

The background of the advertisement is a photograph of an industrial facility. In the foreground, a large, cylindrical heat treatment chamber with a circular door is visible. The door is open, revealing the interior. To the right of the chamber, there is a complex assembly of pipes, valves, and electrical components. In the background, more industrial equipment and structural elements of the factory are visible. The lighting is bright, typical of an industrial environment.

WORLD'S LARGEST HEAT TREAT INDUSTRY NEWS SOURCE

Read by the world's heat
treaters since 1999

We buy, sell, market and
appraise surplus equipment;
ask us for more information

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INTRODUCTION

We are rather proud of our June issue of *"The Monty"* which certainly lives up to it's billing as the largest heat treat industry news source in the world. Want to read how COVID-19 has effected the heat treatment industry-we have you covered. The largest horizontal vacuum furnace in the UK is being installed- we have an exclusive story about it. Recently Kennametal in PA, USA auctioned off a surplus vacuum sintering furnace-in this issue we tell you what the sale price was. There is lots of stuff happening at Nitrex these days-we give you the whole story. And the most exciting thing of all in this issue? ***Our listing of the 30 largest commercial heat treaters in North America!*** This is just a small sample of the interesting heat treatment news items we have for you.

We hope you enjoy this issue and look forward to your thoughts and comments.

Sincerely,



Gord Montgomery



Jordan Montgomery



Dale Montgomery



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HEAT TREAT NEWS

The Website of Choice for Captive and Commercial Heat Treaters Since 1999

HK 2020

May 29, 2020



Earlier this week we mentioned how HK 2020, the annual heat treat exhibition in Cologne, Germany will have a different format this year because of COVID-19. We spoke with Sonja Mueller of AWT who is head of the organizing committee for the event and this is what she has to day.

“The executive board of AWT has decided, that HK 2020, the yearly big trade fair and congress event in Cologne on materials technology issues will not take place as a physical event. The trade fair is cancelled this year and the congress will be held as an online event.”

Dear Sonja, this must have been a very hard decision for you.

“Yes, and with a heavy heart. So far, we are aware of only some of the conditions imposed by the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia which will apply to the staging of events and trade fairs after 31 August. But these conditions are sufficient for us to draw up a scenario for the event and decide that we do not want exhibitors, visitors and also us as the organizers to meet under these circumstances. Can you imagine an exhibition hall with individual stands distributed throughout the hall? With distance rules of 1.5 meters from person to person around and on the stands? A reception without buffet and music? In addition, we expect that there will still be travel bans in companies and statutory travel restrictions for foreign countries in autumn.”

What are the plans for the congress this year?

“We did not want to cancel the congress with its high quality on lectures with information about the current state of science and technology. The program is already complete. So, the congress will take place at the scheduled time as an online conference. The participants of the congress can meet and chat at the online platform. A situation with home office or short-time work could also be used for further training. At the moment we create the technical basis for it. The program with 32 lectures includes two days. On 21 October a scientific congress will be held and on 22 October a practitioners congress. The final program will be published on hk-awt.de at the mid of June.”

What information could we get about the exhibitors?

“The website of HK with a detailed exhibitor directory will be updated currently and the exhibitors can publish product information and press releases on the “marketplace”.

What are your plans for the upcoming events?

“We all learn a lot about new event techniques at the moment, which will also offer new possibilities for the coming years. I think, we will become more international in the future because we can integrate more and more tools for virtual meetings into our traditional “physical” concept of HK. Our colleagues at Cologne trade fair this year present the first virtual fair.”

You can't really imagine this as a concept for HK?

“Of course, I know, that a virtual meeting does not replace direct contacts from person to person, it's more a kind of additional information. In addition to the presence event in the exhibition hall, we can perhaps also design a virtual exhibition hall next year. It offers a platform for companies from abroad to take part at a German event at manageable costs. We will hopefully celebrate a lively and healthy reunion in Cologne next October at HK 2021!”



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ADDED WEEKLY**



“The Monty” offers **FREE** equipment appraisals



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We only get paid if we find you a buyer



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We will buy your equipment

Bodycote Trading Update

May 29, 2020

The world's largest commercial heat treater just released a trading update for the first 4 months of this year. This is a condensed version with the full version available at <https://www.bodycote.com/>

“Bodycote, the world’s leading provider of heat treatment and specialist thermal processing services, is issuing a trading update covering the four-month period from 1 January to 30 April 2020 (“the period”), ahead of the Company’s 67th Annual General Meeting, which will be held at 12.00pm today. COVID-19

Bodycote’s primary concern remains the safety and well-being of our employees, customers and the wider community. We have taken action to provide a safe working environment for our employees and prevent the spread of infection, generally exceeding locally mandated requirements. Where necessary, we have made changes to our processes to maintain social distancing and we have also facilitated technology enabled remote working where possible. At the request of our customers, some of our facilities have been refocused to provide support for production of tooling for PPE or the production of ventilator and other medical equipment components. This activity has been undertaken as part of the company’s ESG responsibility and without regard to its profitability. Indeed, almost all of our facilities provide some designated essential services and have been operating throughout the period during which restrictions have been in place.

***Trading;** Activity levels were relatively normal through to the third week of March with the exception of China, where there was significant disruption in February with business since returning to pre-COVID-19 levels. From the third week of March, the business outside of China has been severely impacted by COVID-related lockdowns across a wide variety of geographies. In terms of our market sectors, since the COVID-19 related crisis has taken hold, we have seen the biggest immediate impact in our automotive and civil aerospace businesses, as many OEMs have had extended production halts. Bodycote’s diversification by market sector and geography has been a benefit. It is worth a reminder that Bodycote holds no inventory and supplies directly into our customers’ inventories. Accordingly, when customers are running down their inventories, Bodycote tends to see a sharp revenue decrease that is typically more pronounced than the revenue falls our customers see themselves. Once they stop destocking Bodycote revenues rebound to the ongoing levels of production at the customers’ facilities. When our customers restock the rebound of Bodycote’s revenues tends to be strong. At this stage, it is too*

early to reliably predict the trajectory of end market demand and our customers' production, destocking and restocking patterns. Total Group revenue for the first four months was 12% lower at £216m (down 11% at constant currency and 13% excluding the impact of acquisitions). The month of April experienced constant currency revenues 30% lower than in April last year (35% lower, excluding the impact of acquisitions). By swift and decisive action, we have significantly mitigated the impact of the revenue decline on the Group's profitability, with the Group having positive Headline Operating Profit and generating net cash in each of the first four months of the year, including April.



Management actions; The pre-COVID-19 restructuring plan announced in March focused on our Classical Heat Treatment activities in Western Europe. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, this restructuring plan has been extended in both scale and geography. Manning levels have been permanently reduced at facilities where the level of business is not expected to return to previous levels in the medium to longer term. Some facilities are being eliminated, with equipment redeployed to other sites. Overall, the production capacity in the Group will be largely unaffected but will be situated where there is greater long term demand and where it can be more efficiently utilized. The restructuring activities underway will reduce full-time employees by more than 700 – some 13% of total headcount. Together with savings in

infrastructure from closed plants, c.£45m of annualized costs will be permanently eliminated from the business. Savings from the restructuring program will be realized progressively through 2020, with most being completed by year-end and the full annualized savings in place from Q2 2021. The cash cost of the expanded restructuring program is now expected to be c.£25m, versus the c.£15m announced at the Full Year results. The restructuring activity is designed to right-size our business, so that we will emerge from the current downturn in a strong position, with good, sustainable profitability and cash flow generation, as well as healthy margins and returns. Bodycote has also looked to contain costs by a further temporary reduction in full-time employees and careful management of ongoing expenditure on utilities, consumables and other overheads. The current level of cost containment measures represents savings of c.£7m per month, which is over and above that achieved so far through the restructuring program.”

Krohne UK Installs Largest Horizontal Vacuum Furnace in the UK

May 28, 2020



Captive heat treater and supplier of industrial process instrumentation Krohne has just installed the largest horizontal vacuum furnace in the UK. The furnace which was supplied by Ipsen, has working dimensions of 1200mm x 1200mm x 2400mm with an all moly hot zone and 6 bar quenching. It was installed by ***Vacuum & Atmosphere Services*** who have just completed the installation with commissioning planned for next week. Mike Long of VAS has these comments;

“We are proud to announce the delivery, install & build up of the UK’s largest horizontal vacuum furnace! VAS furnace engineers have completed the build up within 6 days & now ready for commissioning. We would like to thank all of our engineers for their hard work completing the build up & install during these challenging times. For all furnace requirements, both vacuum & atmosphere, please feel free to enquire by email at Enquiries@vacat.co.uk or via telephone on +44 (0) 121 544 4385. Alternatively check out our website for all services & products provided including refurbished vacuum furnace, furnace spares & furnace servicing. <https://www.vacat.co.uk/> Darren Hawes, Production Engineering Manager at Krohne has this to say; Excellent work from VAS to get the furnace installed during the Pandemic after being asked to take over full control due to travel restrictions by Ipsen. Getting the largest lorry into the factory was something to behold. Looking forward to seeing VAS fully commission the furnace and to continue working

with them for years to come. Mike has ensured a very smooth process between Krohne and Ipsen from the offset.”



A smaller industrial vacuum furnace, white with a spherical chamber, in a factory setting. It has various pipes and a control panel. The word "alb" is visible on the chamber.

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ALD Vacuum Technologies **AMG ENGINEERING** **alb**

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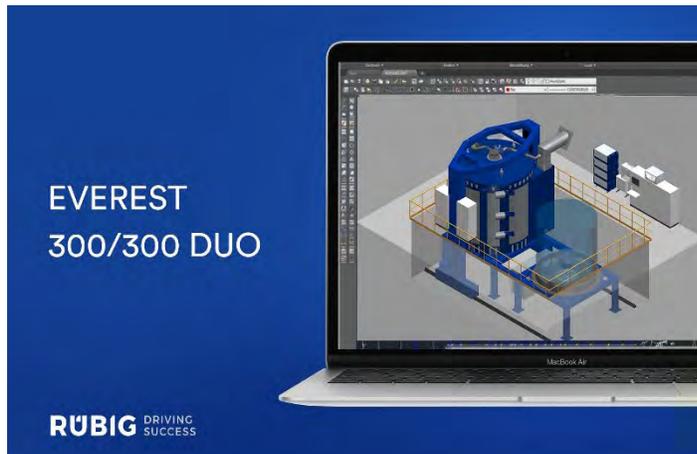
A close-up photograph of a person's eyes, which are a striking red color. The image is used as a background for the Aichelin group logo and the slogan "Focus on Technology".

Aichelin
group

Focus on Technology

RUBIG Installing Their Two Largest Nitriding Furnaces Ever

May 28, 2020



“RUBIG Industrial Furnaces, a leading manufacturer of heat treating furnaces, is actually putting the two largest nitriding furnaces in their company history into operation! Both of them are MICROPULS® Everest DUO plasma nitriding furnaces – the technological flagship of the Austrian company.

The first furnace has already been installed at our sister company,

RUBIG Heat Treatment Services, in Wels (Austria). One of its chambers is designed for components with a maximum length of 9.85 ft (3 m). The other one even measures a height of 19.685 ft (6 m) and hence presents the second largest usable height ever designed at RUBIG. The largest chamber so far measured 24.6 ft (7.5 m). Particularly long components like shafts, spindles or screws can now be nitrided, nitrocarburized and/or oxidized at RUBIG Heat Treatment Services.

The second furnace order has just been placed by a Chinese customer. The furnace chamber measures a usable height and a usable diameter of 9.85 ft (3 m) each. This will be the largest diameter in a furnace built by RUBIG ever. Although the furnace itself is manufactured in Austria, the order is a great success for the young subsidiary RUBIG Industrial Furnaces Taicang, China! In addition to their sizes,

MICROPULS® Everest furnaces convince with an outstanding process control and environmental compatibility. They are the technological spearheads of

RUBIG Industrial Furnaces and have lifted RUBIG up to new heights in nitriding and coating expertise. With the two units, these new heights have literally been reached!”





New director at IWT Bremen, Germany

May 27, 2020

IWT Bremen, Germany is a research organization jointly funded by the German government and private industry to research materials and heat treating processes. We have been fortunate enough to be able to visit their facility in Bremen several times over the years and have been suitably impressed as the institute has numerous examples of the most up to date heat treating technologies in the world. LPC, Vacuum Nitriding, Induction, High pressure gas quenching vacuum furnaces-IWT has the newest and best toys around. The previous Managing Director, Dr. Ing. Hans-Werner Zoch can be seen on the left in one of the photos below, the other photos show part of the facility and some of the equipment.

"IFHTSE Bulletin; Our member institute Leibniz-IWT will have a new director as of 1st of June, 2020 when Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Rainer Fechte-Heinen succeeds Prof. Dr. Ing. Hans-Werner Zoch as Managing Director.

Prof. Dr. Fechte-Heinen completed his studies of mechanical engineering from 2000 to 2004 with the main focus on materials simulation and mechanics in Bochum, Seville and Berkeley. In 2007, he completed his doctorate at the Ruhr University of Bochum on the subject of simulating martensitic phase transformations in shape memory alloys. He then worked part-time on his habilitation, gave his own lectures continuously since 2009, and was appointed as a Privatdozent at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum in 2014 and honorary professor of materials mechanics of phase transformations in solids in 2018. From 2007 to 2020 Prof. Dr. Fechte-Heinen held various positions at thyssenkrupp Steel Europe AG in the materials competency center and in research and development. He was responsible among other things for optimization projects for existing steels and their production systems, the development of innovative functional materials, idea generation and

validation, and IP management. Before joining Leibniz-IWT, he was head of product development with a focus on hardened, tempered and multiphase hot-rolled steel products.

