



# Energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> Footprint – Comparison of Selected Furnace and Case-hardening Concepts

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## Outline

- Motivation
- Plant and heat treatment parameters
- Comparison of the types of equipment for case hardening
- CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents in country comparison
- Case hardening footprint by furnace type and location
- Conclusion



## Motivation

- Policy requirement: CO<sub>2</sub> emissions must be reduced (CO<sub>2</sub> neutrality by 2035)
- Energy prices will rise
- Which energy source is more effective
- Data situation unclear, contradictory information in the market, as no uniform boundary conditions for carburizing temperature and plant location
- Utilization/workload, must be known

3

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## Heat Treatment Parameter

- Material: 16MnCr5
- Carburization depth: 0.8 mm; **1.0 mm**; 1.2 mm
- Carbon content limit: 0.35 %
- Quenching: Gas - or oil-quenching
- Temperature: 930 ° C
- Batch surface: 10 m<sup>2</sup>

4

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## Furnace Parameters

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- Insulation: lining/brickwork with back insulation (ATM).  
Standard "graphite felt" (single-chamber vac.)  
Graphite + back insulation (multi-chamber vac.)
- Burner efficiency: 72 %
- Gas supply: Endothermic gas / natural gas (ATM)  
Acetylene (vacuum)
- Utilization: 24/7

5

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## Other Boundary Conditions

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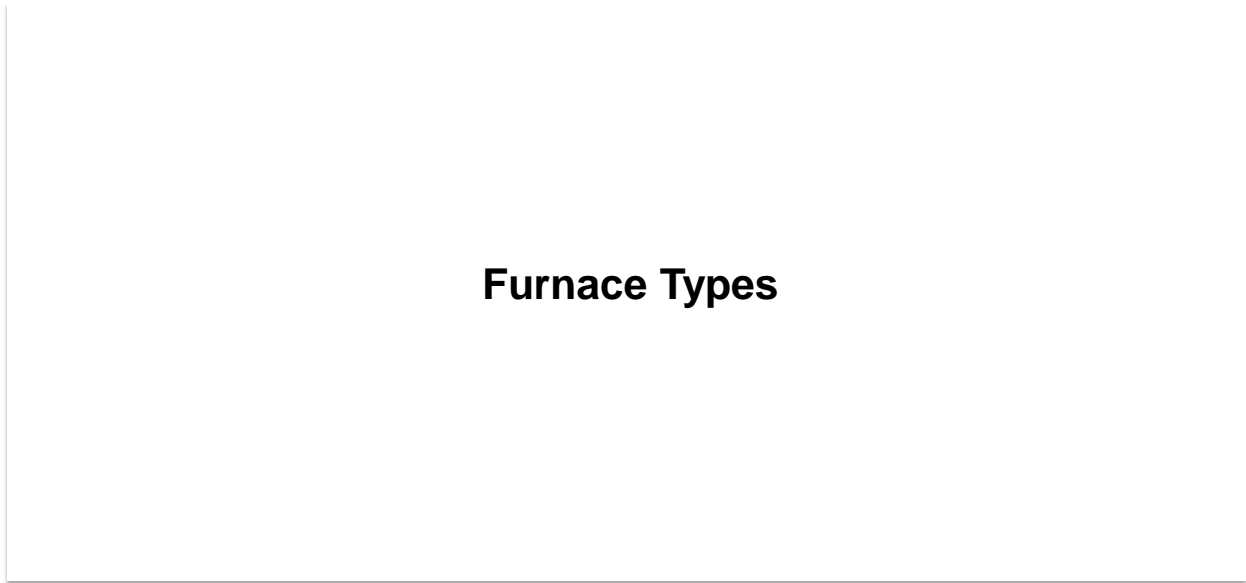
- Furnace condition: approx. 5-10 years old, well maintained
- Insulation: Standard "2010"
- Pre- and post-cleaning as well as tempering were not considered in order to focus comparability on main processes and plants
- Loading (gross/net) – charging material (trays, grids, etc.) considered

6

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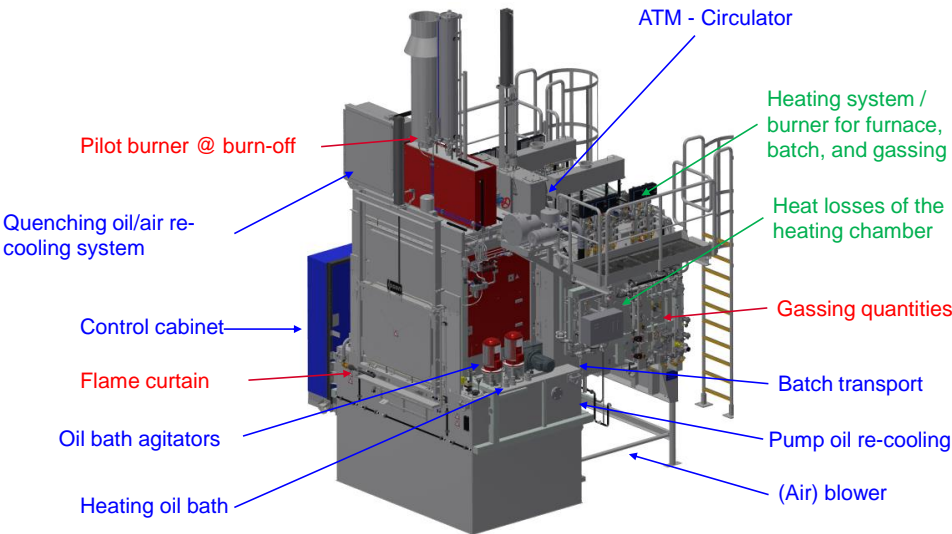


