IPC-A-610E-2010

Acceptability of Electronic Assemblies

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Users of this publication are encouraged to participate in the development of future revisions.

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Foreword

If a conflict occurs between the English and translated versions of this document, the English version will take precedence.

1.1 Scope

This standard is a collection of visual quality acceptability requirements for electronic assemblies.

This document presents acceptance requirements for the manufacture of electrical and electronic assemblies. Historically, electronic assembly standards contained a more comprehensive tutorial addressing principles and techniques. For a more complete understanding of this document's recommendations and requirements, one may use this document in conjunction with IPC-HDBK-001, IPC-AJ-820, and IPC J-STD-001.

The criteria in this standard are not intended to define processes to accomplish assembly operations nor is it intended to authorize repair/modification or change of the customer's product. For instance, the presence of criteria for adhesive bonding of components does not imply/authorize/require the use of adhesive bonding, and the depiction of a lead wrapped clockwise around a terminal does not imply/authorize/require that all leads/wires be wrapped in the clockwise direction.

Users of this standard should be knowledgeable of the applicable requirements of the document and how to apply them.

Objective evidence of the demonstration of this knowledge should be maintained. Where objective evidence is unavailable, the organization should consider periodic review of personnel skills to determine visual acceptance criteria appropriately.

IPC-A-610 has criteria outside the scope of IPC J-STD-001 defining handling, mechanical and other workmanship requirements. Table 1-1 is a summary of related documents.

IPC-AJ-820 is a supporting document that provides information regarding the intent of this specification content and explains or amplifies the technical rationale for transition of limits through Target to Defect condition criteria. In addition, supporting information is provided to give a broader understanding of the process considerations that are related to performance but not commonly distinguishable through visual assessment methods.

Table 1-1 Summary of Related Documents

Document Purpose	Spec.#	Definition
Design Standard	IPC-2220 (Series) IPC-7351 IPC-CM-770	Design requirements reflecting three levels of complexity (Levels A, B, and C) indicating finer geometries, greater densities, more process steps to produce the product. Component and Assembly Process Guidelines to assist in the design of the bare board and the assembly where the bare board processes concentrate on land patterns for surface mount and the assembly concentrates on surface mount and through-hole principles which are usually incorporated into the design process and the documentation.
End Item Documentation	IPC-D-325	Documentation depicting bare board specific end product requirements designed by the customer or end item assembly requirements. Details may or may not reference industry specifications or workmanship standards as well as customer's own preferences or internal standard requirements.
End Item Standards	IPC J-STD-001	Requirements for soldered electrical and electronic assemblies depicting minimum end product acceptable characteristics as well as methods for evaluation (test methods), frequency of testing and applicable ability of process control requirements.
Acceptability Standard	IPC-A-610	Pictorial interpretive document indicating various characteristics of the board and/or assembly as appropriate relating to desirable conditions that exceed the minimum acceptable characteristics indicated by the end item performance standard and reflect various out-of-control (process indicator or defect) conditions to assist the shop process evaluators in judging need for corrective action.
Training Programs (Optional)		Documented training requirements for teaching and learning process procedures and techniques for implementing acceptance requirements of either end item standards, acceptability standards, or requirements detailed on the customer documentation.
Rework and Repair	IPC-7711/7721	Documentation providing the procedures to accomplish conformal coating and component removal and replacement, solder resist repair, and modification/repair of laminate material, conductors, and plated-through holes.

Foreword (cont.)

The explanations provided in IPC-AJ-820 should be useful in determining disposition of conditions identified as Defect, processes associated with Process Indicators, as well as answering questions regarding clarification in use and application for defined content of this specification. Contractual reference to IPC-A-610 does not additionally impose the content of IPC-AJ-820 unless specifically referenced in contractual documentation.

1.2 Purpose

The visual standards in this document reflect the requirements of existing IPC and other applicable specifications. In order for the user to apply and use the content of this document, the assembly/product should comply with other existing IPC requirements, such as IPC-7351, IPC-2220 (Series), IPC-6010 (Series) and IPC-A-600. If the assembly does not comply with these or with equivalent requirements, the acceptance criteria **shall** be defined between the customer and supplier.

The illustrations in this document portray specific points noted in the title of each page. A brief description follows each illustration. It is not the intent of this document to exclude any acceptable procedure for component placement or for applying flux and solder used to make the electrical connection; however, the methods used **shall** produce completed solder connections conforming to the acceptability requirements described in this document.

In the case of a discrepancy, the description or written criteria always takes precedence over the illustrations.

1.3 Classification

Accept and/or reject decisions **shall** be based on applicable documentation such as contracts, drawings, specifications, standards and reference documents. Criteria defined in this document reflect three classes, which are as follows:

Class 1 — General Electronic Products

Includes products suitable for applications where the major requirement is function of the completed assembly.

Class 2 — Dedicated Service Electronic Products

Includes products where continued performance and extended life is required, and for which uninterrupted service is desired but not critical. Typically the end-use environment would not cause failures.

Class 3 — High Performance Electronic Products

Includes products where continued high performance or performance-on-demand is critical, equipment downtime cannot be tolerated, end-use environment may be uncommonly harsh, and the equipment must function when required, such as life support or other critical systems.

The customer (user) has the ultimate responsibility for identifying the class to which the assembly is evaluated. If the user and manufacturer do not establish and document the acceptance class, the manufacturer may do so.

1.4 Definition of Requirements

This document provides acceptance criteria for completed electronic assemblies. Where a requirement is presented that cannot be defined by the acceptable, process indicator, and defect conditions, the word ''**shall**'' is used to identify the requirement. The word ''**shall**'' in this document invokes a requirement for manufacturers of all classes or product, and failure to comply with the requirement is a noncompliance to this standard.

All products **shall** meet the requirements of the assembly drawing(s)/ documentation and the requirements for the applicable product class specified herein. Missing hardware or components are a Defect for all classes.

1.4.1 Acceptance Criteria

When IPC-A-610 is cited or required by contract as a standalone document for inspection and/or acceptance, the requirements of IPC J-STD-001 ''Requirements for Soldered Electrical and Electronic Assemblies'' do not apply unless separately and specifically required.

In the event of conflict, the following order of precedence applies:

1. Procurement as agreed and documented between customer and supplier.
2. Master drawing or master assembly drawing reflecting the customer's detailed requirements.
3. When invoked by the customer or per contractual agreement, IPC-A-610.

When documents other than IPC-A-610 are cited, the order of precedence **shall** be defined in the procurement documents.

Criteria are given for each class in four levels of acceptance: Target Condition, Acceptable Condition, and either Defect Condition or Process Indicator Condition.

1.4.1.1 Target Condition

A condition that is close to perfect/preferred, however, it is a desirable condition and not always achievable and may not be necessary to ensure reliability of the assembly in its service environment.