

The background of the entire page is a photograph of an industrial facility. On the left, a large cylindrical heat treatment chamber is visible. On the right, a more complex piece of machinery with multiple horizontal rollers or racks is shown. The floor is concrete, and various pipes and structural elements are visible in the background.

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INTRODUCTION

The July 2020 issue of ***"The Monty"***, the world's largest source of heat treatment news is overflowing with interesting news items about the industry- many of which will not be found anywhere else. We tell you about Missouri Heat Treating in the USA adding a new vacuum furnace, the latest SECO/WARWICK furnace installation, looks like Magnetic Shields in the UK has added a brand new vacuum furnace, we ponder the question about whether any heat treatment exhibitions will actually be held this year, can helium quenching be replaced with Nitrogen in vacuum furnaces and much, much more. Read on and please enjoy.

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

How Are We Doing These Days? AFC-Holcroft

Jun 30, 2020

“Despite all the doom and gloom constantly in the news, how about a little good news for a change. Here at AFC-Holcroft we have been, and continue to be, inundated with work, as the photos will attest. Additionally, we have had the good fortune to be awarded some very nice orders from well-known companies this past quarter. You can see from the photo that our shop is jammed full at the moment, and plenty of work on the way to keep our employees working full steam ahead.



Shown in the photos are UBQ (oil) and UBQA (salt) batch IQ furnaces, continuous roller hearth with the ability to normalize, isothermal anneal and quench & temper, continuous mesh belt austempering line and a variety of other equipment which are in or nearing the final construction phases and will be shipping to the end-users soon. Once additional shop floorspace becomes available, the next projects in our pipeline, already processed by our various

Engineering departments, will start construction - and the cycle continues.

We have every reason to remain optimistic about the coming months and hope this provides a positive outlook for others who are wondering how manufacturing is faring right now. At AFC-Holcroft, we are bustling with activity, with a confident outlook for the future.



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Where Are They Now - Ed Boll

Jun 30, 2020



In our opinion the most professional manufacturers representative that we have ever run across in North America (and this includes ourselves) was Mr. Ed Boll, a long time rep who covered the Northeastern USA on behalf of companies such as SSi, AFC-Holcroft and Wirco. Ed retired just a few short years ago and his business was taken over by Mr. John Oakes of Ebco who is doing a stand up job in the area. We regret that we have not been in touch with Ed recently but we do have this photo of him doing what he enjoys the most-fishing.





Monday Morning Briefing

Jun 26, 2020

We will start off with some people news, in this case *Mr. Greg Huss* who within the past month became a plant Manager *at Paulo Heat Treating, Brazing and Metal Finishing*. Greg worked for many years at *Hudapack Metal Treating* in Wisconsin, USA which was cofounded by his father Gary Huss. Hudapack was acquired by Thermal Process Holdings back in 2018 as you can see in the press release below. Incidentally both Paulo and Thermal Process Holdings are included on our list of the 30 largest commercial heat treaters in North America <https://themonty.com/project/largest-north-american-commercial-heat-treats-august-2020/> "November 28, 2018 – Thermal Process Holdings, Inc. ("TPH") is pleased to announce its acquisition of Hudapack Metal Treating, Inc. ("Hudapack"), which owns and operates heat treat facilities in Elkhorn and Franklin Wisconsin. Hudapack, co-founded by Gary Huss, Charles Davis, and Earl Pack, represents the third investment in our strategy to build a leading thermal processing company focused on value-added services."

There are few companies in the worldwide heat treatment industry, be they industry suppliers, captive heat treaters or commercial heat treaters who can say that business is good for them in 2020, however we ran across one supplier who is having a great year. ECM USA in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin, USA is a division of ECM of Grenoble, France and a supplier of furnaces, in particular vacuum carburizing furnaces and they are having a good year with a number of new orders and a very high level of quoting. The photo below was taken in 2018 during an open house the company had and in this picture we see from the left; Laurent Pelissier (President), Yvan Trouillot and Dennis Beauchesne.



Our good friend **Pete Batche** of ***Emerald Steel Processing*** in Michigan asked if we could mention that the 4th edition of ***CQI-9*** is finally complete and can be ordered anytime at <https://www.aiag.org/> Since 2005 the heat treating standard for automotive components has been CQI-9 which covers most aspects of the heat treating process and one of the individuals who wrote the original specs is none other than Pete Batche. For his contributions he earned a place on our list of the 25 most influential people in the North American heat treating industry <https://themonty.com/project/25-most-influential-people-in-the-north-american-heat-treating-industry/> One of the largest commercial heat treaters in North America, ***FPM*** suffered a fire last week. Through good organization and hard work the plant was back in operation the very next day; *"CHERRY VALLEY, III. (WTVO)-The Boone County Fire Protection District #2 responded to a structure fire at a heating plant on Wednesday, June 24. Firefighters were called in just before midnight at FPM Heat Treating, located at 648 on U.S. Route 20, and discovered insulation burning below the roof decking. With the mutual aid of several other fire departments, crews were able to make sure the fire didn't hamper production. While the fire caused \$50,000 in damages, the plant was able to still open Thursday morning."*



Recently we mentioned a brand new start up commercial heat treater in Northern Ontario, Canada by the name of ***Salto Heat Treating Inc.*** The person mainly responsible for this is a fellow by the name of ***Chris Meheena*** and he can be seen in this photo.



This week we are looking forward to a press release from Italian furnace builder ***Meapforni*** about a nice order they have just received. While we await the press release we will share this photo taken at the Meapforni facility last

year which shows part of the Meapforni team along with a number of individuals from Japanese furnace builder *Dowa*.



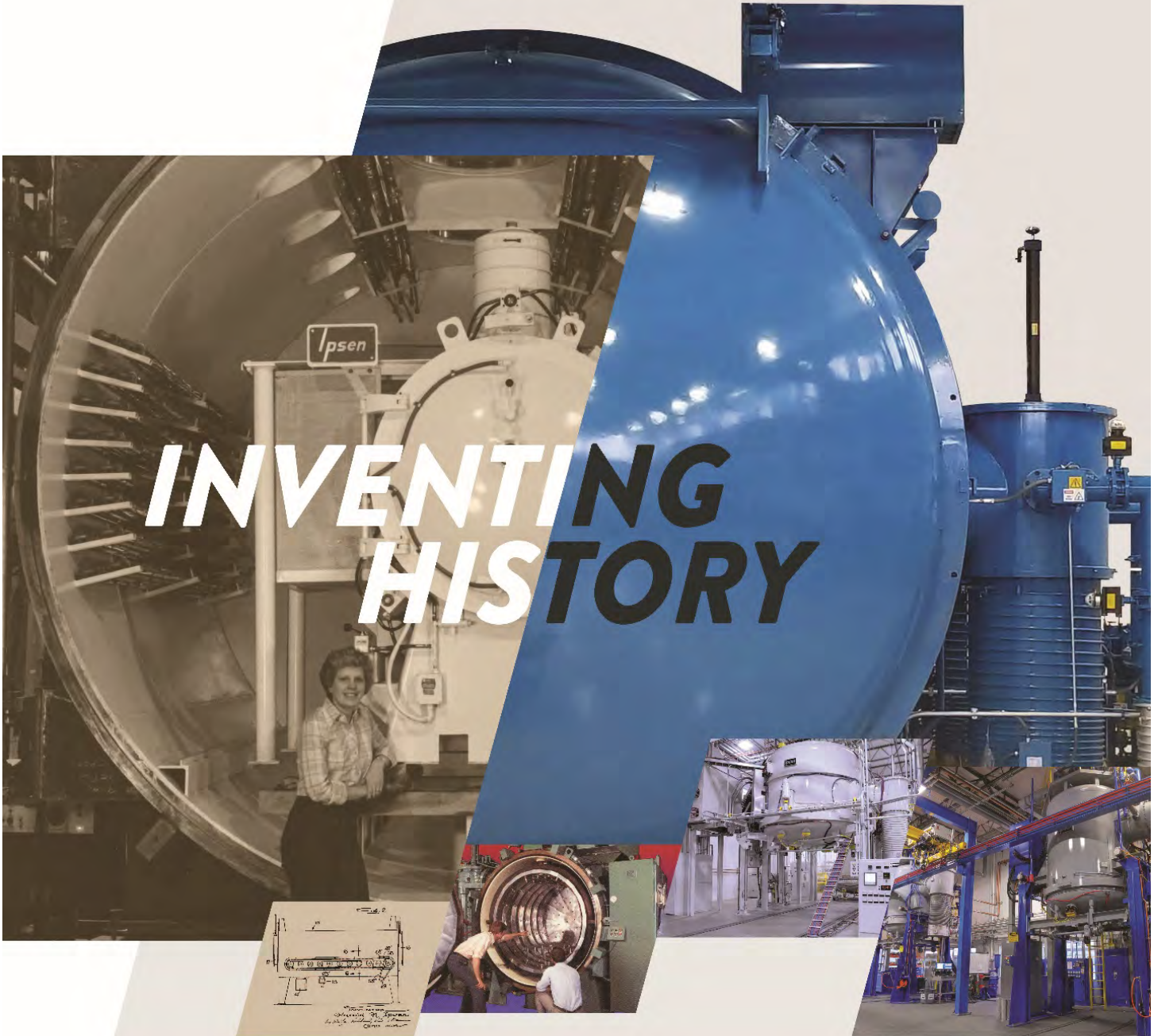
To round things out for what will be a very quiet week due to holidays in North America we have this picture which dates back to 2004. The company name was *Nitrion*, it was based in Munich, Germany and specialized in plasma nitriding. “*The Monty*” worked closely with the owner who was looking to sell and the end result is that it has long been part of the *Bodycote* organization.