## Furnace Types

## Furnace Types

Furnace type	Ipsen type	Size	Work zone volume in m³	Batch weight kg (max.)	Quenching
Sealed quench (SQ) furnace	Atlas RTQ	M	0,405	500	Oil
		XL	0,972	1500	Oil
Pusher type furnace	PP	M-	0,275	350	Oil
Single-chamber-vacuum furnace	T2T	M	0,324	800	Gas
		XL	0,972	1500	Gas
Two-chamber-vacuum furnace	RVFOQ	XL	0,972	1500	Oil
	Argos XS	M+	0,450	1000	Gas
Multi-chamber-vacuum furnace	Argos (6 chambers)	M+	0,450	1000	Gas

# Considered Furnace Components – SQ Furnace

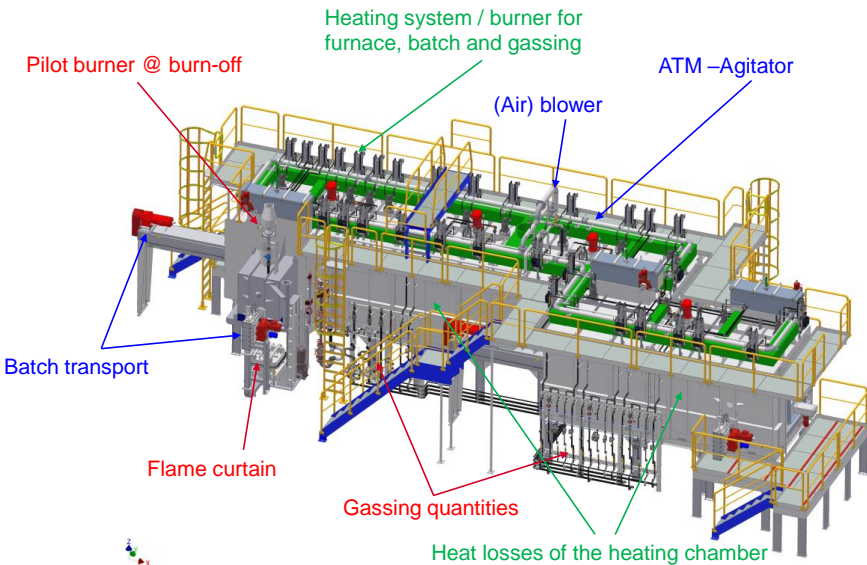


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# Furnace components considered - Conti



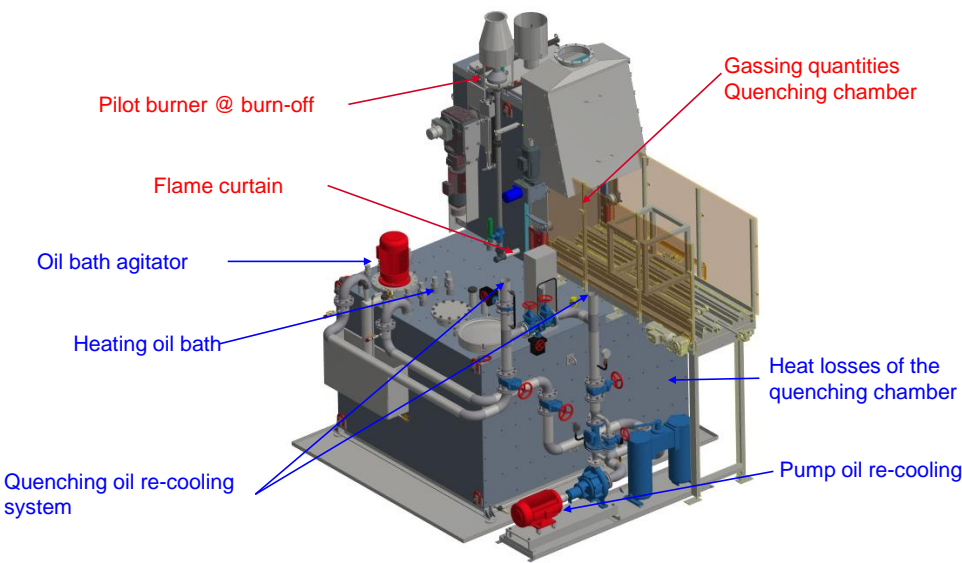
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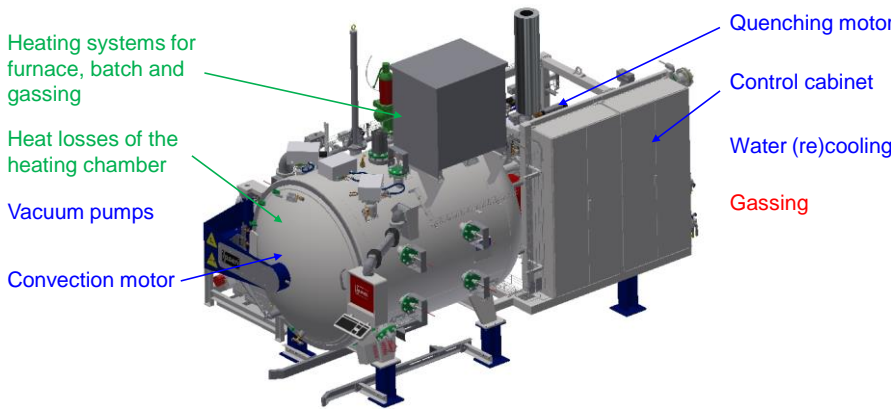
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# Furnace components considered - Conti oil bath

