

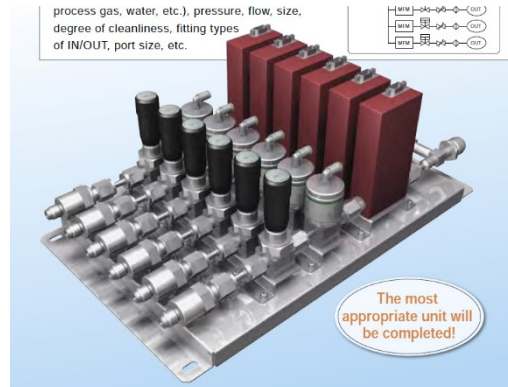


FICS Program from CKD Provides Extension of Engineering Team

Faced with time and resource pressures, many engineering departments are turning to CKD to utilize its product and process expertise to solve gas equipment challenges. CKD's Fine Integrates Components Solution (FICS) provides an efficient and time-saving program for designing, manufacturing and delivering semiconductor units. The program supplies control components for ultraclean environments with the highest purity and precision in the industry.

A simple three step process enables CKD customers to overcome the time and cost challenges of selecting, designing, drawing and building the right components for their application.

1. Using FICS, customers provide CKD with their flowchart and specifications.
2. CKD designs and builds the solution to meet the customer specifications.
3. The customer connects their piping and the installation is complete.



"We are really an extension of their engineering team," says Reid Poole, CKD USA Director of Sales, Semiconductor Business Unit. "With over 600,000 parts and long history in the semiconductor industry we've got the capabilities to help our customers design a better system. Engineers can run into any number of challenges during their process, so we're here to help with a particular product, such as a valve. Or, we also come in to help solve particular problem like when an existing product isn't working properly."

In addition to the design capabilities, CKD does extensive testing of all parts. "we can provide true specs," says Mr. Poole. "Our rigorous testing enables us to delivery parts that will meet or exceed their specifications. This is an important factor for our customers. They know with CKD parts that the specifications are backed by a very rigorous program and that's not always the case in different areas of the industry."

In addition to CKD's design capabilities, the company also offers clean room assembly options. CKD assembles the FICS parts in a cleanroom to ensure that the parts will meet all performance requirements. Plus, CKD guarantees the whole unit, not just the device.

With manufacturing locations around the world, CKD has facilities in close proximity to its customers. This minimizes material handling and potential shipment delays. "We bring in three air shipments to the US from Japan every week," says Mr. Poole. "When we tell our customers that the parts will be here, we know they will be here. That peace of mind is critical for our customers."



CKD's Fine Integrated Components Solution is perfect for semiconductor cleanroom environments, but also has application to life sciences and similar industries.

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