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INVENTING HISTORY

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SECO WARWICK Sells Vacuum Furnaces Aerospace Customer

Jun 26, 2020

“SECO/WARWICK Group has sold 2 vacuum furnaces for an aerospace application to one client in two locations: the USA and Singapore. The Group has been delivering its products to this client for the last 10 years to such locations as Poland, Malaysia, Singapore, France and the US. Partnership and credibility built over a decade results in harmonic workflow among engineering teams regardless of the particular plant of the client, language and location. The manufacturer has been a SECO/WARWICK customer in Europe for many years, but this is their first Vector vacuum furnace ordered for a US installation.

The first furnace from this order will be used for the heat treatment of exotic electrical steels. The high-pressure gas quench



vacuum furnace is a Vector with diffusion vacuum levels. Its horizontal chamber has a workload size of 24” x 24” x 36” and a 1300 lb. hearth capacity. The second furnace, also a single chamber Vector, will be used for annealing parts produced by 3D printing technology. Vector furnaces lines are used in multiple applications within the aerospace sector, including many of the most critical processes, such as heat treating turbine blades and landing gear. Vector is also in wide use in the aerospace aftermarket to maintain fleets of aircraft.”



Furnace Builder Rohde Schutzgasofen GmbH Ships Two Furnaces to Italy

Jun 25, 2020

"As the lockdown in Italy due to the Coronavirus has ended, IMG Industria Meccanica Girardello s.p.a. located near Treviso, has restarted all operations and will soon receive two identical electrically heated pit furnaces type SG 150/200 for carbonitriding processes from German furnace builder Rohde. The furnaces left the Rohde facility in Hanau, Germany just today. The furnace load in the furnaces is supported on a special support table. The retort free hanging in the furnace housing, so that the load of the product is not supported by the retort. To ensure that the system is gas-tight, Rohde used a special bellow expansion joint, which is connected to the lower part of the retort and the support table. This enables high loads without stress on the retort material.

With this furnace type Rohde is able to manufacture tailor-made furnaces depending on the customers loads. Our largest furnace of similar design has a load of 100t and a nominal temperature of 1050°C. The furnace utilizes Nitrogen, Methanol, Methane and Air."

Characteristics of the furnaces:

- Nominal temperature 1000°C
- Inner diameter 1500 mm
- Usable inner height 2000 mm
- Heating power 318 kW
- Load approx. 15,000 kg

For more information; <http://www.rohdetherm.de>





Flame Spray Thermal Coatings Installs HIP Unit

Jun 25, 2020



We continued to be surprised at the growth in Hot Isostatic Pressing (HIPPING) around the world. It would appear that a unit has been recently installed at a Italian company-read on; “A *Hot Isostatic Press (HIP)* from **Quintus Technologies** will enable advanced thermal spray coatings specialist **Flame Spray SpA** to respond to growing demand for the densification and heat treatment process as additive manufacturing (AM) increasingly takes hold in aerospace parts production.”

FCA Kokomo, Indiana, USA to Auction Off Vacuum Nitriders

Jun 24, 2020

One of the largest in house heat treatment departments in North America is located at the FCA (Fiat Chrysler Automotive) transmission facility in Kokomo, Indiana <https://themonty.com/project/10-largest-north-american-captive-heat-treaters/> (a partial list of the furnaces at this facility from a few years back includes; 7-Three row Holcroft Pusher Furnaces, 6-Lindberg 36 X 72 X36 Batch IQ furnaces, 6-AFC 36 X 72 X 36 batch Austemper Furnaces, 3-Holcroft single row pushers, 2-Surface rotary furnaces, 2-Seco Rotary Furnaces, 4-ECM vacuum nitriding furnaces, 30-tempering furnaces and several ECM vacuum carburizing systems).

Well it would appear that 4 ECM vacuum nitriders and a really nice Aichelin washer are being auctioned off. All of these items were built between 2003 and 2006 and all of the nitriders have the same specs; 1400F Deg max temp, 910x950x1800mm load size, 2600kg max load weight. Our prediction is that all of the equipment will sell and at reasonable prices, the only real drawback being that few companies need nitriders with this sort of capacity.



Heat Treating Facility Near Seattle, Washington, USA For Sale

Jun 24, 2020



We have mentioned a couple of times over the past year how the RAMCO/Cascade Metallurgical facility out in the US North West is for sale. It appeared to be almost sold late in 2019 but obviously that did not happen. If you have questions about the equipment and sale contact information is included in the ad below.



FOR SALE

RAMCO - CASCADE METALLURGICAL BUILDING

21213 76TH AVE S | KENT, WA

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SALE INFO

Available:	36,980 SF Total
Office Size:	6,233 SF First Floor 3,770 SF Mezzanine
Sale Price:	\$5,950,000
Land Size:	66,694 SF
Year Built:	1975/1991
Clear Height:	30 Feet
Loading:	3 Grade-level doors (oversized)

PROPERTY HIGHLIGHTS

- 5" diameter high pressure natural gas feed
- NADCAP Certified Heat Treating Facility
- Heavy Power: 2,000 amps 480v 3-phase
- M3 Heavy Industrial Zoning - City of Kent
- Fully Fenced
- High visibility on S 212th St - apx 60,000 cars/day
- Two bridge cranes: 10-ton and 20-ton

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MIKE ROY
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All square footage references are approximate. The information contained herein is from sources deemed reliable. Prospective Buyer or Tenant should conduct an independent investigation and verification of all matters.

Helium Quenching Replaced by Nitrogen Quenching

Jun 23, 2020

Past articles in “*The Monty*” have spoken about the very high cost associated with helium quenching due to the fact that helium is a depleting resource which will see relentless price increases. This fascinating article from Solar Atmospheres tells us how the company will be replacing Helium with Nitrogen in a 10 bar quenching vacuum furnace. By the way the numbers mentioned in this press release do not take into account the monthly trailer fee rental of \$2,000 per month for helium storage. By the end of this week the furnace will be installed and pumping down.



“Hermitage PA, June 22, 2020 – Solar Atmospheres of Western PA is currently installing a new rapid quenching vacuum furnace that will ultimately eliminate the need for costly helium while increasing production throughput. Solar Manufacturing’s 10 bar vacuum furnace, with a revolutionary cooling design, will mimic an older 2 bar Solar furnace in size. However, this new 48" x 48" x 96" deep 10 Bar furnace is equipped with a proven 600 HP blower designed motor, and it will outperform its older model by processing larger and heavier workloads with the use of nitrogen only.

"The difference in operating costs is a no brainer," states President Bob Hill. "To marginally harden one 2000-pound high-speed tool steel roll die in our older 2 bar vacuum furnace, the use of light helium gas was a necessity. The prohibitive cost of a two atmosphere helium backfill was \$1,065. Our new furnace will enable us to fully harden three 2000-pound roll dies at once using the more cost-effective process gas of nitrogen. In contrast the cost of a 10 atmosphere backfill of nitrogen will be only \$89." Hill predicts that with these increased efficiencies and savings, his normal ROI on a new piece of equipment will be significantly advanced. Once operational, Hill will author a technical paper with the actual cooling data derived from these similarly sized vacuum furnaces for the world to see.

