TITLE

Performance evaluation of 800W FTE, FFEH, and Black FFEH

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Introduction

The performance of three standard Ceramicx elements, an 800W FTE, an 800W FFEH, and an 800W FFEH with black glaze was evaluated within Ceramicx' Herschel heat flux robot.

Method

The heaters were placed in a standard 0.75mm aluminised steel RAS 1. The reflector was then mounted in the Herschel for examination.

Heat flux mapping

Ceramicx Herschel heat flux robot examines the total heat flux (W.cm⁻²) which is incident on the sensor. Heaters can be mounted in the Herschel and analysed using the 3D Infrared heat flux mapping routine. This automated system uses an infra-red sensor that is robotically guided around a pre-determined coordinate grid system in front of the heater emitter under test. The sensor has a maximum heat flux level of 2.3 W.cm⁻² and measures IR in the band 0.4-10 micrometres. The coordinate system is a 500mm cubic grid in front of the heating emitter. The robot moves the sensor in 25mm increments along a serpentine path in the *X*- and *Z*- directions, while the heating emitter is mounted on a slide carriage which increments in 50mm steps along the *Y*- direction.

For this analysis, the heat flux was only obtained for the heaters at a distance of 100mm from the sensor.



Results

The results provided by the Herschel are displayed in table 1.

- The mean heat flux is the average of the 441 readings detected by the Herschel.
- The max heat flux is the maximum individual reading detected by the Herschel. This tends to be directly in front of the centre of the element.
- The percentage efficiency is calculated as follows:

Mean heat flux x
$$\frac{Area}{Power}$$

Which in this case is

Mean heat flux x
$$\frac{(0.525 \times 0.525)}{800}$$

From the results it is calculated that the **FFEH outperforms the FTE by 9.2%**, and the **black glaze outperforms the white glaze by 3.9%**.

	FTE White	FFEH White	FFEH Black
Mean heat flux (W/m²)	1437	1569	1630
Max heat flux (W/m²)	7311	8513	8938
Percentage efficiency (%)	49.5	54.05	56.15

Table 1 - Results from test with 500mm x 500mm measured area

Disclaimer

These test results should be carefully considered prior to a determination on which type of infrared emitter to use in a process. Repeated tests conducted by other companies may not achieve the same findings. There is a possibility of error in achieving the set-up conditions and variables that may alter the results include the brand of emitter employed, the efficiency of the emitter, the power supplied, the distance from the tested material to the emitter utilised and the environment. The locations at where the temperatures are measured may also differ and therefore affect the results.

