

Microstim Assessment: Batch 1 Date:31st August 2016

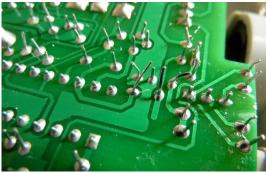
Updated: 31st August 2016

Microstim Assessment: Production Batch 1 - received 20th July 2016

Tests were performed on the first production batch of the new Microstim. These tests showed a relatively high failure rate. An internal examination of the units revealed several problems.

 The length of the component leg, that protruded from the underside of the PCB, was excessive. This could cause shorting if the component legs, when bent, touched other contacts. It became necessary to perform remedial work to rectify this issue.





 In general, the soldering was of an acceptable standard. Some examples of 'less than ideal' soldering were seen.



 There were also a small number of more serious solder faults, such as the solder bridge shown here. These faults are likely to be related to the excessive component leg length.





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The output Voltage was tested against the previous generation of Microstim. At maximum output, the new version read a little higher than the previous model. Typically, the new model would read 95V/96V, whereas the older model would read 93V. This gives a good margin above the required 90V output.

The case printing was noted to be a different shade to the previous model. The new case printing is of sufficient quality and did not smear when cleaned with isopropyl alcohol.

Of the 240 units received, 9 failed after the remedial work had been carried out.