

PCB conformal coating removal

Printed circuit boards

Inexpensive repair – Not expensive replacement

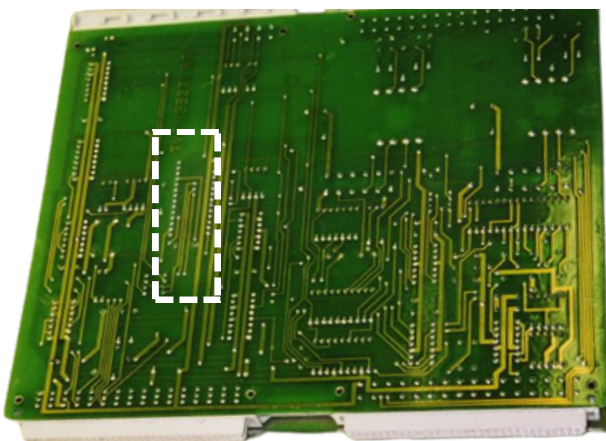
In the Electronics Industry today, circuit boards are extensively tested during production and generally very reliable. However, when failures occur, it has often been thought best to throw away a complete board rather than replace the individual failed component.

Two main problems led to this unsatisfactory and expensive conclusion:

1. Accurate identification of faulty component(s) was difficult.
2. Removal of conformal coating and sealants to expose the component to be removed was either impossible or required very strong solvents.

State Of The Art diagnostic systems now provide the solution to the first problem and the Vapormate cleaning machine provides the solution to the second!

A properly equipped repair shop can now diagnose faults on circuit boards at component level, remove the protective conformal coating from around the failed component, replace the component, and reapply the lacquer at a fraction of the cost and in a much shorter time than sending away for a replacement unit. This type of repair becomes essential when dealing with obsolete equipment.

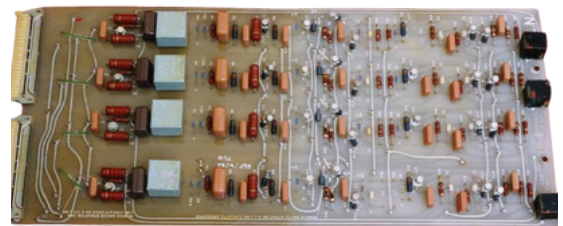


Conformal coating removed from the area indicated on the circuit board



Vapormate wet blasting machine

The Vapormate machine creates a directional stream of water containing a very fine plastic or alumina powder suspended within it. This fine stream is used to scrub off tenacious coatings and lacquers leaving underlying components, printed instructions, and delicate laminates undamaged. Contacts and edge connectors can be gently cleaned to ensure good continuity but even delicate gold plated layers are left completely undamaged. No harsh chemicals are used and static build up (as created in dry sandblast systems) is not a problem.



Conformal coating removed from right hand half of circuit board

The Vapormate process is highly controllable by use of different sizes and types of solid powder, or by variation of the process pressure. It can be tuned to remove many different lacquers / conformal coating formulations.

Vapormatt, Robins Drive, Bridgwater, TA6 4DL, UK
t +44 (0) 1823 257976

e sales@vapormatt.com

