

Fuji Awarded "2026 NPI Awards" in Two Categories for Automation Technology in SMT Manufacturing

Award-winning solutions that enable seamless automation of supply and transfer between preparation areas and production lines, contributing to labor savings and improved productivity

Fuji Corporation (headquarters: Chiryu, Aichi; Representative Director, President and CEO: Joji Isozumi; hereinafter referred to as "Fuji") has been awarded 2026 NPI Awards (New Product Introduction Awards) in two categories for products that enable automation solutions in SMT manufacturing. The award-winning products are the Smart Storage in the Equipment – Component Storage category and the Nozzle Supply Unit in the Equipment – Automation Tools category. These products were recognized at IPC APEX EXPO 2026, one of North America's largest electronics manufacturing trade shows, held in Anaheim, California, in March 2026.



The NPI Awards

The NPI Awards (New Product Introduction Awards) are organized by CIRCUITS ASSEMBLY, a leading trade publication in the electronics assembly industry, and the Printed Circuit Engineering Association (PCEA), a nonprofit organization promoting the advancement of electronic circuit design. The awards recognize outstanding new products introduced to the electronics assembly industry over the past 12 months. Winners are selected by an independent panel of industry engineers and evaluated comprehensively based on criteria such as innovation, performance, and ease of use.

PCEA | NPI Awards information: <https://pcea.net/npi-awards/>

The Award-Winning Products

Smart Storage | Furthering the efficiency of offline changeover

Smart Storage is a unit that automates the storage, sorting, and supply of feeders used to deliver electronic components to machines in the offline changeover area. Required feeders are automatically collected from storage within the unit and transported to the production line by AMRs (Autonomous Mobile Robots) based on production schedules. Returned feeders from the production line are also



Smart Storage

automatically sorted according to future usage schedules. This reduces manual tasks typically performed by operators, such as searching for and reloading feeders, improving efficiency of offline changeover work and reducing workload. In addition, integration with AMRs promotes automation across the entire SMT floor, contributing to the realization of a smart factory aimed at unmanned operation.

Nozzle Supply Unit | Automated nozzle setup and changeover



Left: Overall view of the Nozzle Supply Unit
Right: Close-up of the nozzle station

The Nozzle Supply Unit is designed for Fuji's automated pick and place machine, the NXTR A model, and automates the changeover of nozzles that handle electronic components during placement. Previously, operators had to stop the machine to manually replace nozzles. With this unit, nozzle supply into and transfer from the machine are fully automated. The unit can also be used in combination with Smart Storage, supporting automation across the workflow from offline changeover to production.

By automatically changing nozzles according to production schedules and maintenance conditions, continuous operation is maintained without stopping production while ensuring quality. This unit reduces the workload on operators and line downtime, thereby improving the operating rate for SMT production lines and contributing to labor savings.

Towards the Future

As a frontrunner in realizing fully automated factories in the SMT industry, we will continue to advance our smart factory solutions by leveraging cutting-edge technologies. Through the introduction of the latest products and technologies, including the NXTR, we aim to accelerate automation not only in production lines but across the entire SMT floor, including preparation processes.

Exhibition at JISSO PROTEC 2026

Fuji will exhibit the award-winning products Smart Storage and Nozzle Supply Unit at its booth during the 27th JISSO PROTEC 2026, an international exhibition for surface mounting technology, to be held in Tokyo in June 2026.

Exhibited products

Exhibit: The 27th JISSO PROTEC 2026

Dates: Wednesday, June 10 to Friday, June 12, 2026, from 10:00 to 17:00

Venue: Tokyo Big Sight, Japan

Official website: <https://www.jissoprotec.jp/> (Japanese only)

Fuji booth: East Hall 1 1A-46

Company profile

About Fuji

Company name	FUJI CORPORATION
Representative	Joji Isozumi, Representative Director, President & CEO
Address	19 Chausuyama, Yamamachi, Chiryu, Aichi 472-8686 Japan
Established	April 1959
Business details	Development, manufacturing, and sales of SMT pick and place machines and machine tools
Capital	5,878 million Yen
URL	https://www.fuji.co.jp/en/ (Official website) https://smt.fuji.co.jp/en/ (SMT website)

For inquiries regarding the event or product:

Fuji Corporation, Robotic Solutions Division (contact form)

<https://smt.fuji.co.jp/en/contact/>