

Press information
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**APC Technology Group now offers component procurement and testing to AS6171 to UK customers**

Following the acquisition of Connecticut-based SMT Corp by APC Technology Group’s principal shareholder Harwood Capital, APC is now offering its UK-based defence and aerospace customers anti counterfeit and electrical testing services up to standard AS6171, helping customers mitigate current global component supply issues.

SMT was among the first test houses to have its detection and test methods for suspect/counterfeit parts accredited to Aerospace standard AS6171, which since January 2022 has been mandated by the US Defence Logistics Agency ("DLA"). SMT’s ISO17025/AS6171 and AS6081 certified labs authenticate the parts sold into the defence and aerospace industries; it is an approved vendor to leading US-based aerospace and defence contractors. Following the acquisition, Richard Hodgson, CEO of APC, takes on additional responsibilities as President of SMT with the two businesses being managed as one group.

As a UK and Ireland franchised distributor for more than 100 global manufacturers, APC Technology Group has been providing customers throughout multiple sectors with design-in, specification and sourcing of specialist electronic components and systems, control and management technologies and connectivity products for more than 40 years. The company’s major focus, accounting for the majority of its sales, are the defence, avionics and aerospace sectors, where mission-critical reliability is a fundamental requirement. The acquisition of SMT reinforces APC’s position as a strategic global supply chain partner for companies in the defence and aerospace sectors. The DLA mandated requirement has been introduced in response to government pressure on prime military contractors to use COTS components, inherent obsolescence issues in many military programs, the rise in counterfeit products and the current global shortage of electronic components.

Commenting on the acquisition, Richard Hodgson said, “Our UK customers have always valued our long-standing franchised relationships with major manufacturers and our design-in technical expertise. Adding SMT’s sourcing, counterfeit mitigation and in-house AS6171 testing capability allows us to provide our customers with even more strategic services. There are no AS6171 test houses located in the UK or Europe, so this acquisition significantly broadens our capability and we look forward to taking our services to the next level.”

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**Notes to Editors.**

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APC Technology Group provides the design, specification and distribution of specialist electronic components and systems, property technologies, and connectivity products. APC helps UK OEMs, CEMs and other organisations to take advantage of the latest technologies to produce better equipment, improve efficiency and achieve superior performance.

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