# **QUARTZ TUBING OPTIONS**

INFRARED HEATERS & COMPONENTS FROM SOLAR PRODUCTS, INC.

ELEMENTS REFLECTORS END CAPS

TUBES TERMINATIONS

# **QUARTZ TUBING OPTIONS**

#### **CLEAR TUBING**

For most applications, clear tubing is the preferred choice. Clear quartz has a much higher transmission of IR energy than does translucent quartz. This translates into a higher radiant efficiency. Clear quartz allows for faster response

time. Clear quartz generates a shorter wavelength than does translucent. Clear quartz is available in a greater quantity of diameter options. Clear quartz can operate at higher temperatures, namely up to 1800°F (982°C).

#### **TRANSLUCENT TUBING**

The main advantages of translucent tubing is lower pricing, longer wavelength, and non-exposed heating element. Some applications prefer the aesthetics of a translucent tube because the heating element is concealed within the tube.

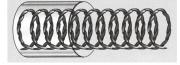
**TUBING DIAMETER** (3/8", 1/2", 5/8", 7/8", or 1" - clear) (3/8", 1/2", 5/8" - translucent) The tubing diameter is commonly determined by matching the existing tube diameter or based on the specifics of the tube design, namely the tube wattage, voltage, and heated tube length. The goal is to keep the coil watt density low for long tube life. Coil watt density should not be confused with watts per lineal inch, which is the total wattage divided by the heated length. Coil watt density is the watt density on the coil itself. Good design for long element life is achieved by having a low coil watt density. Sometimes this is accomplished by changing the tube voltage. Other times, the tube diameter is increased.

# **HEATING ELEMENTS**

#### **STANDARD**

This heating element is a single precision wound resistance wire made of ironchromiumaluminum. This coil has a typical long life expectancy of 10,000 hours. This element typically ramps up to temperature in 10 - 20 seconds depending on the tube design. The maximum watt density is 60 watts per lineal inch.

#### MULTI-WOUND



This patented heating element has two precision wound resistance wires made of ironchromium-aluminum wire that are inter-twined. By reducing the wire mass, the time required for the element to get up to temperature is greatly reduced. The multi-wound element ramps up to operating temperature in 5 seconds. Actual time will depend on overall design of the tube. This coil has a typical life expectancy of 5,000 hours. The maximum watt density is 60 watts per lineal inch.

### REFLECTORS

#### INTERNAL CERAMIC REFLECTOR

This patented reflector is a ceramic fiber refractory material that is machined into 1/2 of the inside diameter of the tube. This quartz tube design has a high

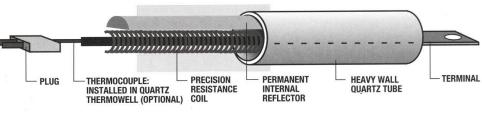
radiant efficiency that does not PLUG change over time. Conventional tubes require external reflectors, which become dirty and inefficient over time. An internal reflector minimizes the time and expense of replacing external reflectors over time. This design is only available in 5/8" tubing.

#### **GOLD REFLECTOR**

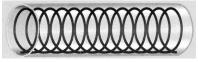
This reflector is a patented process that applies gold to one side of the tube. Gold is a highly reflective material that directs the infrared energy at the process. It eliminates the need for an external reflector. The process does add considerable cost to the price of the tube.

