

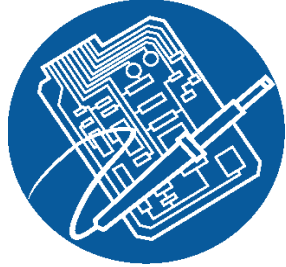
# The Target Connection

*Third Edition: Look for issues bi-monthly*

*Soldering Technology International, Inc. (STI)*

## Academia and Industry collaborate to create the workforce of tomorrow

STI & Calhoun Community College with support from Industry leaders are currently in the development of an Advanced Electronics Manufacturing Associate Degree Program. This program consists of a combination of general education (Core) courses and advanced electronics manufacturing (Major) course study. A total of 67 credit hours are needed to receive an AAS degree in Electronics Manufacturing. Courses will be taught in the Advanced Manufacturing Process Lab located on the Calhoun campus. The expected launch date for this program is Fall 2002. If you would like to learn more about this program or require additional information contact Jim Swindell, Calhoun Community College at [jes@calhoun.edu](mailto:jes@calhoun.edu).



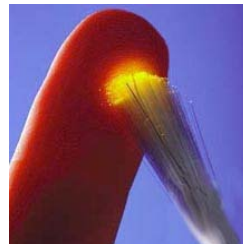
### Special points of interest:

- Academia and Industry Collaborate
- Fiber Optics and Optoelectronics
- STI Features its Sales Department
- Training Materials Department—Kits
- STI's Engineering Lab
- Jim's Corner

To Register for classes call  
(256) 705-5512  
or  
(800) 858-0604

**Note: See Jim's Corner for background information.**

## Fiber Optics and Optoelectronics



Soldering Technology International, Inc. continues to look toward the future with its initial venture into Fiber Optics and Optoelectronics Communication. This technology makes use of light in thin transparent fibers in order to enable electronic devices to perform specific functions. It is a high-speed form of data, voice, and video transmission. Fiber Optics and Optoelectronics are gaining prominence as the predominant means of electronic communications in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Robert Zimmermann, STI Master Instructor, recently attended training for Fiber Optics Design, Installation, and Maintenance and received certification as a Fiber Optics Installer from the Electronics Technicians Association. This was an introductory level program consisting of both lecture and lab.

STI is now in the design stages of an Optoelectronics training program of its own. Mel Parrish, STI Training Director, is working with several companies currently involved with this technology. He is also the Vice Chairman of the committee that is developing an industry standard for Optoelectronic Assembly and Packaging, IPC/J-STD-040.

With a new state of the art training program and input into the emergence of a new standard for the field, STI continues to assert its place as an industry leader.

### **Note:**

*If you would like to continue receiving upcoming issues of the Target Connection please contact us at [training@solderingtech.com](mailto:training@solderingtech.com) or call us at (800) 858-0604 Ext. 5512.*

### Training Calendar

J-STD-001 Registered Instructor  
Certification  
April 1-5

J-STD-001 Registered Instructor  
Recertification  
April 10-11

J-STD-001 Operator Proficiency  
Certification  
April 22-26

MSFC/NASA Solder Certification  
April 1-5

MSFC/NASA Cable and Harness  
Certification  
April 29—May 3

IPC-7711/21 Rework & Repair  
Registered  
Instructor Course  
May 13-17

IPC-A-610 Instructor Certification  
May 6-10

IPC-A-610 Instructor Recertification  
April 8-9

IPC-A-600 Instructor/Inspector  
Certification  
May 20-22

## STI's Sales Department

In 1997 STI started a distribution division to service the electronics manufacturing industry in the Huntsville and surrounding areas. Companies needed a local supplier that could provide solder, solder paste, tools, materials, equipment, etc. but they also needed someone who could help them choose the right products, tools, and materials for their processes and manufacturing procedures. STI's distribution division rose to the occasion and has grown to be one of the largest distributors in the southeast and beyond. STI's sales team is comprised of technical sales engineers that bring product knowledge and technical support to their customers. STI's customer service representatives provide comprehensive customer service and support the efforts of the sales engineers. This sales team is responsible for marketing and sales of all STI products and services as well as over 300 manufacturers' lines including AIM, JBC, HAKKO, Pace, ERSA, and Tech Spray to name a few. Our experienced sales engineers support Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee and have plans to expand into other areas soon. STI is also in the process of publishing their first product and services catalog.

Call us today at 1-800-858-0604 if you need any products or materials for assembling, testing, or repairing of electronic equipment.



**Mike Gainey**  
Vice President of Sales



**Brandon Champion**  
Sales Engineer



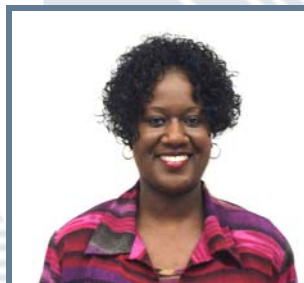
**Josh Baker**  
Sales Engineer



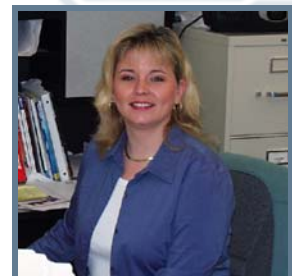
**Brian Parker**  
Sales Engineer\*



**Sissie Eckstein**  
Customer Service Manager



**Darlene Kirby**  
Customer Service Representative



**Angela Couch**  
Customer Service Representative

\* STI welcomes our new Florida Sales Engineer Brian Parker.

