## **Process Air and Radiant**

# **Process Radiant Heaters**

#### Overview

- Metal Sheath, Medium Intensity & Medium Wavelength
- Quartz, High Intensity & Short Wavelength
- Quartz, Medium Intensity & Medium Wavelength
- Radiant Oven Assemblies
- Wide Area Quartz Panels
- Ceramic Panels



Chromalox has been recognized as the predominate source of metal sheath radiant heaters since 1948. Since that time, radiant heat has become the preferred process heating method for a multitude of applications in various industries. This is due to the unique properties of the infrared heating process which provide a number of significant advantages over other conventional heat transfer methods.

**High Efficiency** — Infrared heaters create radiant energy to directly heat the product as opposed to a convection oven which is dependent on air circulation as the heat transfer medium. This results in more efficient energy usage and lower operating cost. By eliminating the air medium, radiant heating also reduces the losses associated with hot air ovens.

Shorter Oven Lengths — As a result of the greater heating rates, most products can be heated much more rapidly than in a convection oven. Due to shorter product heating cycles using radiant heat, less oven length is required to do the job. This can result in an oven length reduction of 30 to 50% as compared to convection oven designs.

**Cleaner Environment** — There are no dirty or contaminating products of combustion present with electric infrared heaters. Since infrared is not dependent on air as the heat transfer method, the air circulation in an infrared oven is kept at a minimum. The greater the volume of air circulated and the faster it is circulated, the greater the dirt factor and the product rejects due to dirt. Powder coatings and light weight materials can be heated rapidly due to low volume of air and low velocities.

Close Product Temperature Control — Infrared heat can be easily controlled and directed. Electric infrared heaters can be "zoned" to provide a high heating zone in one

zone and a lower heating rate in another. Infrared heaters are very responsive to control changes; accurate and consistent product temperature control to within extremely close tolerances are possible.

Lower Initial Cost — Due to the simplicity of an electric infrared heating system, initial costs and maintenance costs are lower.

When infrared is the method deemed most suitable for your application, the Chromalox product line provides the largest selection of elements, fixtures and controls. There are many factors to consider: size, heater response, heater efficiency and heater pricing. Chromalox is a major supplier of INCOLOY<sup>®</sup> sheath, quartz tube, quartz lamp, ceramic, quartz panel and ceramic composite panel types of elements. Each has its own unique advantages depending on the application: **Short-Wave, High Intensity** - Quartz Lamp **Medium-Wave, Medium Intensity** - Quartz Tube and Quartz Panel - INCOLOY<sup>®</sup> Sheath, Ceramic and Ceramic Composite Panel.



# **Process Radiant Heaters** Technical & Application Data

Radiation is the process by which energy is transmitted through space without significant loss. Radiant energy is transferred from source (emitter) to receiver (absorber) in the form of electromagnetic waves. Heat is the result of absorption of this radiant energy by the receiver.

Radiation differs from convection and conduction because it does not require the presence of a medium (solid, liquid or gas) to transmit energy from the source to its final destination. By eliminating the heat transfer medium, radiant heating also eliminates the losses associated with other methods. Therefore, radiant heating provides maximum efficiency for your application.

The Electromagnetic Spectrum covers the range of wave lengths of radiant energy. The infrared portion of the spectrum (0.72 to 1000 microns) includes those wavelengths which will produce heat upon being absorbed by an object (see Figure 1). The radiant energy, or wavelength, of an infrared element depends on its temperature: the higher the temperature, the shorter the peak wavelength. Infrared wavelengths are longer than visible light but shorter than microwaves. The energy output of a radiant source depends upon the absolute temperature of the source, raised to the fourth power. As source temperature increases, heating intensity becomes very great. The useful wavelengths for industrial applications are from 1 to 10 microns.

Infrared radiation is similar to visible light. It travels through space at the speed of light (186,000 miles/sec), moves in a straight line, can be focused by optical reflectors, will travel through a vacuum, and is absorbed, transmitted or reflected by objects or materials.

In order to heat a product, the waves must be absorbed. Usually less than 10% of the waves are reflected, and the other 90% is either absorbed by or transmitted through the material. The best way to determine the absorption efficiency of the product is through testing.

Radiant heating is suitable where immersion or direct contact heating is impossible, impractical or undesirable. When infrared is the method deemed most suitable for your application, the Chromalox product line provides the largest selection of elements, fixtures and controls. You should find the





exact radiant heater which will best meet your job requirement. If a specially designed heater is required, check with your Local Chromalox Sales office.

Radiation Vs. Convection — Convection and radiation are capable of transferring energy from a source to the work material without contact. They are naturally considered together when contact-free heating must be performed (see Figure 2). Due to the insulating effect of the boundary film of air which adheres tightly to all surfaces, gravity convection heating becomes exceedingly slow and more and more inefficient as production speeds increase (see Figure 3).

Forced convection of heated air directed at the work assists in breaking up the boundary film, but has the disadvantage of requiring enclosures and handling means. If not

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recirculated, the spent heating medium must be discharged with consequent heat loss. The desire for faster heating by this means tends toward higher velocities which may lead to higher oven losses and possible damage to delicate surfaces or contamination of the work by airborne dust.

