



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Ceralink Builds First Production Size Microwave Assist Technology (MAT) Atmosphere Control Kiln**

Albany, NY – Ceralink Inc. announced they have completed the worlds first production size Microwave Assist Technology (MAT) atmosphere control kiln. The kiln, a 30 cubic ft MAT elevator kiln capable to 1600 C with atmosphere control, was built for Touchstone Research Laboratory and is housed in their West Virginia facility.

MAT is a heating technology that allows manufacturers to double production capacity, while decreasing energy and manufacturing costs. The team assembled to build the MAT kiln included Ceralink Inc., Harrop Industries, and Thermex-Thermatron. Harrop Industries was contracted to collaborate with Ceralink on the design and build, and Thermex Thermatron was brought in to supply the microwave power and assist with the microwave kiln connections.

Ceralink has exclusive license and is the only authorized source for Microwave Assist Technology (MAT) in North America. Ceralink also offers sublicense packages that include feasibility testing and materials development for manufacture of materials using MAT technology in our Microwave Testing Center.

MAT technology combines gas or electric furnaces with microwave energy to heat ceramic products. MAT decreases furnace cycle time by a factor of 2, cutting energy consumption by at least 50%. The radiant and microwave heating are applied simultaneously, leading to uniform heat distribution, faster firing, more complete binder removal, lower temperature calcining, etc. This technology also offers improved materials properties including huge potential for densification of nano-ceramics.

Ceralink's MAT furnace products include 1100 C, 1600 C and 1700 C lab scale furnaces with either air or atmosphere control, and production scale gas or electric MAT furnaces in batch, elevator and tunnel kilns.

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