

5129 Kieley Place, St. Bernard, OH 45217

> CONTACT: William Makely Associates 630-960-0821 <u>billmakely@gmail.com</u>

For immediate release

Total Surface Quality Control Gets Fully Automated: BTG Labs Introduces the Surface Analyst[™] XA

Cincinnati, OH— BTG Labs is introducing the Surface Analyst XA, an automated solution for evaluating material surfaces to reduce waste, rework, and recalls when poorly prepared substrate surfaces lead to bonding, coating, sealing, painting or printing failure. The XA delivers real-time surface condition feedback to manufacturers, to ensure adhesion processes will be successful.

The XA applies the proven technology employed by the original handheld Surface Analyst to deposit a highly purified drop of water on a surface and then measure the contact angle. By automating this process, the XA increases the speed and efficiency by completing inspections on multiple surface points on a material surface at rates of up to 5,000 inspections per hour. As a result, the XA maps a surface across multiple points, ensuring the consistency and uniformity of surface quality on products ranging from the silicon wafers, electronic displays, critical medical device components to cast or machined metal parts and glass surfaces.

The XA measurement process is completely non-destructive. The unit uses highly-purified HPLC-grade water to prevent contamination of inspected material surfaces. Measurements are touchless, eliminating potential transfer of contamination from point to point on a surface. Being automated, the XA limits operator error or variation between inspections. Data capture and transfer to MES is automatic with the powerful Archer software, providing statistical process control as well as long-term trend analysis that monitors process drift.

The XA unit can be integrated into a production line using either a robot or linear actuator to move it from point to point, or it can be fixed in place on the line. Off-line cell inspections can also be conducted robotically or with a linear actuator. Self-implementing or full-line integration options are available.

The XA can be configured to match any company's unique manufacturing process, and customizable fixtures hold a variety of material sample shapes and sizes to meet customer application needs. The XA accommodates TCP/IP/Serial integration, and produces easy-to-use result output in a CSV file format.

BTG Labs is a Materials Science-based technology company focused on understanding, quantifying, and controlling surface critical processes in manufacturing. The Surface Analyst technology is widely used in the aerospace, automotive, electronic, medical device, consumer product industries and in a wide range of manufacturing and assembly operations. For further information about the Surface Analyst and BTG Labs, call (513) 469-1800 or visit the company website at <u>www.btglabs.com</u>.

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