Focal Point™ Process Control System

A PC-based process control, data acquisition and reporting system for composite curing

Despatch composite curing ovens are now available with Focal Point™, a PC-based process control system. Focal Point™ fully controls the curing process and documents all process information, providing traceability and validation of part quality.

Focal Point™ offers precise process control with lead-lag temperature control and an advanced recipe editor for programming temperature and vacuum profiles, and for controlling fans and dampers. During the curing cycle, run status and all process values can be monitored from the display panel. Focal Point also allows manual override of recipes to control thermocouple selection, temperature and vacuum set-points, and alarm deviation limits.

Focal Point™ utilizes remote I/O architecture to create a platform that can be easily customized for a wide range of applications. Remote modules, such as part thermocouples and vacuum or compressed air sub-systems, can be added to the platform and can communicate with the oven PLC through Ethernet connection.

Focal Point™ software logs all process data in a spreadsheet or database, which can be accessed by a plant computer system. Data can be organized into one of Focal Point’s standard reports or any custom report format.

FEATuRES AT A GLAnCE:

◆ PC-based system with Ethernet communication
◆ Modular design utilizes remote I/O for optional thermocouple, vacuum and compressed air sub-systems
◆ All relevant process data is saved on system PC and can be accessed from plant computer system
◆ Standard and customized reporting capability to validate process
◆ Vacuum system can be monitored and controlled from display

Focal Point™ allows you to fully control, document and archive your process to ensure parts are cured to specification.
FEATURES AND CAPABILITIES

◆ Profile recipe entry and storage
◆ Recipe override to modify temperature and vacuum set-points, ramp rates and alarm limits
◆ Controlled ramp rates from 1°F/min to 10°F/min
◆ High-limit control turns off heater if temperature exceeds user-defined limits
◆ Alarm history saved on PC
◆ Four levels of password security to control access to screens and functions
◆ Configurable alarm set-points
◆ System can communicate with other Despatch ovens equipped with Focal Point™
◆ Manual oven and vacuum control for maintenance
◆ Step-by-step startup procedure to initiate curing cycle
◆ Part thermocouples and vacuum transducers can be quickly enabled, disabled, certified or calibrated from the display
◆ Large, 17” touchscreen display
◆ Graphical indicators show status of heater, fans, dampers and vacuum pump
◆ Batch information can be entered using bar code scanner