IWT has been a stronghold of IFHTSE throughout the existence of our Federation and even before. The foundation dates back to the 40ties, with our German member association AWT being one of the donators. The first director Otto Schaaber initiated the first truly multinational discussion on heat treatment as early as 1955, which subsequently lead to regular international conferences and, to form a responsible body to hold them, the foundation of IFHTSE in 1972. All IWT directors have served as IFHTSE presidents: Otto Schaaber 1975-76, Hans-Peter Mayr, who is also an IFHTSE fellow, 1996-97, and Hans-Werner Zoch 2010-11. For more than ten years, IWT has pursued an extensive research programme, directed by IFHTSE fellow Thomas Lübben, on Distortion Engineering. The respective conference series was merged with IFHTSE's series on Quenching and Control of Distortion, leading to the QDE series with the next event due in April 2021 in Berlin, Germany. IFHTSE is deeply grateful to Hans-Werner Zoch for his numerous and enduring active contributions to our work, most prominently during his presidency 2010-2011. We congratulate Rainer Fechte-Heinen on his new position and look forward to a continuing intense cooperation!"







Marc Ruetsch, Managing Director of AFC-Holcroft European Operations to Retire

May 27, 2020

“AFC-Holcroft announces the retirement of Marc Ruetsch, Managing Director of European Operations, on May 29, 2020. Ruetsch, who joined AFC-Holcroft in 2008, spent his entire career spanning nearly 50 years working exclusively with materials and heat treatment equipment, never leaving the industry he found so interesting as a young engineer in France and Switzerland. He worked for several European furnace companies prior to joining AFC-Holcroft, and was key to the success of the company’s satellite office in Europe.

As previously announced, Marek Kedzrzyński has now assumed the role of Director of European Operations, and the base of operations for AFC-Holcroft Europe has moved to Kedzrzyński’s native Poland.

Kedzrzyński said of Ruetsch: “Marc is a great man, a good friend and an expert in the field of heat treatment. I am really glad that I could work with him for several years, and I would like to express my thanks for a great job he did to build strong new relationships for AFC-Holcroft in the European market. I wish him well in his retirement.”

Tracy Dougherty, Vice President of Sales for AFC-Holcroft added, "Marc and I started at AFC-Holcroft within months of each other. Marc's technical knowledge and professionalism helped AFC-Holcroft grow the European market exponentially during his tenure with the company. We wish him a healthy, relaxing and much deserved retirement."

Bill Disler, President & CEO of AFC-Holcroft recalls, "Marc joined AFC-Holcroft not long after I rejoined the group. I remember Bill Keough (former owner of AFC-Holcroft) proudly finding Marc's contact information by personally searching on the internet and giving it to me as a suggestion when we were looking to open our European office in 2008. Bill Keough had very fond memories of working with Marc years before when AFC had a licensing agreement with Solo, where Marc worked at that time, and made such a positive impression that Bill never forgot him. Shortly after we connected via email, Marc and I met at that years' ThermProcess show in Dusseldorf and he agreed to join our team. We kicked off our European activity and never looked back." Disler added, "We will miss him but wish him the best with his well-deserved retirement."



In a farewell message to colleagues at AFC-Holcroft, Ruetsch wrote the following: "As I move on to the next chapter, I would like to stop for a moment and thank all of you for the continuous support and the friendly atmosphere you brought, without which my mission wouldn't have been possible here in Europe."

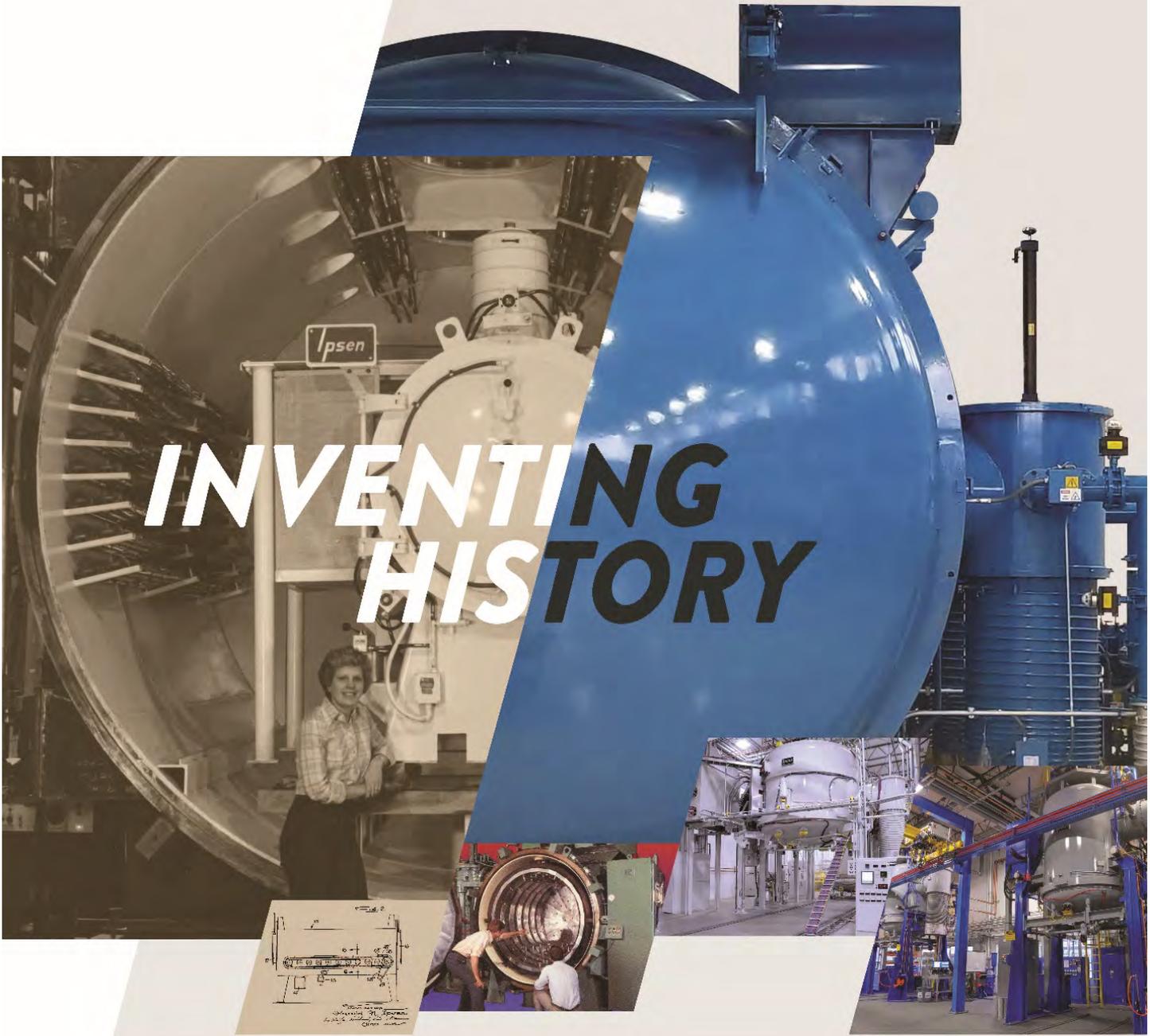
I am grateful for the opportunity and appreciate all the help you have provided me in pursuing my career in the heat treatment field, and in particular I have a very special regard for Bill Disler, whose trust has enabled me to make it happen."

Ruetsch also said, "After nearly a half century devoted to the construction of industrial furnaces, I don't leave the world of heat treatment with regrets because I know that the younger people - the engineers who are now entering a similar career path - bring valuable technical knowledge, and will continue to enrich this fascinating field." With his typical enthusiasm, he summarized his affection for the industry as, "Heat treatment is a discipline driven by people with great technical and human values, contributing a valuable asset to humanity. "



For more than 70 years, Ipsen has delivered revolutionary technology that empowers our customers to reshape the future by transforming space exploration, improving medical implants, developing efficient cars and jet engines, and making contributions to products used in society today.

Through our global partnerships and commitment to innovation, we continue to provide unmatched service and support for what's ahead.



www.IpsenUSA.com

HK 2020 Cologne, Germany

May 26, 2020

We have always said that one of our favorite heat treat events in the world is the annual HK 2020 Congress held October of each year in Germany. We are now getting word that due to COVID 19 there will be substantial changes made and that this year the HK Congress will take place as an online event.



We are awaiting more details from the organizers, AWT but to cut a long story short the usual exhibition will not be held this year which is very upsetting for both exhibitors and visitors alike. So far every major heat treating event that was due to be held in the first half of 2020 has been cancelled or postponed which makes you wonder about future events. The largest North American show of the year Furnaces North America (FNA) is scheduled for September 30 to October 2 in Louisville, Kentucky, USA and I am sure that many in the industry are wondering whether there will be any changes. We leave you with this photo of the ALD booth taken at the HK 2019 event in Cologne.

In House Heat Treating-SEW EURODRIVE , Bruchsal, Germany
May 26, 2020



Readership of “The Monty” has always been a mix of in house heat treaters, commercial heat treaters and industry suppliers with the largest group, in house heat treaters accounting for approximately 65% of our readership. Because of this we have been very fortunate over the years to have had the opportunity to visit quite a number of in house heat treaters which we profile on a regular basis. One fascinating operation which we visited not that long ago is a company by the name of SEW Eurodrive in Bruchsal, Germany. Now if you’re in the gear business you know SEW Eurodrive. If you’re in the heat treating business you probably also know SEW because their plants around the world generally include substantial heat treating departments.

The Bruchsal facility is an enormous operation covering many acres and while the heat treat department is large by any standards, it covers a small portion of the overall plant. The heat treatment area is relatively new-the furnaces you see in these photos are approximately 10 years old were built and installed by



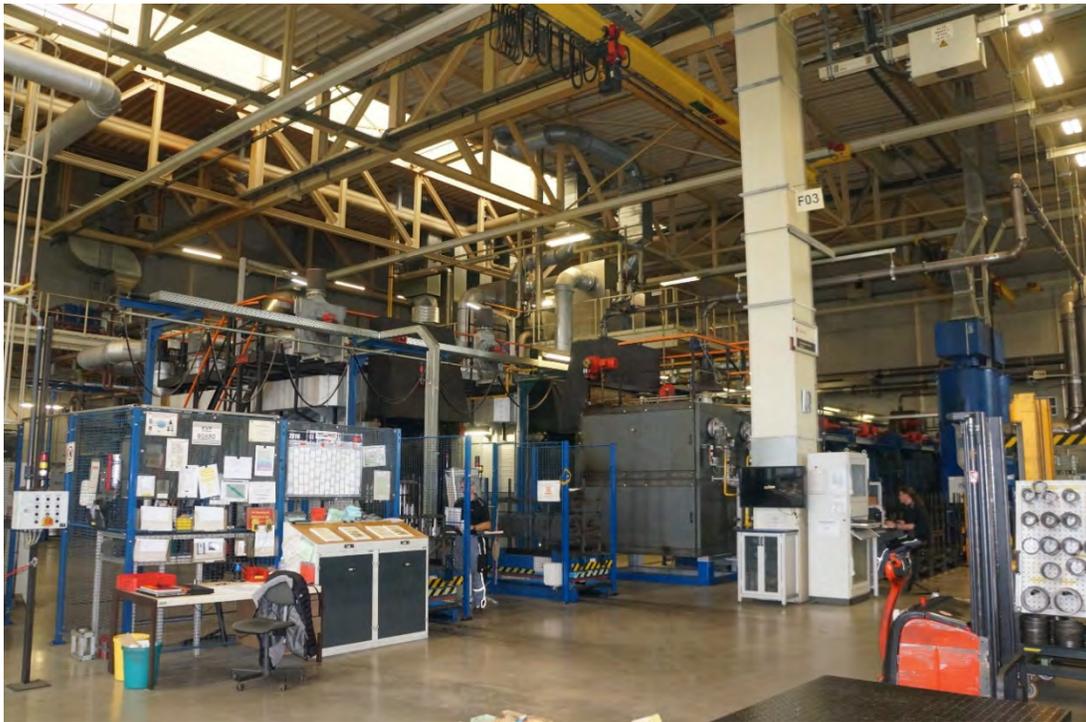
Austrian furnace builder Aichelin. This is a fairly typical set up for a gear manufacturer- a number of multi chamber batch IQ furnaces with oil quenching designed for case hardening of gears and shafts along with washers, tempers, charge cars, shot blasting equipment and a very complete lab-

in short everything required to run a state of the art heat treating department. The batch IQ furnaces were chosen for the same reason that many manufacturers select them-they are versatile and easily adapt to fluctuating volumes. Even a cursory glance at these pictures will show you that this is a meticulously maintained heat treat which is very much in line with the whole

plant. While this installation is fairly typical of the heat treat department of a major gear manufacturer we will also say that this is a finer example than many. In these pictures you see the fellow in charge when we visited, Mr. Achim Stassen along with Mr. Achim Schneider who at the time was with Aichelin, he has since gone back to his roots-selling alloy fixturing.







