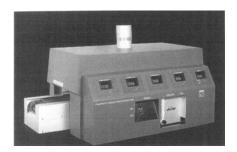


Hotspot

Furnaces Asia 96 and Foundry Asia 96 are being organized in South Korea for 6-8 Nov 1996. For information, contact: FMJ International Publications Ltd., Queensway House, 2 Queensway, Redhill, Surrey RH1 1QS, U.K.; tel: 44/01737-768611; fax: 44/01737/761685 or 760467.

Sikama International has added the Falcon 5/C reflow soldering system to its line of bottom-up conduction and top-down convection furnaces that allow temperature and atmosphere control within each heating zone. The system has four heat zones and two liquid cool zones. Capable of heating to 400 °C, the furnace can be used for applications involving circuit boards, high-density components, fixtured double-sided boards, large microwave components, and a variety of substrate materials. For further information, contact: Sikama International, P.O. Box 40298, Santa Barbara, CA 93140-0298; tel: 805/962-1000; fax: 805/962-6100.



Sikama International

Thermal Stop tape from Cotronics insulates up to 2300 °F. The tape is for use in pipe and duct wrap, insulation of equipment, molds, lab units, repairs, combustion furnaces, expansion joints, catalytic converters, handling of molten metals, heat-resistant curtains, brazing, heat treating, and metal-forming operations. For more information, contact: Cotronics Corp., 3379 Shore Pkwy., Brooklyn, NY 11235; tel: 718/646-7996; fax: 718/646-3028.

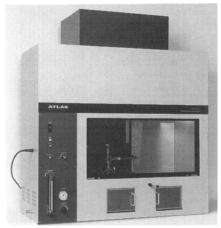
John Deere's Sabre riding mower is robotically welded on Genesis workcells, according to the Genesis Element, a company newsletter. The majority of the mower is robotically welded on three-spot welding systems and two 84 in. standard Versa-System 2 arc-welding workcells. The chassis and deck, however, use the Versa-System 4, which includes a Fanuc S420if robot with Medar spot welding controller, Miclo gun, Miachi spot weld checker, and Kirkoff transformer. Each complete frame requires two trips to the robotic welder. For further information, contact: Genesis Systems Group, 4821 Tremont Ave., Davenport, IA 52807; tel: 319/386-4034.

According to Quality Heat Treatment Pty, Ltd., 20 years after its development, fluidized bed technology is at last being accepted for general use. The technique is replacing use of lead or molten salt baths and atmosphere/vacuum furnaces for hardening, carburizing, and nitrocarburizing steel and alloys. The technology is based on gas-phase treatment using a fluidized bed of alumina particles. A mixture of air, ammonia, nitrogen, natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, and other gases are used as the fluidizing gas to carry out the heat treatment. The bed is heated by electricity or gas. Quenching can also be performed. For more information, contact: Quality Heat Treatment, 18 Turbo Dr., Bayswater Nth, Victoria, Australia 3153; tel: 61/03/9720-2744; fax: 61/03/9720-7690.

A gas-fired horizontal Drever annealing furnace with a capacity of 900 lb/h installed by Hamilton Precision Metals has increased throughput by 33% at its specialty rerolling operation. Because the furnace is gas-powered, Hamilton also reduced energy usage by 30% over its electric furnace. For further information, contact: Mike Staab, Hamilton Precision Metals; tel: 717/569-7061.

The HV701 Flame Chamber from Atlas has been approved for performing Test Method 1 of the 1996 National Fire Protection Association NFPA 701, Standard

Methods of Fire Tests for Flame-Resistant Textiles and Films. The test method is used for determining the flame propagation properties of coated and uncoated fabrics and plastic films when exposed to a moderate flame while suspended in a vertical configuration. However, Test Method 2, for evaluating coated fabric linings and architectural or decorative plastic films, cannot be performed in the HV701. For more information, contact: Atlas Electric Devices Co., 4114 N. Ravenswood Ave., Chicago, IL 60613; tel: 312/327-4520; fax: 312/327-5787.



Atlas

Novagard is adding three compounds to its heat sink line. G642 has a higher thermal conductivity than similar compounds. The metal-oxide-filled thermally conductive compounds can be used in thermocouple wells, power diodes, transistors, semiconductors, ballasts, and thermal joints. G643 is formulated not to interfere with painting or soldering. G644 is not as stiff as similar compounds. For more information, contact: Ed Linz, Foamseal/Novagard, 5109 Hamilton Ave., Cleveland, OH 44114; tel: 1/800/829-0522.

The Atlas HVUL horizontal vertical flame chamber is for conducting the flammability tests specified in UL 94 (April 1995), Standard Tests for Flammability of Plastic Materials for Parts in Devices and Appliances. The HVUL is a stainless steel

enclosure with a sliding window for interior viewing and quick access. Self-sealing, rubber iris hand ports prevent drafts while allowing freedom of movement. Three digital timers are for burn event accuracy; a liquid-filled manometer provides burner back-pressure readings; and supply gas is controlled by a flowmeter and pressure regulator. A variable-speed exhaust blower system is optional. For further information, contact: Atlas Electric Devices Co., 4114 N. Ravenswood Ave.,

Chicago, IL 60613; tel: 312/327-4520; fax: 312/327-5787.

The Solid State XP radio frequency induction heating power supplies from Ameritherm have a frequency range from 50 to 450 kHz. Applications include: brazing, curing, outgassing, heat treating, crystal pulling, soldering, getter firing, hot forming, material testing,

and semiconductor processing. Because of the presence of a remote heat station, the coil is to be placed 200 ft from the power supply. The work coil has a low voltage for safety. For additional information, contact: Tom Heiss, National Sales Manager, Ameritherm, 39 Main St., Scottsville, NY 14546; tel: 1/800/456-HEAT; web: http://www.ameritherm.com.