For additional information about Solar Atmospheres of Western PA, contact Bob Hill at 1-855-934-3284 x2224, email at bob@solaratm.com, or visit us at www.solaratm.com."



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UPC Installs Endothermic Generator in Brazil And More Heat Treatment News

Jun 22, 2020

We will start off today in Brazil with a press release from our good friend **Marcio Boragini**, General Manager of **UPC Marathon** in Brazil. Marico tells us that **Metalúrgica FEY**, located in Santa Catarina, Brazil and one of the largest manufacturers of fasteners in the county just added a very large endothermic generator to their in house heat treating department. Marcio has this to say; *“The first characteristic that stands out from the generator is the size, probably one of the largest in operation in Brazil, I don’t remember seeing any bigger ones. Many companies have greater generation capacity but are divided into several smaller generators. This generator has a capacity of 200 m³ / hour (approximately 7,000 CFH) of endogas, divided into 2 heating chambers.”*



Remember the **Abar Ipsen** vacuum furnace that sold at an auction in Colorado last week? As it turns out it was bought by a manufacturer in Colorado who will use it to heat treat their own products but who also plan on running some commercial work. Makes sense as the largest commercial heat treater in the state, **Metal Treating & Research** closed down in 2018 which means quite a bit of the work is sent out of state to be heat treated. The funny part of the story is that the owner of the furnace, Colorado Mill Equipment

sold the furnace for \$91,000 USD which is more than they paid for it just a year ago.

We now move to commercial heat treater **Metlab** in PA, USA who have a new Vice President. Metlab has the distinction of having some of the largest pit carburizing furnaces in North America. *"Metlab Appoints **Chris DiMascio** Vice President of Operations. Metlab Heat Treat has a long history of success, providing heat treating services to a wide range of industries. To ensure continued success and to elevate Metlab's quality and efficiencies, the company recently hired Chris DiMascio as the Vice President of Operations. "My goal is to strengthen the core business from an operations perspective," remarks DiMascio. "Processes need to be solidified, and new ones need to be put in place. This includes having the right people working on the right things. To accomplish this, we will be implementing Lean principles throughout the organization. The first year will be the equivalent to "polishing the apple." As an example, we are already beginning to establish ownership and accountability throughout the organization."*

Mark Podob, Metlab's President and Owner comments, *"His work with us over the past few months has resulted in many major improvements to our operation. We are looking forward to the great experience that he brings to Metlab as we seek to grow our heat-treating operations."*Mr. DiMascio has over thirty years of broad experience (including plastics, metals, and chemicals) in engineering and operations. He was most recently principal of OpX partners, his consulting firm, and prior to that COO of the Process Technologies Division for Johnson Matthey Inc., a British company with nine facilities worldwide. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA in Business Management from Penn State University."



Jeff Carr, a very long time **Bodycote** employee has now retired. Jeff worked in the Central USA division for 32 years most recently as a General Manager in Arkansas. In this photo we see Jeff in the middle and on his right **Mr. Tom Gibbons**, President of the Bodycote North America ADE division.



In upcoming news we have an interview with *Mr. Joern Rohde*, President of *Rohde Furnaces* in Germany in which he talks about salt reclamation systems. This is slated for July 1, 2020, and in the meantime we have this photo of Joern (on the right) at commercial heat treater *Troll* in Gemany which was taken last year.



Reaching back a few years we have this photo from *Dokasan Heat Treating* in Ankara, Turkey, one of the largest commercial heat treaters in the country. We bring several continents together when we point out that the owner of the company *Mr. Gurkan Gencler* is fourth from the left, *Matt Cross*, of SSi, UK is to his left, then we have *Gord Montgomery* and *Cihan Balaban* of *Fornax Software*, Turkey.



Bodycote, Elgin, Illinois, USA

Jun 19, 2020



May 13 of this year commercial heat treating giant Bodycote announced they would shortly be opening their brand new facility in Elgin, Illinois, USA (the press release is below). The firm was actually quite modest in their announcement in that they didn't say much about the equipment. We can tell you that Bodycote spared no expense when it came to the equipment. For instance this location will have vacuum nitriding capacity which comes from a German supplier and state of the art vacuum carburizing furnaces. We look forward to visiting the plant one of these days and giving you more details about the processes they offer.

"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."



Heat Treat Depot By Heat Treating Services Unlimited, Inc.

Jun 19, 2020

*Heat Treating Services Unlimited, Inc. (HTSU) (Greenville, SC) brings true eCommerce to the heat treating industry, with the launch of **Heat Treat Depot**. The website is packed full of replacement parts, supplies and equipment that you can purchase directly from the site. HTD offers New, Surplus Inventory and Used Products at great prices! With thousands of products from hundreds of manufacturers, these products are in stock and ready to be shipped.*

HTD was designed to create a resource for buyers, maintenance and personnel to have a single location to find needed items for their Heat Treat department. With the lead times of some products being so far out, there are many times you just can't wait and they will help. HTD typically offers inventory surplus, so they may not have the exact part you need every time but that is when their experience kicks in. Their many years within the industry gives them the relationships to find what you need quickly. If you do not see what you need on the site, contact them, as all products may not be listed on the site or they will help you find them.

***Heat Treat Depot** also offers programs to sell your stock of inventory that you no longer need, stock it in their warehouse or they will even purchase it from you. These programs can free up floor space and bring in revenue from a source that you never expected to get a return of any kind on.*

*Make sure to **Subscribe** to HTD Newsletter as they consistently have new product coming in! You don't want to miss a great deal because you did not know about it. Visit Heat Treat Depot @ www.HeatTreatDepot.com*



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Missouri Heat Treat Adding Vacuum Furnace

Jun 18, 2020



Commercial heat treater Missouri Heat Treat in Wentzville, MO, USA is pretty excited about receiving a brand new “Mentor” vacuum furnace from Solar Manufacturing. Missouri Heat Treat has this to say about the new furnace; “ This investment represents a new

development for MHT and an exciting future expansion of our processing capabilities”. By the way this is the second vacuum furnace Solar has shipped to Missouri in just the past few weeks.

Missouri Heat Treat is part of a very elite group in North America in that they offer commercial heat treating and also build new furnaces through their parent company Unitherm Furnace, LLC. Others in this group include Solar

Atmospheres/Solar Manufacturing, Thermal Specialties in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Vac Aero in Canada, ALD and AFC-Holcroft.



SSi Technical Webinars in Spanish

Jun 18, 2020

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

Lunes 22 de Junio de 2020. Oscar Camacho. Pirometria: AMS2750 Vs CQI-9, comparaciones técnicas para: TUS, SAT y Cals.. 10:30hrs - 11:30hrs
Register Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.mx/e/109183544922>

Martes 23 de Junio de 2020. Omar Ponce. Más características de los Controladores Serie 9000.. 10:30hrs - 11:30hrs
Register Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.mx/e/109700007676>

Miércoles 24 de Mayo de 2020. Omar Ramirez. Puntos críticos para la generación de Gas Endotérmico.. 10:30hrs - 11:30hrs
Register link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.mx/e/109709143000>

Jueves 25 de Mayo de 2020. Adab Márquez . Selección de Proveedores en Metrología para Tratamiento Térmico. 10:30hrs - 11:30hrs
Register Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.mx/e/109718420750>



SuperSystems MEXICO

Comparaciones técnicas
AMS2750E vs CQI-9 Rev.3

Oscar Camacho
Lunes 22 Junio, 2020
10:30 - 11:30 AM CDT



WEBINAR GRATUITO
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Más características de los
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Martes 23 Junio, 2020
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SuperSystems MEXICO

Puntos críticos para la generación de
Gas Endotérmico



Omar Ramírez
Miércoles 24 Junio, 2020
10:30 – 11:30 AM CDT

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SuperSystems MEXICO

Identificación y selección de proveedores en
Metrología de Tratamiento Térmico



Adab Márquez
Jueves 25 Junio, 2020
10:30 – 11:30 AM CDT

WEBINAR GRATUITO
Regístrate

Thermal-Vac Technology to Add Location

Jun 17, 2020

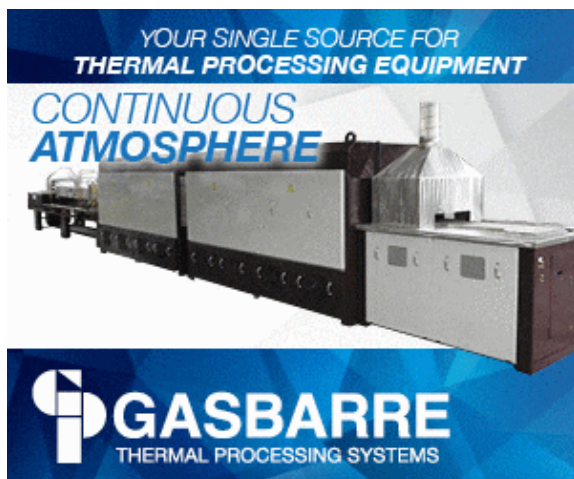


When we published our annual list of the largest commercial heat treaters in North America, Thermal Vac out in California made our list for the first time <https://themonty.com/project/largest-north-american-commercial-heat-treats-august-2020/>

Well today we have some more news coverage about this family owned commercial heat treat. The company has started work on their new location in Arizona, USA. While we are at very early stages in this new facility we can say that the company already has a building and is in the planning stages of adding several vacuum furnaces. We will keep you posted.

