



POST OF 18/07/2026

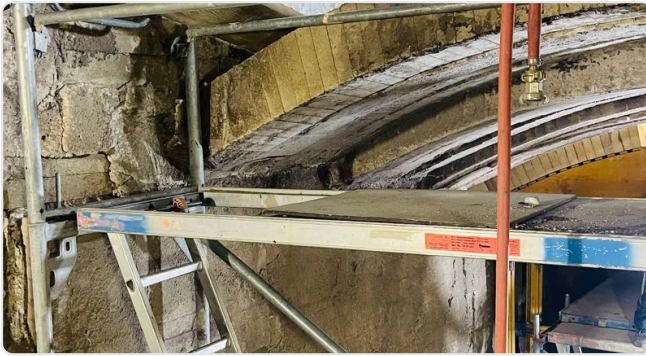
Thermography: From measured value to maintenance schedule

Around 80 per cent of refractory failures announce themselves — on the furnace shell, weeks in advance. Anyone who tracks the shell temperature at fixed points as a trend turns breakdowns into plannable partial repairs within the shutdown window.

What matters is not the individual reading but the curve: the same 95 °C is harmless if it has been stable for months — and an alarm if it was still 60 °C four weeks ago.

How measuring becomes a system

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| ☐ Fixed measuring points | define them once (grid on walls, crown, doors, near the burners) and approach exactly the same points at every measurement |
| ☐ Rhythm | monthly in normal operation; weekly as soon as a point becomes conspicuous |
| ☐ Trend threshold | a local hot spot 60–80 °C above its own previous value is a sign of critical remaining wall thickness |
| ☐ Reference conditions | always measure in the steady operating state, never during start-up |
| ☐ Documentation | image + value + date for each point; the curve belongs in the maintenance file |
| ☐ Consequence | schedule conspicuous points into the next planned shutdown — do not just watch them until it becomes urgent |



Shell temperature trended at fixed points



Inspection during shutdown — where the curve stood out

Common mistakes

- A one-off measurement without a previous value: without a trend, almost any reading can be argued either way.
- Measuring points shift from one measurement to the next — the curves become incomparable.
- The hot spot is found but not scheduled: one hour of unplanned shutdown quickly costs a five-figure sum.

PRACTICAL NOTE

Thermography does not replace an internal inspection — it tells you where the inspection is worthwhile and how urgent it is. Before/after images also document the success of every insulation measure.

Questions about your furnace?

We assess lining, zones and condition — with a reply within 24 hours on working days.

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