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Istanbul Heat Treatment Offering Plasma Nitriders

May 25, 2020



Interesting press release from Istanbul Heat Treatment Inc., about how they are offering new Plasma nitriding systems. *“Istanbul Heat Treatment Inc. has been serving for heat treatment services in the field of Plasma Nitriding since 1993, started to serve for the same industry by manufacturing furnaces / processes / plants by beginning of 2019. The i-nitcold-800 model Plasma Nitriding Furnace produced with its own registered brand i-nit®; which has Ø 1000 mm x Height 1000 mm useful dimensions and 800 kg loading capacity is ready for shipment to the customer factory as all operational and process application tests are completed successfully. The i-nit® brand has taken its place in the market with hot wall, cold wall i-nitcold-800; the first Plasma Nitriding Furnace with i-nit® brand, produced by Istanbul Heat Treatment Inc., is ready for shipment and laboratory scale furnaces for plasma nitriding needs.*

i-nit® Pulse Plasma Nitriding Systems Istanbul Heat Treatment Inc., which has been producing Plasma Nitriding Furnaces only for its own needs until 2019, has decided to produce the Plasma Nitriding Furnaces as a separate product and presented the first Pulse Plasma Nitriding Furnace with i-nit® brand to the market in 2020, with its low process temperatures, regional hardening capability, flexibility to adjust the surface metallurgy, silent operation, repeatability, advantages of processing in vacuum furnaces and its environment-user friendly feature. In i-nit® Plasma Nitriding Furnaces; with the Plasma Nitriding / Nitrocarburizing process, which can be applied to parts of various weights and sizes from a few grams to several tons, it is possible to easily nitride any iron-based material including stainless steels and cast irons. Istanbul Heat Treatment Inc. offers its 25 years of knowledge and experience in the field of Plasma Nitriding / Nitrocarburizing with furnaces produced under the i-nit® brand.

i-nit® Plasma Nitriding Furnaces; operate with PLC control with easy user interface, and it has the opportunity to make standard productions depending on customer or product by means of the ready to work recipes. In addition to full-automatic operation feature, i-nit® Plasma Nitriding Furnaces have completely manual or semi-automatic operation options. Beside of all these capabilities, Istanbul Heat Treatment Inc. will always support the customers both for using of common recipes and the new process design by presenting its 25 years of experience to the customers.”



Industrial Heating Equipment Association (IHEA)

May 25, 2020



WG Montgomery Ltd., (“The Monty”) is proud to announce that we are now members of the Industrial Heating Equipment Association. This is how the association describes themselves; *“The Industrial Heating Equipment Association (IHEA) is a voluntary national trade association representing the major segments of the industrial heat processing equipment industry. Established in 1929 to meet the need for effective group action in promoting the interest of industrial furnace manufacturers. The organization has expanded and currently includes designers, manufacturers and corporate end users of all types of industrial heat processing equipment and systems.”*



Memorial Day

May 25, 2020

During the US Memorial Day Holiday we will be thinking about all of our friends in the USA.

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Ray Monahan
864.915.7584



Don Robbins, Cambridge Heat Treating Inc.

May 22, 2020

“To our valued customers, vendors and colleagues, It is with very deep regret that we inform you today of the unexpected passing of Don Robbins, our brother, and President of Cambridge Heat Treating. Don passed away at home in the early hours of May 22nd. Cambridge Heat Treating was founded in 1982 by the late Robert Robbins, our father, and Don has been fully involved in the operation of the business since the beginning. Many of you have gotten to know Don quite well over the years, and it saddens us immensely to bring this news to you all today.

At this time we do not have any information to share with regards to funeral arrangements. Our hearts extend to his loving and devoted wife Tracy, and their three children Mikaela, Madison and Mack. Sincerely Cheryl and Peter”



Peter and Don Robbins

SSi Technical Webinars in Spanish

May 22, 2020

Furnace controls company SSi is offering several free technical webinars on a number of heat treat topics in Spanish.

- Miércoles 27 de Mayo de 2020. Israel Bobadilla. Sensores de oxígeno para atmósferas ricas en carbono. 10:30hrs - 11:30hrs

Register link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.mx/e/106278909078>

Jueves 28 de Mayo de 2020. Adab Márquez . Beneficios del análisis de atmósferas ricas en carbono. 10:30hrs - 11:30hrs

Register Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.mx/e/106421976998>

Lunes 01 de Junio de 2020. Oscar Camacho. Control en temperatura y flujo. 10:30hrs - 11:30hrs

Register Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.mx/e/106673306732>

Martes 02 de Junio de 2020. Saúl Cruz. Beneficios de sistemas de monitoreo. 10:30hrs - 11:30hrs

Register Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.mx/e/106697422864>

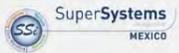


Control en temperatura y flujo

La tecnología que Super Systems Inc. utiliza en su control de temperatura y en flujo desarrolla repetibilidad controlando la temperatura y potencial de carbono a través del tiempo en variables más exigentes por parte de ingeniería.

Oscar Camacho
Lunes 1 Junio, 2020
10:30 - 11:30 AM CDT

WEBINAR GRATUITO
Contáctanos



Sensores de oxígeno para atmósferas ricas en carbono

Israel Bobadilla

Miércoles 27 Mayo, 2020
10:30 - 11:30 AM CDT

Platicaremos de soluciones para maximizar la eficiencia de los procesos que consisten en cuatro elementos y pueden nombrarse de la siguiente manera: monitoreo en los hornos de atmósfera, composición de la atmósfera, efectos en tiempo real en las piezas y asegurarse del control.

Beneficios del análisis de atmósferas ricas en carbono

No necesitas invertir en pruebas excesivas de *shim stock* cuando un análisis de atmósfera puede correlacionar directamente los resultados al control de potencial de carbono eliminando la deriva natural del sensor de oxígeno.

Adab Márquez
 Jueves 28 Mayo, 2020
 10:30 – 11:30 AM CDT

Contáctanos
 WEBINAR GRATUITO




Beneficios de sistemas de monitoreo

Los recursos, como las personas y los activos de la planta, se optimizan, ya que SuperDATA promete un alto nivel de control sobre el área de tratamiento térmico.

Saúl Cruz
 Martes 2 Junio, 2020
 10:30 – 11:30 AM CDT

Contáctanos
 WEBINAR GRATUITO




Ion Nitriders to be Installed at Captive Heat Treats in Texas

May 22, 2020



Ion nitriders system supplier Ion-Heat has sold two brand new Ion (Plasma) nitriders to two separate captive heat treaters in Texas, USA. While we have few details yet we have been lead to believe that one is either up or running or close to it and the second one will also be installed this year. We are confident that we will be able to provide more details in the near future. In the meantime we have this photo of the first system which Ion Heat sold into North America a number of years back. This system was installed at Midwest Thermal Vac in Kenosha, WI and in the picture you see on the left the owner of the company Mr. Fred Otto and on the right Gord Montgomery.



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“The Monty” offers **FREE** equipment appraisals



Surplus Equipment Listings are **FREE!**
We only get paid if we find you a buyer



Non Exclusive Sales Agreement



We will buy your equipment



Super Systems Inc. Vacuum Furnace Controls and Troubleshooting

May 21, 2020

“Join Super Systems Inc. for a webinar on May 27, 2020 at 1:00 PM EDT. This seminar will cover: Vacuum Heat Treating Under AMS2769 Requirements. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Please click on the link below to register for the seminar.”



<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6188214575573997070>

Vacuum System

- Units of Pressure
- Sensor Technologies
- Gas Compensation
- Ultimate Vacuum Requirements
- Real Leak versus Virtual Leak
- Leak Rate,
- Backstreaming
- Surface Discoloration

Partial Pressure Atmospheres

- Vaporization Temperatures & Table
- Dew Point Requirements,
- Sensor Technology,
- Partial Pressure Technology: Solenoid Valve vs MFC

Heating Methods

- SCR + Rheostat
- Multiple SCRs (Digital Trim)
- Initial Survey Requirements

Outgassing

Load Thermocouples

- Extension Wire

Fixture Material Selection

- Eutectic Points

Quench Methods

- Vacuum Cooling,
- Controlled Cooling,
- Gas Fan Quench,
- Oil Quenching

Bake Out Cycles

Kennametal Auction, Irwin, PA, USA

May 21, 2020



Tuesday May 19th, 2020 there was an auction of the surplus assets to the ongoing operations of Kennametal in Irwin, PA, USA. Featured in the auction were several heat treat related items including a Holcroft vacuum sinter furnace with these specifications;

“HOLCROFT Pressure Sinter Furnace, s/n na, w/ Allen Bradley 1500P PLC Control, 870 PSI, 2730 Degrees F Max Operating Temp, 1760 Lbs. Load Zone, 21"x 19"x70" Load Zone, (3) Heating Zones, Process Gas- Hydrogen/Argon, Chromalox Microtherm CMX Temperature Control System.” With the current COVID-19 issues we were curious about what sort of response the vendor would see, keeping in mind that while Holcroft is a fine furnace builder they are not well known for vacuum furnaces which would effect the saleability. Well the bottom line was that the furnace sold at auction for \$45,000 UD which is more than we would have expected. No idea who the buyer is but for an item like this it was sold to a captive heat treater-certainly not a used equipment dealer or commercial heat treater.”



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Kamyanka Machine Building to Install SECO/WARWICK Furnace System

May 21, 2020

“Kamyanka Machine Building based in the Ukraine, an international leader in the production of pumps for manufacturing thread and chemical fibers, metallurgy and oil, will use the technologically advanced SECO/WARWICK solution to perform three heat treatment processes in a single furnace instead of in separate operations.”



The Machine Factory in Kamyanka, Ukraine, has operated since 1936, currently producing over 50 types of pumps for the chemical, metallurgy, and energy markets as well as other industries. The company provides its solutions to many countries of Eastern, Central Europe and Asia. The contract for the supply of a comprehensive installation for heat treatment of pump parts means a radical improvement in the parameters of the parts, less deformation and longer life of all components. The production line includes the VECTOR 15VP furnace for hardening, quenching and tempering. The furnace will be equipped with a closed water system and gas installation so that the device can work independently. Additional equipment will also include the LPC (vacuum carburizing) option as well as quenching, heating in gas and isothermal cooling. Thanks to this the factory will be able to carry out the full heat treatment process in one device in accordance with their requirements. Typically, such a process is conducted in three separate devices, and thanks to the unique solution from SECO/WARWICK engineers, they can take place in a single furnace. This solution will reduce the cost of the entire investment, as well as subsequent expenditures on the operation of the installation. The use of one furnace with optional equipment for three heat treatment processes – hardening, quenching, and tempering – provides a whole range of

benefits. The device is simpler and faster to install than 3 separate furnaces, requires less space, provides up to 40% energy savings, reduces processing and cooling times, and thus overall production cycles, and is simple and precise to use. The furnace control includes a number of facilities, as well as human error protection. All operations are saved on hard disks and made available online to SECO/WARWICK service technicians to monitor compliance of the device's operating parameters.

This is the first order from the Kamyanka Machine Building for SECO/WARWICK, and another for SECO/WARWICK in Ukraine, which is becoming an important market for the Group's operations."

Abbott Furnace Receives Order For Steam Treat Furnace

May 21, 2020

"Abbott Furnace Company is proud to announce that a market leader in the powder metal industry, has placed an order with Abbott Furnace Company for a steam treat furnace to be installed in Mexico. The company awarded Abbott Furnace the order continuing a long history of more than 100 furnaces providing a variety of heat treat solutions. The Abbott Furnace steam treat furnace was selected because of its process flexibility, ease of installation and the local regional support provided by Abbott Mexico sales and service team.

Abbott Furnace is an industrial furnace manufacturer with 35 years of experience designing and producing some of the industry's most reliable and high performing industrial continuous process furnaces. Abbott is a leading producer of industrial sintering furnaces, annealing furnaces, tempering furnaces, brazing furnaces, heat treat furnaces, steam treat furnaces, industrial ovens, CAB furnaces, High-Temperature Furnaces and other specialty furnace products. Abbott Furnace is a privately owned company located in St. Marys, Pennsylvania. Abbott furnaces are proudly manufactured in the USA."



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- Fast, precise and reliable

Jan Massholder Appointed Managing Director at Furnacare

May 20, 2020



Jan Massholder was recently appointed Managing Director for vacuum furnace provider Furnacare. Based in Spartanburg, SC, USA Furnacare is the US marketing, sales and service division

of TAV Vacuum Furnaces. TAV is a long established furnace manufacturer and the largest in Italy. Jan brings with him over 10 years of experience in the vacuum furnace industry.



Hubbard-Hall Forges Strategic Alliance with SAFECHEM To Distribute Modified Alcohol Solvents for Precision Cleaning of Industrial Components

May 20, 2020

“Hubbard-Hall and SFECEM have forged a strategic distribution alliance to supply U.S. customers with SAFECHEM’s DOWCLENETM 16-Series of modified alcohol solvents, test kits and stabilizers, through Hubbard-Hall channels. These high-performance solvents have excellent properties and are suitable for cleaning heat exchangers, medical applications and industrial components. The solvent has also been utilized by well-known aerospace companies. SAFECHEM is a provider of solutions for the safe and sustainable use of solvents for industrial parts cleaning, textile cleaning and asphalt testing applications with offices located in Dusseldorf, Germany and Shanghai, China.*

“In an effort to provide the best option for the wide spectrum of cleaning requirements of our customers, Hubbard-Hall is honored and excited by the addition of the DOWCLENETM 16-Series of modified alcohol solvents and stabilizers provided by SAFECHEM. As an authorized North American partner with SAFECHEM, Hubbard-Hall is pleased to offer our combined expertise and decades of solvent experience,” said Jeff Davis, Senior Vice President of Business Development and Distribution. Commenting on this new venture, Manfred Holzleg, General Manager of SAFECHEM, stated “With the U.S. accounting for a large share of the global industrial cleaning market, we have been planning a strategic move into this geography for a long time, and have been working diligently behind the scenes to make this a reality. With Hubbard-Hall, we have found a highly committed, high-caliber partner who not only commands excellent knowledge of their markets and the latest cleaning technology, but more importantly, who shares the same values as we do, namely sustainability, innovation and collaboration.”*

“The establishment of this strong U.S. alliance marks another significant milestone for SAFECHEM. We welcome Hubbard-Hall as new members of our global distributor network, and we look forward to working closely together to help U.S. manufacturers benefit from the versatility of modified alcohols in their industrial cleaning process.” said Manfred.”



