



**FAWN**  
ELECTRONICS

# Integrator



Linking Our Customers, Associates and Suppliers

Third Quarter  
2007



*Above, final fit-up is underway at Fawn Electronics' new Nashville, NC facility.*

## Nashville Facility Building Move-in Nears

Construction is progressing on Fawn Electronics' new facility in Nashville, NC. Facility fit-up is in process and move-in should begin during the middle of November.

Concurrent production will continue in both the current and new Nashville facility for several weeks, until production lines and processes

are fully qualified in the new facility. While Fawn's prior move demonstrated the speed at which operations could be transferred, this move will be staged carefully over the fourth quarter to ensure no production disruption occurs.

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## Fawn's Project Launch Process Ensures Customer Quality and Efficiency Goals are Met

One of the major concerns of any original equipment manufacturer (OEM) who outsources is loss of control of production. Outsourcing can open the door to hidden issues in production documentation, manufacturability, quality and schedule demand variations.

Fawn's project launch process is designed to address those concerns from day one in any new project. The process focuses on ensuring

that each project is carefully analyzed prior to entering production and provides customers with a range of options for product and process validation prior to the start of volume production.

Each project starts with a Kick-off Meeting. This includes a review of necessary resources such as tooling, personnel and material. This thorough review helps ensure that any changes

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## NPI *(continued from page 1)*

in assumptions or project scope that have occurred between quoting and final award of the project are understood and addressed. Information distributed at each Kickoff includes:

- ◆ A list of key customer contacts critical to project launch and production
- ◆ Critical milestone dates such as first article production date, target ship date and target production date
- ◆ Verification of purchase order receipt and conformance with quote assumptions
- ◆ Costing for non-recurring engineering charges related to tooling or programming
- ◆ Identification of any special processing requirements or issues such as excess material driven by minimum buy requirements
- ◆ Identification of any special or unique tooling requirements
- ◆ Comparison of quote documentation to production documentation, with any revision level variances noted
- ◆ Checklist of documentation received

- ◆ Review of quality, workmanship and test requirements
- ◆ Listing of purchased vs. consigned material
- ◆ Recommendations related to design for manufacturability or testability assumptions
- ◆ Recommendations for cost reduction and quality improvements
- ◆ Listing of key production process requirements and a flow chart for the project.

A New Product Review form is used to evaluate each first article. It includes a checklist that evaluates potential opportunities for defects at each stage of the process. Even when customers do not have a formal First Article Review Process, Fawn's team normally qualifies at least one piece and holds it as their master sample. An Inspection Traveler is used by production operators to ensure that product is checked throughout the production process for conformance to all requirements.

Following First Article acceptance, pilot production and any customer requested qualification sample runs are made. Then production commences. ■

## Facility *(continued from page 1)*



*Workers put the final touches on Fawn's new facility.*



# Kaye Price Celebrates 25 Year Service Anniversary



Kaye Price joined Fawn Electronics in 1982, just prior to company's move to its new Elm City facility. She originally started in Accounting handling payroll and overtime

work verification. Later, she assumed responsibility for human resources and benefits administration, reception and accounts payable. She also manages Fawn's training matrix and tracks employee activities and certifications.

Prior to joining Fawn, Kaye was a data processing/keypunch operator. Previously, she worked with the local county government.

Kaye has pursued studies toward a degree in business at Wilson Community College. She has also attended many seminars related to human resources administration.

In her spare time Kaye enjoys crocheting, reading and walking. Kaye says she likes the variety of things going on at Fawn and the fact that her job never involves the same thing two days in row. ■

## New Cabinet Supports RoHS-Compliant Mfg.

Fawn recently purchased a McDry DXU-1002 1%RH Ultra-Low Humidity storage cabinet. While a relatively low technology device compared to most of Fawn's equipment list, the cabinet is actually a critical part of ensuring high quality RoHS-compliant production.

According to Guy Bayless, a Fawn project engineer, moisture sensitive devices (MSDs) can fracture or 'popcorn' when exposed to high temperatures in the production process. In Fawn's RoHS compliant production process, reflow temperatures can reach 260 degrees C. The new cabinet eliminates the risk of fracturing from moisture and higher processing temperatures. It also minimizes the need for long term curing. In addition to supporting high production quality, it helps minimize field failures because a degraded MSD may pass production testing and subsequently fail prematurely in the field. Fawn currently stores moisture sensitive PCBs and components. ICs can be particularly susceptible to moisture sensitivity. ■



*Above, the new McDry cabinet helps ensure RoHS-compliant production quality.*