation equipment, they still struggle to implement a complete solution that combines the other components of a measurement tool. The real burden is to overlap the automation control with the measurement technology and the supporting user interface software and round it off into a complete solution.

Peak Metrology offers a wide range of products for surface metrology applications, including turnkey machines. Surface analysis is often integrated directly into the production chain as a quality assurance process, for example in semiconductor production during wafer inspection or the manufacture of flat panels. Here, the quality is assessed after almost every process step, for which a fully automated in-process inspection with object feeding, measurement and subsequent further processing is usually triggered. It is essential that measuring and positioning cycles are precisely synchronised. Users benefit, among other things, from high-performance linear and rotary tables as well as controls with position-synchronous triggering of the sensor.

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"The positioning and sequence accuracy of the motion system has a decisive effect on the measurement results," states RJ Hardt, head of the newly founded Peak Metrology Systems business unit at Aerotech. "Therefore, it is a logical consequence for us to now to pull together the know-how gathered over decades around motion systems and metrology in a separate business unit." The goal is to be able to support manufacturers of measurement technology even better.

((pictures)) (all pictures source Aerotech)



Figure 1: RJ Hardt, President of Peak Metrology: "The positioning and sequence accuracy of the motion system has a decisive effect on the measurement results. Therefore, it is a logical consequence for us to pull together the decades of accumulated know-how in motion systems and metrology in Peak Metrology".

Image download: http://pr-x.de/fileadmin/download/pictures/Aerotech/RJ-Hardt_Aerotech.jpg



Figure 2: Aerotech solution for Keyence VR5000

Caption: Integration of Keyence into Aerotech positioning systems: The travel range in XY is 600 x 600 mm. A cross table is mounted on a granite base for component alignment.

Image download:

http://prx.de/fileadmin/download/pictures/Aerotech/Aerotech_Keyence_VR5000.jpg

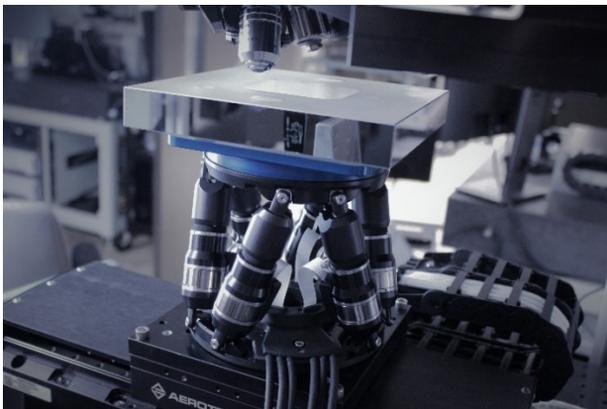


Figure 3: Microscopy system with hexapod

Caption: Microscopy system with expanded working volume and industrial automation options

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Figure 4: Integration Keyence microscope

Caption: Integrative system for measuring larger components: Keyence microscope with extended travel, Aerotech's Automation1 control platform, Peak Metrology-developed software user interface and Aerotech PRO stages.

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About Aerotech

Headquartered in Pittsburgh, USA, Aerotech Inc. is a mid-sized, employee-owned company. Founded in 1970 by Stephen J. Botos, Aerotech designs and manufactures the world's most powerful motion control and positioning systems for customers in industry, science and research. As a family-owned business, Aerotech continues to place the utmost importance on open and trusting relationships with customers, business partners and employees. In Germany, the medium-sized company is represented by its own subsidiary, Aerotech GmbH, based in Fürth, Franconia. In addition to sales and service activities, the

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customised assembly of positioning systems for the European market takes place in Fürth. The innovative and high-precision motion solutions meet all the critical requirements needed for today's demanding applications. They are used wherever high throughput is required - including in medical technology and life science applications, semiconductor and flat screen production, photonics, automotive, data storage, laser processing, aerospace, electronics manufacturing, as well as in inspection and testing through to assembly.

With advanced analysis and diagnostic capabilities, Aerotech provides world-class technical support and service. If a standard product is not suitable for an individual application, the manufacturer is able to supply special motion - components and systems based on its years of expertise and experience. The manufacturing capacity for custom applications is further complemented by experience in supplying systems for vacuum and clean room operations.

Aerotech has full-service offices in Germany (Fürth), the United Kingdom (Ramsdell), China (Shanghai City) and Taiwan (Taipei City). Aerotech currently employs around 500 people worldwide.

<https://uk.aerotech.com>

About Peak Metrology

Peak Metrology designs and manufactures standard and specialised equipment for surface metrology. Working in the semiconductor, electronics, advanced manufacturing, aerospace and medical industries, Peak Metrology engineers solve customers' complex surface metrology challenges with instrumentation solutions based on more than 50 years of experience. Customers benefit from

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Peak Metrology delivering precision instruments that reduce measurement uncertainty and increase process automation.

www.peakmetrology.com

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