Press Quench Supplier “Wickert” to Expand US Operations

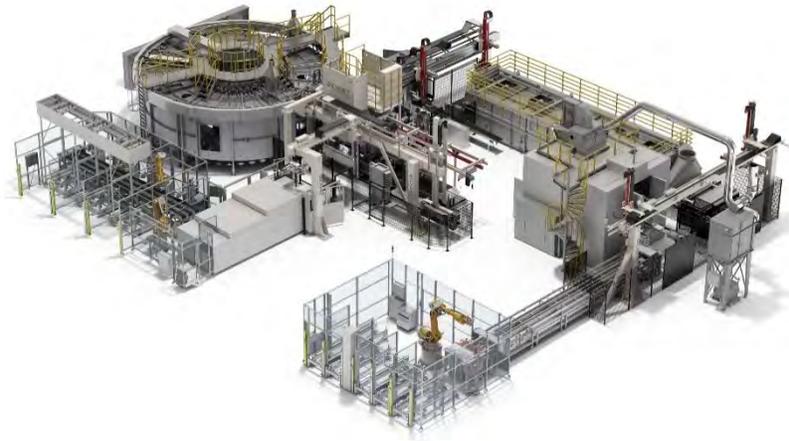
May 18, 2020



The world of press quenching (or Fixture Quenching as it is called in Europe) is a small one with just a handful of equipment suppliers. These systems are not commonly found in commercial heat treats but are quite common amongst manufacturers of gears or bearing races. Companies such as Treat All Metals (Regal Beloit) in Glendale, WI , Timken Bearings in Canton, Ohio, Brad Foote Gear in Pittsburgh, PA and Northstar Aerospace in Beford Park, Illinois all come to mind as examples of captive heat treaters who have press quenching systems in house.

One of the largest, most established suppliers of such systems is a German company by the name of Wickert who have been in existence for 110 years. The company has a large install base in Europe and Asia but a relatively small one in North America-it sounds as though the company is trying to change that. While Wickert USA has had a small presence in North America for a number of years they recently hired a fellow by the name of Matt Stachel as Director of Wickert Sales, North America and his mandate is to raise the profile of the company and make the investments necessary to get that done. Matt can be seen in one of the photos below and in a second photo taken at the HK19 show in Cologne, Germany last October we see on the left Mr. Hans-Joachim Wickert and on the right Mr. Marc Jordan.





Largest Horizontal Vacuum Furnace in the UK

May 18, 2020



What you are looking at is what will be the largest horizontal vacuum furnace to be installed in all of the UK. As you can see it is not yet installed but it soon will be. We will have more details about the installation and the furnace later on this week.





Nitrex Changes & More Heat Treat News

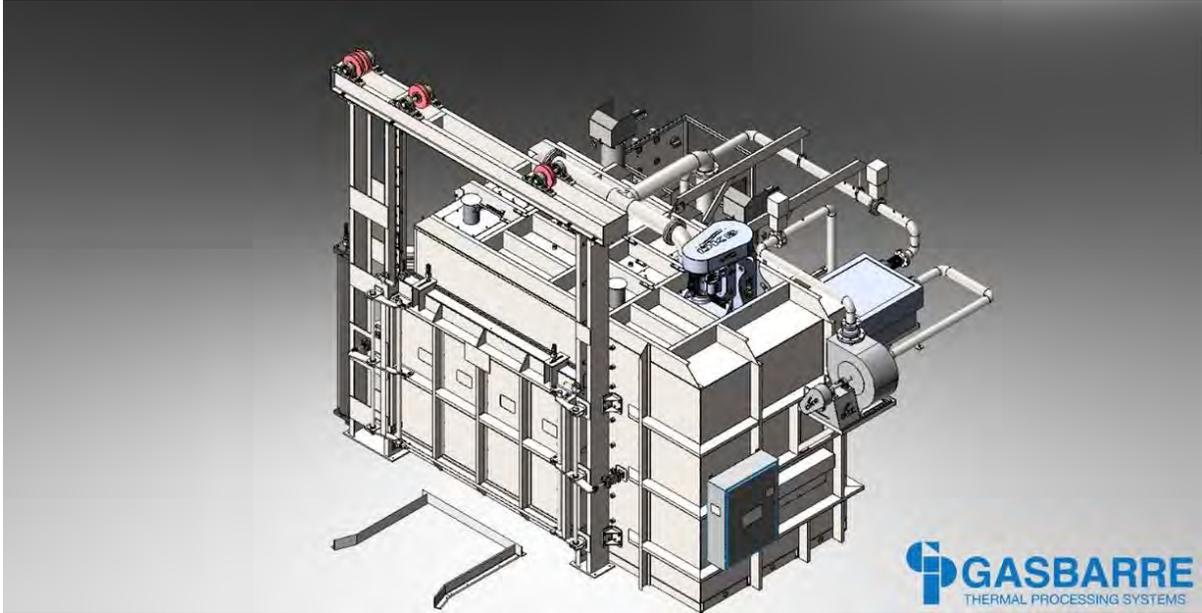
May 18, 2020

Last week, Wednesday May 13 to be exact we published our 2020 list of the *30 Largest North American commercial Heat Treaters* <https://themonty.com/project/largest-north-american-commercial-heat-treats-august-2020/>

For over 20 years we have been publishing this annual list but this year we vastly expanded the scope from the 10 largest to the 30 largest. Our research in preparation for this article covered several months and we are rather proud of our efforts-we would be pleased to hear your comments. One of the companies on this list is *"Nitrex"* a company which has been in the news quite a bit recently mainly because of their rebranding efforts which we mentioned last week. The press release which was issued was interesting but made no mention of some of the other accomplishments the company has made recently. For instance their manufacturing facility in Poland has been vastly expanded and the Chicago heat treating plant is seeing some major investments. In addition their GM Enterprises division in California has a fairly new Vice President/General Manager, a fellow by the name of *Larry Jackson* who we don't know personally. The photo below shows the facility in Poland, on the left is Gord Montgomery on the right Michael Korwin the founder of the company.



From furnace builder **Gasbarre** whose ad can be found on this page we have this press release; *“Gasbarre Thermal Processing Systems recently shipped a custom built atmosphere tempering furnace to a manufacturer in the Aerospace market with captive heat treating capabilities. With a working load size of 84” wide, 42” deep, and 60” tall, coupled with a max load weight of 6,000 pounds, the furnace is specifically designed for our customers key manufactured components. The electrically heated furnace has an operating temperature range of 350°F to 1600°F, and passes uniformity at +/- 10°F per AMS2750E. The system is equipped with custom controls including Eurotherm brand temperature controlling instrumentation, and an Allen-Bradley PLC and HMI. Automatic atmosphere control is included for running under Nitrogen, Argon, and/or a Hydrogen blend. Custom designed atmosphere cooling systems are installed to reduce overall cycle time. Gasbarre was chosen as a partner for their ability to specifically design the equipment around their broad process parameters. The equipment configuration also enabled the customer to switch from pit furnace style processing, which eliminated infrastructure costs and maintenance concerns.”*



From *Heat Treatment Australia (HTA)* we have this press release about their Los Angeles, California facility; “*HTA is pleased to announce the completed installation of a new furnace at our Los Angeles Branch, now available for precipitation hardening of PH stainless steels up to 14'. The new equipment’s maximum processing footprint is 168" x 48" x 48" and is ready now to begin filling orders. HTA Los Angeles maintains AS9100 and NADCAP accreditation, and the new processes are accredited to Lockheed Martin and Boeing specifications.*”



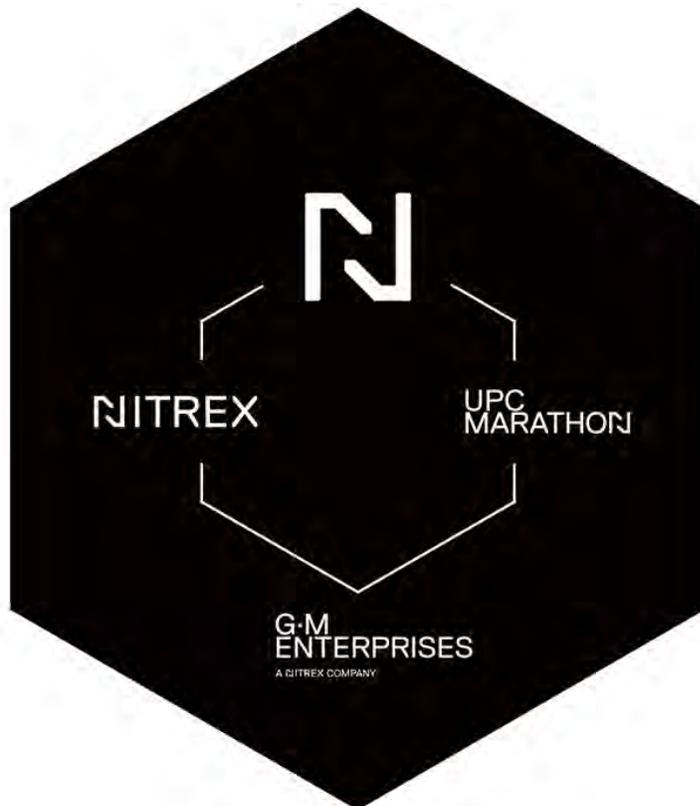
Heat Treatment Australia is also in the news in Australia where the company recently received a grant from the Defense Department. The grant will be used to expand testing capabilities for components related to the F-35 program. The photo below shows the HTA team at the Brisbane, Australia facility, this photo was taken a few years back when we visited the various HTA facilities.



Nitrex Unveils New Brand Identity

May 14, 2020

Montreal, Canada – May 12, 2020 – Nitrex, a Novacap portfolio company and the leading global provider of fully integrated heat-treating solutions and technologies, unveiled its new corporate brand identity today. This change comes at a time when the company is forging new paths, retooling its product



portfolio to align it even more closely with customer needs and preferences, and seeking to present a more consistent look and feel across all brands. “In our 35-year history, Nitrex has evolved from a small family-run business operating in Canada to a global company with an extensive portfolio serving the whole heat treatment industry,” said Nitrex CEO Jean-Francois Cloutier.

“Our portfolio is built on proven science and technology to enhance material strength and optimize performance. The new brand identity we are sharing with you today,” he continued, “reflects our evolution as a market leader poised for the future, while reaffirming our tradition of innovation,

reliability and quality as well as our customer-focused culture. The new unifying logo will represent the company as a whole, with all its business units. The modern, abstract design of the company’s iconic red, yellow and orange “N” symbol is now rendered as two monochromatic pillars, indicating that Nitrex rests on a solid foundation of science and technology. The pillars stand side by side and stretch out crosswise, evoking the centrality of heat treating as a mission-critical process in manufacturing,” added Cloutier.

The new symbol, shown above, will be adopted by all the Nitrex business units. The symbol also plays a functional role as the letter “N” in the Nitrex wordmark used by all business units. For now, the names of the legal entities will not change, so our customers, suppliers and stakeholders can continue to

use the existing names and addresses in all official communication. The new wordmark for United Process Controls leverages its well-known trade name, the UPC initials, in combination with the company's best-known brand asset, Marathon Monitors, to form UPC-Marathon. Also, worth noting is the incorporation of the "N" symbol as the final letterform in the new UPC-Marathon wordmark.

"The UPC-Marathon logo may be new and different, but it still speaks to our history and makes the link with the essence of our recognized brand. Operationally, nothing has changed: our mission is to be the best brand in process controls and automation worldwide. The new logo is a true reflection of our past and our future," said Eric Jossart, VP Global Sales. "The rebranding unifies our group, while confirming our unique position in the market," said Oliver Caurette, President, United Process Controls.

G-M Enterprises has also traded their metallic graphic for a sleek single-color wordmark using the same typeface as the other logos, with the addition of the tagline A Nitrex Company. "The new logo clearly defines the integration of G-M into Nitrex. As the newest addition to the Nitrex Turnkey Systems portfolio, G-M expands our offering in this category by bringing a new line of innovative vacuum heat treatment systems to our customers" said Iwo Korwin, President of NTS.

A new tagline: "The new tagline charts a bold course for Nitrex. It underscores our commitment to science and technology. By harnessing the latest advances, we will be able to reinvent the methods of strengthening metals and applications, to the greater benefit of our customers. "This marks the beginning of a new chapter for Nitrex and its affiliated companies, and we're very excited to finally share it with you. Soon you will see the new logos on all our products and packaging, social media platforms, brochures, stationery and tradeshow booths as well as in our email signatures, and much else. Also, on the horizon is a new redesigned website with simplified messaging and a seamless visitor experience. The site will showcase the full suite of solutions, including turnkey heat-treating systems, heat treating services, and control and automation solutions," said Nitrex CEO Jean-Francois Cloutier.

About NOVACAP: Founded in 1981, Novacap is a leading Canadian private equity firm with \$3.6 billion of assets under management. Its distinct investment approach, based on deep operational expertise and an active partnership with entrepreneurs, has helped accelerate growth and create long-term value for its numerous portfolio companies. With an experienced management team and substantial financial resources, Novacap is well-positioned to continue building world-class businesses. Backed by leading global institutional investors, Novacap's deals typically include leveraged

buyouts, management buyouts, add-on acquisitions, IPOs, and privatizations. Over the last 38 years, Novacap has invested in more than 90 companies and completed more than 130 add-on acquisitions. The company has offices in Toronto, Ontario and Brossard, Quebec. For more information, please visit www.novacap.ca.



