

Q&A /// INTERVIEW WITH AN INDUSTRY INSIDER



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Ipsen is expanding its TITAN assembly line at its Vacuum Technology Excellence Center in Illinois. What was the reason for the expansion?

As our customers continue to invest in manufacturing, demand for the TITAN platform has accelerated significantly. We recently experienced our strongest month on record for TITAN orders, fueled by growth in the aerospace and energy industries. At the same time, we are building several large custom furnace projects that require significant manufacturing space and resources. The expansion addresses both needs. By creating a dedicated assembly area for the TITAN product line, we can increase production of our standardized platform while freeing up capacity in our existing assembly bays for larger, highly engineered systems. This allows us to optimize production flow across the entire facility and better serve customers with both standard and custom solutions. We have always believed that if customers place their trust in Ipsen, it is our responsibility to be ready to deliver. This investment ensures we can meet growing demand with the quality and responsiveness our customers expect.

What are some of the expansion details?

The project converts our former showroom into a dedicated TITAN assembly area, adding approximately 7,000 square feet of production space at our Vacuum Technology Excellence Center in Cherry Valley, Illinois. With this expansion, we will increase annual TITAN production capacity from 36 furnaces to 60. The first customer systems began moving through the new assembly line in July.

What makes the TITAN platform so successful for Ipsen?

TITAN was designed to meet our customers' evolving needs by combining excellent performance, standardized features, competitive pricing, and shorter delivery times in a high-quality vacuum furnace. Those features have made TITAN one of the most successful platforms in Ipsen's history. Since its introduction in 2009, we have installed more than 450 systems around the world.

Equally important, TITAN benefits from everything Ipsen has learned over decades of vacuum furnace innovation. Customers receive proven technology backed by a global organization that understands not only how to build vacuum furnaces, but also how to support them throughout their entire lifecycle.

How does the TITAN vacuum furnace compare to its competitors?

We believe no competitor offers the same combination of TITAN's size variations, features, and short lead time. It is backed by hundreds of installations and nearly two decades of continuous refinement, giv-



ing customers confidence in a platform proven across a wide range of industries and applications.

What was involved in transforming Ipsen's former showroom into a dedicated TITAN assembly area?

The project required much more than simply repurposing an existing space. To transform our former showroom into a dedicated manufacturing area, we removed a wall, reinforced the foundation to support equipment, and completely redesigned the layout to create a purpose-built assembly environment. This transformation included a new closed-loop water system and piping to each assembly station, including power drops and quench gas connections.

What does this added capacity mean for Ipsen and the industry as a whole?

For Ipsen, this expansion reflects our confidence in the future of manufacturing and our commitment to long-term investment. We believe demand for advanced thermal processing technology will continue to grow as new technologies emerge, innovative companies enter the market, and manufacturers continue pushing the boundaries of what's possible. Our responsibility is to ensure Ipsen has the capacity, expertise, and technology to support that growth.

This expansion is part of a much broader strategy. We are investing in our facilities, expanding our service organization, developing new products, advancing digital technologies, and introducing new service offerings that create even greater value for our customers. For our customers, this investment also means greater production capacity, improved delivery times, and the confidence that Ipsen is growing alongside them. More broadly, I believe this reflects the strength of manufacturing itself. We continue to see significant investment across aerospace, defense, energy, and other advanced industries.

Those industries depend on reliable thermal processing technology to bring new innovations to market. As they continue to grow and evolve, Ipsen will continue investing in the solutions and expertise that help our customers succeed. ♣

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