# Beyond the Visible: Industry 3.91 AFGM 2019 - Cebu (In-Furnace Near IR Borescope)



Mark Bennett<sup>1</sup> - Neil G. Simpson<sup>2</sup> - Presenter Fiona Turner<sup>1</sup>



- 1. AMETEK Land Instruments Ltd,
- Simpson Combustion and Energy Ltd,

















### **Contents**

- Background 2017 GPC summary Cross-Fired Furnace Thermal profile and NOx
- Overview of Equipment Used
  - Need for true temperature measurement at all points
- Original background to end fired project
- Phase 1 Initial 3hr survey
- Equipment rental for extended use
- Thermal and NOx optimisation by customer alone
- Lessons learned and potential for
  - automatic reversal control reduce energy & emissions
  - Alarm on hot spot deviation and correction
  - Alarm on <1388 NaOH condensation</li>







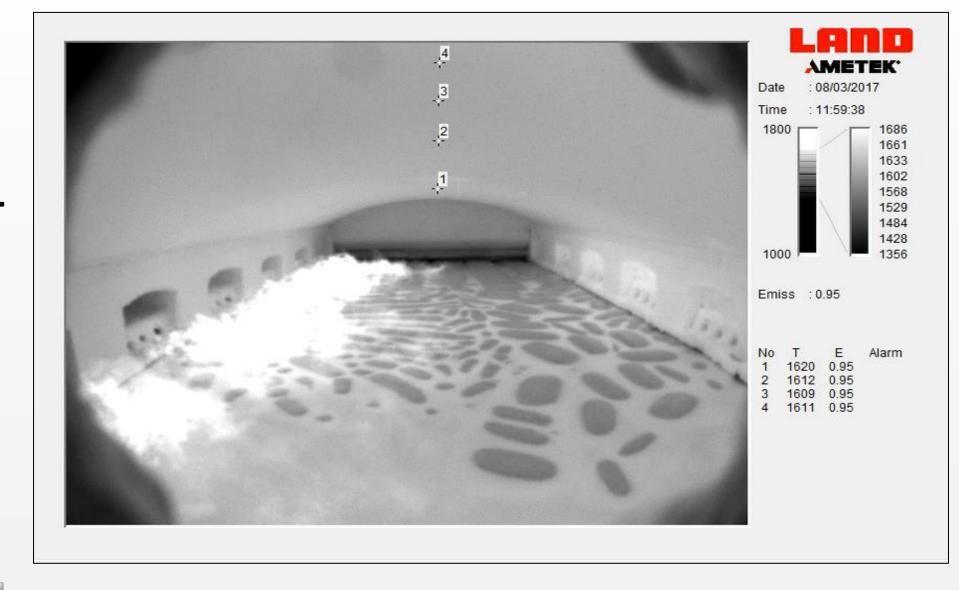








# VIDEO of **Continuous Temperature** Measurement -**Thermocouple** Verification









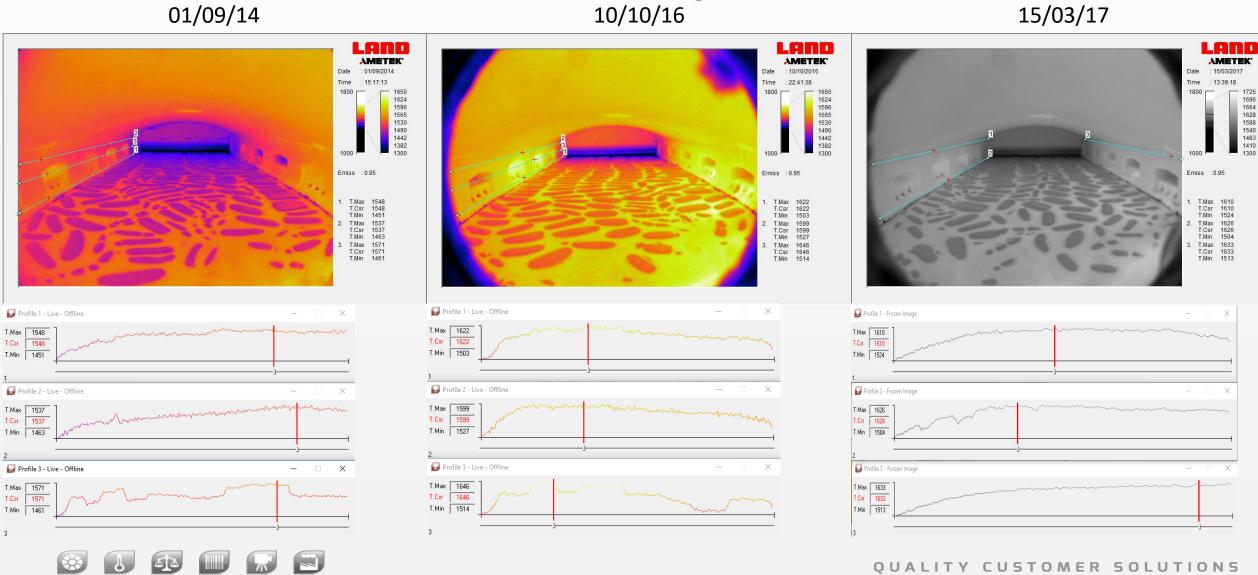








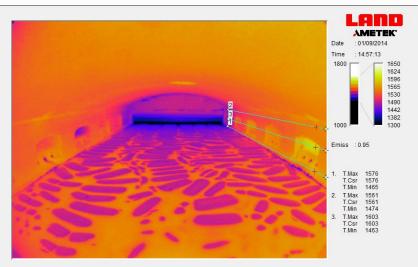
### **End of Firing L-R**

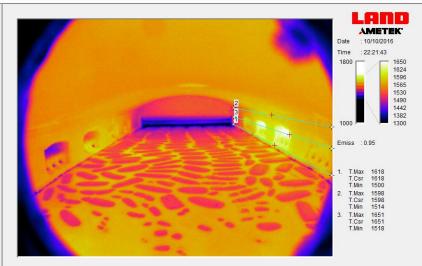




### **End of Firing R-L**

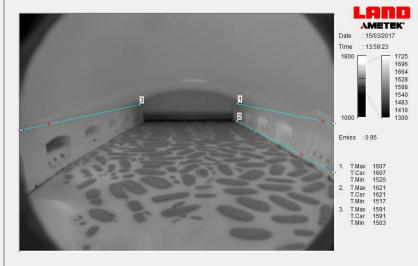
01/09/14 10/10/16

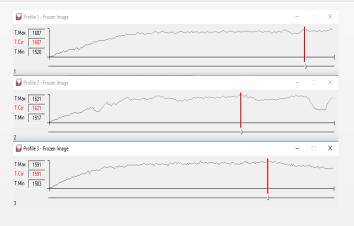






15/03/17







T.Min 1463

Profile 1 - Live - Offline

Profile 2 - Live - Offline

Profile 3 - Live - Offline

















## Conclusions from GPC 78<sup>th</sup> paper

- Operations -Temperature thermal profile
  - Potential energy reduction, pull or yield increase on unrestricted furnace
  - Demonstration of recovery post repair
- Emissions Flame Intensity and NOx correlation
  - Potential to use as part of NOx/NH3 reduction
- Maintenance Furnace Sealing
  - Energy and emission reduction with asset protection
- Asset Protection
  - Over and under temperature alarms
  - Identify regenerator restrictions before blockage/deterioration
  - NaOH condensation
  - Preventative maintenance on weak/thin refractory



















## Thermal Imagers That Accurately Measure Temperatures

- There are two common types of thermal imagers:
  - Those which produce a thermal image of a scene as a picture or video known as Non-Radiometric Thermal Imagers. These are commonly used to detect the presence of something hot or cold in a scene like a deer at the side of a road, an intruder or the presence of a hot area somewhere on an object.
  - Those which produce a thermal image of a scene as a picture or video and accurately measure temperatures anywhere within that thermal scene known as Radiometric Thermal Imagers. These are commonly used for automation, process control or quality verification.