About NITREX: NITREX is the lead provider of fully integrated heat-treating solutions and technologies globally. The company was founded in 1984 in Montreal, Canada and operates three business units – Nitrex Turnkey System (NTS) a leader of turnkey nitriding, nitrocarburizing and vacuum heat treat systems; Heat Treating Services (HTS) a worldwide network of commercial heat-treating service centers; and UPC, a leading provider of controls upgrade and automation solutions for heat treating and combustion. Nitrex serves its customers globally from 14 locations across the United States, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Germany, Poland, Italy, France, China, Japan and through a global network of representatives and licensees. www.nitrex.com | www.group-upc.com | www.gmenterprises.com



Salto Heat Treating, New Commercial Heat Treater

May 14, 2020

Last week we mentioned how Salto Heat Treating was a brand new start up commercial heat treater in Northern, Ontario, Canada. What we didn't realize was that this is a far larger operation than we thought and a larger investment than we thought. As an example the company invested \$1 million in a new Induction hardening system from a company in Ohio which we would have to assume is Ajax Tocco Magnathermic. More details below.

"A Sudbury industrial service company has launched a new specialty metalworking business for Northern Ontario. [Salto Heat Treating](#) is the newest company in the stable of owner Felix Lopes Jr., president of Lopes Ltd., a well-known steel fabricator in the city's east end. "We're ready and open for business," he said. Lopes and his team have spent more than a year involved in planning and design to convert a vacant building at the privately owned Coniston Industrial Park into a fully automated, state-of-the-art shop. The company is named after his father's village in Portugal. Felix Lopes Sr. founded the parent company in 1976. "It sounds good, too. I like the name," said Lopes. With leading-edge technology not yet seen in Northern Ontario, Salto represents a more than \$7-million investment for the company. The 16,500-square-foot shop has been laid out with flow chart-like precision for efficiency and quick turnaround time on most applications. The rationale for this spinoff company was to siphon off component and parts work that normally would go to shops in southern Ontario or the U.S. Lopes and his operational lead hand, Christophe (Chris) Mehanna, have full confidence that Salto can quickly scale up to a 24/7 operation based on the positive feedback received so far from customers in mining, mineral exploration, original equipment manufacturing, parts machining, agriculture and forestry. Based on the advice of one customer, construction is also underway on an adjoining warehouse to provide covered storage for drill rods. Soon after making their announcement on Facebook in early May and within a day of launching the website, Lopes said they began fielding calls from machine shops in Ontario, Québec, Western Canada and the northern U.S. Non-disclosure agreements prevent them from identifying specific customers, but both said key industrial players are already on board and are ready to send work over once pandemic-related restrictions are lifted and the normal business dealings resume." "It's a small world," said Lopes. "When people heard that we were developing this we were getting calls saying, when are you ready? I never expected this." Heat treating involves an umbrella of different processes used to heat and cool metals under specific temperature controls to improve its overall properties, performance and durability.

Salto's array of offerings include annealing, through hardening, case hardening, carburizing, air hardening, norminizing and black oxide. In the case of annealing, steel can be softened to allow it to be machined. Other processes can be applied to make parts harder, improve strength, reduce wear and tear, and create a protective corrosion-resistant skin. "It's like a science," said Mehanna, who has 22 years of experience in the heat-treating process. "This trade, I have so much passion for it that can't I wait to get up in the morning just to come here, because we've been putting this automation line together for almost a year and I'm still impressed by it every time I come in and look at it." He helped design Salto as a 'smart' business with HMI (human machine interface) control systems allowing all the shop's functions to be remotely controlled by smartphone or tablet. "As long as we have internet, we can connect to it from anywhere," said Mehanna.

"Last night, I put some work in the furnace from my couch watching TV at 9 p.m. I pushed the button from my phone." The shop features nine furnaces, a parts washer, and a custom-built IQ (integral quench) line, a furnace used for



surface hardening of parts or components that can reach a temperature of 1,850 Fahrenheit (1,010 Celcius). They've also installed a one-of-a-kind US\$1-million scanner - an induction heat furnace - built in Ohio and designed to harden drill rods for mineral exploration. "There's nothing like it out yet; it's just to meet our demand," said Mehanna. Joining Mehanna on the floor are two experienced metallurgists, one specializing in induction

hardening and the other an expert in analyzing heat treat failures and parts breakage at their on-site metallurgical lab.

But should business pick up, as both Lopes and Mehanna expect, they could quickly hire as many as 14 people. All training would be done in-house. "It's only a matter of time," said Lopes. "I have a good feeling about this." Mehanna pays credit to Lopes for having the vision to deliver a top-of-the-line service. "If he sees an opportunity, he studies it and goes for it. "Felix has a big dream for the park here; he's very ambitious. He's an opportunist and, slowly but surely, he's building the park the way he wants it."

Ipsen USA Announces New Director of Human Resources

May 13, 2020

“Ipsen is pleased to announce the hiring of Janet Nanni, PHR, SHRM-CP, as its new Director of Human Resources. Nanni stepped into this role after the May 6 retirement of longtime Ipsen HR Director Nancy Kolar. Nanni is responsible for



managing all personnel and human resources programs for Ipsen USA, which includes locations in Illinois and Pennsylvania. Before joining Ipsen, Nanni was the Director of Human Resources at Zenith Cutter in Rockford, accountable for global HR initiatives in two countries.

Nanni has more than twenty years of human resources experience in the industrial manufacturing and engineering service industries. She received a Bachelor of Business Administration with emphasis in Human Resources from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. She is also a Society of Human Resources

Management Certified Professional. Nanni’s talent for transforming workplace culture and aptitude for building trust and accountability make her an ideal fit for the role.

About Ipsen. *Ipsen USA designs and manufactures industrial vacuum and atmosphere heat-treating systems, supervisory controls systems and predictive maintenance software platforms for many industries, including Aerospace, Automotive, Commercial Heat Treating, Energy and Medical. With production locations in America, Europe and Asia, and representation in 34 countries, Ipsen is committed to providing 360° support for customers worldwide.”*



Dr. Klaus Loeser, ALD

May 13, 2020

Recently we had an interview with Dr. Klaus Loeser, Senior Vice President Heat Treatment, ALD

<https://themonty.com/project/dr-klaus-loeser-ald-senior-vice-president-heat-treatment/> Klaus did a good job on the

interview telling us about ALD, their strategy and their plans for the future in North America, Europe and China. If you ever found yourself saying it was a good interview but too bad it's not in Chinese well this is your lucky day. The interview was translated into Chinese and it can be found at

https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/lk2b4hf_3iY92Xo1HRDFSg



Largest North American Commercial Heat Treats 2020

May 13, 2020



Since 1999 “The Monty” has been publishing annually a list of the largest commercial heat treaters in North America based upon annual sales, our 2019 list can be found

at <https://themonty.com/project/largest-north-american-commercial-heat-treats-august-2019/>. This year readers will

see we became a bit more ambitious and expanded the list to the 30 largest. Please click on the link below to see the largest 30 commercial heat treaters in North America.

www.themonty.com/largest/commercial/heat-treats



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Gas Nitriding Furnace Installed at Solar Atmospheres, Souderton Pa

May 13, 2020

“May 12, 2020 - To support an increasing demand for high-value gas nitriding, Solar Atmospheres, Souderton Pa, has installed a new, state-of-the-art vacuum gas nitriding furnace, built by sister company, Solar Manufacturing. The front-loading furnace incorporates the latest nitriding and recipe system from Solar Manufacturing. The automated controls meet AMS2759/10, Automated Gaseous Nitriding Controlled by Nitrogen Potential, in addition to the standard AMS2759/6, Gaseous Nitriding of Low-Alloy Steel Parts. The automated control system is useful for single stage, as well as two-stage (Floe) processing. All hot zone components are made completely of graphitic materials inert to the anhydrous ammonia used during the nitriding process. In addition to a forced gas cooling system, the furnace also incorporates Solar Manufacturing’s unique convection heating system. This design has significant advantages over conventional retort-type systems in the reduction of cycle time, by as much as 50% - resulting in increased efficiency, saving customers time and money.

For additional process information, contact Mike Moyer, Director of Sales, Solar Atmospheres, at 215-721-1502 x1207, or mikem@solaratm.com, or visit our website at solaratm.com.”



Aerospace Testing & Pyrometry Acquires AKA Calibrations

May 12, 2020

To compliment this press release from Aerospace Testing & Pyrometry (whose banner ad can be found on this page) we dug through our files and came up with this photo to compliment the press release. The great man himself, Mr. Andrew Bassett is on the left in this picture which was taken at the ASM show in Detroit the fall of 2019.

“The President of Aerospace Testing & Pyrometry, Andrew Bassett and President/Owner of AKA Calibrations, Bill Stines, would like to announce that Aerospace Testing & Pyrometry will be acquiring the assets and clients of AKA Calibrations starting June of 2020. Bill Stines approached ATP to acquire his clients because of the same work ethic and dedicated service that AKA Calibrations has provided to his client base. “This was the only option. Aerospace Testing & Pyrometry has a great reputation in the industry and a leader in providing superb Pyrometry services to their clients” stated Bill Stines. “This is a perfect fit for ATP. Bill’s hard work and dedication to his clients over the years is the same approach with our clients”, added Andrew Bassett. AKA Calibrations and Aerospace Testing & Pyrometry have worked together over the years and acquiring AKA Calibrations client base will be a seamless transition. The majority of AKA Calibration accounts will be handled from our Southern Division based out of Tulsa, OK. Bill will be taking a role within the ATP organization which includes special projects and consulting.

About ATP: Aerospace Testing & Pyrometry, Inc. is an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited company specializing in the onsite calibration of temperature processing instrumentation, calibration of vacuum measuring systems and temperature uniformity surveys for thermal processing equipment. We also specialize in consulting and training in Pyrometry Specifications, Heat Treat Consulting & Procedure Writing and Consulting for Nadcap Accreditations in Heat Treating, Non-Destructive Testing (NDT), Welding, Brazing & Materials Test Laboratories. With offices located in Bethlehem, PA, Stroudsburg, PA, Hartford, CT, Cleveland, OH, Tulsa, OK, Los Angeles, CA, Greenville, SC, Bedford, OH (Lab) and Muskegon, MI, our services have reached through-out the United States, Mexico, Canada and Europe. For more information, please visit www.atpcal.com or call Andrew Bassett at 844-828-7225.”



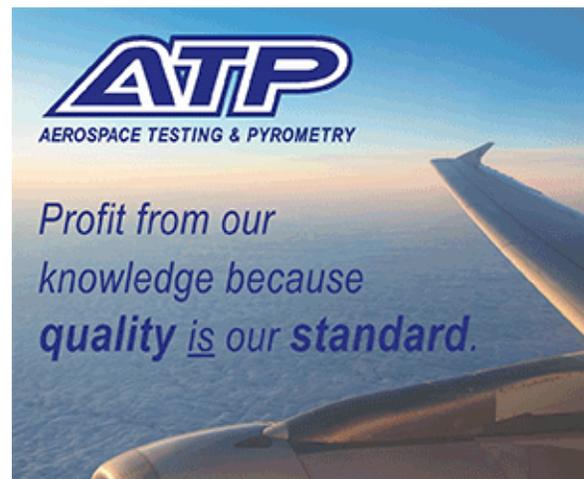
Bill Stines of ATP

The End of The Line for Print Magazines?

May 12, 2020



For as long as we can remember it has been the norm to see a print copy of *"Industrial Heating"* in the lobby of every commercial heat treater in North America. From a number of sources we have been lead to believe that IH will continue with the magazine but at least in North America in a digital format only to which we have to say what a shame. Print magazines in general have for some time been dying a long, very protracted death but it is still a shame to see them slowly disappearing. On a personal level I can see that my magazine subscriptions have dropped from quite a few to one only (Yachting magazine by the way) so it is no surprise that the heat treatment industry has also seen this transition but I don't have to like it. I have to say I am going to miss reading IH while waiting at appointments.



Bodycote Consolidates Plants and More Heat Treatment News

May 11, 2020



We start off the week of May 10, 2020 with a press release from commercial heat treating giant **Bodycote**. By the way when we publish our list of the largest commercial heat treaters in North America later this week it will come as no surprise to anybody that by 2019 sales Bodycote is the largest;

“Bodycote to consolidate three facilities in North

America; MACCLESFIELD (U.K.) — Bodycote, the world’s largest provider of heat treatments and specialist thermal processing services, announced a restructuring plan in March 2020 which aims to better align parts of the heat treatment business to ongoing industrial trends. The global plan entails a renewed push for acquisitions in key territories, the modernization and expansion of a number of facilities as well as the consolidation of a few. The strategic review identified the need to consolidate three of the 72 North American facilities. Bodycote is moving the capacity of the three locations, on 74th East Ave. in Tulsa, OK; Ronda Drive in Canton, MI; and County Road 1 in Elkhart, IN, into their sister facilities and closing the three sites. This will result in improved operational efficiency, increased available capacity and enhanced customer services in North America. The consolidation is now underway and is expected to be completed later this year. For more information on Bodycote’s heat treatments and specialist thermal processing services, visit www.bodycote.com



This is an upsetting news item, the passing of **Thomas Crafton**, President & CEO of furnace and oven builder **Thermcraft**.

“Thomas M. Crafton, President & CEO of Thermcraft Inc., September 25, 1952 – April 28, 2020. Thermcraft President, Thomas Morris Crafton, 67, of Winston-Salem, NC passed away Tuesday, April 28th, 2020. He was educated at Trinity High School in Washington, PA, West Virginia University and the Art Institute of Pittsburgh. Thermcraft was founded in 1971 by Tom’s father and mother, Morris L. Crafton and Clara Martin Crafton. In 1978 Tom and his wife, Nancy, moved to Winston-Salem where Tom joined his parents working at Thermcraft, Inc. He was a successful businessman and was greatly admired by his colleagues. Tom became President & CEO of Thermcraft, Inc. and expanded the company internationally. He has given presentations about small businesses in Washington DC and has relationships with companies throughout the US, Europe and Asia.