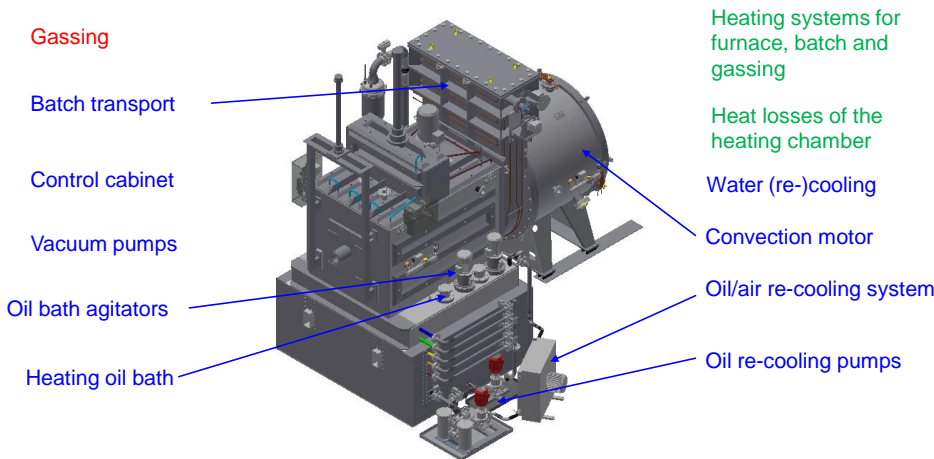


# Considered furnace components Single-chamber vacuum furnace



# Considered furnace components

## Two-chamber vacuum furnace with oil quench



13

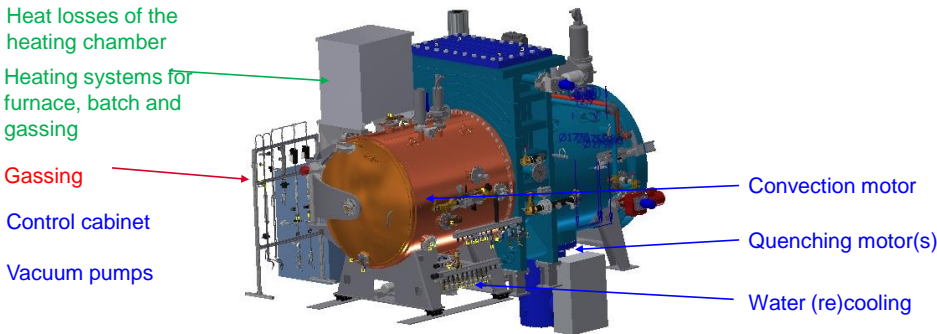
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# Furnace components considered

