



Reshoring – Striking a Balance

Today's pandemic laced environment continues to create a myriad of supply chain and logistics issues. Past decisions to offshore critical assemblies for lower cost may now need to be revisited. Striking the proper balance is difficult. Staying offshore may cost more now in delays and delivery uncertainties that can make it impossible to plan or execute on your production schedules.

What can we do together? Here are some helpful tips...

Customer Support Team

Reshoring can be a challenge. SoPark's team based approach can help ease the transition. Each customer project is assigned dedicated sales, engineering and procurement specialists forming a team that stays with you throughout the entire process. Prototypes, critical to any pre-production qualification by your customer, are expedited to ensure timely feedback and delivery of product. Our engineering team can also recommend advanced Design for Manufacturing (DFM) ideas to improve quality and speed of manufacturability, which can save you time and money on your future orders.



Upcoming Topics:

- Design for Manufacturing Tips
- Cables & Harnesses
- Box Builds
- New Inspection Techniques

Contact us for Past Issues:

- Advantages of Conformal Coating
- Minority Women Owned Business
- Critical Components Management

- **Inventory** - The short answer is always to carry more inventory, but in reality that will not work due to lack of availability and potential obsolescence. The key is to **proactively** partner with a US based contract manufacturer (CM) and supplying them with extended forecasts.
- **Contract Manufacturers (CM)** - Having a US based CM for some or all of your printed circuit board and electronic assemblies needs may make more sense now than ever before.
 - * **Costs** - While the individual assembly cost per offshore PCBA unit may be lower, the total cost may be significantly higher when all indirect costs of supporting an offshore supplier relationship are taken into account. For example, when production delays occur due to missed shipments from over seas.
 - * **Accessibility** - localizing your CM allows for greater and more timely access to their resources especially if they are within the same time zone.
 - * **Logistics** - U.S. sourcing dramatically reduces shipping distances, multiple touch points and facilitates easier tracking which can help to eliminate offshoring missteps. Domestic shipping point-to-point helps to ensure delivery schedules are met on time, as well as eliminating administrative work related to import documentation.
 - * **Communication Challenges** - Offshoring may present some language and communication difficulties versus domestic sources. In addition, trying to arrange conference calls over multiple time zones can be a scheduling nightmare as well putting unusual demands on your employees. This comes at a time when employee satisfaction is of utmost importance.
- **Reshoring Organizations and Resources** - here are few helpful resources...
 - <https://www.reshorenw.org>
 - <https://www.reshoringinstitute.org>
 - <https://www.brooking.edu> (then download the article "Reshoring advanced supply chains to generate good jobs", Fish and Spillane July 2020.