"Founded in 1985 by Steve Driscoll and based in Orange, CA, Thermal-Vac Technology is southern California's premier brazing, heat-treating, and finishing facility offering first-class services to a wide customer base, including some of the most demanding in the industry. For over three decades we have been sought out by customers who require the most innovative solutions for challenging project needs, effectively helping to secure a position as a leader in the industry. With an original facility of 5,500 square feet and 11 active customers, Thermal-Vac transformed into a multiple location company with over 60,000 square feet of campus footprint. We have 80 team members, with 50 in production. Thermal-Vac is a family-owned business with second

generation family leaders heading the business since 2012. Our team is comprised of many family-oriented relationships with over 25% of our employees being related to each other in some way. <https://www.thermalvac.com/>



Commercial Heat Treater Installs Premier Furnace/Beavermatic IQF

Jun 17, 2020

FARMINGTON HILLS, MI, 2020: A technically and scientifically-progressive commercial heat-treating company in Canada, has installed a Premier Furnace/BeaverMatic Internal Quench Furnace (IQF) and a Premier Furnace/BeaverMatic Spray/Dunk Washer to meet customer demands for improving product processing and production cycles. Based on consistently high performance and the outstanding reputation of Premier Furnace/BeaverMatic equipment. The new BeaverMatic IQF Furnace with a work area of 36" wide x 48" long x 40" high, was purchased for hardening 4,000 pounds (gross), and an operating temperature of 1,850 deg F. The unit is gas fired using Single Ended Radiant Tube (SER) burners for optimum efficiency.

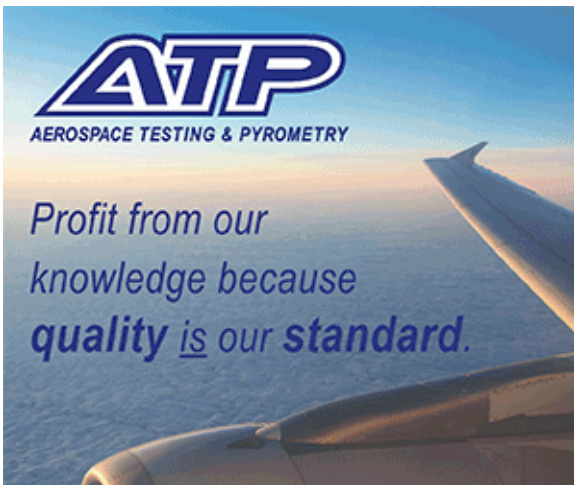


For precision control of temperature and furnace operations, a PLC with full screen HMI along with process control software are being used for temperature, atmosphere, sophisticated recipe programming, and oil quenching. With Ethernet communications, built in data logging, and an expandable I/O, to name a few notable attributes. Complementing the process control is a data acquisition/control system, which will provide the

customer with quick access to real-time and historical data throughout the plant.

The customer, as an environmentally-conscious heat treater, chose eco-friendly products and methods to minimize their environmental impact. Therefore, when purchasing this internal quench furnace which utilizes approximately 4,000 gallons of oil while meeting the requested heating and cooling requirements. The new furnace also incorporates a quench oil centrifugal filtration system.

In tandem, the Premier Furnace/BeaverMatic Spray/Dunk Washer, with identical work load capacity will accommodate and remove most quench oils before the next process.



Magnetic Shields Ltd Orders Second Solar Manufacturing Vacuum Furnace

Jun 16, 2020

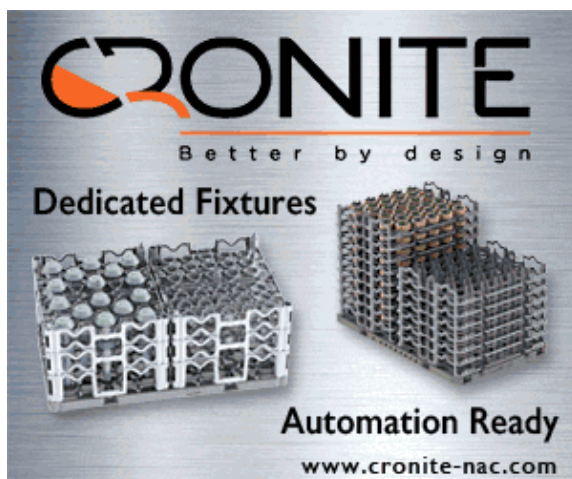
Sellersville, PA, June 15, 2020 – Magnetic Shields Ltd of Kent, England and Solar Manufacturing have had a strong partnership since 2016. In this time, Solar Manufacturing has engineered one vacuum furnace and has been commissioned to design and build a second furnace. This new furnace will be one of the largest horizontal vacuum furnaces in the UK.

The new HFL-7496-EQ vacuum furnace, being built with a SolarVac® Polaris control system, will be designed to accommodate loads up to 48" wide x 48" high x 96" deep, (1220 x 1220 x 2440mm) with a maximum weight of 5,000 lbs (2270 kgs). Operating at a vacuum level of 10^{-5} Torr, this new furnace will be able to reach temperatures up to 2400°F (1315°C). It will feature a partial pressure hydrogen gas process and an external quench system designed for negative pressure quenching.

Rick Jones, VP of International Sales at Solar Manufacturing states, "Solar Manufacturing is very pleased to be selected as the supplier to further support Magnetic Shields in leading the production of equipment for the medical industry and other high technology applications, specifically, high performance large magnetic shields and low field shielded rooms." Magnetic Shields Ltd. Director Colin Woolger adds, "Magnetic Shields is delighted to order our second vacuum furnace from Solar Manufacturing. The new furnace will enable us to more than double the maximum size of shields we can now produce in one piece and also increase the general heat treatment capacity for our growing company. This order was awarded, in no small part, due to the superb reliability of our existing Solar Manufacturing furnace which has revolutionized the consistency and quality of our magnetic heat treatment

process, a key stage in the manufacture of all of our shielding products. We look forward to the new furnace arriving later this year.”

Solar Manufacturing designs and manufactures a wide variety of vacuum heat treating, sintering, and brazing furnaces. To learn more about Solar Manufacturing contact Pete Reh, VP of Sales, at 267-384-5040 x1509, pete@solarmfg.com or Rick Jones VP of International Sales at 267-384-5040 x 1533, rick@solarmfg.com. Please visit us at www.solarmfg.com.



Gasbarre Thermal Processing Systems Upgrades Brazing Furnace for CQI-9 Production

Jun 16, 2020

“Gasbarre Thermal Processing Systems recently rebuilt and shipped a 24-inch, four zone continuous mesh belt brazing furnace for an automotive parts supplier in Mexico. The rebuild included a new 330 stainless steel muffle, new silicon carbide heating elements, new cooling sections, and new furnace controls to meet CQI-9 requirements. The CQI-9 controls package includes data acquisition, preventative maintenance alerts, remote connectivity, furnace parameter trending, and temperature deviation alarms. Gasbarre was chosen as a partner for their brazing expertise, unique controls package, and ongoing service and support of the customer in Mexico.



With locations in Plymouth, MI, Cranston, RI and St. Marys PA Gasbarre Thermal Processing Systems has been designing, manufacturing, and servicing a full line of industrial thermal processing equipment for nearly 50 years. Gasbarre's product offering includes batch and continuous thermal processing equipment for both atmosphere and vacuum applications as well as a full line of alloy fabrications, replacement parts and auxiliary equipment which consists of atmosphere generators, quench tanks, washers and charge cars. Gasbarre's equipment is designed for your process by experienced engineers and metallurgists that understand your requirements.

