

Press Release

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Standard-Compliant Optical Surface Metrology from Polytec

“A measuring device which fails to state measurement uncertainties for the relevant parameters is of limited value”, says Dr. Wilfried Bauer, Product Manager for Surface Metrology at Polytec. In white light interferometry, however, this happens frequently, because data sheets of various manufacturers more often than not only give a value for the resolution in a vertical direction, which is the smallest step height that can be separated in one measurement on a smooth surface. For the user, however, what is of interest is the measurement uncertainty and repeatability for surface parameters or form parameters such as flatness or step height that can actually be achieved in practice. Although this ultimately has to be verified on the specific workpiece, Polytec has decided to incorporate details of these form parameters in the data sheets. This involved publishing the empirically-determined typical performance when measuring on a calibrated PTB [Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt] depth setting standard type A1 (ISO 5436-1). What was determined was the mean variation of the readings for a measurement series under repeat conditions, averaged over several measuring devices and varying measurement conditions. This, according to Application Engineer Benjamin Erler, was particularly important for Polytec, because with a scanning range of 70 mm for example in the TopMap TMS-100 Metro.Lab, various measurement results can be produced depending on the scanning height. This is why Polytec has developed an internal calibration guideline giving the user additional certainty that he is always obtaining trustworthy values.

More information: www.topmap.info

Publication free of charge

For questions please contact
Frauke Kapler
Tel. +49 (0)7243-604-236

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