Frequently Asked Questions

GT Series Soldering Systems



Does the GT system use SmartHeat technology?

While the GT units use an inductive heater, these heaters are not controlled by the Curie Point principle. A RTD temperature sensor and an advanced PID algorithm regulate the tip temperature.

What is the tip temperature range for the GT systems?

200 to 450 °C (392 to 842 °F)

What are the differences between the GT90 and GT120 systems?

Besides maximum power input (90 vs. 120W), GT90 is ideal for lower thermal demand applications and smaller components. GT120 is ideal for high thermal demand applications.

What tips and cartridges can I use for each hand-piece type?

The standard handpiece uses standard cartridges and T6 replaceable tips. The slim handpiece is a shorter version that utilizes T4 replaceable tips and ultrafine cartridges.

Are the hand-pieces cross compatible within the GT lineup?

Yes, both handpieces can be used in either system.

Can I use a MX or CV cartridge in the GT handpiece?

The GT cartridges cannot be used with other Metcal's soldering systems and vice-versa.

Do the GT units need to be calibrated for tip temperature?

GT systems designed to the latest IPC-J-STD specifications and do not need to be calibrated for the following reasons:

- Programming during the production process has been completed to account for any drift in component characteristics and is under microprocessor control.
- Heating element for GT cartridges and tip heater cartridges have been designed and controlled to meet IPC requirement of 310°C temperature delta.
- The life of the RTD temperature sensing element embedded in the cartridge is much longer than the cartridge itself.
- To meet tighter specification needs, GT systems offer a user-configurable temperature offset feature.

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When the handpiece is placed inside the work stand, how are the standby and sleep timers are activated?

The standby and sleep timers are controlled by the handpiece motion sensor.

Are there any desolder or tweezer handpiece?

These handpieces are currently not available, but sign-up for the GT email list for the latest information on accessory releases in the near future.

Why is the power supply separate from the main unit?

A separate power adapter allows for a smaller, more compact design.

Can I update the firmware in GT systems?

The firmware is field upgradeable using a memory stick via the USB port.

Are there any administrative privileges to lock out operator control?

GT systems have three temperature presets that can be administratively controlled with a pin. There's also a limited manual range mode that can be controlled with the same method.

Do you have multiple languages for the main display and the user interface?

Current languages available are English, German, Spanish, French, Italian, Chinese and Korean.

What is the warranty period for the GT systems?

Two years for GT120 and one year for GT90.

Can I use the USB port to charge my cell phone?

While the primary purpose of the USB port is to allow for easy firmware updates with a memory stick, lower power USB accessories, such as cell phones may be connected.