For more information on how Gasbarre Thermal Processing Systems can manufacture custom-engineered heat treating equipment solutions for your

specific thermal heating requirements, contact Bill Gasbarre at (814) 590-6282 or via email at bgasbarre@gasbarre.com. You can also visit our website at www.gasbarre.com and find us on LinkedIn (Gasbarre Products Inc.), Twitter (@gasproinc), and Facebook (Gasbarre Products Inc.). For Mexico contact Humberto Bastidas at 449 256 40 08 or via email at humberto@thermaltechnic.com“

Where Are They Now-Pete Callert

Jun 16, 2020



Located in Michigan, USA Pete Callert has been a manufacturers rep serving the heat treat industry since 1995. While he started off selling new furnaces and related heat treating equipment his career has taken a rather interesting twist in that now he reps for several commercial heat treaters- a very unique position. For a number of years he was exclusively selling for Specialty Steel Treating in Michigan and Connecticut, a company which recently made our list of the 30 largest commercial heat treaters in North America <https://themonty.com/project/largest-north-american-commercial-heat-treats-august-2020/> He recently rebranded his company and it now goes under the name Heat Tek Reps and added two other commercial heat treaters to his list of companies he reps for. One is Cooper Heat Treat in the Detroit area for which he sells their FNC services, the other is Crio located in Mexico which has 3 locations. As we mentioned Pete has created quite a unique business.

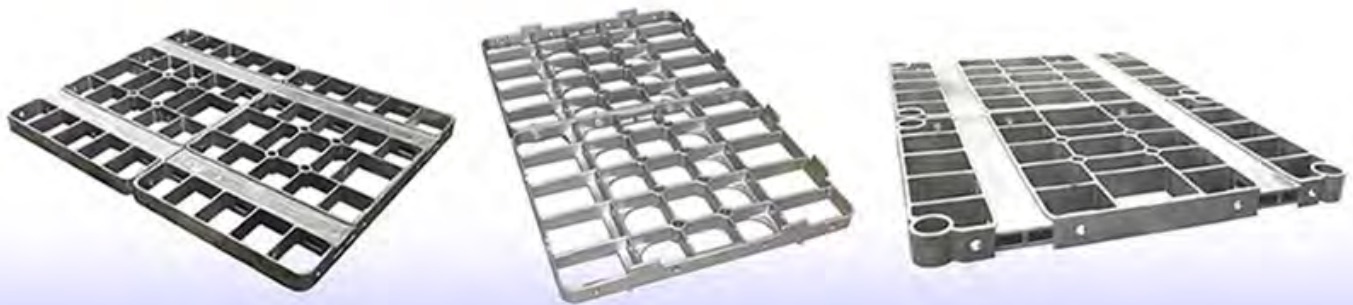
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* 1 week availability limited to standard products in stock, while supplies last. (Some restrictions apply.) Typical delivery 8 to 10 weeks for castings of existing patterns. Ask about our Staged Delivery™ options.

Jun 14, 2020

Well yet another industry trade show bites the dust as you can see in the press release further down about Titanium USA 2020 which was to be held in Chicago in October being cancelled. This means that the only remaining heat treat industry related show for 2020 that we are familiar with is *Furnaces North America* to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, USA starting

September 30th. It is a great show and we look forward to it, however it would appear that the organizers, Metal Treating Institute are “testing the waters” on the event. Last week we as a past attendee of the show received an e mail from MTI asking if we could answer a 1 question survey about whether we would be attending the event this year. We would assume that the response will determine if this goes ahead. *“As many of you may know, Illinois Governor Pritzker introduced a five-phased plan to reopen Illinois businesses. As it reads, the plan specifically states that conventions are included in phase 5 of the plan. The conditions that must be met for the implementation of phase 5 feature either the availability of a vaccine for the COVID 19 virus or a highly effective treatment protocol, neither of which are expected to occur in the coming months. In light of these challenging circumstances, TITANIUM USA 2020 scheduled for this October in Chicago had to be cancelled.”*



Wisconsin Oven Ships Two Conveyor Ovens

Jun 14, 2020

“Wisconsin Oven is pleased to announce the shipment of two (2) natural gas, in-direct fire, two zone conveyor ovens. These ovens will be used in the manufacturing process of electric utility equipment. The maximum operating temperature of the oven is 325° F and has a minimum operating temperature at 60° F. There are two work zone chambers the first chamber has dimensions of 35’0" wide x 6’4" long x 4’2" high. The second chamber has work dimensions of 35’0" wide x 12’4" long x 4’2" high. These ovens can heat 10,240 of composite materials.

“These two zone conveyor ovens are identical. They are equipped with Wisconsin Oven Corporation’s patented high efficiency Expandable Surface™ design. They will be used to heat composite materials that will be used in the manufacturing process of electrical utility equipment.” – Tom Trueman, Senior Application Engineer.”



Ipsen Service Team

Jun 12, 2020

The Ipsen Service Team is committed to supporting customers during the COVID-19 pandemic with both on-site and remote assistance to keep critical heat-treating equipment operational.

Ipsen continues to provide advanced aftermarket support, including instrument calibrations and temperature uniformity surveys (TUS) that adhere to various industry standards, such as Nadcap, AMS2750E, AMS2769C, and MedAccred. Ipsen provides calibration and TUS services for the aerospace & defense, medical device, automotive, and energy industries to help ensure their equipment remains in compliance.

The Ipsen Customer Service Team is the largest in the industry, with Regional Service Managers and Field Service Engineers able to provide immediate local support. Ipsen's well-trained and experienced technicians provide an extensive range of services, including installation or relocation of equipment, start-up & testing, furnace evaluations & repair, refurbishments, computer & controls upgrades, spare parts, training, and technical support. In accordance with government requirements, Ipsen is following all necessary safety protocols, including wearing personal protective equipment, maintaining social distancing, limiting face-to-face contact, and increasing the use of remote assistance where possible. Visit www.ipsenusa.com/ICS, or call 1-844-GO-IPSEN for more information.

Super Systems, Inc. Completes Nitrogen-Methanol Controls Upgrade

Jun 12, 2020

"Super Systems, Inc. recently completed a nitrogen-methanol controls upgrade for a continuous furnace line at Liberty Wire in Johnstown, PA.

The scope of the project included a new control system and panel for a continuous annealing furnace line for processing coiled wire products. The SSI Matrix control system was incorporated to control the automated flow and mixing of the process gases. SSI HMI and eFlo 2.0 meters were also integrated to provide Liberty with the latest in hardware, software and communications technology.



Mike Cassidy, the Liberty Wire Controls Analyst, led the installation with SSI Project Engineers. Mike was kind enough to offer comments on the process ... "I'm very pleased with SSI and the new system. Can't think of any aspect of the whole deal that I could find fault with or complain about ... they are top notch. I'm looking forward to working with them in the future. Thanks for everything."

Liberty Wire Johnstown produces and provides a wide variety of steel wire and rod products for industry. The company focuses on market segments where metallurgical quality is the differentiating factor. Their customers are primarily in the transportation and construction industry segments, but also supplies products for capital goods, energy and consumer products. For more information about Liberty Wire, visit www.libertyhousegroup.com Super Systems Inc., based in Cincinnati, Ohio, has been developing and manufacturing products for the thermal processing industry since 1995. SSI's products include probes, analyzers, flow meters, controllers, software solutions and engineered systems. With over 100 years of combined experience, SSI continues to satisfy industry demands with innovative technology, enabling customers to be more efficient and to produce higher quality products. For more information on SSI's capabilities, visit www.supersystems.com."



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Vacuum Furnace Auction

Jun 11, 2020



Wednesday, June 10, 2020 a well publicized auction was held in Canon City, Colorado, USS which featured a nice Abar Ipsen vacuum furnace which came out of a Parker Hannifin facility. The system appeared to be in good shape and well maintained, the only real drawbacks were the age and the size-small (the complete description is below). We were quite surprised to see that the final sale price was \$91,000 USD. While we have no idea who the buyer was we can say without a shadow of a doubt that it was an end user rather than a used equipment dealer.



"Located in Canon City, CO — Abar Ipsen HR26x36 vacuum heat treating oven with ancillary pumps and controls recently running at a parker hannifin location in 2019, 24" wide x 18" high x 36" deep work zone, 16" varian pump, stokes 212 roughing pump, 412 booster pump, updated controls, fully supported by mfg(new replacement approx \$500,000-600,000)."



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So What Do You Process in a HIP Unit?

