## INDUCTION HEATING SYSTEM FOR LONG & FLAT PRODUCTS

## **DANIELI AUTOMATION** QHEAT INDUCTION HEATING SYSTEM FOR LONG & FLAT PRODUCTS

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## DANIELI AUTOMATION QHEAT INDUCTION HEATING SYSTEM FOR LONG & FLAT PRODUCTS

Based on the experience of endless and hot charging process and the know-how in converters units, Danieli Automation has developed a new induction heating system, called QHEAT. The induction heating furnace is the most environmentally friendly solution for reaching the required rolling temperature without using gas or smoke emissions, and drastically reducing scale formation. Additionally, the induction heating furnace is ready in real time: no need for long start or stop sequences, as with traditional reheating furnaces.

## MAIN BENEFITS

- > Improved material quality
- > System modularity
- > Easy maintenance
- > Diagnostic tools
- > Remote Assistance

#### **Operational principles**

Induction heating is the process of heating an electrically conducting object by electromagnetic induction, where eddy currents are generated within the metal and its resistance leads to Joule heating.

So it is possible to heat a metal without direct contact and without open flames or other heat sources (like IR).

An induction heater consists of an electromagnet (coil), through which a high-frequency alternating current (AC) is passed.

The frequency of AC used depends on the object size, material type, coupling (between the work coil and the object to be heated) and the penetration depth.

An induction heating system is composed by an inductor (to generate the magnetic field) and a converter (to supply the inductor with a time-varying electrical current).

## Advantages of Induction Heating

> Improved final product quality since the parts to be heated have no contact with direct flames,

eliminating any quality issue related to open flame treatment;

 > Very low scale formation due to shorter heating time than traditional gas furnace heat treatment;
> High productivity because heat is developed instantly inside the workpiece;

- Environmental friendly: induction heating does not burn traditional fossil fuels;
- > Safer process thanks to the elimination of smoke,
- waste heat, emissions and loud noise;
- > Reduced energy consumption due to a more efficient process with immediate heating availability.

## **Highlights of Danieli Automation QHEAT**

> Independent control of each inductor to obtain a perfect temperature control and equalization between head and tail of treated material;

- > Increased efficiency;
- > Power factor compensation not required, due to the used converter's characteristics;
- > Modularity;
- > Easy maintenance and service operations;
- > Remote assistance.
- > Fast furnace start up and stop





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**Highlights** 

The innovative Danieli Automation induction furnace is comprised of a converter cabinet based on the most modern IGBT technology that feeds the induction coils using the capacitors' matching circuit to generate high-frequency current.

## Increased Efficiency

Danieli Automation's special coil design and care to select the best materials allow for a high electrical efficiency of the heating coils. In particular, the use of premium grade copper guarantees a high quality and the best efficiency.

Particular attention is also paid to the design of low power-loss electrical connections between converters, resonating capacitor banks and heating coils. Each single coil is controlled independently in order to achieve a better tail-to-head material temperature equalization.

#### Modularity

A very important design detail to be highlighted is the modularity and extendibility of power equipment, and the independent power control of each power inverter to optimize material temperature equalization.

In case of failure, thanks to the system's flexibility, the inductors can be excluded one by one without stopping the process; the automation control will automatically reroute the lost power to other active power inductors.









## Maintenance

As usual, all power equipment incorporates a simple and fast maintenance concept: through a detailed fault report of the entire system, maintenance workers can easily identify the cause of the failure.



All power equipment is designed for quick-change operations; for example, by using the inverter power module with wheeled frames, power capacitors are exchangeable, one by one, without involving bus bar, each internal water connection having a quick coupling or dedicated tap.



Remote Assistance Center at Danieli Headquarters

### **Remote Teleservice**

Danieli Automation provides the Remote Teleservice, a flexible, effective service solution to reduce assistance costs and optimize intervention time.