- Many imagers which are described as Radiometric are only calibrated at one central point in the thermal image and make assumptions about temperature measurement accuracy elsewhere in the scene. It might be argued that one accurate point in the scene makes a thermal imager Radiometric, that isn't what most customers expect.
- When using for control accuracy is required so there is a need test Radiometric Thermal Imagers
  to verify and document that they accurately measure temperatures across the entire scene.







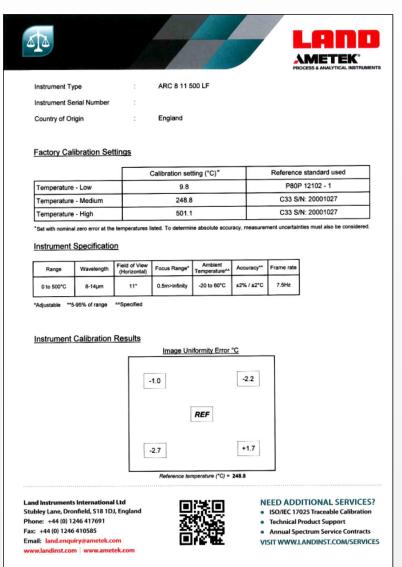








- NIR-B GLASS thermal imagers are calibrated against blackbody standards over the whole image, not just the central area.
- The Certificate of Conformity shows centre accuracy plus the four corners of the scene.
- Calibration in accordance with ISO 9001:2008 and calibrated against national and international standards.
- Calibration to ISO / IEC 17025:2005 standard.







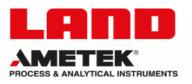












| Certification Service Coverage                              |                   |  |   |   |                                   |
|---|-------------------|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| National Accreditation                                      |                   |  | AMETEK Land Instrumentation   |   | Other                             |
|   |                   |  | Infrared Pyrometers,<br>Thermometers, Thermal<br>Imagers and Scanners | Blackbody<br>Sources                              | Manufacturer's<br>Instrumentation |
| UKAS. | United<br>Kingdom | UKAS (United Kingdom<br>Accreditation Service)**                                     | <b>√</b><br>-10 °C to 2500 °C<br>14 °F to 4532 °F                     | <b>√</b><br>-10 °C to 1600 °C<br>14 °F to 2912 °F | ~                                 |
| CALIFORNION CALIFORNION ANAGEMENT SYSTEM                    | United<br>States  | ANAB (ANSI-ASQ National<br>Accreditation Board)                                      | <b>√</b><br>0 °C to 2300 °C<br>32 °F to 4172 °F                       | <b>√</b><br>-10 °C to 1600 °C<br>32 °F to 2912 °F | V                                 |
| Certificate No. CC-2041                                     | India             | NABL (National<br>Accreditation Board for<br>Testing and Calibration<br>Laboratories | <b>√</b><br>0 °C to 1600 °C<br>32 °F to 2912 °F                       | *   | ~                                 |

<sup>\*\*</sup>Note: With agreements through the European Cooperation for Accreditation (EA), International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILCA) and International Accreditation Forum (IAF) - UKAS has recognition in over 90 countries worldwide.

















