Engineering Impacts on Battery Pack Manufacturing

Charge your projects with innovation. Put our extensive design expertise to work for you.



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Agenda



- iTECH Overview
- Common Requirements
- Li Ion Battery Pack Assembly
- Manufacturing Implications
- Engineering Investments
- Conclusion









Overview



Location: San Diego, CA

Founded: 1997

2015: Subsidiary of Universal Power Group (UPG)
Office + Manufacturing: 38,000 Square Feet
Two Facilities: - Building A: 18,000 Square Feet

(Offices & Manufacturing, SMT-PCA,

Charger Assembly)

- Building B: 20,000 Square Feet

(Battery Pack)

- > iTECH specializes in the design and manufacture of custom battery packs and battery chargers
- > Providing engineered application-specific product solutions
- > Support most cell chemistries NiCD, NiMH, Li-Ion and LiFePO4
- > ISO 9001:2008 certified and ISO 13458:2003 certified
- > FDA: CA Licensed, Product Registered







Handheld Instruments



Medical



Industrial



Safety & Security



Communications/ Military/Homeland Security

Application Focus:

- > Portable Power Batteries, Charging and Docking Systems supporting a Host Device
- > Where Health, Safety or Significant Revenue Count on Predictable Battery & Product Operation





A Continuation of Past Presentations

August 2013 Choosing the correct

Li Ion Cell

August 2014 System Level

Considerations

 August 2015 Safety from an Applications Perspective





Common Requirements

- Shrink Wrap
- Injection Molded Cases
- Potted Packs







Common Requirements

- Resistive Welding
 - Ni Strips
- Manufacturing Alignment Tools
- Test Fixtures and Processes



Resistive Welding

• Resistive welding uses electric current and mechanical pressure to create a weld between two pieces of metal. In our case a battery or PCBA is connected to a Ni Strip. Electrodes conduct the electric current to metals such that they are fused

together.



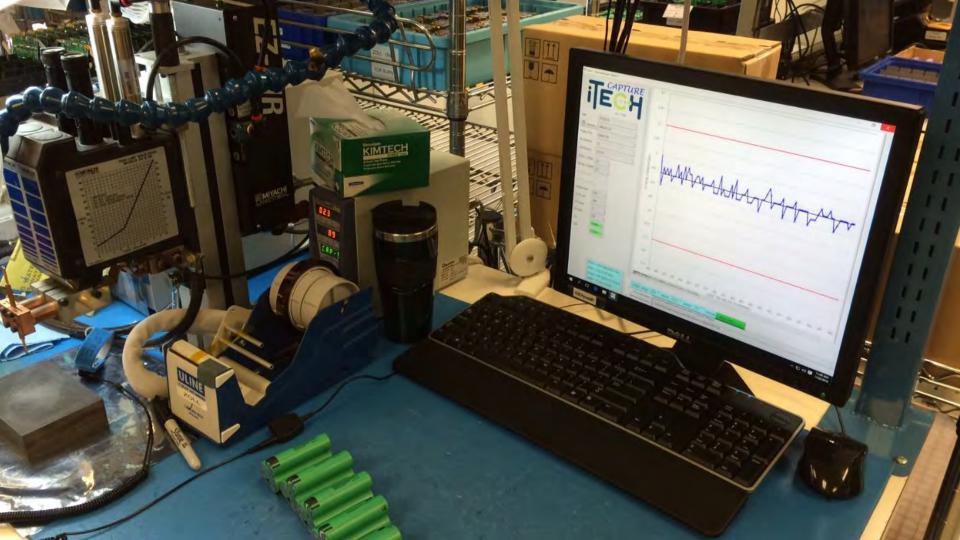


Resistive Welding

- Statistical Process Data provides weld quality assurance
- Pull testing validates set ups
- Fast and reliable process
- Solder? Placing a Soldering Iron on a Li-Ion Cell is not Recommended.









