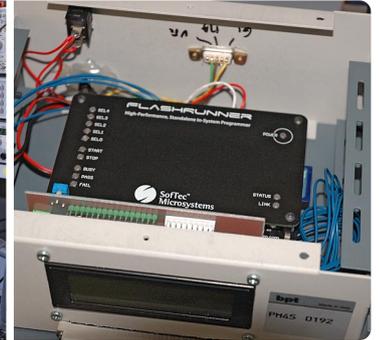
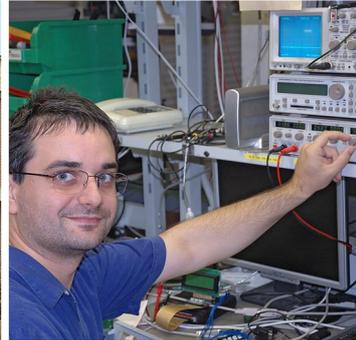


Case Study: Bpt (Video Entry Systems, Programmable Thermostats and Home Automation)



Bpt Switches to ISP and Chooses FlashRunner

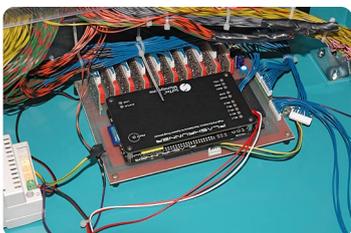
Mr. Patrick Buzzarello, Bpt Industrialization Manager, explains why his company has decided to adopt FlashRunner in its ISP production lines.

“We decided to adopt an high-end programmer such as FlashRunner because it will allow us to save up to 2,000 production hours per year.”

Bpt uses Nec and Microchip devices on its products. Traditionally, they used either ROMed devices or on-socket programmed devices. But both approaches have disadvantages.

ROMed devices, even if slightly cheaper than their Flash counterparts, do not include all of the latter's peripherals, resulting in additional circuitry to be added on the PCB. As for the devices to be programmed on-socket, they require separate, dedicated programmers.

Consequently, Bpt decided to switch to Flash devices and to adopt a universal, in-system programming solution.



The first experience with a competitor's in-system programmer was negative. Due to incomplete documentation, they encountered difficulties in integrating the programmer in their testing machines. Furthermore, technical support (a factor judged essential by Bpt) was inadequate.

After taking into consideration other programming solutions, they chose to adopt SofTec Microsystems' FlashRunner.

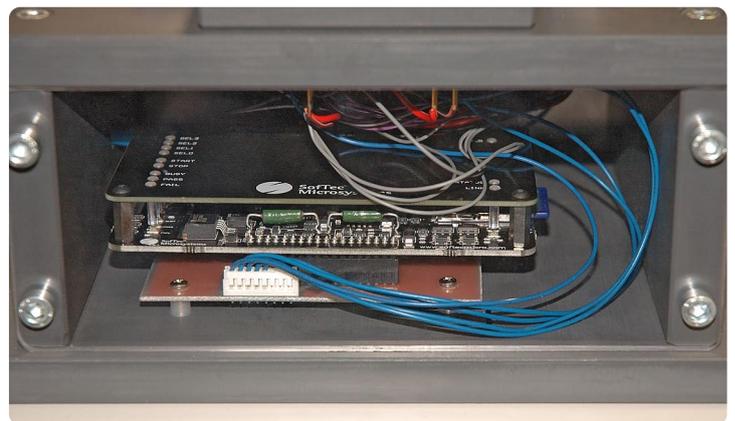
“We decided to use an high-end programmer such as FlashRunner because it will allow us to save up to 2,000 production hours per year with respect to the on-socket programming scenario,” says Mr. Patrick Buzzarello. “FlashRunner proved to be easy to integrate in our existing equipment. And support from SofTec Microsystems has been quick and knowledgeable.”

They easily and successfully integrated FlashRunner both in three

SPEA's Easytest machines (used to perform programming and parametric and functional tests) and in several, dedicated, custom-made test machines.

“The FlashRunner solution has been so great that we plan to integrate additional FlashRunner units in our production lines for the programming of our future products,” concludes Mr. Buzzarello.

Mr. Loris Paquola, hardware development manager at SofTec Microsystems, comments on the experience gained from the Bpt case: “I'm very happy that FlashRunner proved to be so flexible to be easily integrated in Bpt's custom programming equipment. Of course, FlashRunner was designed with this goal in mind, but it's always rewarding to see how it actually proves to work so well in the field.”



About Bpt

Bpt (www.bpt.it) is a reference point on the electrical appliances market. Keeping pace with technological progress, the company has created a range of increasingly sophisticated and cutting-edge products: audio and video entry control, programmable thermostats, modular videophone and living control systems.

Headquartered in the province of Venice, Bpt designs and realizes in house every last component of its products.