## Background to Project

- In early 2018 EU customer with a medium through-put and traditional furnace design had a recent NOx issue and approached Neil Simpson to investigate options to reduce.
- Several staging options were discussed with decision to focus on baseline and optimisation of existing equipment.
- Part of suggested solution was to use the Ametek Land NIR b to establish possible sources.
- On 6<sup>th</sup> Feb a 3 hour demonstration was performed.
- The following data was obtained for NOx and thermal conditions.

















# Using as a CCTV Standard Batch Line/Movement

















# B & W Mode 1 Auto Range



Good initial image















# B & W Mode 1 Man 1400-1600 Range

Lowering the temperature range increase contrast for batch monitoring











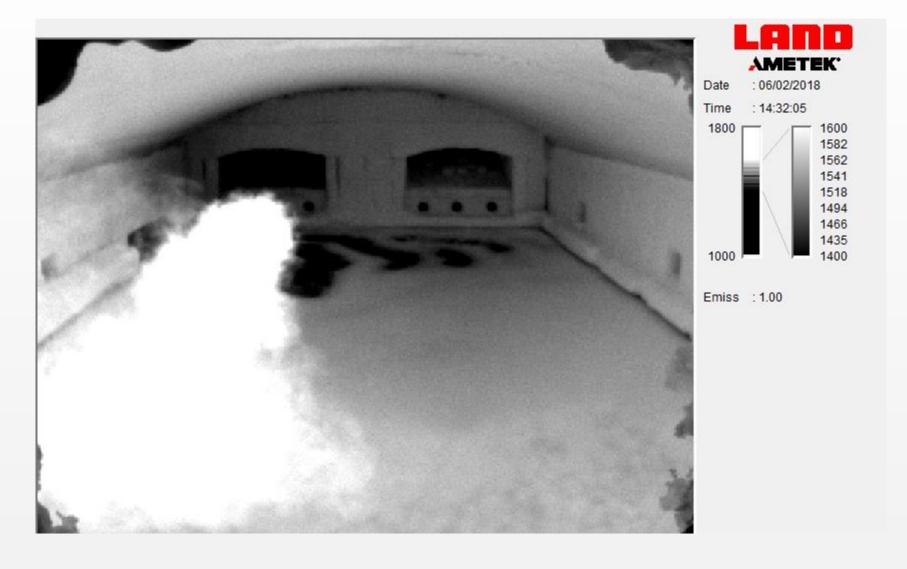












































: 06/02/2018

: 14:40:50

# Reversal – End Firing R-L

















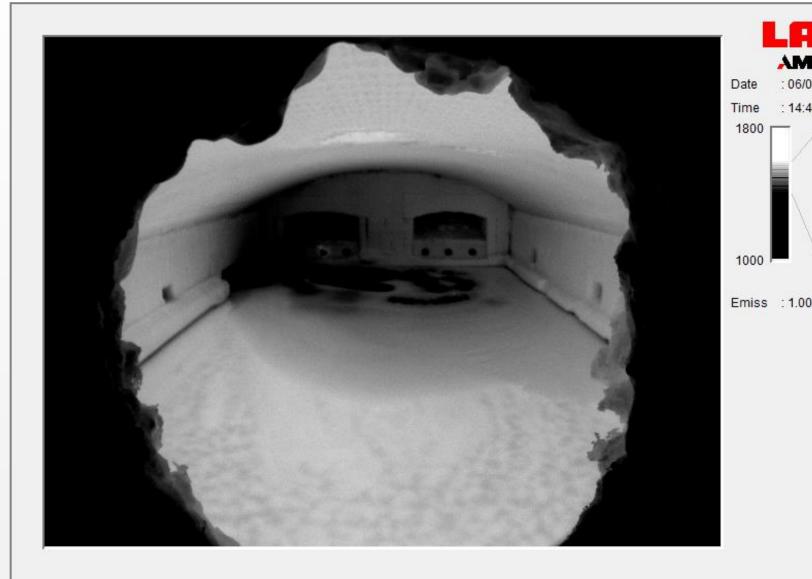


1600 1582

YMETEK. : 06/02/2018

: 14:40:50

B & W Mode 1 Man 1400-1600 Range



Increase contrast to highlight phase transition lines.















1600

**AMETEK** 

: 06/02/2018

: 14:40:50

1.5\* B&W1 Man 1400-1600 Range



Zoom in to see ripple lines.















# 1.5\* B&W1 Man 1450-1550 Range



Increase contrast on front melt.















# With 20 Degree Isotherms

\*METEK : 06/02/2018 : 14:40:50 1539 1528 1517 1505 1492 1479 1465 1450 Emiss : 1.00 T.Max T.Max T.Min

