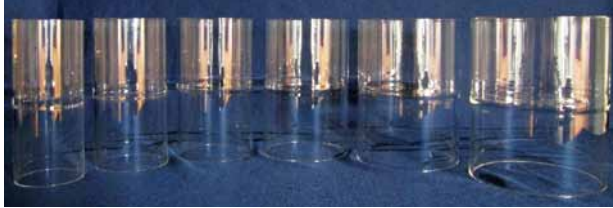


EXAMPLES

- ▶ laser-fused glass tubes
- ▶ $d = 50 \dots 100 \text{ mm}$
- ▶ $t = 1.8 \dots 3 \text{ mm}$



FURTHER APPLICATIONS

- ▶ chemical apparatus
- ▶ thermometer
- ▶ lamps etc.

PROJECT CONSORTIUM



advanced infrared cameras



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The LZH is a not-for-profit research institute and focuses on:

- ▶ R&D projects in the field of laser development and laser applications
- ▶ Technical and scientific consulting to link research and practice
- ▶ Industry-oriented training of experts for applying and operating laser systems

Through the close cooperation between production engineers, material scientists, and physicists we find interdisciplinary solutions for all fields of laser applications.

LASER-BASED FUSING OF GLASS TUBES

- ▶ FOR SOLAR THERMAL COLLECTORS



Energy efficiency | High productivity | Full automatable

CONTACT

Laser Zentrum Hannover e.V.
Technologies for Non-Metals Department
Glass Group
Hollerithallee 8
30419 Hannover
Germany

Phone +49 (0)511 2788 0
Fax +49 (0)511 2788 100
gls@lzh.de
www.lzh.de/en/projects/lafuesol



AIM OF THE PROJECT

Process and system technology for energy-efficient fusing of glass tubes.

- ▶ energy saving in the production
- ▶ automated fusing processes
- ▶ reduction of cycle time
- ▶ process reproducibility
- ▶ development of an online stress analyzer
 - reproducible stress level
 - optimization of tempering process
- ▶ adapted temperature field detection for glass



APPROACH

Efficient use of CO₂-laser radiation for glass tube fusing.

- ▶ applicable to all glass types
- ▶ only small amount of losses during heating
- ▶ no chemical influences to the glass
- ▶ no emissions during heating
- ▶ effective range of intensity / heating
- ▶ controllability / precision of the temperature
- ▶ process reliability

PROCESS SETUP

HANDLING

- ▶ automatic glass lathe

CO₂-LASER

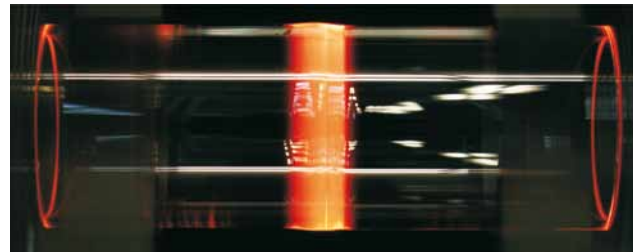
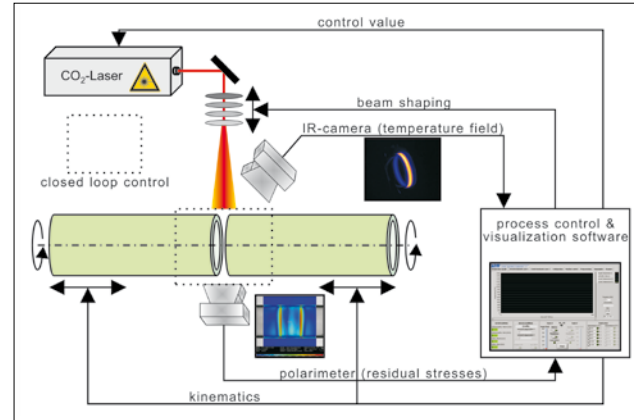
- ▶ $\lambda = 10.6 \mu\text{m}$
- ▶ P = 2500 W, cw-mode

IR-CAMERA

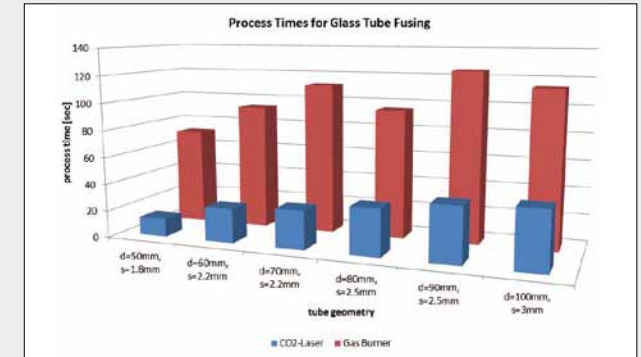
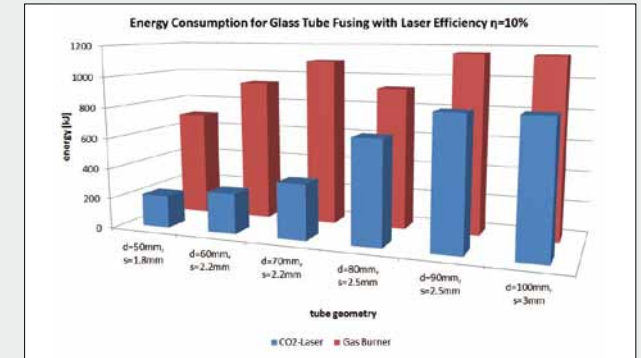
- ▶ control loop for temperature control

POLARIMETER

- ▶ online detection of stresses within the glass



RESULTS



RESIDUAL STRESSES

- ▶ adjustable stress level, $f(d_{\text{beam}})$
- ▶ position & amplitude

