Corstat Corrugated Protective Folder

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**Abstract:** A technique is disclosed that protects printed circuit board assemblies during assembly, bagging and packaging processes. A Corstat corrugated protective folder has a load-spreading design which isolates easily damageable components such as for example DIMM connectors, and prevents transmission of lateral forces during shipment.

This disclosure relates to the field of electronics packaging.

PCA boards, in particular boards which are transported from one manufacturer to another, can experience damage to certain components such as DIMM connectors.

According to the present disclosure, and as understood with reference to the Figure, a conductive corrugated folder 10 isolates DIMM connectors in shock events and prevents application of a lateral force on these components which could lead to PCA damage. The protective handling surface of the corrugated folder 10 also provides better handling protection in production, when bagging and packaging, when transporting, when being unpacked, and when being utilized in manufacturing.

The corrugated folder 10 ships flat, and has crease scores and knock-out die-cut openings which are customized to a particular type of PCA board 20 with which it is to be used. The corrugated folder 10 may be made of a conductive material (such as Corstat), because of the direct contact that the folder 10 makes with the PCA board 20 it encloses. A friction slot closure in the folder 10 keeps it in the closed position. The entire assembly (folder plus PCA board) may then be placed into a static shielding bag (not shown) for shipment.

The folder 10 is easy to use, reusable, and provides a load-spreading and isolation surface for shock impact protection. The load-spreading design isolates damagable DIMM connectors of the PCA 20 from shock events, and assures that no lateral forces can be transmitted during shipment leading to damage of the PCA 20. The folder 10 thus advantageously reduces or eliminates the staging of defective parts and the associated return shipment costs as well as rework expenses.
Disclosed by Kenneth Earl Neuburg, Hewlett Packard Enterprise