Add isotherms to enhance thermal difference on







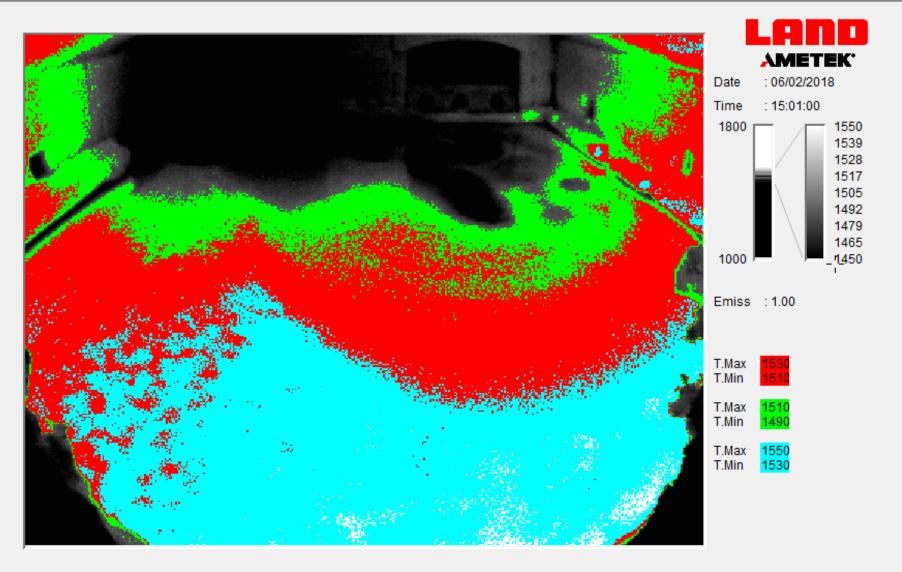








# End Firing L-R



Difference in firing end L-R







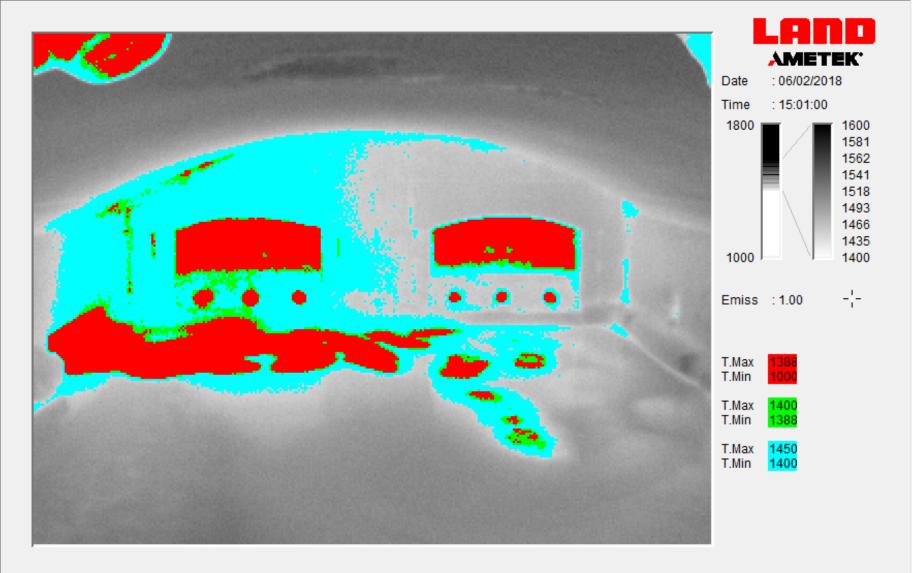








# NaOH Condensation Zones



NaOH condenses at 1388















# End L-R 25C Isotherms on Target Wall

**AMETEK** : 06/02/2018 Date : 15:01:00 1600 1581 1562 1541 1518 1493 1466 1435 1000 1400 Emiss : 1.00 T.Max T.Max T.Min T.Max

Temperatures seem unusual since almost similar.















# End R-L 25C Isotherms Same Scale

\*METEK : 06/02/2018 Date : 14:41:00 1800 1600 1581 1562 1541 1518 1493 1466 1435 1000 1400 Emiss : 1.00 T.Max T.Min T.Max T.Min T.Max T.Min