## Two-chamber vacuum systems with HGA



14

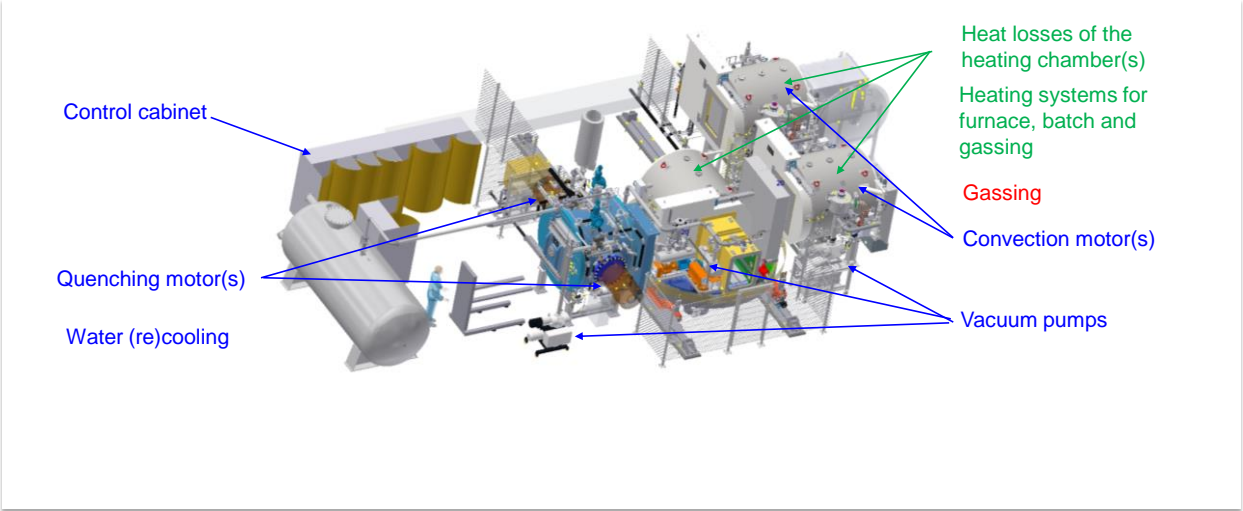
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# Furnace components considered

## Multi-chamber vacuum systems with HGA



15

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## Plant Location

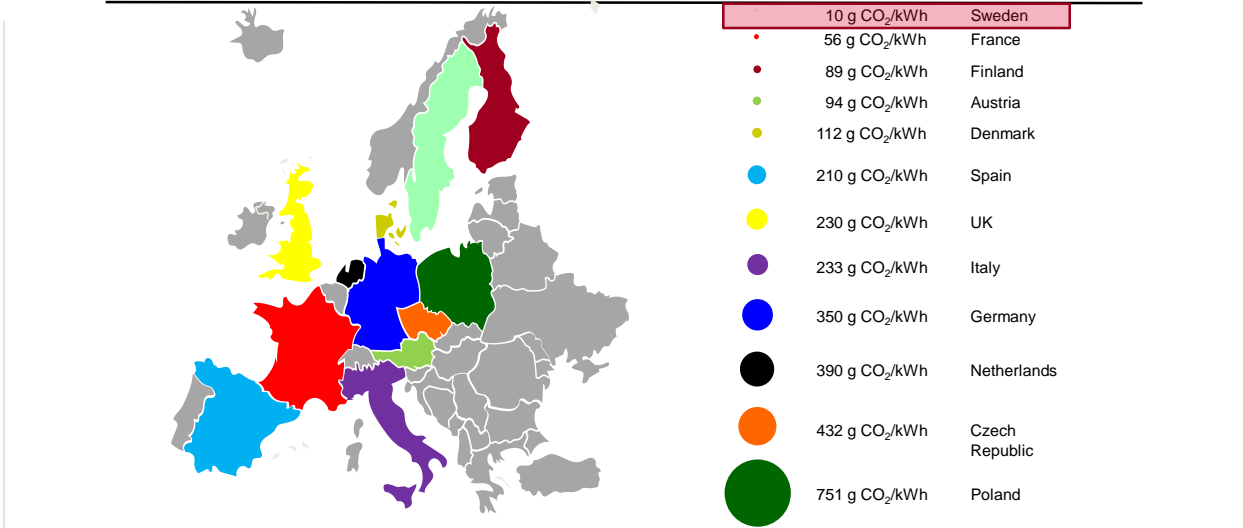
16

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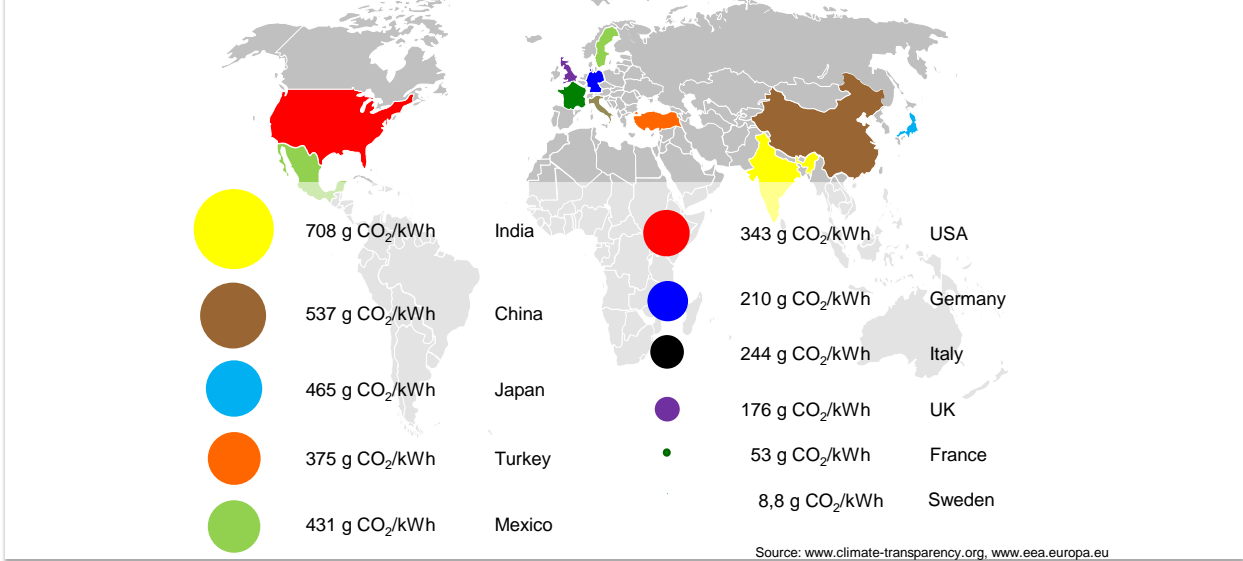
# CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per kWh of electricity generated in various European countries (as of 2019)



