Brazing, Forming

The furnaces shown in this catalog can be used for various heat treatment processes. Nabertherm has developed interesting solutions for the processes described below as examples:

**Brazing**

In general, when speaking of brazing we have to distinguish between soft-soldering, brazing and high-temperature brazing. This involves a thermal process for forming substance-to-substance bonds and material coatings during which a liquid phase is generated by the melting of the solder. Based on their melting temperatures, the solder processes are classified as follows:

- **Soft-solders:** $T_{\text{liq}} < 450 \degree C$
- **Brazing:** $T_{\text{liq}} > 450 \degree C < 900 \degree C$
- **High-temperature brazing:** $T_{\text{liq}} > 900 \degree C$

Beside the right selection of the solder, the flux if necessary, and ensuring that the surfaces are clean, the choice of the right brazing furnace is also key to the process. In addition to the actual brazing process, Nabertherm has furnaces for the preparation process in their range such as for metallizing ceramics in preparation for brazing ceramic-to-metal bonds.

The following furnace concepts are available for brazing:

- Brazing in an annealing box in the forced convection chamber furnace up to 850 °C in a protective gas atmosphere
- Brazing in an annealing box in a chamber furnace up to 1100 °C under a protective gas atmosphere
- Brazing in a hot-wall retort furnace NR/NRA product line under protective gases or reaction gas up to 1100 °C
- Brazing in a cold-wall retort furnace VHT product line under protective gases, reaction gases or under vacuum up to 2200 °C
- Brazing in a salt bath up to 1000 °C salt bath temperature
- Brazing or metallizing in a tube furnace up to 1800 °C under protective gases, reaction gases or in a vacuum up to 1400 °C

In the Nabertherm Test Center in Lilienthal, Germany, a range of sample furnaces is available for customers testing applications which is the best approach to define the right furnace for a specific application.

**Preheating for Hot Forming**

For traditional hot forming processes such as forging or die forming the piece must first be heated to a defined temperature. From the manufacture of individual parts to serial production, from thin metal sheets to components which are formed in the course of multiple passes – Nabertherm offers a broad range of furnaces and special solutions for these processes.

If, for example, only the ends of long components need to be heated, the furnace can be fitted with closable openings in the door to avoid any heat losses. To protect the operator, an isolating transformer is used which safely conducts away the electrical currents in case of touching the heating elements.

If the furnace is used near a forging hammer which causes strong vibrations, vibration dampers can be installed to separate the furnace from these frequencies. The needs of continuous forging processes are met by appropriate furnace models such as rotary hearth furnaces and continuous furnaces. The advantage of the rotary hearth furnace is its compact size and the charging/discharging of the work piece at one position.

If the task is to form sheet steel, for example in the automotive industry, the furnace needs a large width and depth in relation to its height. For easy charging, the furnaces are provided with a lift door and can, if necessary, be fitted with a charge support adapted for use with the charging stacker.