End R-L target wall temps way higher







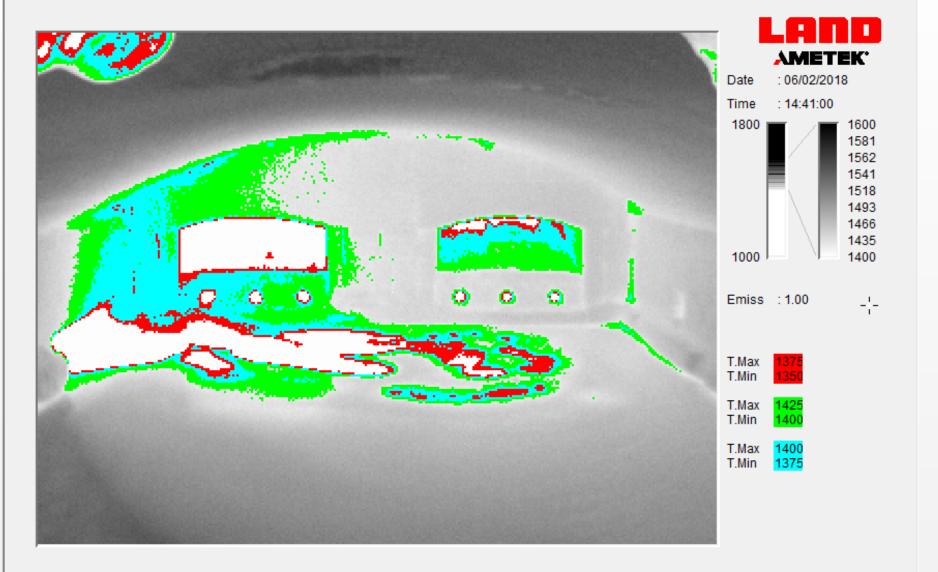








# End R-L 25C Isotherms +50C









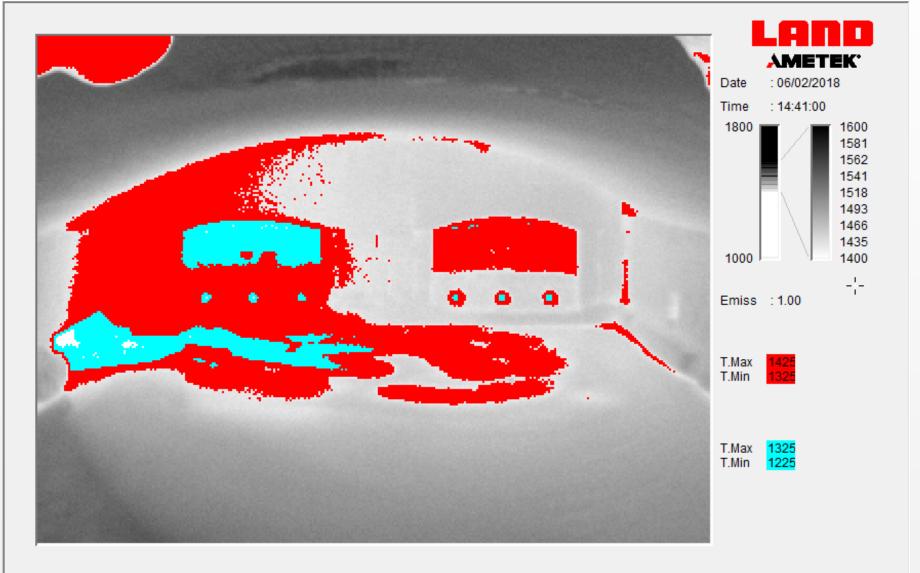








# End R-L 2\* 100C Isotherms



Delta 100C firing R-L







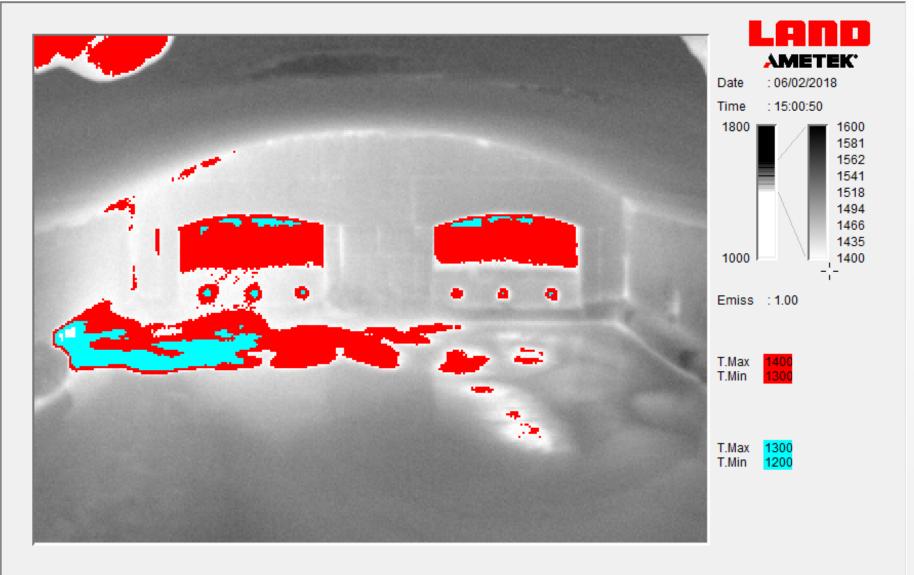








# End L-R Target Wall Temps Same!!



Is there a regenerator problem on

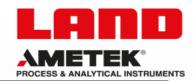




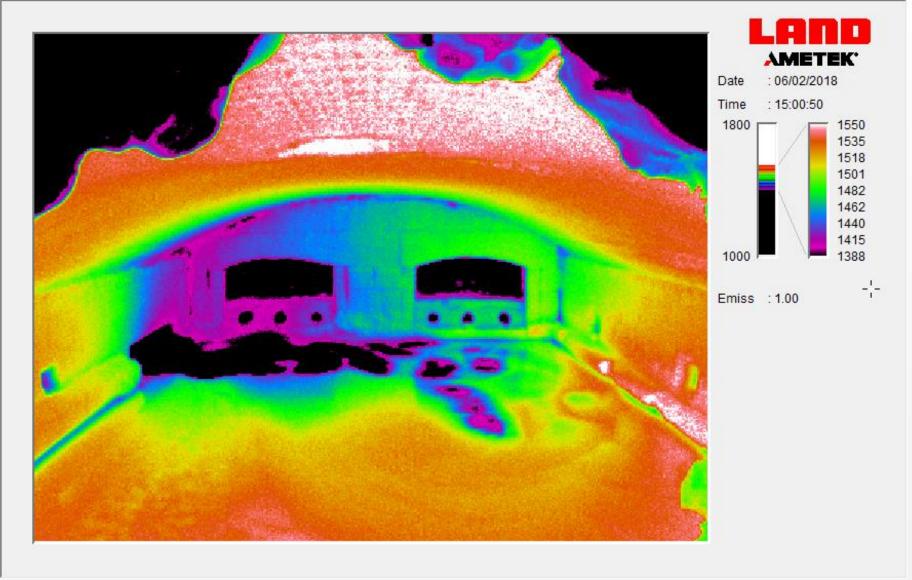








# P3 End R-L 1.5 zoom



Shows crown repair and possible flame



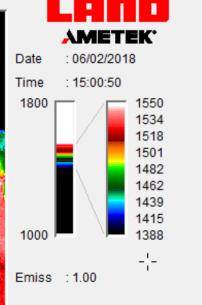








# P5 End R-L 1.5 zoom



Shows crown repair. Expansion joint possible flame licking touch stones and leakage