17 Source: [www.eea.europa.eu](http://www.eea.europa.eu)  
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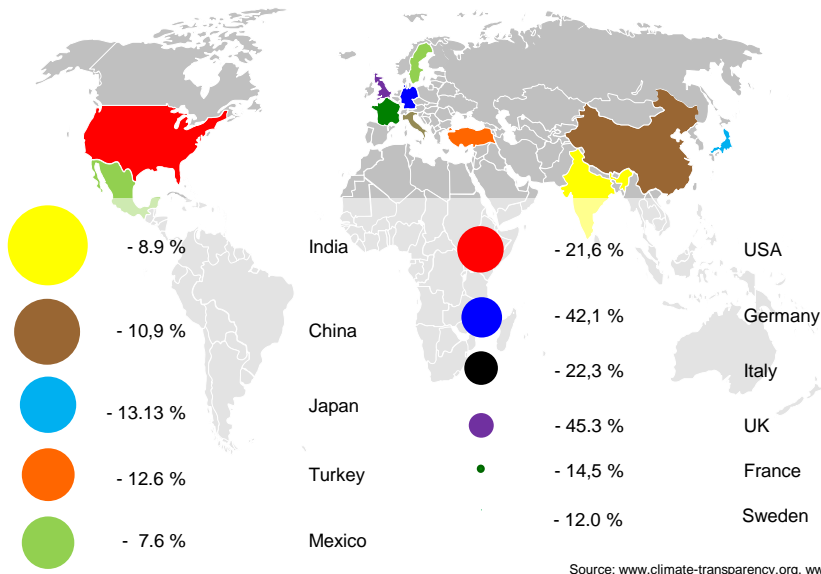
# CO<sub>2</sub> Equivalent per kWh of Electricity Generated in Various Countries (as of 2020)



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# CO<sub>2</sub> Equivalent 5-year Trend (2015-2020)

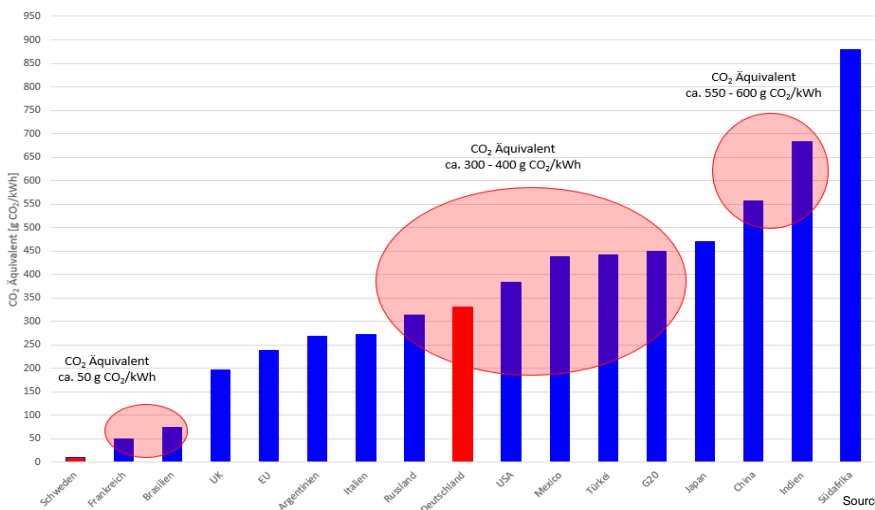


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# CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent [g CO<sub>2</sub>/kWh] of various G20 countries - status 2019