Tom was passionate about travel and he loved to travel the world, visit with customers and talk about the many places he had been and things he’d seen. Tom had a witty sense of humor and was always quick with a comeback. He loved fast cars, guns, music, guitars and spending time at Lake Norman. But most of all, he loved his family. As successful as Tom was, his daughters and



grandchildren were his greatest accomplishments. His strong will and determination can be seen in each of his grandchildren and he thoroughly enjoyed watching them grow. He loved life and lived it to the fullest.

Tom was not a large man physically, but he cast a huge shadow personally and professionally. During his daily presence at Thermcraft, Tom mentored, counseled and advised his employees, many of whom he considered his friends. He will be missed by everyone who knew him. Tom was preceded in death by his father, Morris L. Crafton and his mother, Clara Martin Crafton. He is

survived by his wife, Nancy Crafton, and his three daughters and their families, as well as one sister and her family. The family would like to express their gratitude for the compassionate care given by Dr. Powell and the nurses on 6CC at Wake Forest Baptist Health. A celebration of life will be held at a later date TBD. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society or Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina at 3655 Reed St. Winston-Salem, NC 27107.”

SECO/WARWICK recently landed an order for a RLHE electric roller furnace for heat treating large bearing rings. The line, based on the RLHE-120.510.20-1000 roller furnace, is designed for heat treatment of large bearing rings with diameter from 980 to 1180 mm, which are used in the production of the world's largest trucks, the dump trucks working in the mining industry. The whole supplied technological line consists of: a transport system with a set of manipulators, an electric roller furnace type RLHE-120.510.20-1000, a hardening press with matrix instrumentation and a control system with a master system for data visualization and archiving. The end customer, **OAO BELAZ** is a dump truck manufacturer located in Belarus.

Can-Eng Furnaces recently received an order from a major U.S. automotive parts supplier for the complete overhaul and refurbishment of a cast link-belt normalizing furnace. Designed and manufactured by Can-Eng in 1996, the equipment was originally rated at 27,000 pounds/hour of hot-charged, closed-die forgings. It was known to be one of the largest cast link-belt furnaces in the world at the time of its manufacture. The refurbishment project will take place in Can-Eng's Niagara Falls, Canada plant and will consist of a complete refractory relining, new combustion system, new control panel and a Level II automation system. The furnace shell, hearth and return rolls will be refurbished to near-new condition. The furnace line will go back into operation in the first quarter of 2021 and will be used for normalizing alloyed automotive forgings.



So how are we doing these days? According to *MTI (Metal Treating Institute, the largest commercial heat treat organization in North America)* things were not good in March 2020 as compared to March 2019 which is no surprise to anybody. Most areas of North America saw double digit sales drops with only one exception, the US North East eked out a small increase. April sales figures will tell the real story. Where are they now-*Olivier Chevre*. For a number of years Olivier was Sales Manager for Swiss furnace builder *Codere* but we see he had made a move to what appears to be a company totally out of the heat treatment field. We have this photo of Olivier from the recent heat treat show in Moscow, Russia last fall. *Codere* is known around the world in the heat treatment field and their banner ad can be found on this page.



In upcoming news we have two very interesting items on the agenda for this week. The first is our list of the *30 Largest North American Commercial Heat Treaters* based on 2019 sales. This year we see that 1 Mexican company and 2 Canadian companies are on the list. The second very interesting news item has to do with *Nitrex*. Tuesday the company is having a webinar about changes, we are not entirely sure what they are but we will have all the details for you later this week.

McLaughlin Furnace Group To Ship Furnaces and Endothermic Generator to Viet Nam

May 8, 2020

“Furnace manufacturer McLaughlin Furnace Group, LLC located in Avilla, Indiana, USA is pleased to announce that they will be shipping three new box furnaces and an Endothermic Generator to a valve manufacturer in Viet Nam. The box furnaces are tube fired nitrogen box furnaces with working dimensions of 36” W x 48” L x 36” H that will operate from 1100°F to 1750°F ± 10°F. The “Tru-Mix” Endothermic generator has a capacity of 4,000 CFH and features an APM retort. The box furnaces are the first three of 15 which this customer has ordered.”



custom-electric.com

Whitcraft Group, Scarborough, Maine, USA to Close

May 7, 2020

Unfortunately we believe that this sad story will be repeated many times over the next few months. We mentioned this facility due to the fact that it has a fairly impressive in house heat treating department, part of which can be seen in this photo.



“The parent company of a Scarborough, Maine, USA manufacturing plant specializing in aircraft engine components laid off 125 employees Thursday and is closing the facility. Whitcraft Group CEO Doug Folsom said sharply reduced air travel due to coronavirus pandemic restrictions has eliminated demand for the precision-tooled components produced at the plant, noting that commercial air traffic is down by 95 percent. “I know how talented the workforce is; they’re a bunch of a tremendous machinists,” Folsom said. “It’s just heartbreaking to close the plant, but we can’t operate the plant if there’s no demand for the product.” Whitcraft joins a number of Maine companies that have laid off workers recently in response to physical distancing and stay-at-home measures designed to fight the spread of COVID-19. Most employees had been on furlough for the past month as Whitcraft continued to pay for benefits. Folsom said Friday was the first day of being laid off for all but “30

or 40” who will continue to work on closing the facility over the next three months.

The Connecticut-based company has 11 divisions and the Scarborough facility is one of three being shut down because of issues related to the pandemic. The other two are in Arizona and Florida. He said Whitcraft laid off 20 percent of its workforce at eight other facilities that make components for non commercial aircraft, and which remain operational. Whitcraft bought the Scarborough facility a year ago from LAI International. Folsom said the company had raised pay and, until two months ago, had been planning for growth. “The final determination only came in the last couple days,” Folsom said. “As early as a week ago, we thought we’d be able to keep Scarborough open.” What originally began as the Rich Tool & Die Co. in Windham moved to Scarborough in 1992 and changed its name to Rich Technology International. It featured material processing machines for clean-cutting, welding, profile machining and hole-drilling, according to the website of LAI, which bought the facility in 2007.”

Kennametal Auction, Irwin, PA

May 7, 2020

Tuesday May 21, 2021 there will be an auction in Irwin, PA, USA of the surplus assets of Kennametal Corp. The auction will feature some rather unusual vacuum furnaces, specifically Sinter HIP furnaces. We were asked a couple of months back our opinion of the equipment, our response was that while there is nothing wrong with the furnaces they are older units with a very limited number



of potential buyers. There is also a Centorr vacuum furnace, again an older unit. That was two months ago, in the current climate we would suggest that the vendors take any offer.



Bill Disler, CEO of AFC-Holcroft-The Interview

May 6, 2020



An Interview with Mr. Bill Disler, CEO of furnace manufacturer AFC-Holcroft.

Bill I appreciate the opportunity to ask you a few questions about your background, about AFC-Holcroft and its parent company Aichelin and also for your thoughts about where the industry is going. First off how did you come to be in this industry and end up where you are now as CEO of one of the largest furnace builders in North America.

"I was introduced to the heat treat industry while I was still in college, working for a computer company selling networks and doing database development. We sold a job to Holcroft to automate their proposal and estimating department. Following my graduation with a degree in Electrical Engineering I

started working for Holcroft in 1988 as an electrical engineer and soon was asked to travel to China to help with some field startup issues. Incidentally, that work included networking temperature and carbon control instruments for one of the very first Marathon Monitors ProcessMaster Supervisory computer systems. Dan McCurdy was the man behind that system at MMI. Later AFC purchased that software from MMI. My six-week assignment in China turned into two years and during that time I was able to learn hands-on what goes into making a furnace system work. I helped build and commission all aspects of batch furnaces, rotary furnaces, automated press quench systems, and many large pusher furnace systems. It was a tremendous opportunity to learn about all facets of heat treat equipment and their processes. It also opened my eyes to culture outside of the United States which has proven invaluable to my career. After that I worked in various positions at Holcroft including performing estimating and proposal work, managing Holcroft's Advanced Controls Group, a stint as Operations Manager for the Pacific Rim territory which brought me back to China in the early 90s, and eventually Domestic Sales Manager. In 1998 Holcroft was sold out of the Thermo Electron Group to a venture capital company. Suffice it to say the new owners and I did not see eye to eye and I left Holcroft to work in a global sales position for the German company Dürr. We sold industrial automation and high-level cleaning technology. This period in my career was valuable as I look back because it exposed me to both European business and non-heat treat markets. After the venture capital company was done doing damage, Holcroft was sold to Atmosphere Furnace Company. I was asked by Bill Keough to come back to lead the company's Sales and Engineering activities and eventually assume the position of President and CEO. The merging of AFC and Holcroft, along with the several other furnace companies Mr. Keough had previously purchased, lead to a great era of growth and re-organization in the company with tremendous support from Bill Keough."

Perhaps you could share with us a history of AFC-Holcroft and how you came to be part of the Aichelin Group of Austria.

"As mentioned previously, AFC-Holcroft was owned by Bill Keough and over the years the company had been in more of an acquisition mode without any real desire to sell. In 2015 discussions started between Aichelin and AFC-Holcroft about options to find synergies together. I believe that both parties quickly learned that we could identify many business synergies, but we also realized that our philosophies and business cultures shared considerable commonality. As discussions continued, I believe that Aichelin's interest in acquiring our group grew at about the same rate as Bill Keough's openness to

sell. Aichelin is a big player in Europe and China and AFC-Holcroft is a big player in North America. The combination of the Aichelin group of furnace companies and AFC-Holcroft created a powerful global organization with leading positions in Europe, North America, and Asia. The fit just made sense. In July of 2016 we officially became part of the Aichelin Group. In 2016 we celebrated our 100-year anniversary and 2017 was Aichelin's 150th anniversary. Together we have a tremendous combined history and experience and an unmatched global presence."

Tell us about AFC-Holcroft, what products you offer and which products really get you excited.

"As you know, we have a very wide range of products. We will continue to be known for our large, custom engineered systems. Our next generation of furnace engineers will continue to be equipped to serve these market needs. That expertise is diminishing within our industry and we are going to great lengths to assure it continues at AFC-Holcroft. Most of our key products are atmosphere furnaces with various quench systems. We have a strong line of modular "standard" products such as our EZ-Gen endothermic gas generator and Universal Batch Quench (UBQ) family. These products have strengthened globally over the past 10 years and have become a bigger percentage of our sales year by year. We have worked hard to have well-thought-out, top performing, easy to maintain equipment at fair prices. High volume processing and online furnace diagnostics have played a big role in the evolution of our modular product families. They are standardized modules, however we remain more flexible than most in our ability and willingness to customize per customer requests. You can expect to see a couple of interesting products added to our modular products group throughout this year. Regarding what products get me most excited, I think that the best answer is the ones that our customers have not seen yet."

Where does AFC-Holcroft fit into the Aichelin structure?

"AFC-Holcroft fits neatly into the gap that Aichelin had in the North American market. In other parts of the world we share in various ways within those marketplaces. AFC-Holcroft is in a good position to help bring other Aichelin products into the North American market. Within our group we have a strong induction company, EMA, located in Germany and have a strong center of excellence for equipment serving the hot stamping market in Austria. This has been a great benefit to all of us within the Aichelin Group."

With the background information out of the way lets get into some "meatier" questions starting with one that is on everybody's mind these days-COVID-19. I know that AFC-Holcroft has taken every precaution

possible to safeguard your employees and customers but that is not what I want to ask. What I want to ask is; is this “pandemic” going to change the industry? Do you see that in 12 months this will be a bad memory and everything will be back to normal or do you see this causing some fundamental changes in the industry?

“Although I am still processing the impact and likely changes that the world and specifically our industry will see after this crisis, I am happy to share my current view. I have little doubt that this crisis will impact our industry in many ways. I can highlight some areas that I expect have changed for at least the mid-term. First, for companies like ours - manufacturers of industrial equipment - day to day work will be impacted for many of our workers who have been teleworking. With the new generation of engineers and other office workers desiring more flexibility, I had envisioned more teleworking being required over the next several years. I was not a proponent of it before the crisis, but today my view has changed. With the ease of video conferencing and teleworking technology, our company’s forced transition to this way of working accelerated the inevitable from my perspective. Our Team has been incredibly effective in this mode of operation. Although face to face meetings and working physically together will remain necessary and clearly beneficial in many situations, I no longer see it as mandatory on a daily basis. I suspect we will not be alone in this conclusion. Managed correctly with more technology investment, we can become a better and more flexible Team. Obviously those members of our workforce who physically load and maintain equipment or physically build equipment will not be impacted the same way. The second significant factor that I believe will impact our industry is a trend to localizing manufacturing to minimize risks. That means that for regions like North America, I expect to see the return of manufacturing to this area to accelerate. It may not remain the long-term trend, as many tend to have short memories when it comes to things like this, but initially we already see this happening.”

How bad is it these days for furnace builders? I understand that because of the long delivery times of new furnaces there is always a long lag time between a general economic slow down and when a furnace manufacturer would see the slow down. Now I’m sure you are making projections so lets phrase the question this way- do you see the current situation as bad as 2009, the same or not as bad?

“You are correct that our furnace manufacturing business seems to lead other aspects of economic change by about a year. That means we tend to be affected by slow downs earlier and feel recovery sooner as our customers plan

further in advance. Just prior to the crisis we had fortunately seen a nice rise in business including several larger, greenfield projects. In my opinion we were starting to see an increased trend of manufacturing returning to this region. Given the unique nature of what this crisis represents globally compared to anything else we have ever seen, my favorite forecasting crystal ball just got a whole lot foggier. My current feeling, however, is that we will see a much quicker initial recovery in most industry segments. However, some segments like the airline industry will be hurt for years to come and this will be felt hard by many of the suppliers and commercial heat treat folks that support aircraft production. Of course, the oil industry has other problems compounding this mess, but there is only one way to go in that industry as this crisis relaxes and that is up. Our inquiry level remains surprisingly high with many customers continuing their willingness for significant capital investments. Of course, that optimism may be crushed when true cash flow impacts are accessed and PO's go for final signatures. In the USA, the huge cash infusion into the economy will certainly help, but the next stages of government action will be critical. If we see a program to accelerate much-needed investment in infrastructure like roads and bridges, this will be terrific for us."