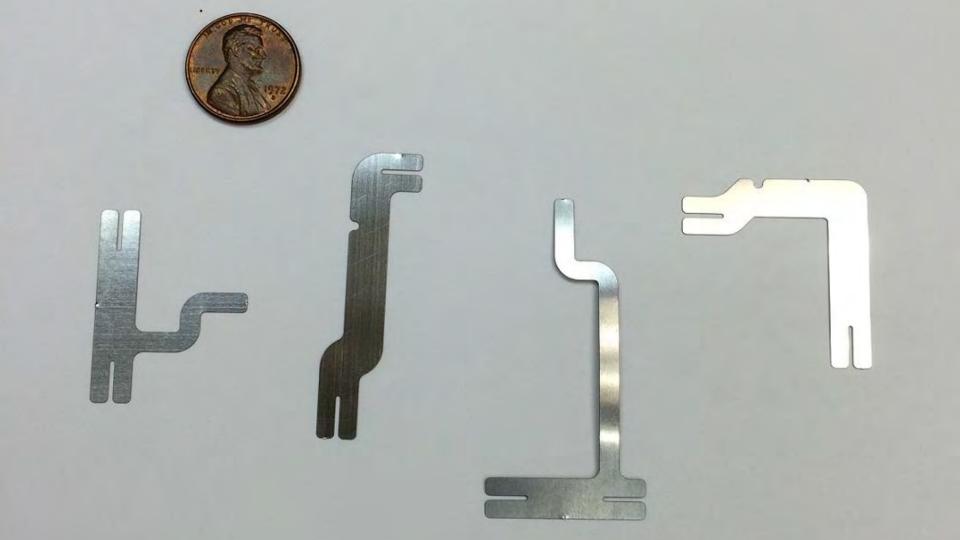


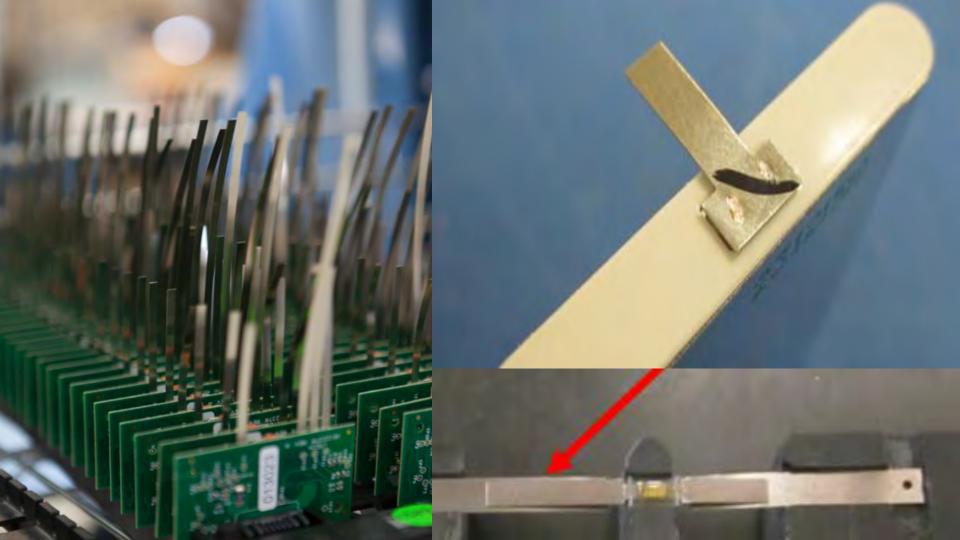
Ni Strips

- Ni Strips can be tooled to make precise fits between cells and PCBAs
- Industrial Design often limits space
- Application specific Ni Strips allow
 - Tight weld controls
 - Mechanical precision
 - Elimination of a failure mode



