

Press Release

Burgkirchen/Alz (Germany), 16. January 2026

cts at Southern Manufacturing & Electronics 2026 in Farnborough

Automated intra-production logistics for seamless material flow in electronics manufacturing

At this year's Southern Manufacturing & Electronics in Farnborough, the cts Group will be presenting its modular intralogistics solutions for the smart electronics factory from 3 to 5 February. At stand M130, the one stop solutions provider will demonstrate how it combines intelligent storage, AMRs and automated transfer systems into a connected turnkey solution that integrates seamlessly into existing production environments and ensures fast, accurate and fully traceable material flow. This increases throughput and quality, reduces the workload on employees and enables better planning. The scalability and configurability of the solutions also provide flexibility and make production future-proof.

As elsewhere in Europe, electronics manufacturing in the UK is currently in a critical phase. Although the speed and precision of SMT lines are continuously improving, material flow is increasingly proving to be a decisive bottleneck: manual processes in the logistics of components from the warehouse to the assembly machine are inefficient, non-transparent and prone to errors. This affects quality and jeopardises compliance. Added to this is demographic change: in times of staff shortages, it is becoming increasingly difficult for manufacturing companies to find and retain employees for repetitive logistics tasks. Automation is therefore key to making intralogistics processes, and thus production, fit for the future. The cts Group, headquartered in Germany, offers solutions for seamless material flow based on autonomous systems and highly customisable machines – for manufacturing companies in general and specifically tailored to the requirements of SMT and THT production lines. These include intelligent storage solutions – the Smart Warehouses –, transfer and buffer stations, and AMRs that enable efficient and reliable material transport.

Turnkey solution from a single source, configurable and scalable

All solutions can be comprehensively configured. cts adjusts them to each customer's production environment and actual intralogistics challenges and, as the one-stop partner, takes responsibility for integration – from design to commissioning and training to long-term support. This also includes integration with existing MES, MOM and ERP platforms. This investment pays off for customers: "The ROI for material flow automation is easy to demonstrate, as the benefits are immediately reflected in measurable KPIs," reports Terry

Morgan, Sales Representative UK/Ireland at the cts Group. "We look at reduction in production downtime due to missing materials, faster changeovers, less time spent by staff on searching and walking around, and less waste due to feeding or exposure errors. Once replenishment and tracking are automated, OEE increases, which is a major driver of the business case." Thanks to configurability and scalability, manufacturing companies also remain flexible: "All our systems are based on a modular architecture, so customers can start with what they need today and expand as their production grows or changes," explains Terry Morgan.

Smart warehouses: automatic storage, management, tracking

The intelligent storage solutions in the cts Smart Warehouse family handle the automatic storage, management and tracking of materials. Algorithms ensure ideal distribution, while interfaces to higher-level systems create data transparency. The Warehouses are compact and space-saving. "Our systems – whether the SMT Reel Warehouse or the Mini and Big Smart Warehouse – are designed to manage all production materials: reels, PCBs, and components stored in magazines, trays, or boxes," says Terry Morgan. "Instead of operators searching through shelves or staging materials around the line, everything is held in a high-density, fully automated environment where each item is tracked, verified, and instantly accessible. Complete digitalisation ensures precision: every type of material carrier is scanned, logged and stored with accurate location data, exposure tracking and full traceability. Automation creates efficiency: through intelligent software, automated picking and AMRs that deliver materials directly to the right place without delays or mix-ups."

AMRs and transfer systems enable continuous, automated material flow from the warehouse to the line

CTS implements AMR projects as needed in collaboration with partners such as Omron, Agilox and MiR. "AMRs are fundamentally changing intralogistics by taking over all repetitive walking, transport and manual transfer tasks that slow down production," explains Terry Morgan. "When combined with automated transfer systems – whether that's carts, lifts, buffer stations, or line-side loading – a continuous, automated material flow is created from the warehouse to the line and back. Materials are transported exactly when and where they are needed, without having to wait for an operator to be available." This is a major advantage for cts customers: "They benefit from consistent, predictable delivery that stabilises changeovers, prevents production downtime and eliminates the guesswork in replenishment planning," says Terry Morgan. "AMRs also free up operators to focus on higher-value tasks instead of spending hours walking parts around the factory. And because every movement is tracked, the entire process becomes much more transparent and traceable."

Southern Manufacturing & Electronics 2026

At the cts stand at Southern Manufacturing & Electronics, technical decision-makers can see for themselves how cts combines individual systems into a complete solution. They will also have the opportunity to explore real-world use cases, see how cts systems can be integrated into existing MES and MOM platforms, and learn about the impact on changeovers, OEE and traceability. Terry Morgan adds: "Most importantly, it's a friendly space to talk through their

own challenges with our engineers and see how a single-source, fully configurable automation approach can fit their factory."

About cts

The cts Group is an independent full-service provider addressing the four key challenges of modern industry: stable process control, automated production, digital data infrastructure and secure energy supply. In sectors such as pharmaceuticals, chemicals, electronics, energy and food, cts supports companies with practical planning, technical implementation and reliable project management. The cts service portfolio is divided into four main areas:

Process Automation (Smart Processes) offers complete and system-independent automation and support of process engineering production processes - from electrical planning, control cabinet construction and assembly to control, commissioning, calibration, maintenance and continuous optimization.

With **Factory Automation (Smart Manufacturing)**, cts supports manufacturing companies in the automation of their production and logistics processes - with individually adaptable systems and machinery for machine loading, material flow, packaging and special industrial processes, for example in electronics production, semiconductor technology or radiopharmaceuticals.

Industrial Informatics (Smart Data) focuses on scalable platform solutions for cross-location transparency and process understanding, which serve as the foundation for data-based decisions in industrial environments. End-to-end communication between IT and OT ensures that industrial data is complete, comprehensible and usable - across locations, in real time and in compliance with the highest security standards.

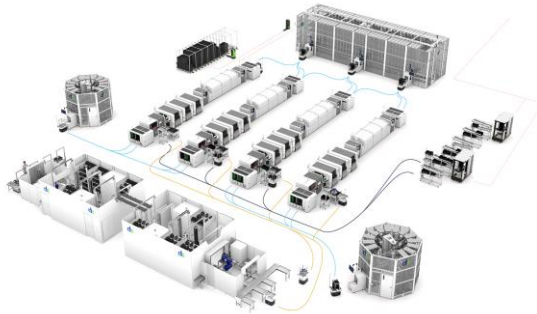
With **Smart Energy Technology**, cts assists companies in the planning, expansion and modernization of critical energy infrastructures - such as substations, transformer stations and gas compressor plants - and takes over project management and coordination from the feasibility study to acceptance.

The cts Group works independently of manufacturers and on an interdisciplinary basis - with a broad range of services from concept development and project management to long-term support for technical systems. Since its founding in 2006, cts has developed into an internationally active company with locations in Europe, Asia and North America. The head office is located in the south of Germany.

www.group-cts.com

The following images are attached to the press release:

1. Image 1. Connected turnkey solution for seamless material flow: smart warehouses, transfer systems, AMRs | Image credit: cts Group
cts_Intralogistics.png



2. Image 2. Smart Warehouse / Mini. | Image credit: cts Group
Smart_Warehouse_Mini.jpg



3. Image 3. Smart Warehouse / Big | Image credit: cts Group
Smart_Warehouse_Big.jpg