Lets switch gears a bit. AFC-Holcroft and I am sure Aichelin must always be looking at heat treating technologies, which are growing, which are stagnant, and which hold a great deal of potential in the future. So Bill what do you see as growing technologies and which do you see as mature technologies?

"The biggest thing changing fast in this industry remains the technology to gather useful data from our equipment. We have several technologies that are available for our systems and they are getting smarter every year. We are using that data for a few critical purposes. It helps us make our equipment better and more reliable via remote diagnostics tools like our RDX system. It can help customers have more forward planning capability for maintenance to improve uptime with the use of the tools. Most interesting in my opinion, and likely what will become the most welcome tool by our customers, is technology to automatically validate furnace calibration. Not just what a TUS tells you but also other aspects of the furnace setup that are often equally important to process quality. This may be what finally gets our customers' attention as it seems like as much as people ask for and want maintenance prediction tools, it is hard for them to change their traditional ways and actually use them. Being able to push a button and have the furnace validate if it is operating as it did prior to the last PPAP can really help support many heat treaters needs. All of these technologies

and tool sets are also changing the landscape for annual service contracts so that OEMs can help customers better utilize their equipment. The data can now help end users see that the upfront investments needed to gain uptime availability are justified. Although habits are tough to change, we see it happening and it will help everyone be more competitive and profitable with our equipment.”

Do you have any plans on introducing new technologies to the market? Either new to AFC-Holcroft or new to the heat-treating industry in general?

“Other than the IoT items mentioned previously, we have two significant products that our customers will see this year. Both are based on our Modular Product platform and philosophy. This means that they will offer shorter lead times and carry less custom engineering expense than similar products. One of them will complement our UBQ family of products and the other will offer a unique continuous furnace solution that can be installed on a flat floor in a fraction of the time required by any other system built today. This system will also offer some unique ways of managing salt quench options to contain and recover 99+% of the quench salt, hence making it both clean in the plant and green for the environment. As much as salt has had a bad name in the past, it has made a huge comeback. When it comes to distortion control, it is a single phase quenchant, like gas quench systems. This allows it to provide results far better than oil with respect to distortion control and it does not require 300HP motors and huge volumes of nitrogen and water to achieve better and more predictable heat transfer. Combine all of this into a quick install or quick relocate system that fits into shipping containers and I think it will get some attention.”

What keeps you awake at nights these days? I realize there are a lot of things to worry about right now but what is the one thing which you think about the most?

“This single biggest thing that keeps me awake at night is the welfare of our employees. I doubt I am alone, as other company leaders are struggling with the same challenge. I worry about everyone’s safety, both working at the facility or just managing through this crisis at home. This has impacted every employee and their families in so many ways. I worry about the financial impact this situation has created for them and the uncertainty of what is to come. As we bring more and more people back into the facility, how do we manage this with the right attention to safety? It is not just following government guidelines; it is more about what we as a Team are comfortable

with. Fortunately we have a great group of people and together we seem to be navigating these tough decisions well. One other thing that might seem odd which is heavily on my mind is our planning for a major facility update which has been in the works for some time. Prior to this I was worried that the planned office space allocation might be too big if we started having more flexibility with teleworking in our workforce. Too much empty space is better than too little space, but it is also not optimum. Two things are likely to happen with this crisis. First, we will delay this project a bit to recover from the financial impact of this year. Second, the new office facility design will be far better equipped for the future than previously planned. This crisis has given me a glimpse into the future and will help us plan better for our next 20 years.”

This question to some extent ties in with the one above. There are a lot of predictions out there that in a short period of time we will all be driving electric cars which would of course mean a lot less heat treating of transmission parts. Many of your installations are heat treating transmission components. Do you see that the possible growth of electric cars will have an adverse effect on the heat treating industry?

“The transition to electric vehicles will certainly change the shape of the heat treatment needs of our automotive markets over time, but I am not losing sleep over it. First, we serve many markets and industries to dilute our dependence on automotive. Most of the smaller vehicle transmission work has already shifted to modular LPC systems and we participated in that transition with ALD-Holcroft long ago. That is a saturated market today. Second, I just do not agree that the timeline for this will be nearly as fast as our politicians would like it to be. The impact will also be felt much differently region to region. In the USA, for instance, I think electric vehicles will continue to struggle to get wide support without significant government subsidies. Not only do most Americans drive longer distances, but smaller autos are not the bread-and-butter products for American auto companies; trucks and larger SUVs are. Those vehicles will continue to favor conventional powertrains. In places with dense downtown traffic an electric solution is more appealing, provided user expectations for heating and cooling in the car are not too high when the outside environment is either extremely hot or cold.

We all hear lots about the auto industry’s transition to electrics. In Europe, much more than the USA, governmental mandates for this transition’s timing have been so extreme that the auto industry is in a tailspin. The political goals just do not seem to align with reality. In a similar way, in my opinion, neither do the environmental benefits touted politically align with the overall

environmental gain by shifting to electric, battery operated vehicles. Making batteries is not a clean business and critical materials needed to make next generation batteries are not exactly located in regions without complications. Even if cobalt, lithium, and other elements were widely available in the USA, I can only imagine the environmental pushback against the strip mining and chemical treatments required to extract the elements. It would make drilling for oil and fracking look like environmentally friendly ideas. That does not get any more media attention than the recycling challenges of the same materials which is fraught with problems. From the practical side, the charging infrastructure and tracing back of what fuels were used to make the power feeding the batteries is a whole other story. My point in all of this is that I feel that politics has been pushing electrification of vehicles at a pace faster than technology can practically support.

I read an interesting and objective article in SAE's magazine a few months ago. It was about a simple 600-mile round trip test drive in a leading EV. Even having received free charging overnight at a hotel that was good for 111 of the 600 miles, the energy costs for the trip were \$153 and added hours of extra time to the trip. The drivers felt fortunate that they found each of the planned recharging stops to be available when they arrived. The equivalent trip in a gas vehicle would have cost less than \$60 (with gas at \$2.75 USD per gallon) and the time for the round trip would have been far shorter. The required infrastructure is not even close to being ready in the US as well as most other places around the world. Even when it is, cultures that typically drive longer distances and value convenience will be slow to adapt. Most people probably do not relate the current crisis as being anything that could impact the intensity and focus on EVs. I have to say that, as wrong as I might be, I am not so sure that the launch rate of EVs might not be one of the things impacted by this global crisis. The amount of money that the leading auto companies are investing in electrification when it seems likely the market is not ready for them on the same scale is extraordinary. Investments are measured in the 10's of Billions of dollars for a few percent of the total market. I wonder if, after the massive financial impact to these businesses is finally realized from this crisis and hands go out to governments for help, the political pressure might relax a bit to allow them more time to better synchronize the transition to electric vehicles to other realities. This will be a welcome change to many in our industry that still heat treat many parts for conventional gas or diesel powertrains. If it happens, expect it to be subtle and out of the political limelight."



Bodycote to Open New Illinois Heat Treatment Facility

May 6, 2020

“MACCLESFIELD (U.K.) – Bodycote, the world’s largest provider of heat treatments and specialist thermal processing services, will open a new state of the art facility in Elgin, Illinois, USA. The new purpose built facility has been designed as a replacement for Bodycote’s ageing facility in Melrose Park, Illinois. The Elgin facility is scheduled to be operational in June 2020. It will support manufacturing supply chains in the Midwest region. The Melrose Park facility will be closed once the transfer of customers’ work has been completed. Bodycote continues to invest in acquiring, updating and building new facilities with new capacity and more operationally efficient services. The new Elgin facility is part of this ongoing strategy to provide the best possible capabilities, mix, and geographical network to better serve customers. Tom Gibbons, President of Classical Heat Treatment, North America, commented “I am delighted to be able to announce the opening of our plant in Elgin, Illinois. Our investment in the new facility enables us to expand our capacity and improve our ability to deliver high-quality heat treatment capabilities to our customers.” Bodycote has more than 70 facilities in North America. For more

information on Bodycote's heat treatments and specialist thermal processing services, visit www.bodycote.com

About Bodycote; With more than 180 accredited facilities in 23 countries, Bodycote is the world's largest provider of heat treatments and specialist thermal processing services. Through classical heat treatment and specialist technologies, including Hot Isostatic Pressing (HIP), Bodycote improves the properties of metals and alloys, extending the life of vital components for a wide range of industries, including aerospace, defense, automotive, power generation, oil & gas, construction, medical and transportation. Customers in all of these industries have entrusted their products to Bodycote's care for more than 50 years. For more information, visit www.bodycote.com."



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Salto Heat Treating Limited - New Heat Treat Shop

May 5, 2020



We see there is a brand new commercial heat treat in Coniston, Ontario, Canada by the name of Salto Heat Treating.

“Salto Heat Treating Limited offers a full suite of commercial and industrial heat treating services to local regional, national and international clients. With world class state of the art equipment and facility and experienced professional staff, Salto is able to provide unmatched service, exceptional quality and value added competitive pricing for any project large or small. Salto’s equipment, facility and technical expertise also allow for superior reliability, customization, efficient and consistent management of larger projects, faster set-up time for recurring runs, and detailed product order charting and traceability. Salto Heat Treating Limited is especially proud to offer to its clients a custom-built I.Q. line allowing 24 to 48 hour turnaround on most applications. Below are some of the surface solutions we offer:”

- *Annealing*
- *Through hardening*
- *Case hardening*
- *Carburizing*
- *Air hardening*
- *Normalizing*
- *Black oxide*
- *Induction hardening (currently delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions)*
- *Stress relieving*
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- *Cutting services*
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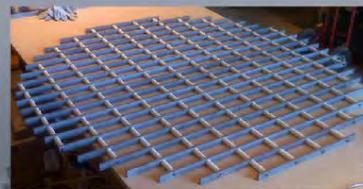
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Gasbarre Update

May 5, 2020

In the US furnace manufacturer Gasbarre has been going through a number of changes, mainly shifting furnace building into one location. The President of the company Mr. Ben Gasbarre gives us this update;

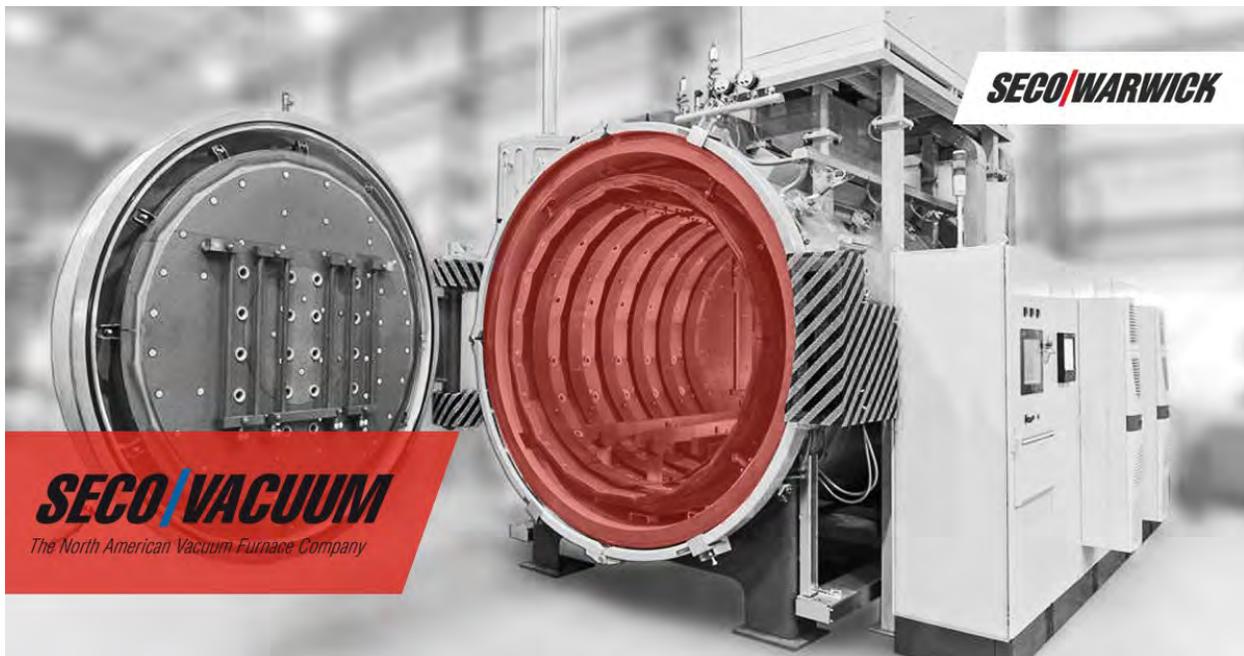
“As you may recall back in December we announced a shift in our manufacturing from our facility in Michigan to our facility in Pennsylvania. This put all our furnace manufacturing under one roof. This transition has gone very well and is in full swing. We have shipped multiple pieces of equipment out of our Pennsylvania location that would of otherwise been manufactured in Michigan. Our sales and engineering staff in Michigan have been working well with the team in Pennsylvania, and we’ve been very pleased with the overall performance. We are continuing to implement new technology and procedures to streamline communications and other processes between locations, and we still have plans to add manufacturing space to our facility in Pennsylvania. Through all of the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic we have remained fully operational, and have actually added furnace manufacturing staff to ensure we meet our production schedules.”



