Praxair’s new OPTIFIRE™ XD burner is an extreme duty burner designed to offer a continuous, low-momentum flame with reduced maintenance interruptions. The XD burner works to mitigate condensate build-up around the cooler oxygen ports. This is an important feature because most staged oxy-fuel burners that operate in a glass atmosphere, tend to build up condensate fairly quickly with continuous furnace operation.

The build-up around the cooler oxygen is common and a result of the volatile-rich furnace zone in which the cooler oxygen (O₂) ports operate, as seen in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Typical condensate build-up seen around cooler oxygen ports of staged oxy-fuel burners in a volatile rich furnace zone.

This excess build-up can lead to reduced heat transfer efficiency to the glass and reduced burner block life. Praxair’s new OPTIFIRE™ XD burner is designed to address this specific need.
OPTIFIRE™ XD Burner

The XD burner is a variant of Praxair’s standard wide flame burner (WFB). It was engineered to provide enough heat to the cooler oxygen ports, preventing condensation of alkali vapors from the glass atmosphere. It produces the same highly luminous, low momentum, flat flame that has set apart Praxair’s wide flame burner technology for years with a small percentage of natural gas diverted to the bottom ports (see Figure 2).

Benefits of the OPTIFIRE XD burner include:

- Mitigating condensate buildup on the cooler O₂ ports
- Reduced burner maintenance time
- Luminous flat flames covering a large glass surface area
- Low momentum flames that result in reduced volatilization and batch carryover
- Up to 50% lower NOx in comparison to conventional oxy-fuel burners
- No water cooling required
- Light weight and easy to install

The XD burner performance has been demonstrated in multiple fiberglass and container glass furnaces. The XD burner in Figure 3 has been operating in one of these furnaces for over seven months with zero evidence of condensate build-up and zero maintenance requirement.

Praxair will work with your engineers and procurement specialists to design a fully integrated package that meets your specific glass processing needs. For more information about the OPTIFIRE XD burner contact us at 1-800-PRAXAIR, or visit our website at www.praxair.com.