

# The importance of handling hot ware efficiently

Proper hot glass handling is one way in which glassmakers can keep production efficient yet economical. Jon Horner\* explains how Dura Temp's recently extended product range is designed to meet this objective and offer the best possible handling solutions for the container industry.

Considering the current global economy, production of high-quality glass for the least amount of money has perhaps never been more critical. Making high-quality glass products depends upon a number of variables all working together in harmony. When any one of those variables falls out of sync with the rest, the result is financial loss. One of the most critical areas to reduce financial loss in the hot end is through proper hot ware handling. However, establishing and maintaining proper hot ware handling can be a challenging task.

For almost 28 years, Dura Temp Corporation has been dedicated to helping glass manufacturers get a handle on their hot ware. Combining a systems approach with high-quality components and contact materials, the company has established a reputation as a leader in hot ware handling.

## Global distributor

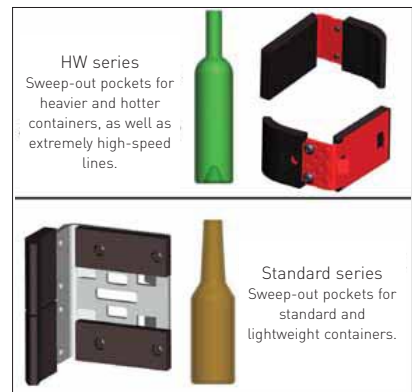
In an effort to expand its product line for glassmakers, Dura Temp recently forged an agreement with Anglo Carbon to globally distribute Protatherm products. Anglo Carbon has conducted extensive research to develop multiple grades of dense graphitised material for use within the glass industry. The resulting materials are able to handle higher temperatures and are physically stronger than typical graphite products.

Protatherm products can be delivered either as blanks or completely machined to customer specifications, for items such as gob deflector plates, deadplates, transfer plates and take-out inserts.

## Product expansion

In addition, Dura Temp has expanded its HW series of parts, which are able to withstand much harsher and hotter environments in the sweep-out and transfer areas than standard parts. Through a combination of otherwise individually offered materials, the HW parts are a hybrid specifically made for more challenging applications.

One such situation is very high-speed lines, where the ambient temperature is elevated beyond the capabilities of standard DT-1 and DT-2 silicone composites. Another application for the HW series is found in conversely slower moving wine and champagne jobs. Because the contact time is longer and the ware is heavier, standard contact materials cannot offer long enough service life. However, the carbon composites within the HW series greatly extend the capabilities of the contact materials and the parts are less costly



than some of the available stainless steel braid options. In addition, the components do not require special attachment methods such as cold welding, thus reducing labour requirements and the need for special welding and cleansing machines. All

continued >>

## Hot glass handling

HW components fit Dura Temp's standard mounting brackets.

### Lehr stacker bar pockets

While much of the hot ware handling is focused on sweep-out and transfer applications, the lehr stacker bar area should not be neglected. Dura Temp has recently introduced new lehr stacker bar pockets. Created using 3-dimensional CAD and cast using stainless steel, the pockets are strong and durable, while maintaining a similar weight to

aluminum versions. The pockets are designed to be adaptable to virtually any lehr stacker bar currently on the market, with little or no modification.

In addition to the new pockets, Dura Temp has added two high-temperature carbon composites to the family of materials. DT-80 is a woven material offered in plate form, while DT-60 is a composite only available as finished pieces. The DT-60 is especially suitable for hotter and/or heavier ware, offering higher thermal capabilities and long wear life.

### Service and delivery

While glass facilities employ skilled people in machine repair and operator positions, tight budgets are forcing shops to reduce personnel levels. With this in mind, Dura Temp employs technical specialists as its sales force. These specialists have been trained to offer the best possible solution while remaining sympathetic to ever-diminishing budgets. They continuously travel the globe to visit glass plants and offer service and support to glassmakers. In an effort to further reduce response times, Dura Temp has expanded its technical sales force with satellite offices



▲ Protatherm take-out inserts.

in Miami, Florida and Los Angeles, California in the USA.

With today's increasingly leaner stockrooms, glassmakers need to rely upon short lead times and fast delivery. With an on-hand inventory of standard components, as well as a network of global distributors, Dura Temp is able to offer rapid shipping. Its in-house machining capabilities also allow custom parts to be available.

In addition, the supplier has a network of agents and distributors in various regions of the world to reach its global customer base. It also employs bilingual staff in-house. ■

**\*Jon Horner, Manager of Technical Services, Dura Temp Corporation, USA.**

**Website: [www.duratemp.com](http://www.duratemp.com)**



◀ Universal lehr bar pocket.