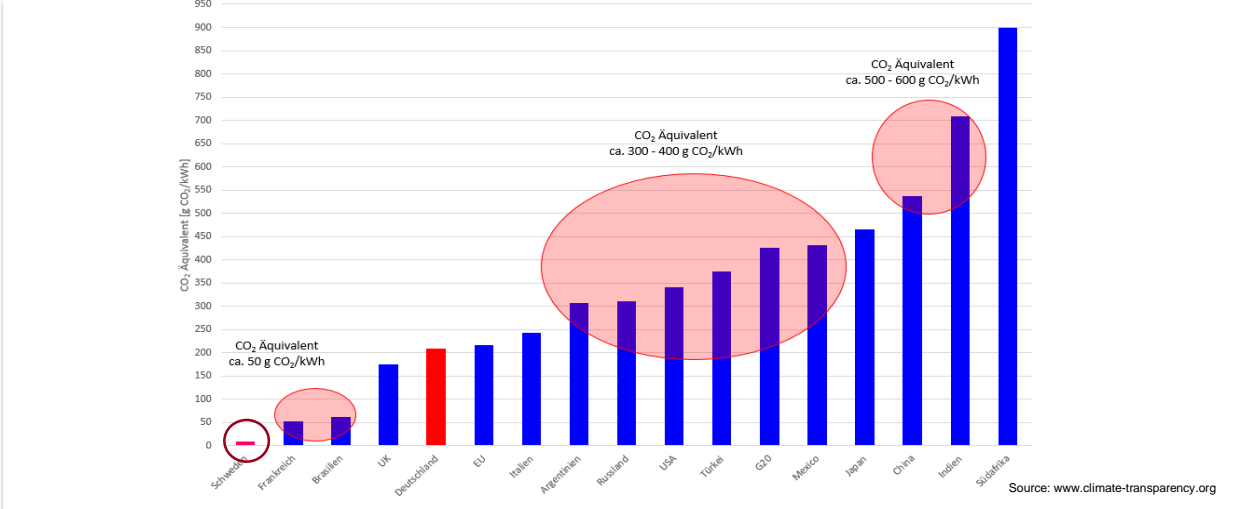


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# CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent [g CO<sub>2</sub>/kWh] of various G20 countries - status 2020



21

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# Comparison of CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions for Different Furnace Types