Jun 10, 2020



Hot Isostatic Pressing (Hipping) has been much in the news the last couple of years with a number of large systems installed around the world. But what the heck do you put in them?

Launcher is a company in Brooklyn, NY, USA who is developing a rocket to deliver small satellites into orbit. One of the components in their systems is a 3D printed engine combustion chamber which as part of the heat treatment process is processed in a Quintus HIP system. In this case the company doing the processing is none other than our friends at Accurate Brazing Corp., down in South Carolina and these photos show the part and the Quintus system.






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Kuczma Hardening Plant, Poland to Install Vacuum Furnace

Jun 10, 2020

According to this press release commercial heat treater Kuczma in Poland will be installing a SECO/WARWICK vacuum furnace; *“Vector is the most popular vacuum technology for heat treatment selected by commercial plants worldwide. This vacuum furnace is a very efficient and versatile system used for heat treating many types of materials and metal alloys. Its functionality includes gas hardening and tempering, annealing, brazing and degassing. This Vector model – a vacuum furnace equipped with 1.5 bar gas quenching pressure – will significantly increase the capacity of the Kuczma Hardening Plant and will enable it to process parts with dimensions up to 600x600x900 mm. This will be the first SECO/WARWICK furnace operated by the Kuczma Hardening Plant. Commercial heat treaters around the world, including Poland, select SECO/WARWICK technologies for many reasons, most importantly for their versatility, reliability and precision.”*



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Solar Manufacturing Builds Its First Vacuum Oil Quench Furnace

Jun 9, 2020

"Solar Atmospheres of Western PA (SAWPA) understands the need to expand their material hardening repertoire by adding oil quenching capabilities. The question has been – how to make this process safer and greener? The explosiveness of the protective endothermic gas along with the flammability of open oil quench tanks has provided concerns with regards to environmental, health and safety standards established by the SHARP recognition program. In 2019, Solar Manufacturing and Solar Atmospheres commenced engineering meetings with the goal to design and build a US manufactured, safe and quality vacuum oil quench furnace.

We are proud to announce a new Solar 36" x 36" x 48" Vacuum Oil Quench (VOQ) furnace, capable of safely quenching 2,000-pound loads without carbon potential concerns, will be operational in early 2021 at SAWPA.

SAWPA is currently constructing a 15,000 square foot building to make room for this VOQ furnace line. Besides the Solar VOQ furnace the additional equipment includes a parts washer, two tempering furnaces, and a charge car. The interconnecting 30' tall building will be completed in mid-summer 2020, making the entire SAWPA complex 120,000 square feet under one roof.

For additional information about Solar Atmospheres of Western PA, contact Bob Hill at 1-855-934-3284 x2224, email at bob@solaratm.com, or visit us at www.solaratm.com."



Jones Metal Products-In House Heat Treating

Jun 9, 2020



From time to time we have a close look at captive heat treat departments, in this case we are looking at Jones Metal in West Lafayette, Ohio, USA. Jones Metal is a 97 year old metal forming company whose customers are mainly in the aerospace industry. Many years ago the company brought their heat treating in house and currently they have vacuum and aluminum heat treating furnaces along with cryogenic capabilities. While originally the heat treat department was entirely for their own products this has evolved over the years to the point that the firm now does between \$500,000 and \$1 million USD in commercial heat treating. Almost undoubtedly one of the reasons the company has been successful at commercial heat treating is because of their approvals which include AS/ISO, NADCAP and ITAR Registration.

Jones is a medium size manufacturer and their heat treat department would be considered small to medium sized however all of the equipment is relatively new, in very good condition and the entire facility is clean and well organized. All in all this is a good example of a typical captive heat treating department as you can see in these photos.







Monday Morning Briefing

Jun 8, 2020



Today we start off with a news item from **ALD Thermal Treatment** in Port Huron, Michigan, USA one of the largest commercial heat treaters in North America as ranked by "The Monty" <https://themonty.com/project/largest-north-american-commercial-heat-treats-august-2020/>. "ALD Heat Treat Services, one of the premier heat treat organizations in the world specializing in distortion control through its specialization in Low Pressure Carburizing (LPC) and High Pressure Gas Quenching (HPGQ) announced this week that **Kelly Peters** has been appointed Vice President of Operations for the Port Huron Michigan plant. Kelly brings an exciting history and heat treat pedigree to this role. Not only has she worked her way to Vice President Operations from her first position as a production associate 12 years ago, but her father Robert Peters, was the Vice President of Operations who opened the facility in 2005. "I'm excited about taking on this role, although the timing of the promotion in the midst of a global pandemic certainly poses unique challenges" according Ms. Peters. She goes on to say that she inherits an excellent team In Port Huron, focused on success and growth in new and exciting markets." In more people news we see that **Mr. Lewis Lance**, a very well known individual in the North American heat treating industry is looking for a change. Up until recently Lewis was General Manager of **Diamond Heat Treat** in Rockford, Illinois but things change. Diamond Heat Treat is part **Thermal Process Holdings** another company on our list of the 30 largest commercial heat treats in North America.

Bodycote, the worlds largest commercial heat treater recently released a trading update for the first 4 months of the year and it comes as no surprise that the company has been effected by the COVID 19. Profits are down and layoffs and plant closures have been announced (most of this information can be found on our website). In spite of that share prices are coming roaring back with this summary from a Wall Street financial firm; "Bodycote shareholders are no doubt pleased to see that the share price has had a great month, posting a 30% gain, recovering from prior weakness. The bad news is that even after that recovery shareholders are still underwater by about 9.1% for the full year. All else being equal, a sharp share price increase should make a stock less attractive to potential investors. While the market sentiment towards a stock is very changeable, in the long run, the share price will tend to move in the same direction as earnings per share. The implication here is that deep value investors might steer clear when expectations of a company are too high."

Commercial heat treat ***Cascade Metallurgical*** out in Kent, Washington, USA is up for sale. Last year the company was looking at selling their land and building and the business however it didn't happen. However after that first false start our understanding is that the company again is looking for a new buyer. The new facility at ***Virginia Metal Treating*** is slowly moving ahead as we can see in this picture. Virginia Metal is part of East Carolina Metal Treating Inc., another company which recently made our list of the largest commercials in North America.



From ***Paulo***, the second largest commercial heat treater in North America we have this press release; *Paulo is excited to announce that two divisions have been awarded Bell Textron approval. On-site audits (Pre-COVID19) of both the Cleveland and Kansas Divisions took place resulting in approval to process parts deemed "Primary", "Critical", "Flight Safety", or "Fatigue Controlled" by Bell Textron. Both Paulo locations are eager to begin processing work for Bell and their suppliers. The two facilities hold Nadcap Merit Status and provide many types of Heat Treatment as well as Brazing and Hot Isostatic Pressing.* ***Euro Powdered Metal 2020 to be a virtual event.*** This comes as no surprise that the Euro PM event for 2020 will be a virtual event as HK20 the largest German heat treat exhibition which was to be held in Cologne, Germany in October is also going the same route. We at ***"The Monty"*** are still very curious about what a virtual event looks like-how do you have a few beers with your heat treat buddies when it is virtual? *"The next physical edition of the Euro PM Congress & Exhibition will be held in Lisbon in 2021, while a virtual event will be held this year to enable the presentation of all*

*papers originally on the programme for Euro PM2020. Following the recent announcement by the European Powder Metallurgy Association (EPMA) that the next Euro PM Congress & Exhibition has been **postponed** until October 17-20, 2021, it has confirmed that a Virtual Congress will be held in place of the 2020 event. In an official statement sent via email, the organisers wrote, "In recent weeks, we have all been following the uncertainty and spread of the COVID-19 virus worldwide. The pandemic impacts all business in different ways; and given the difficulties participants may have travelling to Lisbon, as well as the high safety and financial constraints of running a live meeting in 2020, the EPMA Board has decided to postpone the live Euro PM Congress & Exhibition event in Lisbon until 17-20 October 2021." This new event will be held online as a webinar from October 5-7, 2020. The Virtual Congress is expected to allow all 300+ technical papers to be presented during a live webinar.*

To round things out for today we have this press release from **L&L Special Furnace** about an order the company recently received; "L&L Special Furnace Co., Inc. has delivered three multipurpose GS2026 bench mounted box furnaces used to test high-temperature aerospace fasteners. The fastener manufacturer located in Pennsylvania now has a total of five GS series furnaces at its facility. The new model GS2026 has internal dimensions of 18" wide by 12" high by 24" deep. It has an operating voltage of 208, 220, 240 volts single phase, 60 or 50 hertz."

