



Improved Furnace Energy Efficiency with OPTIMELT<sup>TM</sup> Thermochemical Regenerator System

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#### "Make oxy-fuel fired glass melting the economic choice"

- 1. Reduce the cost to make oxygen
- 2. Reduce fuel and oxygen consumption by waste heat recovery



#### Example: Container Glass @ 50% Cullet and 300 t/d

Significant Heat Available for Recovery in Oxy-fuel Flue Gas



- High efficiency non-catalytic reforming process
- Recycled flue gas with CO<sub>2</sub> and water vapor is used for CH<sub>4</sub> reforming
- Regenerative system allows high operating temperatures/reforming rate
- Regenerators roughly 1/3 the size of air-fired regenerators



### Comparison of Fuel Savings by OPTIMELT System





- Container furnace
- 300 tpd
- 50% cullet
- 500 kW E boosting

## From Innovation to Commercial Offer



#### Development Path of Praxair's OPTIMELT™ TCR Technology





## Pavisa

- Specialty glass and crystal products for wine, liquor, food, cosmetic, and pharmaceutical industries
- Several oxy-fuel furnaces supplied by 117tpd Praxair VPSA
- 50tpd container glass furnace
- Six Praxair oxy-fuel burners in the breast walls
- Two regenerators added to the end wall
- Very challenging site integration with little space

### Outstanding collaboration on a complex construction project!

## OPTIMELT<sup>™</sup> Adaption to 50 tpd Furnace





#### Furnace can be operated with and without OPTIMELT™

## **Pictures from Demonstration System**















# Operation

- Startup and process optimization complete
- Automatic and continuous operation for cumulative 100+ days
- ~91% availability achieved since end of October
  - Majority of unscheduled TCR shutdowns due to mechanical equipment (stack damper, air supply)
  - No fundamental TCR technology issues identified
- Switching between TCR and Oxy-fuel has become routine
- Pavisa operates TCR
- Results at Pavisa
  - Glass pull rate and quality required achieved no production was lost
  - Integration of TCR into furnace has positive effect on quality
  - Energy consumption typically +16% lower than oxyfuel

### Overall a very successful technology demonstration

## Fuel Consumption Data and Model Prediction





- Pavisa data and model show about 15 % fuel savings for "rustic flint" glass
- Results within expectations of 20% savings for commercial scale furnaces
- Commercial system savings depend on furnace size, cullet rate, insulation and flue gas temperature – range 18 to 22%, individual assessment required

Comparison with other furnace data from the CelSian Benchmark Study for container glass furnaces







#### 1. Process safety (syngas handling)

- 1. Praxair's commercial experience (SMR & POX plants)
- 2. Extensive process hazards analysis (PHA)
- 3. Experience with the pilot unit
- 4. Experience from commercial producer gas regenerators
- 5. Review with insurance industry safety experts
- 2. Syngas flame and heat transfer in glass furnaces
  - 1. Praxair's broad industrial experience with oxy-fuel combustion
  - 2. Pilot scale test facility for shaping syngas flames
  - 3. CFD simulation
  - 4. Pavisa experience
- 3. Checker plugging and corrosion
  - 1. Collaboration with refractory companies
  - 2. Producer gas regenerator experience
  - 3. Pavisa experience



- Praxair's OPTIMELT<sup>™</sup> Thermochemical Regenerator (TCR)
  - Reduces energy consumption
    (~20% vs oxy-fuel, ~30% vs. air-regenerative)
  - Reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
  - Reduces air pollutants to the level of oxy-fuel performance  $(NO_x, CO, etc.)$
  - Reduces flue gas volume and enables smaller air pollution control
- Successful commercial demonstration at Pavisa
  - System in automatic and continuous operation
  - Fuel savings well within expectations for size of installation and operating conditions
- 300 tpd size OPTIMELT<sup>™</sup> TCR system is ready for commercial application

Praxair is committed to new technology development to support the cost reduction and sustainability goals of the glass industry