Introduction

The Thermal Stripper is a fiber preparation unit designed to thermo-mechanically remove acrylate coating from optical fibers.

It is designed to support most 125 μm glass optical fibers, including 250 μm, 400 μm, and 900 μm coated fibers.

This manual is intended to instruct the user in the routine use, adjustment, and maintenance of the Thermal Stripper.

NOTICE: It is the responsibility of the user to use this product for its intended purpose and according to this manual. Jonard Industries cannot be responsible for damages or injury resulting from failure to follow these instructions.

Safety Considerations

- The use of safety glasses is recommended. Fragments of fiber can cause injury if they come into contact with eyes.
- Observe all safety precautions common to the handling of optical fibers and dispose of fiber scraps safely.
- Do not operate the Thermal Stripper in the vicinity of flammable vapors or liquids. Operation of the unit in such an environment may increase the risk of fire or explosion.
- Before storing, the Thermal Stripper should be turned off and the heating element cooled to room temperature. This should also be done before cleaning with compressed gas or canned air. These products can contain flammable materials or contaminants that may ignite.
- Use only the A/C adapter that is supplied with the Thermal Stripper. Using an improper power supply may permanently damage the Thermal Stripper.
- Do not modify or disassemble the Thermal Stripper or any of its accessories, including the power supply.
- The heating element operates at temperatures up to 200° C. Never place your fingers inside the lid or touch the heating element surface, as burns may result.
- The sides and bottom of the unit may become warm to the touch after prolonged use.
- Turn the Thermal Stripper off when not in use.
- Do not expose any portion of the Thermal Stripper to water or other liquids.
Components

The standard Thermal Stripper kit contains the following items:

- Thermal Stripper unit
- A/C Power Supply and Cord
- Cleaning Brush
- User Manual

External Overview

The following picture is an external overview of the Thermal Stripper.
Fiber Holder Platform Installation

A fiber holder platform or clamp is required for stripping and is supplied separately. The platforms that are available support Fitel/Fujikura or Ericsson fiber holders. For operation without fiber holders a Universal Clamp is available.

1. Remove the socket head screw with an M2.5 hex head wrench.

2. At the end of the Thermal Stripper where you removed the screw slide your fiber holder platform or Universal Clamp onto the rail until it is completely on.

3. Reinstall the socket head screw with an M2.5 hex head wrench until tight.
Setup

1. Select the correct strip length by loosening the set screw on the side of the fiber holder platform with an M1.5 hex head wrench and adjusting the cam.

2. Adjust the “Set Point” temperature, using a small flat screwdriver to rotate the temperature adjustment dial to the appropriate setting (See table on next page for setting values or the table on the back of the Thermal Stripper). Factory default is 140°C for 250μm coatings. Increase the time if stripping process is not smooth and the fiber does not cleanly strip. Reduce the temperature if melting of the coating is observed.
3. Adjust the "Wait Time", using a small flat screwdriver to rotate the time adjustment dial to the appropriate setting (See table above for setting values). Increase the time if stripping process is not smooth and the fiber does not cleanly strip. The following table is a good starting point for different fiber coatings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiber Diameter (µm)</th>
<th>Time Setting</th>
<th>Temperature Setting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>125 (250 coating)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125 (900 coating)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Attach the power cord to the power supply.
5. Connect the power supply to the Thermal Stripper. The power supply operates from 100-240 VAC (50/60 Hz) without adjustment.
6. Place the stripper on the table in front of you with the heater block to your right.
7. Plug the AC power cord into a 100-240 VAC (50/60 Hz) outlet.
8. The Thermal Stripper is now ON. The indicator LED will light steadily red while the unit is heating to its "Set Point" temperature. When the operating temperature is reached, the LED will turn off.
Use

1. Place the fiber to be stripped in the appropriate fiber holder. Leave enough fiber protruding from the holder to extend to the edge of the heating element when it is in the far left position.

2. Slide the fiber holder platform all the way to the left (toward the stripping blades and heat element).

3. Place the fiber holder on the fiber holder platform, making sure that the fiber is on the heating element and in the v of the blades.

4. Close the blades by pressing down on the lid with your left hand. The LED will turn yellow for the length of the "Wait Time", continue holding down the lid until the LED turns green, which indicates the fiber is ready to be stripped.
5. While continuing to hold the blades closed with your left hand, use your right hand to slide the fiber holder platform back to the right.

6. Release the lid and remove the fiber holder. The fiber is now ready to be cleaned, cleaved and spliced.

Cleaning

During use debris will build up behind the blade as well as on the heating element of the Thermal Stripper, affecting the strength of the stripped fiber. While the Thermal Stripper can be used many dozens of strips between cleaning, for optimal performance we recommend cleaning after every strip.

1. With the included cleaning brush, sweep excess coating out from behind the stripping blade.
2. After excess coating is removed from behind the blade thoroughly clean the heating element and upper pad by brushing debris away from the stripping blade toward the back of the Thermal Stripper.

**Contacting Technical Support**

Please refer below to contact 3SAE Technologies, Inc. with questions regarding your Thermal Stripper. Please have the model and serial number available.

**Email:**

support@3SAE.com

**Website:**

www.3SAE.com

**Technical Support Lines:**

Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM CST
615-778-8812 Extension 2

After Normal Business Hours
800-864-1404