

In-Circuit Test & Flying Probe Test

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We are a small CM and are researching In-Circuit Testers and Flying Probe Testers. We need to have integrated testing capability for our customers. There are few third party test facilities left and none are local to us. We are looking on the used market since we do not want to expend huge amounts of capital or tie our hands with too large of a loan. There are two caveats, Genrad sucks and Takiya is a piece of shit.

In ICT we are down to:

Agilent 3070
Teradyne Z1880
Teradyne Z8800

Flying Probe:
Spea 4400
Acculogic
Seica

I like the Z8800 (Spectrum?) because it is a VXI backplane. The Z1880 though has a lot going for it especially in cost, both system cost and fixturing cost. The Agilent is pricey but seems to have more industry acceptance.

As for the flying probes I am leaning towards Spea but have no real experience with them.

Has anyone used these machines? What are the upsides and downsides of each. I am tired of hearing sales pitches I want actual user input.

Will I get any return on my investment? Is In-circuit a dying technology for digital boards given the JTAG tools available?

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