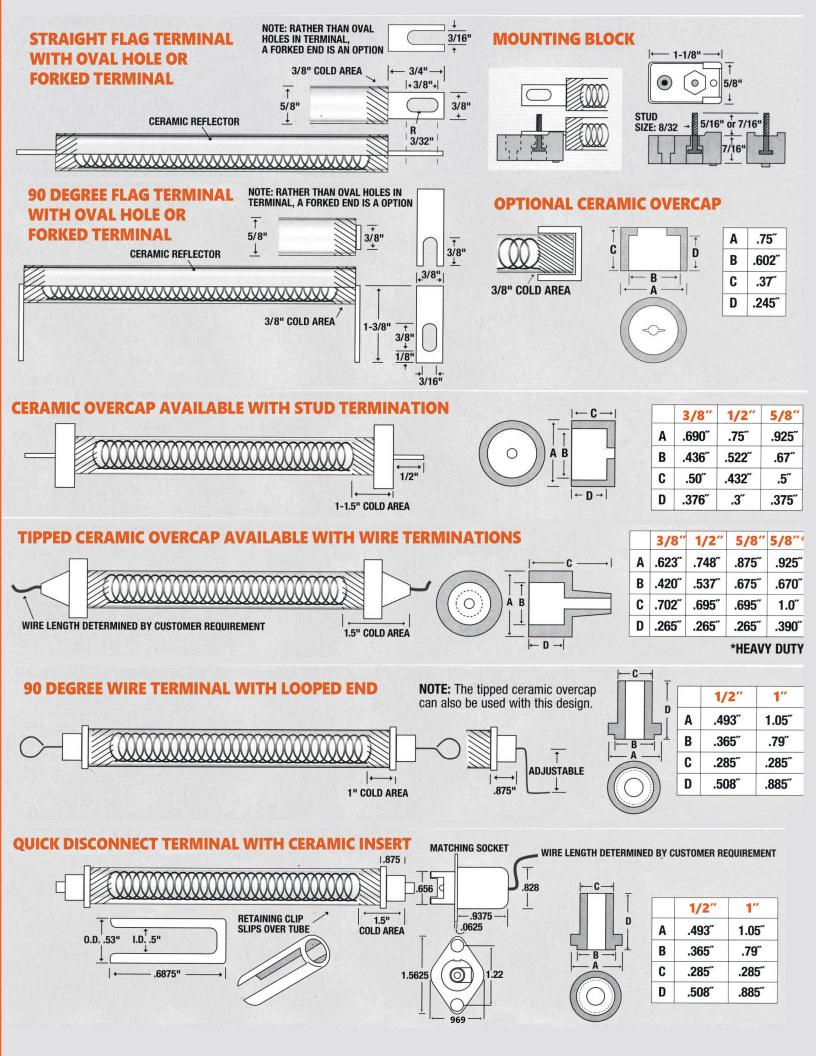
#### **NO REFLECTOR**

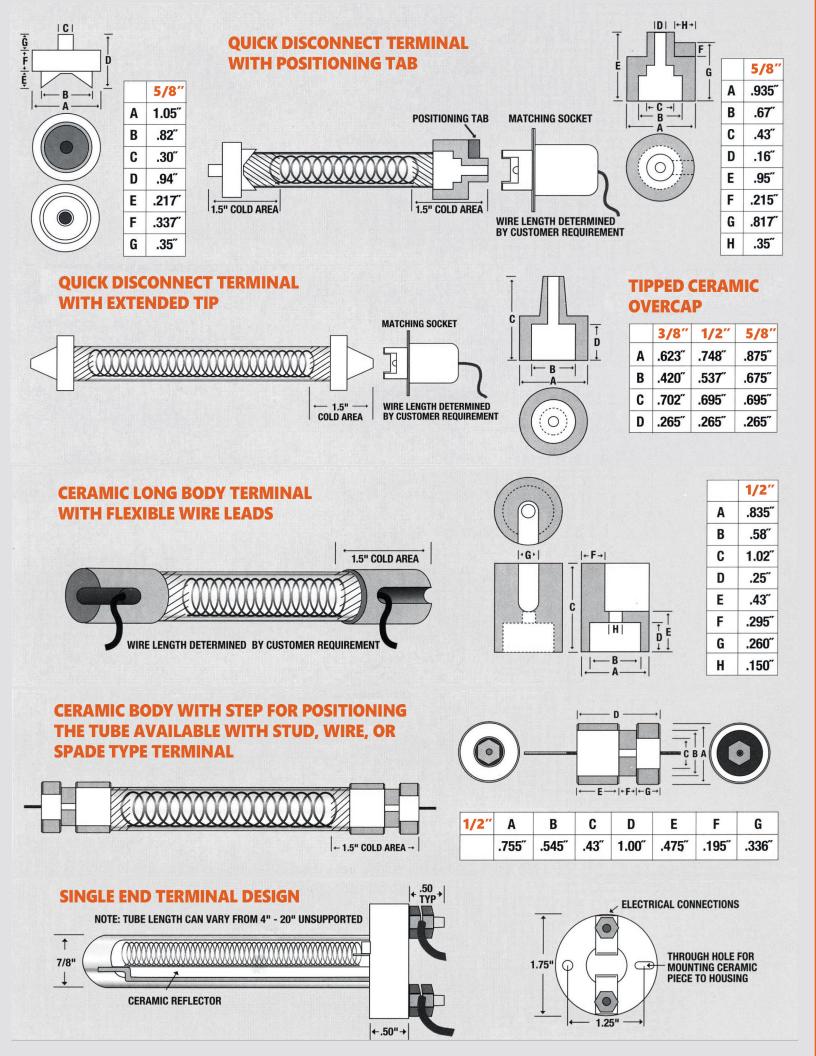
For new installations, a reflector makes good sense. But, if you are replacing tubes without reflectors, it is best to replace these elements with a similar design. Tubes with reflectors should not be mixed with non-reflector tubes.