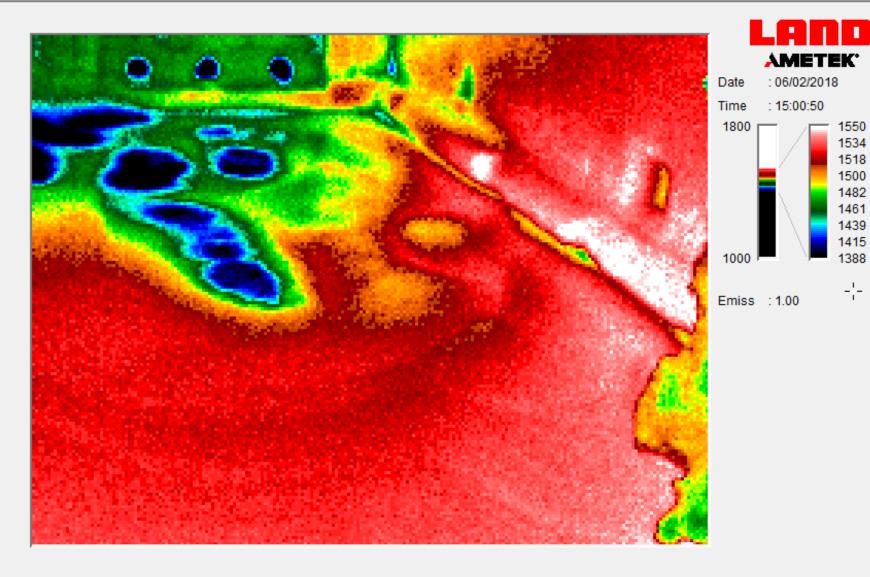








# 3\* Zoom End L-R



Looks like a hole at metal line.

















### **NOx Slides**















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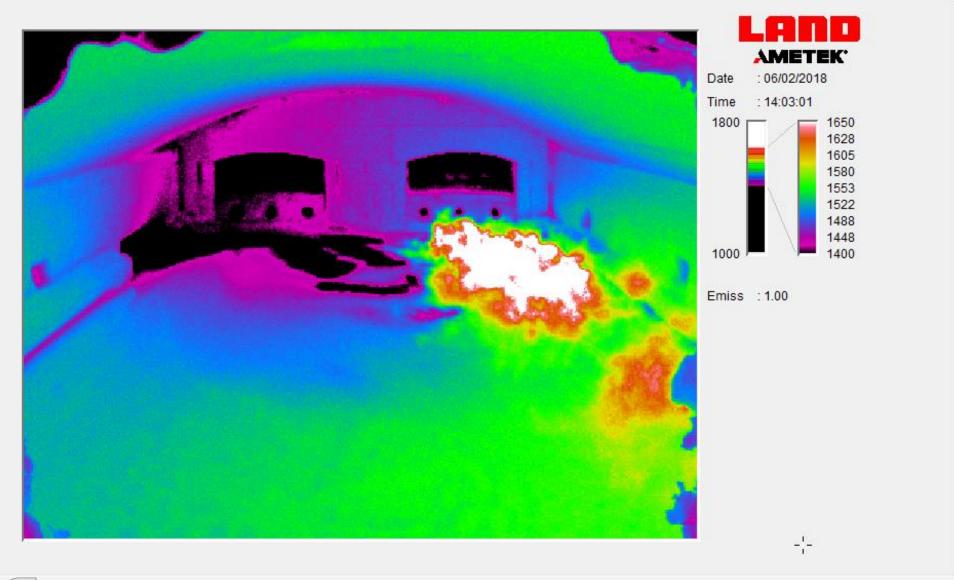