SECO/WARWICK Press Release

May 5, 2020

“An international company producing, among other things, cutting tools, with a rich history and branches in 40 countries, ordered a vacuum furnace, their third order from them to date. The horizontal, front-loading furnace, from SECO/WARWICK, will accommodate the customer’s needs with an all-metal hot zone for clean vacuum processing. As with the earlier furnaces, one of which was installed at a different facility, the new furnace includes a convection fan and a pressurized gas quench for quick cooling. Maciej Korecki, VP, Vacuum Furnace Segment at SECO/WARWICK says, “Precision, high uniformity in heat treated parts, high consistency in workloads and high speeds in batch processing along with low energy and gas consumption makes our product most desirable solution on the market. Often our clients demand just one thing – for instance: high uniformity in heat treated parts which solves problems of distortions they experience using different technology. All the other features come as a surprise and an added value.” According to Piotr Zawistowski, President, SECO/VACUUM, “This third repeat order is a testament to SVT’s on-time delivery and the performance of our . . . vacuum furnace to meet all promised parameters, including producing clean finished parts, all as promised.”



The Monty Heat Treat Newsletter May, 2020

May 4, 2020

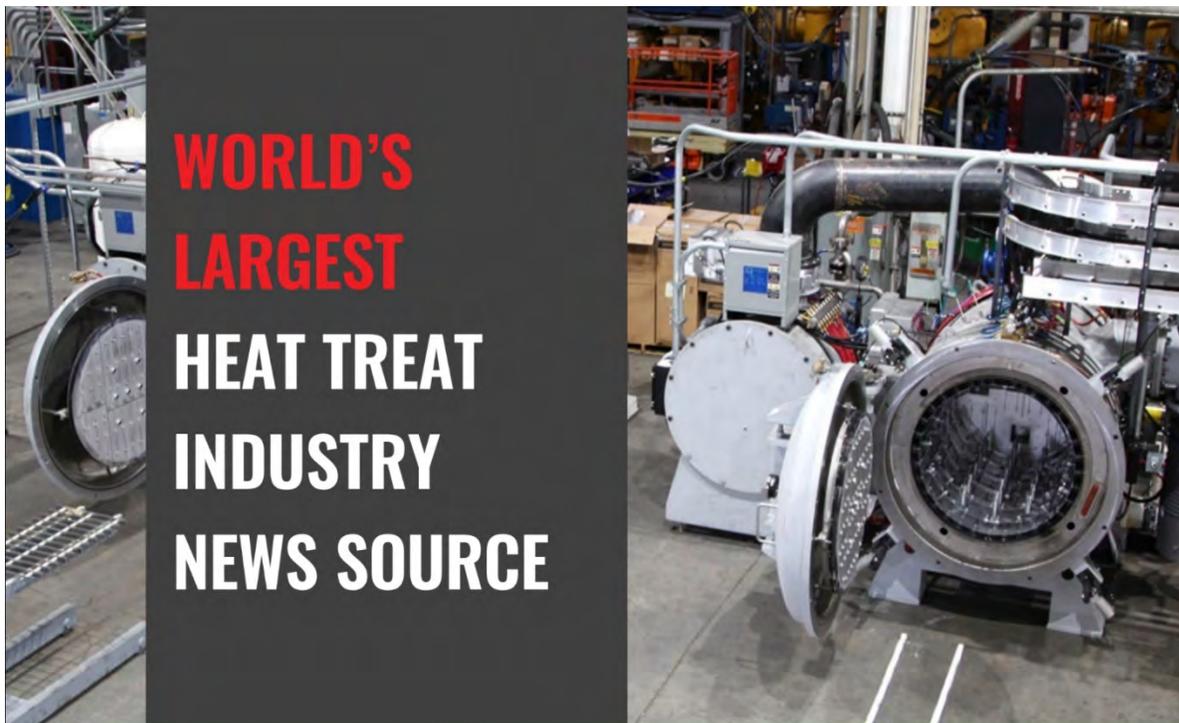
The link below will take you to the May 2020 issue of “The Monty” the world’s largest Heat Treat Industry News Source. The new and improved format includes larger and clearer pictures and also clearly identifies news items which are exclusive to “The Monty”.

This issue features news items from around the globe including a profile of the heat treating department of tractor manufacturer “Fendt” in Germany, some hints about our upcoming list of the “Largest North American Commercial Heat Treaters”, an interview with “Dr. Klaus Loeser” VP of commercial heat treater “ALD” who tells us about plans for his North American facilities and much, much more.

Sponsors for this issue include Rohde, manufacturers of Salt Reclaim systems, furnace builder Williams Industrial Service, industry supplier Hubbard Hall, furnace manufacturer Ipsen and Switzerland based furnace company Solo. As always we appreciate your time. Sincerely Gord, Jordan and Dale Montgomery

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An Interview With Mr. Jean Francois, Cloutier, CEO of Nitrex

May 3, 2020



Jean Francois I and many others in the industry have been very curious about your acquisition of vacuum furnace builder G-M Enterprises a couple of months back, how it came about and what these means going forward. However, before we get into that perhaps I could ask you a couple of general questions.

First off what is your background and how did you end up in the position you are now in?

“Let me begin by thanking you Gord for the opportunity to talk about Nitrex with your readers. I graduated from Law school at the University of Montreal and hold a Master’s in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Ottawa in Canada. I have over 20 years experience in the industrial market, in managerial positions of multinational manufacturing companies. I have lived in various countries so the global aspect of the Nitrex business was and still is of interest to me.

I joined Nitrex as CEO at a transformational time in the company’s history, where our founder Michel Korwin had retired from the day-to-day activities of managing the business but was willing to keep contributing and working together with me on the business strategy. These are truly exciting times at Nitrex and its affiliated companies. Our shareholders and board members, notably our majority shareholder Novacap, a leading private equity firm in Canada, are very supportive of our growth strategy, which led to acquiring G-M Enterprises earlier this year.”

Nitrex is a very well-known name in the global heat treatment industry, however having said that perhaps you could tell us something about the company, the history and what you have to offer?

“Monty readers know Nitrex for gas nitriding in the heat-treating industry. Nitrex is a leader in that field, but we are more than that. Nitrex was born by being innovative in gas nitriding control, which allowed the firm to reach unequalled repeatable quality, supported by over 4000 formulas or recipes and over 18,000 laboratory tests results. This library of knowledge is constantly evolving, which allows us to provide the highest quality while significantly reducing the development time for our customers. However, what really makes the difference is our people. With the deep knowledge I just referred to, our experts in heat treating, metallurgy

and controls are able to go way beyond selling a product: they provide technical expertise to our customers, solving complex problems. That is one of the reasons our customers see us as a solutions provider. The acquisition of various companies that operate today as United Process Controls (UPC) and now G-M Enterprises has enhanced our portfolio and expertise, reinforcing the strategy of being a solutions provider. Our science and technology will shape the future of heat treating. And this is where I come in: charting a path for the future of Nitrex and setting sights on global expansion.”

What is the relationship between Nitrex and UPC (United Process Controls)?

“The relationship between Nitrex and UPC is highly recognized in the heat treat community. Presently, NTS (the abbreviation for Nitrex Turnkey Systems), and UPC (controls and aftermarket) are standalone divisions of the same company.

That said, both divisions along with our worldwide network of commercial heat-treating centers (referred to as HTS) are an excellent strategic fit – serving the same industries and embracing a vertically integrated business platform. They share a common mission to provide customers with state-of-the-art, sustainable heat-treating processes that exceed industry regulations and quality standards, as well as to increase process and equipment efficiency. UPC was formed through the acquisition of 5 companies (Atmosphere Engineering, Furnace Control, Marathon Monitors, Process-Electronic, and Wauke Engineering). Over the course of several years, UPC become one of the largest specialized controls company with a competitive advantage both in scale and product offerings.”

January 9th 2020 it was announced that Nitrex had purchased vacuum furnace builder G-M Enterprises of California. First question-when did you enter discussions with Mr. Suresh Jhawar the former President of G-M Enterprises?

“The addition of G-M Enterprises marks a major milestone for Nitrex, on its path to diversifying its NTS division’s portfolio. Discussions with Mr. Jhawar started in the fall of 2019, which went relatively smoothly, and the deal was signed beginning of January this year. The entrepreneurial mindset and culture combined with the strong customer focus within the company are consistent with the Nitrex values. The acquisition represents a great fit with Nitrex, as both share the same goal of providing sustainable technologies that improve customer workflow and

efficiency while maximizing the life span and quality of engineered parts and components.”

What can you tell us about G-M, the products, the size and the market segments they service?

“For the past 30 years, G-M has earned the reputation as a leading supplier of vacuum heat-treating systems in the USA. The potential applications for G-M vacuum furnaces are endless and systems are currently in use by customers in the aerospace, defense, power generation, energy, MIM sintering, additive manufacturing, and commercial heat-treating industries. The addition of G-M Enterprises to the Nitrex family represents a great complement for us and will provide G-M the opportunity to grow internationally through the Nitrex global sales network.”

Now this is the question I have been dying to ask-why? Nitrex offers nitriding solutions, UPC offers furnace controls, what is the fit here?

“As I mentioned previously, the companies are a good strategic fit and our complementary portfolios of trusted brands set us apart from other industry peers. The vertical integration allows both to leverage industry-leading equipment, capabilities and know-how. Through this dynamic and symbiotic partnership, UPC’s focus reinforces Nitrex’s turnkey systems platform with leading edge control technologies; and in return, as new control technologies are developed by UPC, these are incorporated and tested at Nitrex’s commercial service centers, which helps to reinforce UPC’s reputation. As a result, we add value to our customers operations by solving their process problems, which allows our customers to succeed in the markets they serve.”

Have you made any changes at the company? Either management, product mix or marketing plans?

“When I joined Nitrex, my first priority was to understand the business and the organization. Then, we decided to bring on a management team of experienced leaders in both large OEM and small/medium corporations who share the same entrepreneur mindset and servant leadership values. Their experiences are great assets supporting our growth strategy to become a global leader in heat treating solutions. The new structure in place allows the management team to work as a united entity and at the same time promote the particularities of each division.

I am also very pleased that Mr. Michel Korwin, founder of Nitrex, and Mr. Chris Morawski are still active in the company as advisers on strategic topics. Their experience, combined with some new comers to Nitrex, offers a well balanced management team. As an example, just to name a few, Mr. Olivier Caurette, an ex-executive from Bombardier, joined us as the UPC President; Eric Jossart is now UPC Vice President Global Sales; Pat Torok, Head of Product Management; Jason Orosz, President Heat-Treating Services; Michel Frison, Vice-President Global Sales, NTS; Michael Winter, Vice President of Engineering and R&D; Paul Oleszkiewicz, Chief Strategist & Chief Technology Officer and Mr. Iwo Korwin, the NTS division President. In diversifying, we have also developed a compatible product mix that works for our consolidated global sales network, which now distributes and supports all product lines.”

Jean Francois are you able to share with us the future direction of G-M Enterprises?

“G-M has an outstanding growth opportunity, and with the integration of our assets and workforce, the company is poised to enhance its products and services and its capacity to serve international markets and customers, particularly in Europe and Asia. We’re also scaling up G-M’s ability to deliver even more value to the additive manufacturing industry. Planned investments in R&D and the application of AI technology will enable us to develop new innovative solutions that support intelligent workloads and improve process efficiency and application performance.”

One final question-what can we expect to see from Nitrex, G-M Enterprises and Novacap in the future?

“Right now, we are completing the integration of G-M including all assets, employees and systems to the organization structure, while teaming G-M engineers and sales people with Nitrex counterparts to get them onboard, train and leverage expertise and talent. At the same time, we are actively pursuing other acquisitions that fit nicely into our strategic growth plans and which will broaden our capabilities and strengthen our competitive advantage.”



Michel Korwin, Jean Francois



BIG Vacuum Furnace

May 3, 2020



Last week, April 29th to be exact we had a news item entitled “Unusual Heat Treat Photos”. Included in this offering was a picture of the largest vacuum furnace we have ever personally seen. Vacuum furnace builder Ipsen sent us this photo last week which is rather cool. In the foreground we see a pretty standard sized “Titan” vacuum furnace, in the background we see a furnace currently under construction which dwarfs it. Unfortunately except for this photo no other information can be released.





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Advanced Heat Treat Corp., Adds Capacity

May 3, 2020

“Advanced Heat Treat Corp. (AHT) has expanded capacity for Nadcap work at its corporate office and service center located in Waterloo, Iowa. Having added gas nitriding to its Nadcap® accreditation (merit status) this past winter, AHT now offers both Nadcap-accredited gas nitriding and ion nitriding. All AHT sites remain open during the COVID-19 pandemic to serve customers in critical markets such as aerospace, defense, agriculture and health care. Established in 1981, AHT is a recognized global leader in providing heat treat services and metallurgical solutions. Between locations in Alabama, Iowa and Michigan, AHT offers over 20 surface treatments including [UltraGlow® Ion/Gas Nitriding](#) and Nitrocarburizing, [UltraOx®](#), UltraGlow Induction, carburizing, quench & temper and more. AHT had record-breaking sales last year. Approaching its 40th year, the company credits its success to its loyal employees (42% have been at AHT for over 10 years) and a focus on “exceeding customers’ expectations.”



This photo shows the team at the Cullman, Alabama, USA plant standing in front of one of the company’s largest nitriding units. This furnace is large enough to hold two small cars at the same time.

Ipsen Craftsmanship

May 1, 2020

“With over 70 years of experience, Ipsen has perfected our hot zone design to manufacture the highest quality vacuum furnaces with heating elements that last longer and perform better than the competition. Ipsen builds and ships hundreds of hot zones per year and is trusted by customers with critical needs in the aerospace, medical, energy and defense industries. When your business is too important to depend on untested solutions, we are the craftsmen you can count on.”

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