

Blaauw Dryers

The Drying Dilemma

The drying process is, in our experience, the least understood and appreciated step in the ceramic manufacturing process. As such, this step often suffers from bottlenecks, high scrap rates, excessive and inefficient labor and energy use.

As an example, it is common for manufacturers to allocate an entire work week for simple clay items such as tile, and multiple weeks for larger or more complicated clay items such as sewer pipe, large vessels, or architectural ceramics. Defects incurred at this step are often not revealed until later in the manufacturing process, wasting additional resources.

The physical space required to contain these items as they dry, and the labour required to manage this step is typically underestimated.

We offer you a solution to dramatically improve flow at this stage of your process.



Manufacturers often use clay bodies that are high in plastic materials. Although these compositions provide the necessary working properties for forming, they are susceptible to warping and cracking during drying processes, resulting in lower quality wares and/or higher scrap rates.

Based on research at various ceramic manufacturers, we have designed our dryers to carefully control and finely distribute both heat and humidity such as to virtually eliminate drying faults and dramatically shorten the drying cycling by up to 85%.



Blaauw Dryers

- Elimination of drying loss from warping or cracking, and improved quality.
- Up to 85% reduction in drying time.
- SMART DRY technology derives the most energy efficient drying curve.
- Custom made to fit your wares for maximum space efficiency
- Turnkey project

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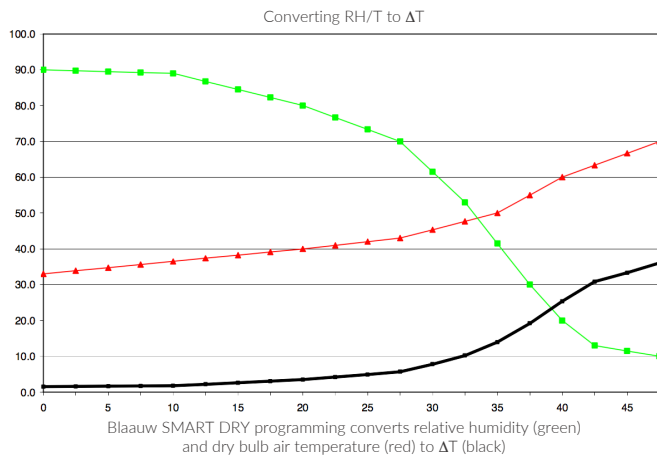
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BLAAUW KILNS

SMART DRY Technology

Unique to Blaauw, we have designed a drying algorithm based on the psychrometric temperature difference, or ΔT . This is the “drying force” calculated from combined relative humidity and temperature.



Beyond controlled drying and humidification, our sophisticated ΔT controls offer the following advantages to users:

- Energy savings, since drying can be optimized at lower temperatures
- Absolute reproducible drying results, even if ambient weather or clay conditions vary
- Potential to shorten the drying to a minimum time, since the drying cycle is truly optimal for the used clay body
- Easy modification of ideal drying cycles for thicker wares or larger products, keeping the ideal drying cycle
- Possibility to use process waste heat from other equipment such as kilns

Built to Your Specific Needs

We build our dryers to your exact needs. This can include many design aspects, from dimensioning dryers to fit your existing racking systems, to designing and fabricating a rack system to best fit your wares, or considering the physical layout to best make use of traffic flow within your manufacturing plant.



Dryer heating can be completed by using gas, electricity, or by recapturing waste heat from other heating equipment such as a roller hearth or continuous kilns.



We build our dryers using galvanized or stainless steel sandwich panels, reducing or eliminating corrosion issues.

Talk to us at Blaauw

The drying process is often an accepted production bottleneck that includes a high scrap rate. This challenging stage can be optimized using Blaauw dryer technology. We welcome you to speak with us regarding a solution that is right for your business.

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