# 1.5 ZoomNOx mode1400-1650



Flame very short Intense core +1650







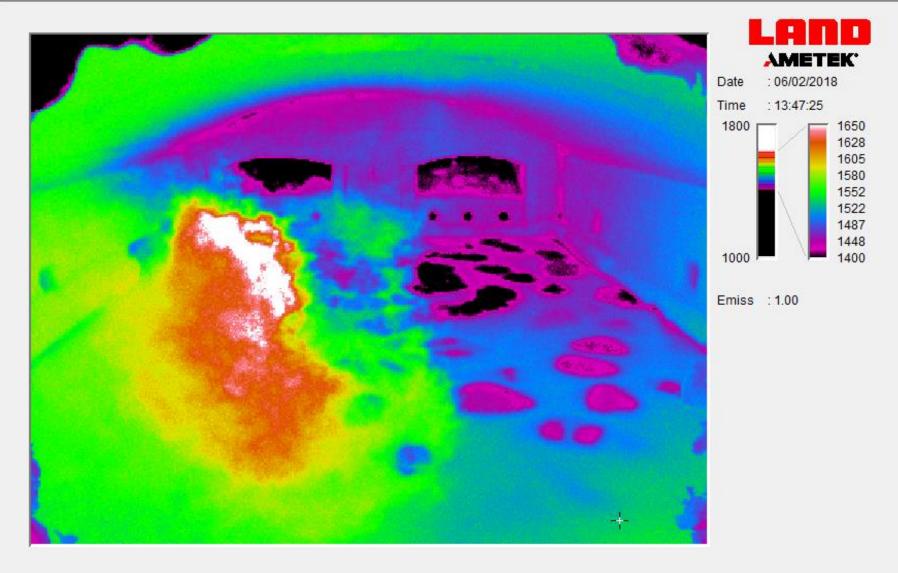








# 1.5 ZoomNOx mode1400-1650



Long loose flame with less intense





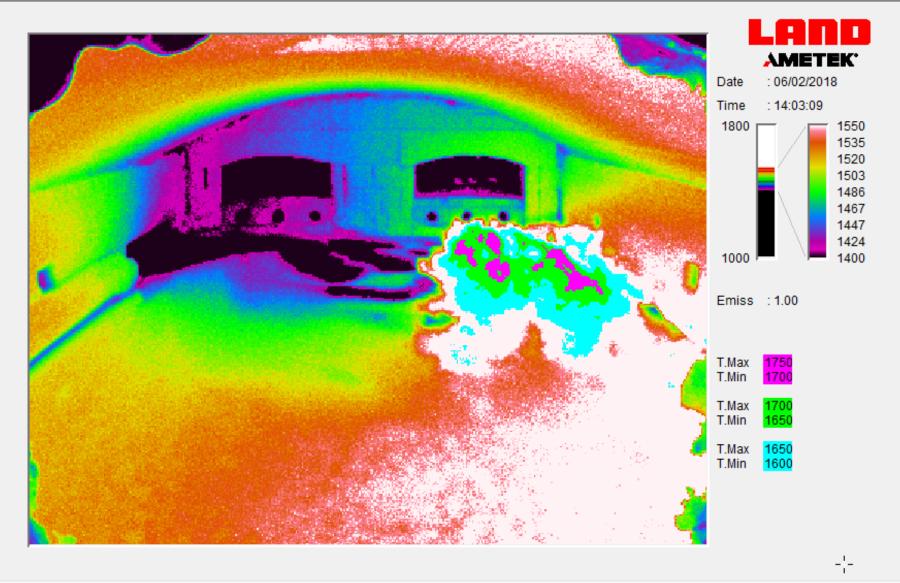








1.5 Zoom1400-1550NOx + 50CIsotherms



A lot of flame at 1650-1750











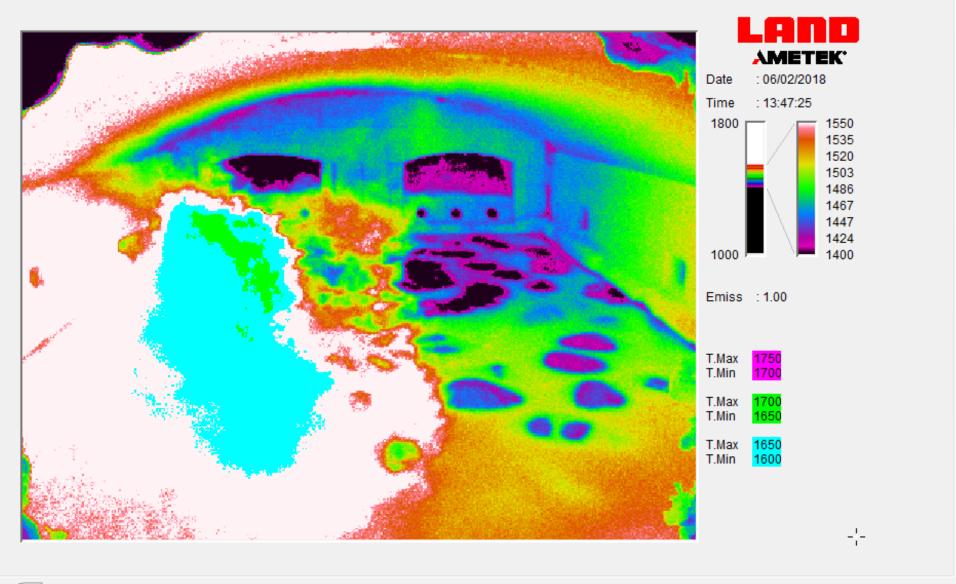






1.5 Zoom1400-1550NOx + 50CIsotherms

All of flame below 1700C majority 1600— 1650C – R-L is lower NOx

















### Observations From 3 Hour Demonstrations

- There appears to be a problem with the LHS regenerator performance.
- Unbalanced batch pattern
- Instability/problems with combustion air flow
- Significantly higher NOx firing L-R with corresponding short and intense flame.

















## Suggested Next Steps

- Address combustion air flow and control
  - Resolved following day
- Investigate regenerator condition and consider cleaning and/or repair
- Consider temporary rental of NIR b to optimise flame conditions.

















### Phase 2

- Combustion air control and lambda control now operational
- NIR B installed on 21st March
- Regenerator cleaning in progress.

















### Phase 2 Continued

- After 6 days of furnace optimisation by customer and operators the following NOx measurements were taken.
- NOTE Neil Simpson NOT involved













