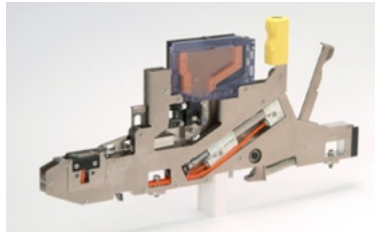


September 29, 2005

Taiyo Yuden: Further Expansion of the Unit-Type Bulk Feeder Series

— EIA0402 Rectangular Chip Fixed Resistor
for EIA0201 Multilayer Ceramic Capacitor Added to Line-Up —



Taiyo Yuden is devoted to promoting the bulk mounting method that cuts down on taping wastes and reduces storage space of components, and is gentle to the environment by saving on resources. In May 2003, for example, the company unveiled the industry's first unit-type next-generation bulk feeder, realizing the concept of “no stoppages, quick error recovery, and simple one-touch operation.” The company introduced bulk feeders for the EIA 0603 size ($1.6 \times 0.8 \times 0.8\text{mm}$) and the EIA 0402 size ($1.0 \times 0.5 \times 0.5\text{mm}$), which account for about 80% of the multilayer ceramic capacitor market. Later, in August 2004, the company joined with two other multilayer ceramic capacitor manufacturers, Murata and TDK, to propose new recommended parts dimension tolerances for multilayer ceramic capacitors. This action, which included unprecedented simultaneous press releases by the three companies, prepared the bulk mounting environment for both feeders and parts.

Now Taiyo Yuden has developed a bulk feeder for the EIA 0402 size ($1.0 \times 0.5 \times 0.33\text{mm}$) rectangular chip fixed resistor, which accounts for about half of all rectangular chip fixed resistors used in large numbers in a broad range of devices (according to a Taiyo Yuden survey), alongside multilayer ceramic capacitors.

At the same time, the company has developed a bulk feeder for the EIA 0201 size ($0.6 \times 0.3 \times 0.3\text{mm}$) ultra-compact multilayer ceramic capacitor, a product attracting attention for its utility in high-precision mountings for narrow adjacent pitches of $100\mu\text{m}$ or less ($1\mu\text{m} = 1/1000\text{mm}$), as well as for clean room mountings used for the production of semiconductor modules.

These additions to the bulk feeder product line-up extend the bulk mounting capabilities beyond the conventional use of multilayer ceramic capacitors to also include rectangular chip fixed resistors, and mark a major step forward in preparing the environment for the spread of bulk mounting in the future.

These environmentally gentle unit-type bulk feeders are particularly strong in productivity and space utilization, and can be effective in reducing total costs which, coupled with their utility in clean room mounting, offer great benefits to customers hoping to maximize the effectiveness of mounting as many types of parts as possible, by greatly expanding the range of parts targeted.

Furthermore, building on the newly developed bulk feeder for rectangular chip fixed resistors, Taiyo Yuden is now engaged in development for the EIA 0603 and EIA 0201 sizes, to further improve customer utilization.

Taiyo Yuden will commence sample deliveries of the newly developed bulk feeders in October, and plans to commence regular sales in January 2006. This product will be on display at the Taiyo Yuden booth for CEATEC Japan to be held starting October 4, 2005 at Makuhari Messe (Mihama-ku, Chiba city).

