

SHORT WAVE INFRARED HEATING CASE STUDY 5 - GREASE LINES

Grease and lubrication oil delivery systems are crucial to maintaining machinery on mine sites. For most of the year when the temperature is warm to hot, these systems operate efficiently. But in cold weather, grease and oils become more viscous and will not pump, causing problems for the maintenance crews. This can mean production delays which can lead to expensive losses.



Lubrication tanks and pumps are supplied on skids, or in stand alone shipping containers

A better option is a certified industrial product such as an infrared heater. These heaters have reflectors that project heat to a wide area – up to 3 m away. This allows overhead mounting, freeing up floor space that would otherwise be cluttered by floor mounted heaters. These heaters are very efficient, for like sunlight, short wave infrared travels loss-free through the air to transfer maximum energy to the target area.



An infrared heater projects heat from a distance so can be mounted on a nearby wall or ceiling.

Generally, grease line issues in winter tend to be ignored until the cold weather arrives, forcing site techs to provide an immediate remedy.

This can result in a variety of temporary solutions such as halogen lamps, oil filled heaters or even fan heaters.



A common solution for keeping equipment warm in a lubrication container - a residential fan heater



Titan Safety Glass - 2000 W short wave infrared heater for industrial use

In this application at Regis Resources, a grease pump periodically failed during winter. A temporary solution was to use a bank of halogen lights on a floor stand. This was satisfactory but the floor stand cluttered the room and the lamps were so hot they posed risk of injury.

A better solution was mounting a Titan infrared heater on the wall. The heaters have a glass cover for splash resistance and are rated for use in an industrial area. And being electric, they can easily be wired in with temperature controllers or timers to operate only when required.

For more information, contact us.



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