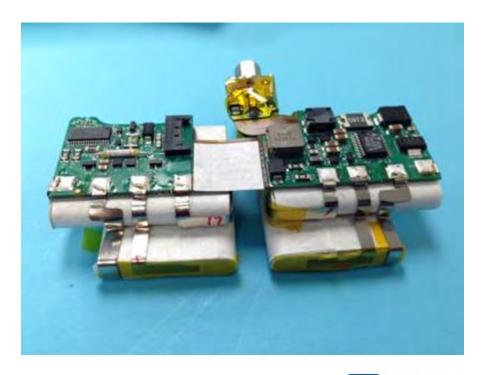






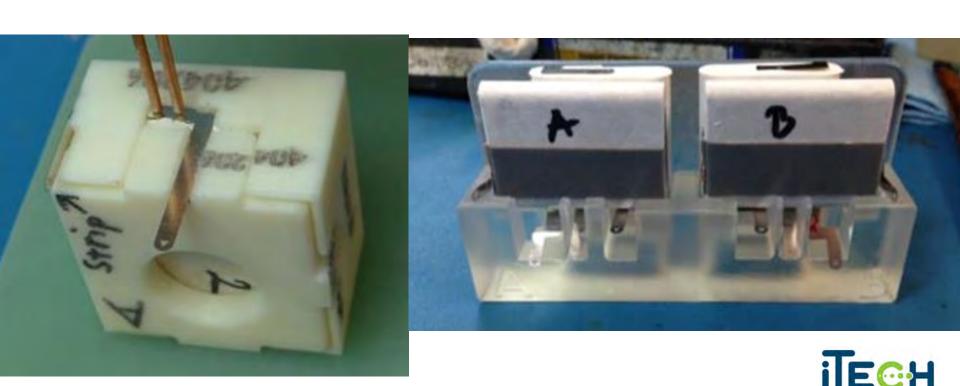
Manufacturing Alignment Tools

- Allows accurate repeatability
- Pokeyoke
- Save time





Manufacturing Alignment Tools



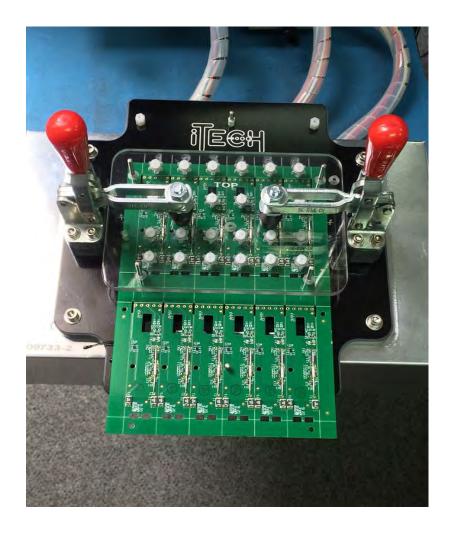
Test Fixtures Processes

- Simulate use and failure models
 - Test PCBAs
 - Test Finished product
- Keep records
- Analyze data
- Continuously Improve







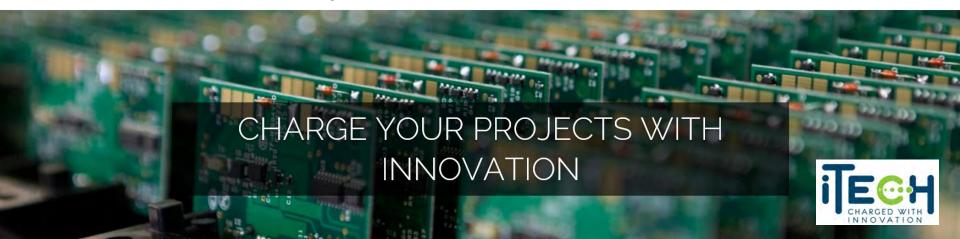






Li Ion Battery Pack Assembly

- Shrink Wrapped Battery Packs
- Injection Molded Battery Housing
- Potted Battery Packs



Shrink Wrap

- Interconnect
- PCBA Location
 - Components in or out
 - Sharp edges tear
- Single wrap plus end caps
- Dual wrap
- Used in embedded applications







Injection Molded Battery Housing

- Project must allow for:
 - —Industrial Design, Prototyping, Hard Tooling, Mold Testing/Flow Analysis, Tool Texturing
- In most cases the battery pack becomes part of the host exterior.



