

Q: What is the purpose of the HiLevel TestBox?

The Many Faceted HiLevel TestBox

A HiLevel representative asked us to come up with a TestBox for use in low volume production. We did. The rest is history and a sequence of applications for the HiLevel TestBox - some rather compelling and often unrelated to production. Q'nApp #P12 details the use of TestBox for production testing. Other subsequent discoveries, primarily pertaining to Failure Analysis, found new and unique ways of deploying our TestBox. A few of these cases are covered in the following.

1. Applying a probe-station, it used to be necessary to hunt for the RUN button while staring into a microscope. The TestBox made things much more convenient. By simply pressing the TestBox button, you can now start execution of the test. No more hunting for the RUN button with the mouse -- simply hold the TestBox in your hand.

2. In support of liquid crystal (hot spot) IDDQ testing, Presto features a special software routine to assist this valuable tool. We repeatedly apply and remove power to the device until a specified repeat count is reached. The repeat count, however, is less important than the intensity level of the liquid crystal. Hence, when the desired intensity level is reached we ideally should be able to terminate the test quickly. Just use the TestBox.

3. With a high-speed IC handler, minimal time should be dedicated to the task of interrogating and processing screen controls. But how can we interrupt the test without turning off the IC handler?

Just use the TestBox.



Another application of the TestBox is interruption of Diagnostics and Calibration. The overhead (and, in many ways, annoyance) of letting the operating system interrogate processes can be saved in favor of the much simpler task of interrogating the TestBox, saving time in software execution.

We expect to find many more tasks for the TestBox. Any suggestion that could help your application? Just call **1-800-HILEVEL** and say: "TestBox!" We'll be happy to help.

Also See:

Q'nApp #P12: AutoTest with TestBox

Q'nApp #P14: Production Test

Q'nApp #P37: MultiSite

Q'nApp #P48: Custom AutoTest Logfile