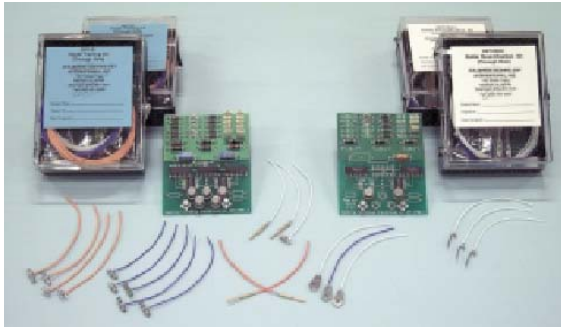
### Trade Show Schedule

Atlanta SMTA Expo • Duluth, GA • April 18, 2002  
Florida IMAPS/SMTA Technical Symposium • Orlando, FL • April 23, 2002  
WHMA 2002 Annual Conference • Fort Lauderdale, FL • April 21-24, 2002

## STI's Training Materials Department — Training Kits

The SMT, Through-hole and Mixed Technology solder training kits provide a cost effective and consistent approach to soldering training and process development. These kits are a reliable and economical way to ensure that each student receives consistent training materials. Here are a few of the technology kits available through STI.

### Through-Hole Solder Training Kits



### Surface Mount Solder Training Kits

#### Basic SMT Solder Training Kits



### Mixed Technology Solder Training Kits



#### Advanced SMT Solder Training Kits



\* For additional information contact us at 1 800 858-0604.

**10% Off**

**Spring Special: 10% off any kit order (including BGA kits) for the months of April and May. Ask for offer #111.**

## STI's Engineering Lab — Introduce two new employees

The Engineering lab would like to extend a hearty "Welcome" to two new employees, Pamela Amerson and Casey Hatcher.

Pamela joins STI with extensive experience in surface mount technology and through-hole assembly soldering. She also has considerable experience with rework and repair of SMT assemblies. Pamela will be assuming the position of Surface Mount Soldering Technician and will be involved with BGA reballing, BGA placement and reflow, BGA removal and replacement, and manual assembly operations.

Casey graduated with honors (Summa Cum Laude) in December from Auburn University with a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering. Her undergraduate work experience includes a co-op position with the Center for Advanced Vehicle Electronics (CAVE) at Auburn under Dr. Wayne Johnson where she was involved with flip chip process development and failure analysis. Casey also interned with the Microsystems Technology Group at Harris Corporation. She will be involved with advanced assembly process development and analytical/failure analysis work at STI.



**Soldering Technology International, Inc.**  
**(STI)**

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Fax: 256-705-5538

**“The Master’s Choice for Training and  
Education”**



ASSOCIATION CONNECTING  
ELECTRONICS INDUSTRIES

*IPC Certification Center*

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STI IS ALSO A RESOURCE FOR TRAINING  
MATERIALS, ENGINEERING SERVICES,  
AND PRODUCT DISTRIBUTION  
VISIT [WWW.SOLDERINGTECH.COM](http://WWW.SOLDERINGTECH.COM)

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## Jim’s Corner

**By: Jim D. Raby, PE**

There comes a time when one looks at the path that he or she has tread and as we reminisce we can’t help but wonder how we could have shortened our learning curve, or how things could have been done on a faster-track. Many people enter into our lives who help us in sometimes just small but ever so important ways. Maybe we should ask ourselves, have we helped someone today, or how did we provide payback to those who helped us.

STI, is working on this subject by getting involved at the 2 year college level with Calhoun Community College. We believe that we can help to create an early learning experience for those young minds who may not go all the way for a 4 year college degree, but can come to the work place with ready hands-on experience in manufacturing. This will make the employer feel good about the new employee and lets the new employee feel better about themselves. We are in the process of installing a full SMT line for training purposes at the Calhoun Decatur Alabama facility. This will include a stencil printer, pick & place machine, reflow oven, wave solder machine and various other pieces of equipment to fill the line. We are in the process of writing the training modules necessary to attain state approval to run this as an accredited

course. This program should be available in the fall of 2002. The facility that will house this laboratory / training, is being especially constructed for this program. This facility will be completed and equipment moved into place in early April.

In order to make this program work at Calhoun, we will be asking all of industry to aid and assist by forming a consortium of support. We will need constant local industry input in order to address industry problems and to ascertain that we have set strong and aggressive goals that will be meaningful to both the student and industry. We will be making announcements through this newsletter letting you know when the first meeting will be and with details of how you can get involved.

It’s payback time, lets work together to make this project a success. If you have ideas and/or a desire to get involved, contact me, [Jraby@solderingtech.com](mailto:Jraby@solderingtech.com).