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Aeroproces TTT, Querataro, Mexico

Jun 5, 2020

From Carlos Carrasco of “CARRASCO HORNOS” in Mexico we have these rather interesting photos of captive heat treater Aeroproces TTT located in Querétaro, Mexico. Carlos has this to say; *“Due the pandemic situations foreigner technicians can’t travel overseas, so we’re supporting our principals’ customers down here, this time Seco-Vacuum. We performed a three day, preventive maintenance for both hardening and temper furnaces.”* “Carrasco Hornos” is a manufacturers representative for several companies such as Ajax Electric, Dubois Chemical, EFD Induction, Intek, Lucifer Furnaces, Selas Heat Technology, Seco-Warwick and Seco-Vacuum. The company was founded in 1965 by Jorge Carrasco and is now into it’s third generation.





McLaughlin Furnace Group-New Building

Jun 4, 2020

McLaughlin Furnace Group in Avilla, Indiana, USA is getting closer to moving into their new facility. This photo shows the progress on their new building, a building which the company is moving into later this year. To find out more about the company we would point you to an interview we did with the owner and founder of the company, Jeff McLaughlin earlier this year <https://themonty.com/project/jeff-mclaughlin-mclaughlin-furnace-group/>





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Will Furnaces North America Go Ahead?

Jun 3, 2020



The largest North American heat treat show of 2020, Furnaces North America (FNA) is scheduled to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, USA September 30th to October 2nd of this year. Due to COVID 19 the question on everybody's lips these days is; will the show go ahead as planned or will it share the fate of virtually every other heat treat exhibition of 2020? Since early in 2020 every single heat treatment exhibition around the world has been cancelled or postponed with the most recent casualty being HK 2020 which was supposed to held October 20-22 of this year. This annual show, held in Cologne, Germany for the past number of years is the largest annual heat treat related event in Europe and just last week the organizers announced that this would become a "virtual " show (<https://themonty.com/hk-2020-3/>).

While the main reason for all of these events being cancelled is the fear of spreading the virus, economics is a very large factor also-how many exhibitors are willing to invest large sums of money when there are so many unanswered questions about what attendance will be like? Another unknown in the case of FNA is how many attendees will the state of Kentucky allow at the event? FNA is an excellent show and it would be a real shame to see it cancelled for this year but if I were a bookie I would give you odds of 50/50 at best of the show going ahead.



Youngstown Tool & Die Upgrades In House Heat Treatment

Jun 3, 2020



To this rather interesting press release from SECO/WARWICK we can add that Youngstown Tool & Die has some very big plans these days. The company is planning on investing at least \$10 million USD in the near future and part of this expansion includes taking over another facility. Currently the company has 46 full time employees but the size of their workforce will probably double.

*“Increased capabilities. Increased throughput. Increased customer quality. These are the attributes behind Youngstown Tools & Die’s decision to upgrade their existing atmosphere heat treatment capabilities to new high-pressure gas quench (HPGQ) vacuum furnaces from SECO/VACUUM, a **SECO/WARWICK Group company**. It’s all part of the company’s big upgrade and expansion plans. Youngstown specializes in manufacturing aluminum extrusion dies since 1961 and because of demand, is moving into a larger facility in their Ohio community to accommodate increased production needs. This is their first purchase from SECO/VACUUM, and proximity and fast delivery were both factors in the decision. Other tangible factors reflected Youngstown’s confidence in SECO/WARWICK’s core values, including the company’s commitment to fulfill obligations by responding quickly to customer needs, by meeting deadlines, and by contributing reliability in every process.*



One of the 2 Vector furnaces ordered in January was made available as part of SVT’s VIP program for fast delivery, while the other is scheduled to ship later in the year. Dave Mrdjenovic, Youngstown Tool & Die’s General Manager, said, “The short lead time certainly made a difference to us. Our expansion has been facilitated by a localized government development program to expand employment and business development in our area, so we are moving quickly to take advantage of the program. Upgrading our existing atmosphere furnaces to high pressure gas quench vacuum furnaces will significantly improve our performance as we grow. Having worked with Vector vacuum furnaces at my prior company, I was already comfortable that it was the right technology for our needs.”



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The Monty Heat Treat Newsletter June, 2020

Jun 2, 2020

The link below will take you to the June 2020 issue of *"The Monty"*, the World's Largest Heat Treat Industry News Source. In this issue you can read about the 30 largest commercial heat treaters in North America- a *"Monty"* exclusive, learn about the passing of a well known individual in the heat treat industry, see photos of the largest horizontal vacuum furnace in the UK and 88 more pages of heat treat industry news.

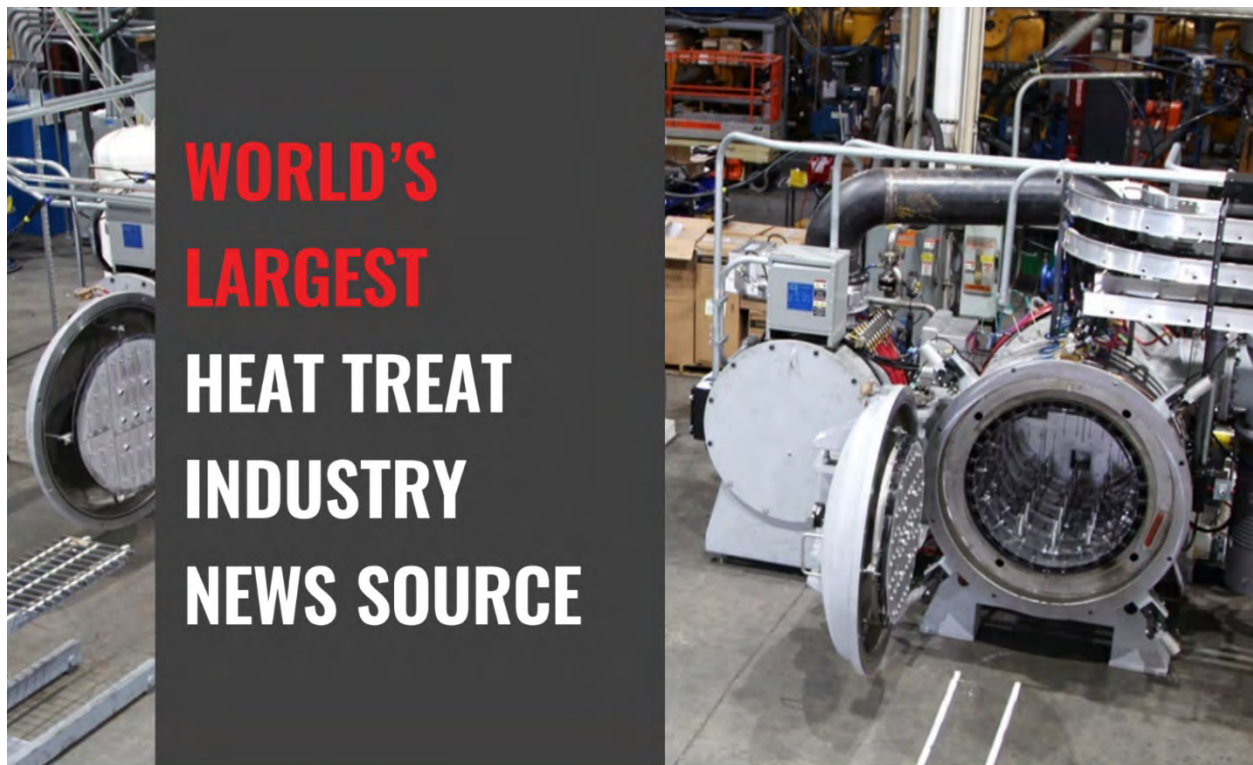
This issue is sponsored by *"Fluke Process Instruments"*.
As always we appreciate your thoughts and comments.

