

Candle Company Goes Electric

A candle manufacturer relocated to a larger facility and decided to reconsider the steam heating they had used for 65 years. Although steam was excellent for heat transfer from coils in tanks and for piping, it potentially could leak into the tank and the wax would be contaminated and become waste. Steam traced piping also created occasional leaking problems. After reviewing the advantages of using electric, the customer realized that the operating requirements of the tank heating would be significantly less than steam and thus be more cost effective. They installed six pipes in each tank, three located at the bottom approximately three feet apart and three approximately two feet above, perpendicular to lower heaters. The customer used Chromalox [OCE](#) heating elements in each pipe in order to provide enough heat to maintain and heat wax if needed. The custom control panel had one process and two over-temperature controls for each bank of heaters. Each bank of heaters also had an On/Off switch. This would allow the customer to maintain their wax at 150°F with the single bank of heaters while having the ability to increase the temperature when the process required by enabling the second bank of heaters. The customer also heat traced over 2500 feet of piping with Chromalox [SRM/E](#) heating cable and are controlling with a Chromalox 8 Loop [HTLS](#) panel. As they are ramping up production, they are very satisfied with the choice of using a Chromalox electric heating and control systems.