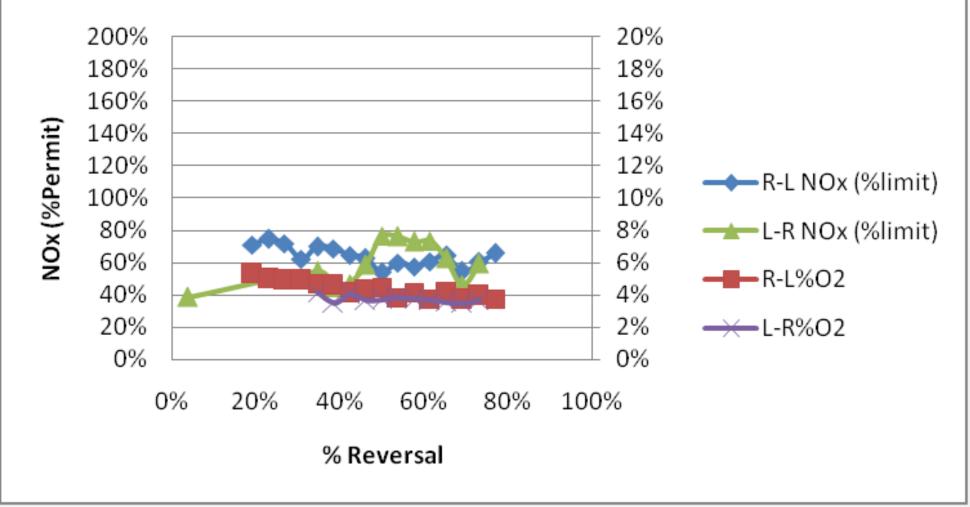






# 27<sup>th</sup> March NOx now in Compliance!

## NOx and %O2 During the Reversal









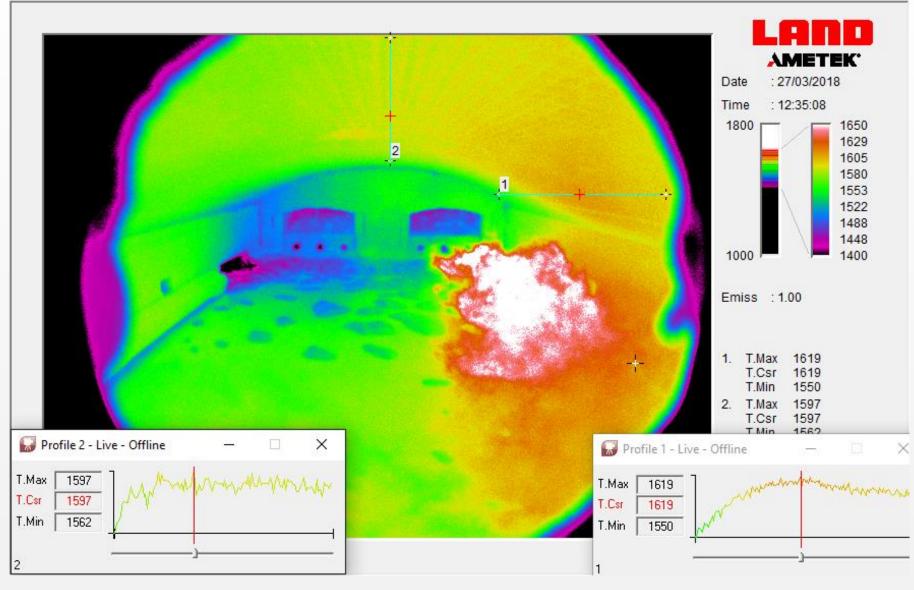








27/3 NOx 1400-1650











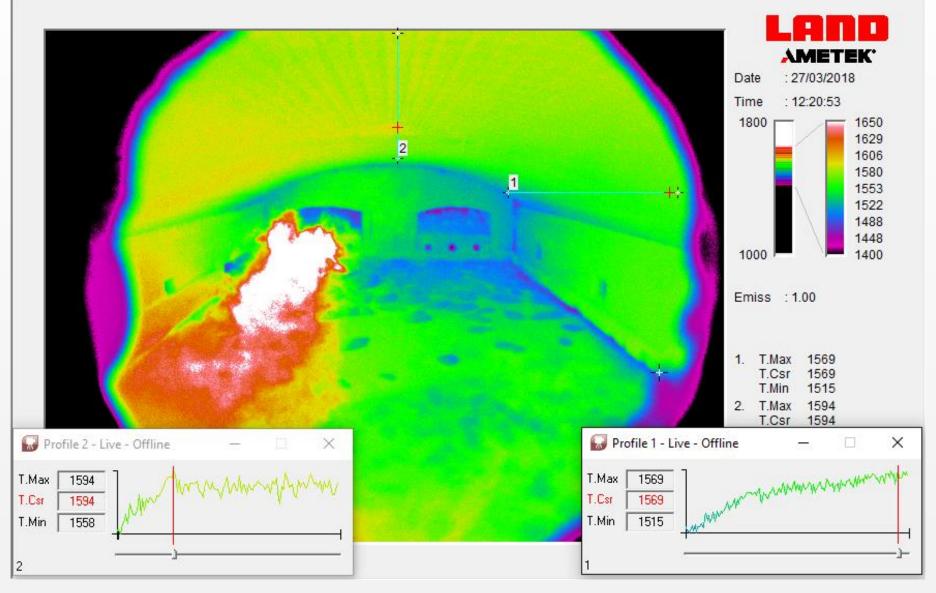








# 27/3 NOx 1400-1650



















### Conclusion

- In February at 3 hour demonstration the in-balances regenerator temperature and in NOx were obvious.
  - DH side NOx was lower
- Air flow control and lambda probes were then serviced and Regenerator cleaning started.
- On 21<sup>st</sup> March an NIR b rental unit was installed and thermal profile problems visible.
- By 27<sup>th</sup> March customer and operators had optimised furnace thermal profile and NOx
- Furnace operating within NOx permit (no additional technology)
  - DH side NOx now higher

















## Industry 3.9

- The preceding end-fired case study has shown the ability to interpret the NIR B data to improve the control of the furnace.
  - Correlation between thermal profile and batch pattern
    - Ability to control thermal profile and hence batch pattern
  - Analysis of target wall temperature indicates issues of potential regenerator blockage
    - additionally ability to use for automatic reversal control for energy and emission reduction
  - Repeatable correlation between peak flame temperature and NOx
    - Identify burner creating problem and enable optimisation
- The need to have accurate, calibrated temperatures for control

