One factor promoting efficiency of application in radiant heating is that radiation falling on an opaque surface is immediately absorbed and transformed into heat. The surface (and by thermal conduction, the internal body) is frequently heated above the surrounding ambient temperature. Where exhaust ventilation must be provided to remove volatiles, noxious fumes or moisture, lower ambient temperatures reduce the amount of heat carried away by the exhaust air and the necessity for extensive oven insulation.

# **Chromalox**®

# **Process Radiant Heaters** Selection Guidelines

- Metal Sheath, Medium Intensity & Medium Wavelength
- Quartz, High Intensity & Short Wavelength
- Quartz, Medium Intensity & Medium Wavelength
- Radiant Oven Assemblies
- Wide Area Quartz Panels
- Ceramic Panels

#### **Selection Guidelines**

The metal-sheath type heater is easily installed and may be operated in any position. The units may be mounted to form banks, tunnels or oven sections.

Chromalox offers heaters in two standard intensities. 1.83 kW per sq. ft. — type RAD. Adequate intensity for about 80% of all applications including finish curing.

3.66 kW per sq. ft. — type RADD, U-RAD and U-RAD-LT speed up webfed and conveyorized operations in which excessive temperatures

will not cause damage. Examples are water dry-off, shrink fitting and weld preheating.

Liquid-tight housings are available for single and double hairpin designs where moisture resistance is desired.

Quartz lamp and Quartz tube have faster heat and cool down cycles for higher speed process applications.

Wide area panels can give a wide, flat infrared radiation pattern where needed.

See the following selection guidelines to find more product information.

#### **Process Radiant Heaters — Selection Guidelines**

Туре	Feature	kW Rating	Model	Page
RAD Series LN & LW Series	Mounting Methods Mounting Methods			E-23 E-24
Metal Sheath/ Medium Wavelength/ Medium Intensity	Single Element - 1.83 kW/Ft <sup>2</sup> Double Element - 3.66 kW/Ft <sup>2</sup> Single Element - Single End Single Element - Hermetically Sealed Single Hairpin Element Double Hairpin Element Single Hairpin Assembly Liquid-Tight, Single Hairpin Liquid-Tight, Double Hairpin Single Element, Double Hairpin Three Element Panel	$\begin{array}{c} 0.4 - 4.5 \\ 1.6 - 13 \\ 0.9 - 4.4 \\ 0.7 - 3.6 \\ 0.8 - 3.6 \\ 1.6 - 7.2 \\ 0.8 - 3.6 \\ 0.8 - 3.6 \\ 1.6 - 7.2 \\ 1.6 - 7.2 \\ 1.6 - 7.8 \\ 3.2 - 15.0 \\ 13.2 - 36.0 \end{array}$	RAD RADD S-RAD RAD-H U-RAD <sup>®</sup> U-RAD <sup>®</sup> RUTU U-RAD-LT U-RAD-LT DU-RAD DU-RAD U-RP	E-25 E-26 E-29 E-31 E-32 E-34 E-36 E-37 E-38 E-40 E-41 E-45
Quartz/Short Wavelength/ High Intensity	Quartz Lamp	0.5 - 3.8	QR	E-47
Quartz/Medium Wavelength	Quartz Tube	0.35 - 4.3	QRT	E-48
Accessories	Grilles, Reflectors, Terminals			E-49
Specialty	Food Warmer Lamp Replacement - METARAY <sup>®</sup>	0.5 - 1.0 0.37 - 1.0	FW FR & DQ	E-50 E-51
Assemblies	Oven Sections	0.45 - 3.8	LN & LW	E-52
Elements	Quartz Lamp T-3 Quartz Tube	0.5 - 3.8 0.38 - 4.3		E-54 E-55
Wide Area	CP Series Quartz - High Intensity	1.8 - 4.8	CPHI	E-56 E-58
Ceramic	Curved Face Flat Face Accessories	0.2 - 1.2 0.2 - 1.0	RCH-C RCH-F	E-60 E-61 E-62



## **Process Air and Radiant**

# RAD Series

## Radiant Heater Mounting Methods

- Single Heater Mounting
- Flat Heater Banks
- Large Oven Sections
- Formed Ovens

Chromalox radiant heaters are inherently easy to put to work. These heaters are designed as heater modules with features that provide the greatest flexibility in application. A broad choice of physical lengths and ratings is available. Modules can be locked together with hinge-like connectors to create various shaped tunnel structures. Rugged heater case permits use with common structural materials as framing for heater banks using provided heater mounting clamp.

Temperature controls, contactors, other control equipment and wiring accessories can be purchased with heaters to fill your electrical needs. Framing hardware and brackets must be obtained from your local supplier.

#### Single Heater Mounting





#### Flat Heater Banks





Angle Iron & Chain



# Process Radiant

#### Formed Ovens





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E-23

# LN & LW Series

### Radiant Heater Mounting Methods

- Single Heater Mounting
- Flat Heater Banks
- Large Oven Sections
- Formed Ovens

Stocked LN and LW oven sections, with builtin air spaces for insulation and terminal block for buss bar, will accept one, two or three heating elements. Designed for use with locally available hardware, they provide great flexibility in radiant sources and housings, for a single heater section or a complete oven.

Chromalox supplies oven sections, heating elements, frame wireways, controls and wiring accessories. Framing hardware and brackets must be obtained from your local supplier.

#### Single Heater Mounting



#### Flat Heater Banks



#### Formed Ovens





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