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**Engineering Teams Leverage NPI-Plus Testing Models
to Validate Strategy, Avoid Rework**

October 26, 2016 – Whitewater, WIS – NPI-Plus was created and launched in 2013 with input from several large OEMs across the US. Their needs were being met for volume manufacturing, but each was looking for additional resources to support their design and engineering teams as they bring products to market. After many meetings, teleconferences, and ‘white-board’ sessions with careful consideration for customers’ needs, Universal Electronics, Inc. created the NPI-Plus model, an enhanced quick-turn PCBA prototype and NPI organization.

Customer response has been very positive. According to the director of engineering from a large Tier 1 OEM from MA, “Over the last few years we have found the NPI-Plus services to offer value for not only our quick-turn prototype needs but for low-volume production as well. It helps bridge the gap as we launch new programs throughout the year.”

An important goal of the NPI-Plus business development team was to engage with engineers and design teams as early in the design cycle as possible, providing product design feedback through various software analysis tools. NPI-Plus leverages detailed reports from ValorNPI and SiliconExpert to validate material strategy and/or confirm manufacturing excellence. “The rigorous pre-production process can help ensure a higher quality end product with less chance for costly errors,” said Ray Cottrell, NPI-Plus VP of sales.

According to the VP of operations from a small IN technology company, “NPI-Plus helps us confirm our design for manufacturability and support our material choices through their reports. The NPI-Plus process has helped us save time and money on several new product releases, an important consideration as we face continued cost-down pressure. The process hasn’t slowed down deliveries, so we’ve been able to stay on track with scheduling as well.”

Production timelines were another important consideration for the NPI-Plus team, and the rigor of the process does not compromise timely service. From Alpha Build Quick Turns that are full turnkey and ship within days, to ramp-to-production builds that mirror exactly a customer’s active lifecycle boards and ship within two to four weeks – NPI-Plus delivers.

“Over the years we have continued to work very closely with our OEM partners for quick-turn PCBA prototypes and new product launch. Each program and engineering team has different demands and we have been able to adapt our process to meet their unique needs,” said NPI-Plus’ Cottrell.

Learn more at UEI.



www.ueinc.com

About UEI

UEI offers fast-turn PCBAs within NPI-Plus, and mid-volume manufacturing services customized to clients across the US. UEI serves multiple industries including Medical, Industrial, Lighting, Security, and Communications. Founded in 1980, UEI has two certified facilities in the upper Midwest. The Whitewater, WI facility is ISO9001:2008, ISO13485:2003, FDA, and ITAR registered. The East Troy, WI, facility is ISO9001:2008 and ITAR approved. UEI offers flexible engagement models and fast, cost-effective time to market strategies. Additional information about UEI and NPI-Plus and its services may be found at www.ueinc.com and www.npi-plus.com.

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