

# **HI-WATT TECH TALK**

## **Strip Heater Installation Tips**



## **Prior To Installation**

- ✓ Inspect for any shipping damage or defect. Do not operate if damaged, please contact Hi-Watt for resolution or replacement.
- ✓ Confirm the wattage and voltage ratings stamped on the band are consistent with electrical capacity supplied.
- ✓ Disconnect power to machine/heaters prior to installing heaters.
- ✓ Do not install heaters in hazardous atmospheres were combustible gases or vapors are present.

### Installation

- ✓ Strip heaters are available with mounting slots at each end for surface mounting applications or without mounting slots for insertion into milled slots.
- ✓ For surface mounting installations, mica strip heaters must be clamped securely along their entire length to a smooth metal surface by using metal clamps 76 to 127 mm (3 to 5") apart.
- ✓ When supported by mounting slots, the terminal end should be secured firmly. Opposite end should be slightly loosened to allow for linear expansion.
- ✓ The surface being heated must be clean and smooth for efficient heat transfer. Small air gaps caused by imperfections can cause hot spots, resulting in heater failure.
- ✓ Ensure terminal posts are not overly tightened. Posts should be securely fastened but excessive torque could break the connection.

#### **Extending Heater Performance**

- ✓ Contaminants such as oil, plastics, and dirt should not be allowed to collect on heaters, as they will find their way into the heater windings, eventually carbonizing and causing electrical shorts.
- ✓ Avoid moisture, moisture can be wicked up by the leads or get into the inside of the heater causing the heater to fail.
- ✓ Do not operate heaters at voltages over what the heater is rated for.
- ✓ Do not expose terminations to higher temperatures than that of what they are rated for.

Always consult your specific heater manufacturer's installation and operation manual for best practice and maintenance procedures. All electrical wiring should be done by a qualified electrician.

Phone # 800-321-8007 www.hiwattinc.com sales@hiwattinc.com