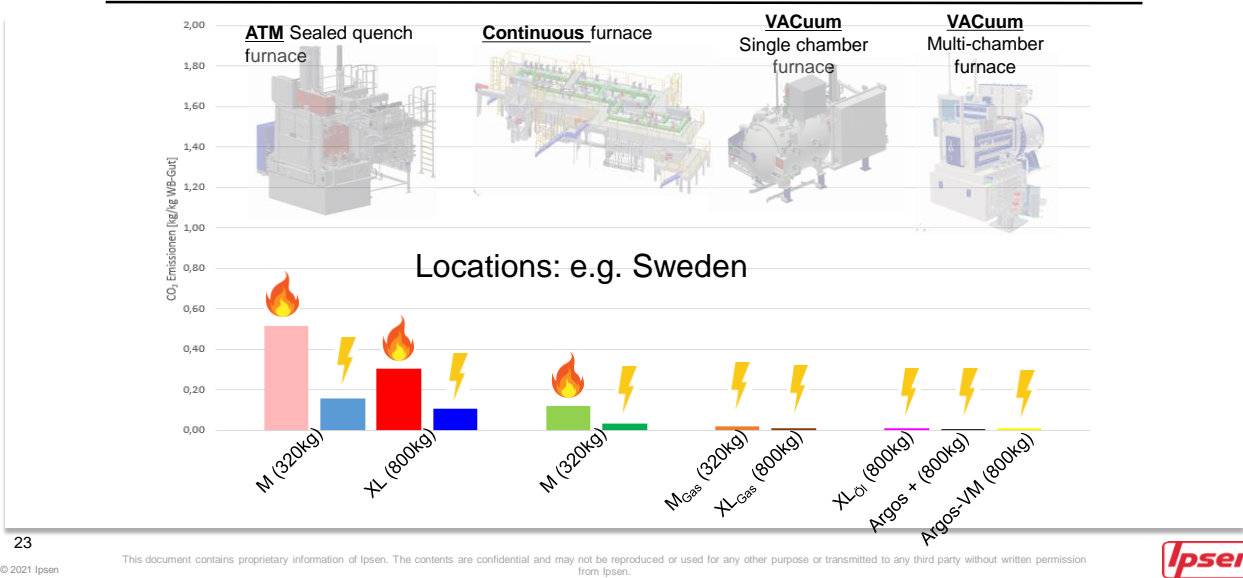
22

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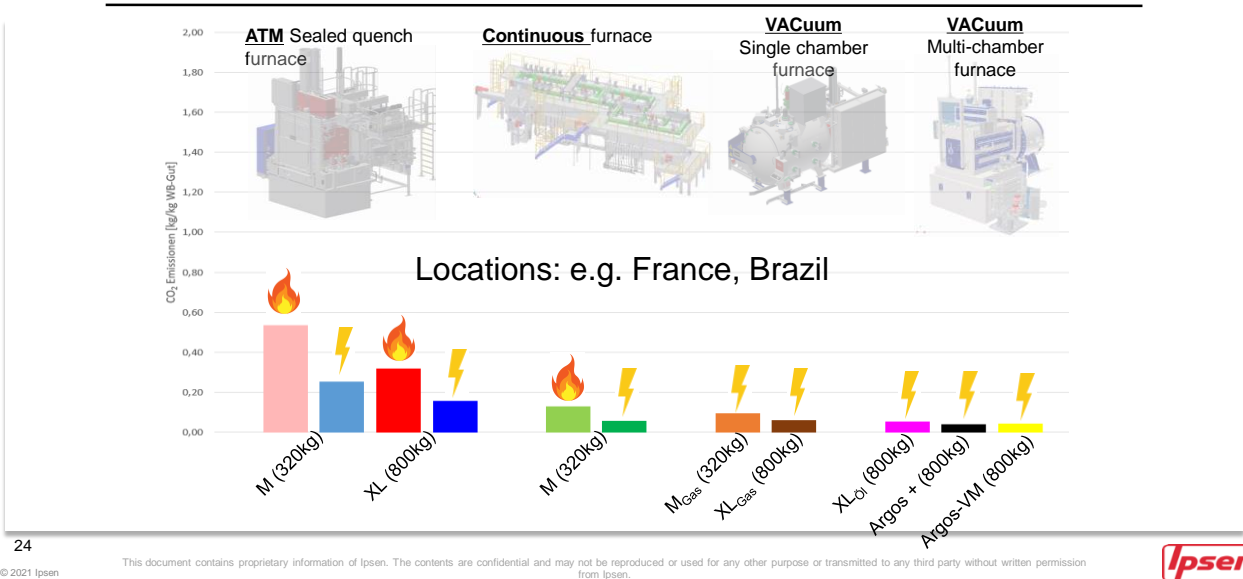
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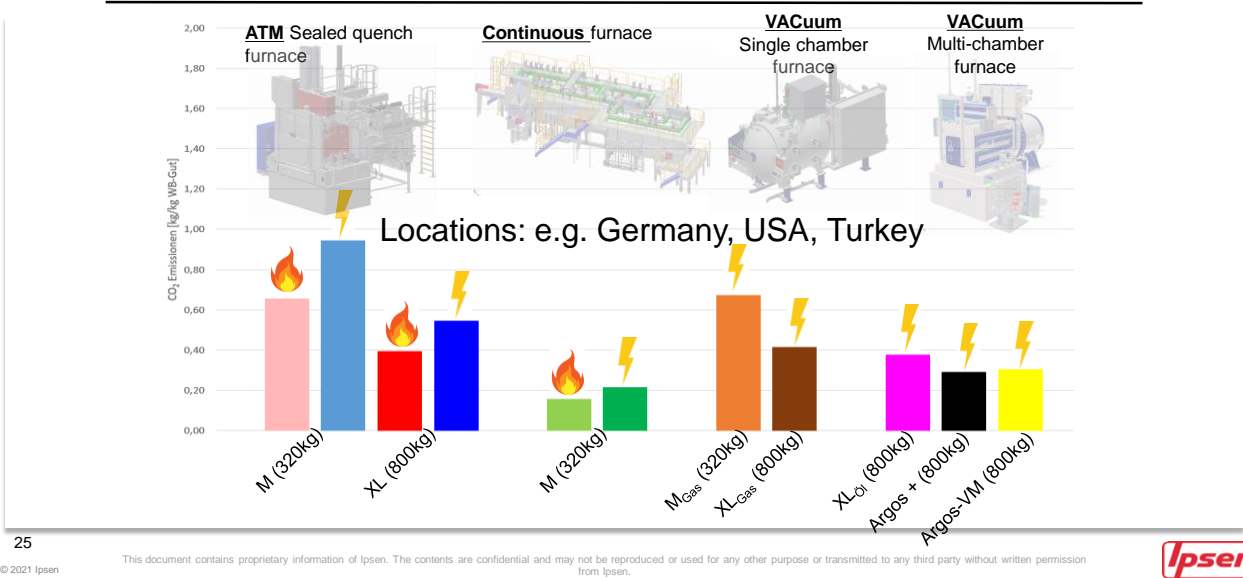
CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per kg heat treatment material in different furnace systems with a CHD 1.0 mm and a CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent of 10 g CO<sub>2</sub>/kWh



CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per kg heat treatment material in different furnace systems with a CHD 1.0 mm and a CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent of 50 g CO<sub>2</sub>/kWh



CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per kg heat treatment material in different furnace systems with a CHD 1.0 mm and a CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent of 350 g CO<sub>2</sub>/kWh



