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CO₂ emissions are prevented when changing to an electric heating system from a fossilfired system for industrial heating. Benefits include better energy efficiency, a quick payback and a much cleaner environment. A case study discusses the simple change-over to a more compact, easy to use and safe electrical product.

> This document contains a comparison of the electric-powered system and corresponding fossil-fuel combustion systems like a heat exchanger or boiler

Better Profits Lower Energy Use Prevent Emissions

Synopsis

A 1 MW electrical industrial heating device can prevent emissions of 0.18 - 0.8 tons of CO_2 every hour.

CTO MHI, Version 1 March 2023

Why is reducing CO₂ emissions necessary?

Industrial and other excess CO₂ emissions cause much climate-related asset damage to infrastructure.

Although our output of 36 gigatons per year of CO_2 is small compared to the ~760 gigatons moving through the carbon cycle each year, it adds up because the land and ocean cannot absorb the excess CO_2 . Only about 60% of this extra CO2 is absorbed. The rest remains in the atmosphere. Consequently, atmospheric CO_2 is highest in 15 to 20 million years. This accumulation leads to global warming and tropospheric expansion.



Climate Impact

1 kWh (3,600,000 Joules) use of electric energy for industrial heating can save 0.18 - 1 kg of CO2 from being emitted on average. However, the amount of CO₂ emitted per kWh may be more if considering greenhouse emissions before combustion, land usage for pipelines, and <u>transportation</u>.

Based on experience with electric power plants, a reasonable range could be 0.375 – 1 kg of CO₂ emissions per kWh when using fossil fuels.

Significant carbon dioxide emission reductions can be engineered by changing to electric heating from fossil-fuel combustion heating practices.

Combustion gases contain CO₂, NO_x, SO₂, or Soot- particularly of concern in large MW installations.

The Airtorch® or MightySteam® does not emit CO₂, SO₂, Soot, or NO_x.

1 kg of natural gas releases about 2.75 kg of CO2

What is the growth rate of CO₂ emission?

Emissions increased by over 2.0 GT from 2020 to 2021 (post-pandemic recovery). Very rough numbers indicate that the CO₂ increase averages between 0.4-0.9 GT/year over the past 20 years. The annual growth rate in atmospheric carbon dioxide over the past 60 years is about 100 times faster than previous natural increases.

Is global warming tied to the CO2 increase?

Yes. With the current acceleration in the atmospheric content of CO_2 . Consequently, atmospheric CO2 is the highest in 15 to 20 million years.

Can CO₂ emissions be quickly mitigated?

Yes, by changing to electric heating in the industrial sector.

Compare Electric Heating vs. Fossil Fuel Fired Heating for Gases.



Hot gases are used in several industries. Energy-intensive heat treating, ore-drying, and the production of cement, aluminum, steel, chemicals, fuels, and fertilizers all use fossil fuel flame heating. The heating should change to electric energy instead of heat produced from the combustion of fossil fuels.

	Airtorch® Specific General Comparison		
What is the difference in the heating principle between electric process gas heaters and fuel-fired combustion heaters?			

In combustion heating, the gas is first burnt. This warm gas is then pushed into a tube that is heated by the combusted gas. The process air, which must be heated, flows against the direction of the burnt gas flow in a separate enclosure (i.e., in the opposite direction). That is why it is called a counter-current flow for a combustion heat exchanger. Such elaborate two-phase flows are not required for an electrically powered heater.

In an electric heater, the air flows over-energized electrical heaters. Electric energy is directly converted to thermal energy without requiring two different flows. One of the benefits of electric heating is that one does not have to waste energy to push so many flows. Additionally, the expected pressure drops of electric heaters at mid-flow volumes are lower than gas heaters. This low-pressure drop represents a substantial saving in energy.

Energy Price and Efficiency

Parameters that contribute to better energy efficiency for electric heaters:

- The pressure drop required for the flow is less for electric heaters.
- Easier to insulate an electric heater to prevent heat loss. No long pipes to insulate as in gas heat exchangers.
- The ramp-up rate to the final temperature is shorter for electric heaters than fossil-fuel heaters.
- The cool-down rates are also less for electric heaters. Heat exchangers have many tubes that need to heat and cool.
- Electric systems can use modern electronics that allow adjustment to specific conditions, so the energy used is only the amount required. Fossil fuel combustion units often cannot have similar feedback controls. In fossil fuel burners, the control system is a primitive on-off type.

How does one compare the energy price for electrical and fossil-fuel-fired systems?

• Energy Cost: When one includes the social cost of CO₂ production, the price of one kWh of electric or combustion energy starts converging. The social cost of making CO₂ is \$50-\$414/ton of CO₂ made. This number is rising rapidly. The CO₂ emissions per million kilojoules of energy used range from 50.4 Kg for natural gas to 68.8 Kg for jet fuels.

Why is the Electric Airtorch® Efficient?

It all comes down to the ease of heat transfer between the source and gas. Unlike a combustion counter-current heat exchanger, the patents-protected Airtorch[®] contains well-insulated heaters in the gas flow and heated surface. Typically, a 15-30% improved efficiency is noted in electric devices over combustion (fossil-fuel) heaters. If the efficiency of Airtorch^{\Box} devices is even 25% better than combustion heat exchangers, then the operational cost of the electric Airtorch[®] could be lower than the combustion heat exchanger devices. For example, a 16 MW combustion gas heater could be replaced with an 11 MW electric Airtorch[®]. Considering the above factors, in typical fossil fuel-fired heaters, around 30% of the energy put into the unit is lost during heating. The Electric Airtorch[®] typically loses less than 5% of input energy during heating.

Typical energy conversions:

Energy conversion efficiency comparison between the MHI electrical convective heater and

Fossil-fuel-fired Combustion heaters.

>95%	~70%
Electric Airtorch ¹ (MHI Modular Unit)	Fossil fuel-fired Heat Exchanger (typical only)



Case Study

A company makes fibrous products in a continuous oven. The need is to replace the polluting gas burners with

Electric Airtorch® heaters.



Each Oven has 3 MMBTU/H burners ~ 880KW Burners. How can these be replaced with Electric Airtorch. Temperature 800C.

 \checkmark Yes it can be done with improved efficiency and compact

units.



Typical Dimensions: Order of 1m long (smaller than some fuel fired burners)

Typical Pressure Drop: ~0.1 psi

Typical Savings: Return on investment could be as short a 3 months when factoring the social cost of emitting CO₂.

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