# WHY SOLAR PRODUCTS QUARTZ TUBES?

Solar Products has been manufacturing infrared heaters for over 60 years. That experience ensures that you get the right heater for your application, the first time. With so many quartz tubing options available, we can match an existing tube and/or provide a new tube design that maximizes your process.

#### TRANSLUCENT TUBING

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## **SOLAR PRODUCTS OFFERS:**

- Clear or translucent tubing
- 3/8", 1/2", 5/8", 7/8", or 1" tube diameters available
- Internal reflectors, gold back reflectors, or no reflectors
- Snap-in, stud, wire, straight terminal, and many other connection options
- Single or standard dual-ended terminals
- Long life or fast response heating elements
- Quartz tube lengths exceeding 90"
- Complete assemblies

With so many tube options, how do you choose which one is right for your application? The many options available and the related advantages will be reviewed throughout this brochure.

### **TUBES VERSUS LAMPS**



Often times quartz tubes and quartz lamps are thought to be interchangeable terms. This is not the case. Following is a chart comparing the differences between the two infrared heaters:

Comparative Points	Quartz Lamps (T3)	Quartz Tubes
Color Sensitivity - the effect	Yes (Example: white colored	Minimal
product color has on heating	products will take longer to heat than black)	Primarily medium wave
cycle times	Primarily short wave	Iron-Chromium-Aluminum element
Wavelength Type of element	Tungsten filament in vacuum	(Nickel-Chromium is also used)
Power output per tube	(Usually an inert gas, such as	Up to 60 watts/lineal inch Up to 60
	halogen is used)	watts/sq inch
Power output over a given area	Up to 200 watts/lineal inch	Reasonably priced zero cross SCR
Power switch device	Up to 60 watts/sq inch is common	or SSR
Temperature response	Expensive phase angle SCR	Up to temperature in 5-30 sec- onds, depending on the design
Inruch current	Up to temperature in 2-4 seconds	
Inrush current	Up to color in 1-2 seconds	7% initial current
Terminal cooling requirements	700% - 1000%	No cooling requirements
Design flexibility	Air or water cooling required Stan-	Custom manufactured in length,
Typical life expectancy	dard sizes available	wattage, voltage, and termination
	< 5,000 Hours	10,000 Hours

## **ABOUT SOLAR PRODUCTS**

In 1956, Richard Eck, the founder, had a few good ideas about making a better infrared heater. Today, over 60 years later, that philosophy continues to radiate throughout Solar Products. Many ideas and several patents later, Solar Products has become the largest supplier of medium wave infrared heaters in the US market. At Solar Products, we don't build systems, we manufacture infrared heaters. Maybe that's why we've grown to be the largest supplier of infrared heaters in the industry...by staying focused.



**Specialty Heaters** 

