

Pro-16 Application Note

Infrared Heaters

Application

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The Challenge

The challenge for manufacturers of infrared heaters is to design systems that are lightweight, easy to use and yet still retain a high level of reliability, functionality and performance.

The Solution

This compact, powerful device offers programmable multi-profile temperature control, with the features needed by both OEMs and end users, at a cost-effective unit price.



Achieve precision control of infrared heaters with the new Pro-16 Temperature Controller. The Pro-16 from West Control Solutions provides a simple but multifunctional method of temperature control to manufacturers of infrared heaters.

Infrared heaters

Portable infrared heaters are widely used in a range of industrial and automotive applications, providing a simple, reliable method of drying and curing paints, adhesives, varnishes and other specialised coatings.



The challenge

The challenge for manufacturers of infrared heaters is to design systems that are lightweight, easy to use and yet still retain a high level of reliability, functionality and performance. Central to this process is the ability to control the temperature of individual heater elements, incorporate multiple temperature profiles, so that standard heaters can be used in multiple applications, and offer customers a simple but effective method of system control.

Perhaps as importantly, OEMs also need to maintain control of their inventories, including

a reduction in the number and variants of temperature controllers stocked, while also making machine assembly, test and configuration times as quick and simple as possible.

This challenge is complicated still further by the number both of different applications and paints or coatings available, which combine to create a significant number of potential process settings. Although ideally a single heater would offer sufficient capability to meet all these requirements, this has until now proved difficult to achieve, as most temperature controllers have simply not offered the performance and functionality required at a price level that is acceptable to heater manufacturers operating in what is an extremely competitive market.

Why choose a Pro-16 controller?

This situation now looks set to change with the introduction of the Pro-16 temperature controller from West Control Solutions. This compact, powerful device offers programmable multi-profile



temperature control, with the features needed by both OEMs and end users, at a cost-effective unit price.

For example, the controller provides traditional single loop control for standard applications, plus an in-built programmer that features 16 profiles and 16 segments. The controller is supplied with West Control Solutions' Blue Control software, enabling users quickly and easily to create and configure new temperature control profiles, has quick-start facilities and an automatic self-tune feature for optimum reliability.

In addition, the Pro-16 offers extensive I/O options, with up to four digital inputs and six outputs, a remote setpoint input and optional RS485 communications. The controller can also be configured with password protected parameters, so that machine operators can only access the settings necessary to carry out their jobs.

The Pro-16 is a standard 1/16 DIN size, measuring just 48x48x118mm, making it easy to incorporate into machine units. Just as importantly, it offers a unique combination of features, ease of use and programming options, helping manufacturers of industrial and automotive heater systems



reduce inventories, while offering their customers even greater choice, functionality and performance.

“ The new Pro-16 controller offers a unique combination of features, ease of use and programming options, helping manufacturers of industrial and automotive heater systems offer their customers even greater choice, functionality and performance. ”

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For more details on the complete product range from West Control Solutions please contact your local distributor or visit www.West-CS.co.uk.