The Teleservice is designed for connection of the QHEAT control unit with the remote assistance stations located at Danieli headquarters in Italy, troubleshooting and monitoring of the QHEAT system.

The Teleservice provides a remote non-stop service and a reliable support to quickly solve unexpected malfunctions, with the following benefits:

> Immediate intervention

- of a specialist at any time. > Reduction or elimination
- of the specialist's travelling time and costs.

> Increased power of the internal team by accessing a virtually unlimited remote resource for problem solving.





Typical Cabinet layout







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Power configurations & control architecture

#### **Control architecture**

The control structure is based on a powerful, stateof-the-art Danieli Automation Process Automation Controller (DA-PAC) that communicates with the power part (modulator boards) through the Ethercat optical fiber hi-speed link to ensure trouble-free operation in the worst EMI environment.

Level 1 plant automation ensures a perfect control of material temperature thanks to smart controls based on signals from pyrometers and an accurate material tracking system.

The fastest and best-performing Danieli Automation Controller DA-PAC perfectly controls the highfrequency system.









## **QHEAT Operator Panel**

The QHeat system is equipped with a dedicated touchscreen operator panel for each switchboard, located on

the control unit door, in order to provide local command, fault management, and alarm monitoring and parameterization.







## **QHEAT** Configuration tool

The main interface of Danieli Automation Power Equipment is the Configurator software, a powerful and user-friendly tool application for commissioning and maintenance.

It is supplied with an advanced graphical HMI to check status and quickly identify fault causes, allow system parameterization, tuning, accurate and fast signal tracing, graphic status indication and fault/alarm monitoring.

A normal Ethernet network connects the QHeat Power Equipment and the PC to allow easy remote support by Danieli personnel.

Water Cooling Unit

In order to ensure long equipment life, it is important to provide clean, low-conductivity water to cool down these parts.

Power converters, capacitor boxes and heating coils are therefore cooled by a closed circuit running demineralized water, with a plate waterto-water heat exchanger to extract heat from the closed circuit to the industrial raw water circuit. The temperature and water flow is continuously monitored to ensure optimal working conditions. A conductivity meter controls water quality, and the circuit includes a resin filter to maintain good quality over time.

The cooling system also includes a tank, pumps (one is redundant) and two separate circuits for electrical devices and heating inductors. The inductor circuit requires emergency water in case of electricity black-out while the hot material is inside the heating coils. This solution keeps the converter circuit and electrical devices always clean.













Typical configurations

## INDUCTION HEATING FOR BILLETS





Material section	up to 350 mm
Material length	from 3 m
Plant productivity	up to 250 tph
Working frequency	up to 1 kHz
Single coil power	1000 kW
Total power	up to 30 MW
Material temperature in/out	750 / 1150 °C
Optional	Twin special coils to reheat two billets simultaneously

## INDUCTION HEATING FOR BARS





Material section	from 12 mm to 130 mm
Material length	from 3 m
Plant productivity	up to 10 tph
Working frequency	up to 15 kHz
Single coil power	up to 200 kW
Total power	up to 5 MW
Material temperature in/out	20 / 1000 °C
Field of application (example)	Hardening and tempering line for alloyed steel

## TRANSVERSE FLUX HEATING (TFH) FOR FLAT



Material width	up to 2000 mm
Material thickness	from 1 mm to 50 mm
Material length	from 3 m
Plant productivity	up to 2000 tph
Working frequency	up to 1 kHz
Single coil power	up to 5000 kW
Total power	up to 50 MW
Material temperature in/out	850 / 1150 °C

## LONGITUDINAL FLUX HEATING (LFH) FOR FLAT



Material width	up to 2000 mm
Material thickness	from 20 mm to 250 mm
Material length	from 3 m
Plant productivity	up to 2000 tph
Working frequency	up to 8 kHz
Single coil power	up to 6000 kW
Total power	up to 60 MW
Material temperature in/out	750 / 1150 °C

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