Injection Molding

- 2 to 4 Weeks
- 2 Weeks
- 6 to 8 Weeks
- 1 Week
- 1 Week
- 1 Week
- 12 to 18 Weeks

Plastic Design

Vendor Selection Quoting

Tool Fabrication

First Shot and Shipping

FAI Acceptance

Texturing

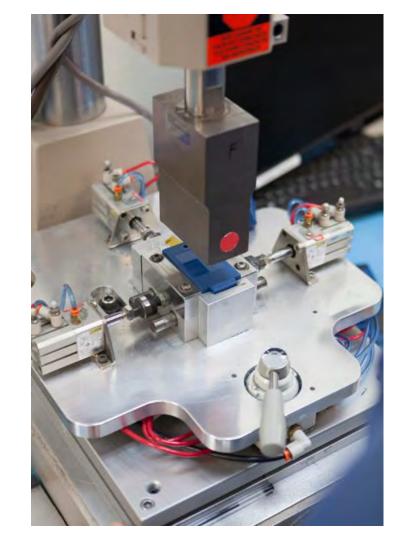


Closing Injection Molded Packs

- Ultra Sonic Weld
 - Plastic parts are bonded together using high frequency vibrations to melt designed surfaces together.
- Packs may also use traditional methods such as screws, glues or snap features







Environmentally Sealed

- IP Ratings for Air and Water tightness can be achieved
- Tested
- Sealed with Burst Disk







Potted Battery Packs

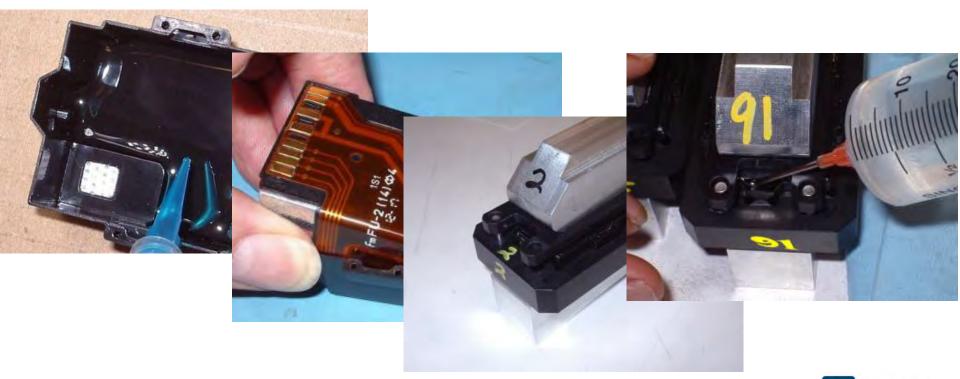
- Used in the most extreme environments such as Intrinsic Safety
- A whole pack or just a portion may be potted
- Potted products take advantage of many manufacturing operations



Potted Battery Packs



Potted Battery Packs









Manufacturing Implications

- Shrink Wrap
 - —Lowest Cost
 - —Quick to Produce
 - —Suitable to Embedded







Manufacturing Implications

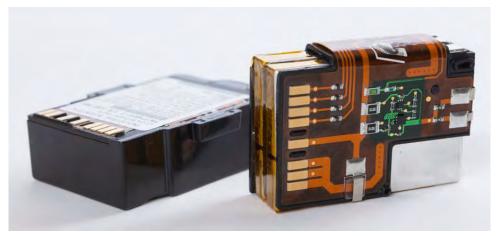
- Injection Molded Battery Packaging
 - —Tooling
 - —Pack sealing process
 - —Finished product





Manufacturing Implications

- Potted
 - Longest production process
 - Requires advanced techniques
 - Suitable to the most critical environments







Engineering Investments

- Electrical
- Software
- Mechanical
- Documentation
- DVT

- PCBA Stencil
- PCBA Test Fixture
- PCBA Layout



Engineering Investments

- Certifications
 - **—**UN38.3
 - -UL2054
 - -IEC62133
 - Environmental
 - **—**Emissions

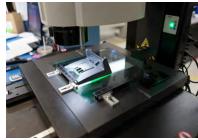
- Plastic Tooling
- Ultra Sonic Horn and Nest
- Custom Components
 - —Ni Strips
 - —Contacts
 - —Retention Clips



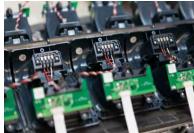
Conclusion

 A well engineered product also needs a well engineered production process













Questions?



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