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944 Zelco Drive, Burlington  
ON Canada L7L 4Y3  
voice 905-631-6161  
fax 905-631-1852  
www.stanmech.com  
www.leister.ca

## Hot News (Literally!): Heated Air Knives Glued to STANMECH at Roofing Show Plastics Welding Training: Not For Men Only STANMECH's First Co-op Student Experience a Success Ann-Marie Cooper: Keeping Organized When Busy

### Hot News (Literally!): Heated Air Knives

STANMECH Technologies has again listened to the market and responded by providing the innovation they want. This time STANMECH has developed heated air knives.

"Over the course of the last two years, we have had a number of inquiries from our customers about providing high-temperature, high-velocity air for a variety of applications," says Paul Subject, president of STANMECH Technologies. "Some of the more complex applications include flashing off moisture in a very humid environment and the removal of forming lubricant from metal parts. In



**Important for most manufacturers:** STANMECH's innovative heated air knives, a combination of high-velocity air and process heat, provide increased drying power.

both of these cases, the use of either hot air or high-velocity air did not solve the problem."

STANMECH's solution was to marry two of their leading-edge technologies, process heat and high-velocity air, to produce inline high-capacity heaters to heat the air stream for increased drying power.

Typical applications for this new technology include production situations where current air knife technology is not able to keep up with line speed, and the challenges of removing water-based or oil-based lubricants and coatings. "Most manufacturers would benefit from exploring the use of this technology on their line," adds Paul.

#### Specifics of Heated Air Knives

STANMECH's range of heated air knives starts at flow rates of 5,600 litres per minute at 200 degrees C up to 16,800 litres per minute at 500 degrees C.

The heated air knives can be easily integrated into most production systems or they can be set up as stand-alone stations. Each application is analyzed and a custom-engineered solution is developed.

#### Benefits

"The primary benefit of heated air knives is the combination of heat and air velocity to do work more quickly," Paul points out.

Other benefits of STANMECH's heated air knives are increased efficiency, improved production line speeds, precise application of high-velocity hot air and precise blower control.

More information is available at <http://www.stanmech.com/AirKnifeHeaterSystems.htm> or by calling our office at 888-438-6324 and talking with our application engineers.

### Glued to STANMECH at Roofing Show

On June 11 STANMECH participated in a trade show hosted by our roofing reseller, Lefebvre & Benoit in Laval, Quebec. Attendance was by invitation only and there were up to 1,000 guests including 50 roofing companies. STANMECH was an exhibitor sharing a large booth with Bridgestone Firestone Canada Inc. Their staff used an insulated deck to demonstrate the application of modified bitumen cold adhesive, sprayed with Hennes-Johnson equipment.

"STANMECH provided our new Bitumat machine to demonstrate how to weld the seams of the base and cap sheets," says Peter Borris, STANMECH's technical sales representative in Quebec.



Invited guests at Lefebvre & Benoit's roofing trade show gather around Peter Borris as he demonstrates STANMECH's Bitumat.

"I was personally using and showing the functions of the Bitumat after Firestone brought people to our booth and laid down their base and cap sheet. There were hundreds of roofers from all over Quebec that were glued to our booth."

Borris points out that the significant interest was because STANMECH's new way of welding modified bitumen had never been demonstrated in Quebec before. The Bitumat welds by using hot air instead of the old-fashioned torch method.

"The demo was an amazing success which resulted in two sales of the Bitumat that day," notes Peter proudly. "The team effort of STANMECH and Firestone really gave a great show."



## Plastics Welding Training: Not For Men Only

Participants at the last plastics training course, held at STANMECH's facilities on Sept. 12, said they appreciated learning about all the different types of plastics and the hands-on experience of welding them.

"It helps me understand how the equipment we have and purchase, is manufactured and repaired," said Todd Douglas of Novocol Pharmaceuticals.

Another person who took part in the training day was Judith Steward, a customer service representative and employee of STANMECH. It was suggested that she, like all STANMECH's employees, take the welding course to become better equipped



*Todd Douglas, instructor Rick Chomiak and Judith Steward at the end of the September training day.*

to answer and understand the customers' requirements.

"I took this course to learn some basic techniques and to get more familiar with

the tools," says Judith. Some of the topics covered were plastic welding techniques and how to distinguish between different types of plastic. "I actually practised hands-on techniques using the hand welding tools and extruders," she adds.