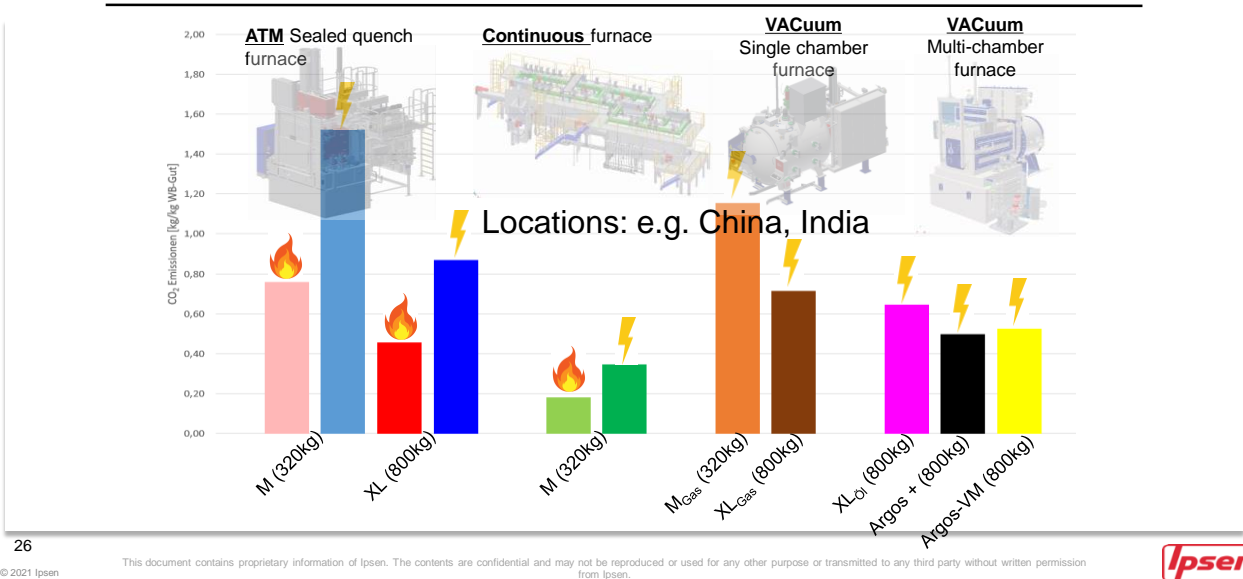
25

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CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per kg heat treatment material in different furnace systems with a CHD 1.0 mm and a CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent of 600 g CO<sub>2</sub>/kWh



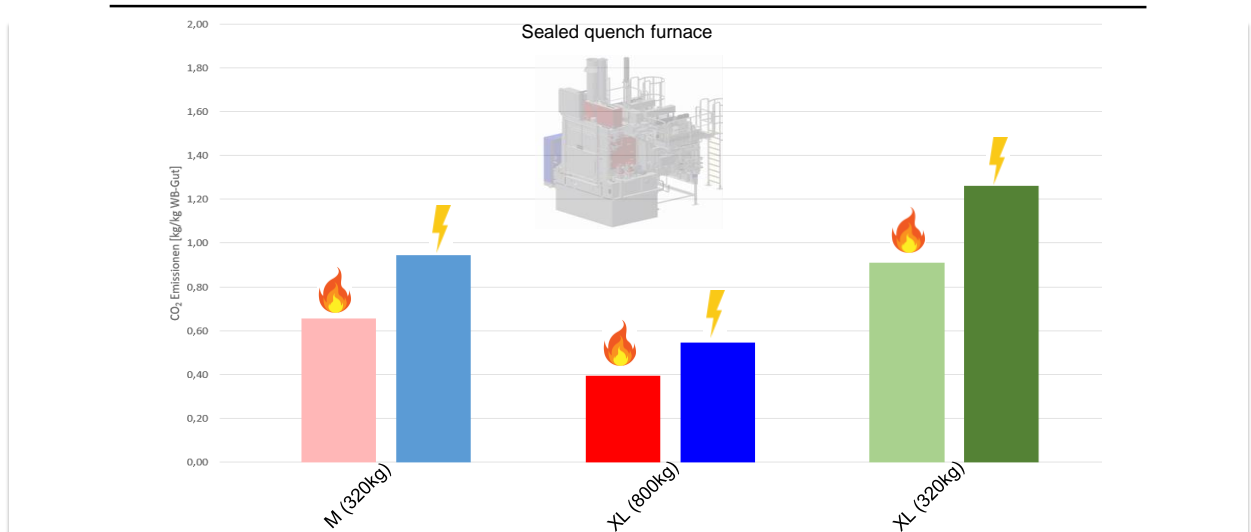
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## CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions per kg of Heat Treatment Material in the SQ Furnaces of Different Sizes and Load Weights with a CHD 1.0 mm and CO<sub>2</sub> Equivalent of 350 g CO<sub>2</sub>/kWh



27

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## Conclusions and Outlook

- For case hardening, pusher type furnaces are most effective per kg of heat treated parts at full capacity, (except Sweden)
- Comparative considerations between furnace concepts must be made at the same carburizing temperature
- For CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the location must be named
- Flexibility and fluctuations in capacity utilization change the result

Final comments:

Only CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are compared here - not energy costs. The picture here is different, in some cases the opposite.

The CO<sub>2</sub> foot print of e. g. nitrogen depends on the plant location

28

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