Sincerely, Gord, Jordan and Dale Montgomery

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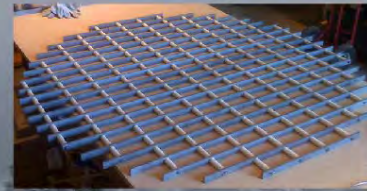
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Pete Kerbel, Vice President of Sales, Ipsen-The Video Interview

Jun 2, 2020



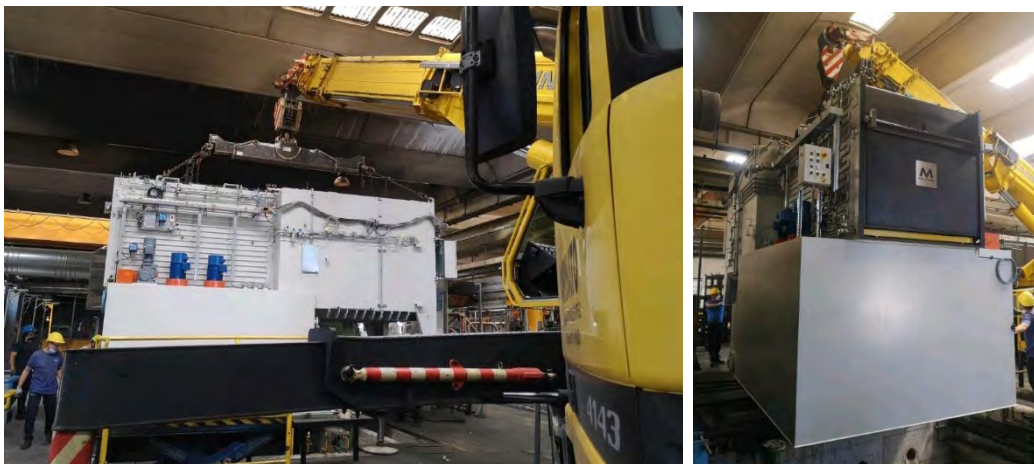
Today we are pleased to present to you a first for us at “The Monty” a video interview with Mr. Peter Kerbel, Vice President of Sales at furnace builder Ipsen. In this interview Gord Montgomery of “The Monty” and Pete Kerbel discuss a number of topics including how the COVID 19 virus is changing the way the world does business and what Ipsen brings to the

market.

Monday Morning Briefing

Jun 1, 2020

Our Monday Morning Briefing for June 1, 2020 starts off in Italy at a commercial heat treater by the name of **Gruppo TTN**. The company is in the news today as they are just installing a very large batch IQ furnace built by Italian furnace builder **Meapforni**. The furnace has a capacity of 3,000 Kg (6,600 pounds) and is part of a modernization by the company. By way of background we have this summary of Gruppo TTN from when we visited 1 year ago; *“Gruppo T.T.N./Italy. Last week we had the chance to visit commercial heat treater Gruppo T.T.N., at their headquarters in Nerviano, Italy which proved to be a rather interesting experience. The family owned group consists of 9 locations, all in northern Italy with a total of 500 employees-now 9 plants and 500 employees would rank the company as one of the largest commercial heat treaters in Europe and even the world for that matter. As far as we can tell there are no processes the company does not have-Induction, Vacuum, Salt, Gas & Plasma Nitriding, annealing, Quench & Temper, Vacuum Carburizing-there is literally not a process we can think of that the company does not have.”*



Dana Corporation in Lima, Ohio, USA suffered a small fire in their heat treat department last Thursday. This facility operates 6 batch IQ furnaces and a couple of continuous furnaces. *“Employees of Dana Corporation evacuated the building after a fire broke out Thursday morning. No employees or fire department personnel were injured. The Bath Township Fire Department responded to the plant at 777 Bible Road, Lima, at 9:45 a.m. Upon arriving, firefighters observed light smoke coming from the building through doors at the ground level. Employees already evacuated the plant before the fire department arrived. Firefighters, Dana maintenance employee sand the Lima Fire Department got the fire under control within 30 minutes. The fire was located in a furnace used as part of the manufacturing process. The plant sprinkler system also activated. A damage estimate wasn’t available Thursday afternoon, pending an investigation by Dana officials. The cause of the fire was determined to be accidental and not suspicious. Firefighters were on scene for about two hours.”*

Darrell Manente, Director of **Vac Aero Furnace Manufacturing** in Oakville, Ontario, Canada has retired. Darrell worked for Vac Aero for 33 years and led the Furnace Manufacturing division for 14 years. Vac Aero is a manufacturer of vacuum furnaces as well as a commercial heat treater. The company recently made our list of the largest commercial heat treaters in North America <https://themonty.com/project/largest-north-american-commercial-heat-treats-august-2020/>



In other people news we see that **Shelley Lusas** have been appointed to Director of Marketing for **Hubbard-Hall Inc.** (their banner ad can be found on this page). *“Hubbard-Hall Inc., the oldest independent chemical distributor in the U.S., announced the promotion of Shelley Lusas to Director of Marketing effective May 14, 2020. Lusas joined Hubbard-Hall in 2017 as a Marketing Manager and during her tenure, has shifted the company’s marketing efforts from a traditional approach to a more modern, digital and fully integrated approach that prioritizes Hubbard-Hall’s strategic product lines. In this newly created role, she will report directly to CEO Molly Kellogg and continue to manage Traci Conroy, Marketing Communications and Content Manager. “Since coming to Hubbard-Hall, I have been able to leverage all of those experiences to create integrated marketing campaigns and analyze the data for continuous improvements. I am excited to collaborate with our Sales and Technical Teams and promote their deep expertise in cleaning, finishing and treating chemistries and ultimately, help our manufacturing customers be more efficient,” stated Lusas. “During Shelley’s three years with the company, she has expanded the role, impact and reach of marketing and has proven herself to be an excellent marketer and effective team leader along the way, said Molly Kellogg, President/CEO of Hubbard-Hall. “I can’t wait to see what she does next.”*



It was a number of weeks back that we mentioned **Metex Heat Treating** in Brampton, Canada had ordered another mesh belt furnace line. Here is the official press release; *“CAN-ENG Furnaces International Limited has recently been contracted to design and commission a 6,600 lb/hr Continuous Mesh Belt Atmosphere Furnace System for Metex Heat Treating Limited of Brampton, Ontario, Canada. This new system will be commissioned for the hardening and tempering of high-volume automotive critical fasteners, stampings, and assembly components. The system includes a computerized*

loading system, mesh belt controlled atmosphere hardening furnace, oil quench system, mesh belt tempering furnace, pre and post wash systems and CAN-ENG's PET™ System. This contract will represent Metex Heat Treating's 6th CAN-ENG Furnace System, providing Metex with over 400,000 lbs./day of continuous atmosphere processing capacity in addition to batch and Induction services, which are provided to customers across Canada and USA." In a sign that things are finally getting back to normal we see that commercial heat treater **Paulo** is re opening their Monterrey, Mexico facility. This facility was shut down for approximately a month for the very good reason that their customers in the auto industry were also closed down.



Last week we mentioned the very upsetting passing of **Don Robbins**, President of **Cambridge Heat Treating** in Cambridge, Canada. This release tells us how Don will be remembered. "Don Robbins, 50, of Cambridge, passed away at home in the early hours of Friday, May 22, 2020. Don was the loving husband for 20 years to Tracey (Vincent) and amazing dad to Mikaela, Madi and Mack; whom he loved with his whole heart. Don was born in Cambridge on November 30, 1969 to Bob and Eleanor Robbins. Don and Tracey made a home together at Puslinch Lake where they raised their three children. Donny was a true family man. He was known for his quick wit, quirky grin and his kind and generous spirit. He was so passionate about his work at Cambridge Heat Treating (CHT), starting his fulltime career at the age of 15.

He and his siblings took over the family business in 2000 and he became President of CHT in 2011. The company has just celebrated its 38th anniversary in business. Don was an active member of industry organizations and was a graduate of Metal Treating Institutes Young Executive Management Training Program. A hardworking man, Don also liked to play hard. He loved riding his Harley, taking trips to Silver Lake Sand Dunes to ATV and boating at the cottage. He also loved to fish and enjoyed fly in fishing trips. He held the world record catch and release for a 20 lb. test in 1994. He enjoyed spending time with his family whenever he could. Don was predeceased by his father Bob, nephew Chris and Bassett Hound Freddy. He is survived by his wife Tracey, his three children Mikaela, Madi, and Mack and his four legged son Murphy, his mother Eleanor, mother-in-law Karen Jessup, his brothers Peter (Lisa) and Randy (Barb), sister Cheryl Mortimer (Bob), brother-in-law Rob Vincent (Jill), nieces and nephews Michele, Stephanie, Brad, Jodie, Sawyer and Holden, as well as several aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there will not be a funeral service. A celebration of life will be held at a later date in true Donny style. Donations in memory of Don can be made to the Grand River Hospital Renal Program accessed through the GRH website at www.grhosp.on.ca/help." The photo below shows Peter and Don Robbins in the atmosphere portion of their facility.



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