



Press Release

Fourstar Connections, Inc.

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Dynamic change is implemented at local contract manufacturing company

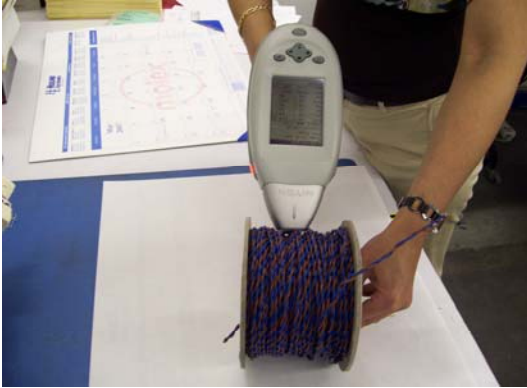
Hudson, MA- April 23, 2007 – Fourstar Connections, Inc. is a contract manufacturing organization servicing OEMs throughout North America. Their core competency includes: custom cable assemblies, mechanical sub-assemblies and turn-key box build assemblies. The products manufactured by Fourstar Connections are used in Medical, Homeland Security, Communication and Industrial applications.

Fourstar Connections, Inc. enjoyed unprecedented sales growth in 2006 and continues to implement changes which support a progressive manufacturing organization. “Last year we exceeded the business plan realizing 40% sales growth and in parallel the management team instituted a series of activities; ISO 9001:2000 standard recertification, RoHS compliance systems, paperless documentation and lean manufacturing that strengthens our company and has us positioned to support additional growth,” says Phil Holman, President and owner.

Working with Intertek Testing Services, Fourstar Connections passed their 3 year audit and were recertified as an ISO 9001:2000 compliant manufacturing company in Q4 2006. Don Glencross, QA Manager at Fourstar noted that, “the recertification validates their quality system to-a world-class recognized quality standard and reflects the organization’s commitment to delivering quality products.” Mark Revett of Incremental Technologies, Inc. commented that, “Fourstar’s recertification is a significant accomplishment and is a statement to their commitment to quality and the ISO standards.”

Fourstar Connections, Inc. takes a systematic approach in delivering RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances) compliant assemblies. What is RoHS? It is a directive issued by the European Union that restricts the use of certain hazardous materials; cadmium, lead, mercury, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls and polybrominated biphenyl esters from electronic products sold into the European market. The effective date of the directive was July 1, 2006. Operating within a job shop environment, Fourstar has developed systems to review bills of material to assure that their inventory and processes can produce RoHS compliant assemblies.

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The Niton XLT 797 hand-held analyzer is being used during incoming inspection process at Fourstar.

In addition, they have invested in a RoHS Niton gun that is manufactured by Thermo Electron Corporation. The Niton XLT 797 is a hand-held, portable XRF analyzer configured to work effectively as a RoHS compliance screening tool. “This instrument gives us the ability to verify that there are no restricted materials at incoming or final inspection. It represents a significant re-investment in the company and provides a reassurance to our customers needing to meet this directive,” states Pete McGuire VP Sales & Marketing.

In January the company made an investment in new hardware and software that enables them to convert documentation to softcopy. A customer’s documentation and Fourstar’s process are now linked within their MAS 200 ERP system. This provides immediate access to documentation to all groups within the organization, saving time and expense. Today, the manufacturing operators utilize new monitors and computers deployed on the line to access processes to build the custom cable harnesses and electro-mechanical assemblies required by Fourstar Connections customers. The conversion to softcopy documentation complements their lean initiatives. Fourstar Connections was awarded a two year “Workforce Training Grant” from The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Career Services in February 2006. They successfully launched lean in 2006 and now are realizing benefits through its implementation. Phil Holman commented, “Fourstar is living lean and we project a 10% gain in efficiency for this quarter.”



Wireless PC workstation located on the Fourstar manufacturing line.

Fourstar Connections, Inc. is located at 321 Central Street Hudson, MA. They are a contract manufacturing services provider with 28,000 square feet of manufacturing space in Hudson with affiliates in Mexico and China. The company is positioned to service your cable and electro-mechanical assembly requirements from NPI, through production manufacturing cycles. To learn more about Fourstar Connections, visit their website at: www.fourstarconnections.com or call Pete McGuire V.P. of Sales & Marketing, phone: 978-568-9800 x818, email: PeterM@fourstarconnections.com .

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