Judith reveals that some of the tools are a bit heavy to hold, but still, she says "I would recommend that women take this course because it gives you a good idea of how much you need to practise to do a perfect job and it's a lot of fun. For me it was a good experience to learn which tools are appropriate for which application so I can understand and help my customers better."

The next training day is scheduled for **Fri. Dec. 12, 2008**. The cost is **\$199 plus GST** and includes a light lunch. Register to attend by emailing **info@stanmech.com**, call **905 631 6161** or go to **www.stanmech.com/Training.htm**.

## STANMECH's First Co-op Student Experience a Success

For the first time, STANMECH Technologies had a co-op student working during the summer. Muzen Zurar spent more than three months at STANMECH as part of a co-op program developed by Mohawk College and McMaster University.

"Hiring Muzen was part of an internal joint industrial research project in cooperation with Mohawk College that was initiated to study the characteristics of air flow with our air knives," says Paul Subject, president of STANMECH Technologies. "We are using this opportunity to evaluate whether future co-op projects fit within the technology framework of STANMECH."

Muzen is in the second semester of his third year studying process automation, a new specialty in engineering that combines mechanical and chemical engineering. He explains "Process automation involves being able to understand the mechanics of industrial processes and apply our knowledge in automation to control systems which are still manually controlled."

One thing bothered him at the beginning of his time at STANMECH. "I did not feel comfortable at first working

on the electrical aspect, working with such high voltages," he explains, "however I was able to build a better understanding of safety parameters which one should take, and it built up my confidence."

He has been involved in the design and building of systems as well as the testing of instruments to determine the power that can be produced by STANMECH's tools and systems. He adds "I have also been creating a system to control these instruments to test systems using data acquisition rather than the conventional method of manual control."

The most interesting aspect of working at STANMECH for Muzen has been finding cost-effective ways to help customers solve their problems, designing the applications and producing the desired outcome.

"I have learned from professionals in every field at STANMECH," adds Muzen,

"from dealing with customers in the sales aspect to customer support to engineering and the building of systems.

I had a chance to experience and involve myself in all levels of the company."

Muzen's career goal has been to design and create control systems, and he says that working at STANMECH has given him an understanding of how many different areas he could pursue after finishing his degree. He hopes to return to STANMECH for his final co-op semester. It looks like he'll have the opportunity.

"Muzen has proven to be a very effective member of the STANMECH team," says Paul. "He is always willing to assist others and has demonstrated a real thirst for knowledge. We are looking forward to having him back next year on another co-op project."



*Muzen Zurar found satisfaction in designing applications for customers.*

## Ann-Marie Cooper: Keeping Organized When Busy

Ann-Marie Cooper, a shipper/receiver for STANMECH Technologies, is recently back from maternity leave. There have been some changes in the company since she left. Two new staff members have been hired, but what she notices most is that the company is busier than they were before.

As shipper/receiver, Ann-Marie is sort of a traffic cop, receiving parts as they



*Ann-Marie Cooper gets the job done.*

are delivered and distributing them to the right person, either internally to people who are creating systems, or directly to customers. "Some tools come in for repair," she says.

Satisfaction for her comes from a job well done. "Having my orders complete

and done the right way," Ann-Marie adds. "Knowing that I've packed the parts properly and that they're what the customer wants. Lately, more and more we've been busy. It's more of a worry to get things done on time and before I leave for the day. I try to keep my mind on the order. I'm pretty good at keeping myself on track and getting the job done."

At this point she's interrupted by the UPS driver, who just happens to be her husband as well. They didn't meet on the job. He was working in the area before Ann-Marie joined STANMECH about three years ago.

The biggest challenge she's had so far is making more space for the stock that comes in. She's in the middle of organizing the parts and changing things around to make room for more parts, and she says she'll feel good about achieving this when

it's done.

Ann-Marie's baby is a 14-month-old daughter, a sister for her nine-year-old son who has been asking his parents for a sibling for some time. In addition to these two children, Ann-Marie has an 18-year-old stepson who doesn't live with them, so she jokingly calls him her "half-kid."

Now that the baby has arrived and is walking, Ann-Marie has absolutely no spare time for hobbies or recreational activities. "My daughter hates being confined," she explains. "She cries when she's put in the playpen, so I always have to watch her. She's a lot of trouble. She's very curious." The family used to go camping and for long bike rides, and Ann-Marie is looking forward to doing this again when her daughter grows a little older.

**Find out more about STANMECH Technologies Inc. go to [www.stanmech.com](http://www.stanmech.com).**