passionate about plasma

Activation | Cleaning | Coating | Etching

Plasma Surface Treatment

Cirrus & Nimbus
Atmospheric Plasma Treatment Systems
Cirrus & Nimbus Atmospheric Plasma

The Cirrus & Nimbus are, respectively, single and dual nozzle atmospheric plasma treatment systems ideally suited to surface activation, cleaning and modification of a wide range of materials including polymers, metals, glass and ceramics.

Both models are extremely simple to operate via the front panel soft-keypad and can also be interfaced with external control equipment using the rear panel Sub-D connector providing a variety of I/O control inputs and status read-back to ensure seamless operation with production lines or robot cells.

The Cirrus & Nimbus operate from a standard single-phase electrical outlet and require only compressed air for operation. The compact controller features an interlocked airflow regulation unit as standard so that no ancillary equipment is required. The Cirrus & Nimbus address a range of specific material treatments including:

- Plasma cleaning
- Plasma surface activation to improve adhesion
- PEEK & other engineering polymers
- PCBs
- Metals
- Ceramics
- Glass

Markets & Applications

Composites

Aerospace & Automotive
**Plasma Environment**

The Cirrus & Nimbus deliver a ~10mm diameter plasma plume directly to the place where it’s required. The compressed air plasma has the effect of microscopically ‘sandblasting’ the surface whilst simultaneously chemically activating it. Our proprietary, high stability plasma power generator allows for high line speeds when operated as part of a continuous processing facility.

**Process Control**

The compact control unit can be operated manually or interfaced with existing control equipment. Plasma start and stop signals are supplied via a rear panel Sub-D connector. All important parameters are available on the same connector for read-back and monitoring.

**Repeatable & Reliable**

The Cirrus & Nimbus only need a compressed air supply for operation. Plasma parameters and gas delivery are continuously monitored and controlled to deliver the same result irrespective of changes in gas delivery characteristics. The unit features a number of electrical and compressed air safety interlocks that ensure long term, trouble-free operation.

**Versatile**

The Nimbus extends the overall functionality with dual plasma heads operating from the same single controller. This can be useful for treating multiple areas, larger areas or in place of multiple line passes. The Cirrus & Nimbus can also be supplied fully integrated with a 3-axis table robot system for commonly performed batch processes.
Some of Our Clients

“Henniker provided visible results from the outset and confirming that we made the right decision in choosing a local UK manufacturer.”

Queen’s University Belfast

“We obtained quality results with their unit within minutes of setup & consistent results thereafter. The support they have provided has been rapid and helpful.”

Making Lab, Francis Crick Institute

“We are very impressed with the ease of use and reliability of our plasma unit and were producing results within minutes of setting it up.”

Warwick University

“Our collaborative work with the team at Henniker was a very positive experience and one that we look forward to developing further.”

TWI
Cirrus & Nimbus Specifications

Technical Specifications

**CONTROLLER**
- Dimensions: W 450mm x H 180mm x L 500mm (+50mm on rear for cables)
- Weight: ~10kg, including plasma nozzle

**PLASMA NOZZLE**
- Connection: 3m flexible umbilical to controller rear
- Weight: ~0.5kg
- Dimensions: Ø 32mm x L 210mm
- Treatment width: ~10-12mm with standard applicator “mode” nozzle
- Options:
  - Scope nozzle = ~15-20mm treatment area
  - Finite nozzle = ~8-10mm treatment area, for narrow channels

**PLASMA POWER SUPPLY**
- Power: 300W, nominal
- Frequency: 40 kHz

**PROCESS CONTROL**
- Interface:
  - Front Panel - soft key pad
  - Rear Panel - SUB D connector, 15 pin
  - Outputs:
    - I/O System ready
    - HV on/off
  - Inputs:
    - Remote Interlock
    - Plasma on / Plasma off

**SERVICES**
- Electrical: 110-250 AC, 50-60Hz, 450 VA (including pump), fused 6.3 A T
- Gas: Compressed air - dry, oil free, 5-8bar, 6mm push fit
- Power cord: Suited to region
- Compliance: CE – ROHS - WEEE

Benefits
- compact benchtop or rack-mount unit
- user friendly soft-key interface
- I/O subsystem for line integration
- integrated gas monitoring & control
- precise & repeatable
- treatment of polymers, glass, ceramics, metals

Typical Process Results

Images show increased wettability on metal and polymer samples following plasma treatment

Henniker strive for continuous improvement and specifications are subject to change without notice

Products & Services
- vacuum plasma systems
- high throughput systems
- robot systems
- proof of concept trials
- surface test & analysis
- process development
We are an experienced, dynamic and expanding company already established as a leading global manufacturer of plasma treatment systems and innovative processes. Our success is built around an exceptional body of knowledge and expertise, backed by highly trained and dedicated staff who understand your application in considerable detail. Our standard configurations cover most applications but we also understand that no two samples or surfaces are the same.

That’s why, uniquely, we offer a wide range of options that allow us to customise any standard system for your exact requirement.

Henniker
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CONTRACT PLASMA TREATMENT SERVICE
Our technical staff will be happy to discuss contract treatments, from small one-off batches to regular, large throughput requirements.

PROOF OF CONCEPT TREATMENT
Let’s discuss your application and then we will provide a quick, no-nonsense feasibility study.

SURFACE TESTING LABORATORY
With a comprehensive suite of surface analysis equipment, we are able to conduct a wide range of surface property tests, both before and after plasma treatment, in order to provide you with the whole picture.

AFTER SALES SUPPORT
We are proud of our reputation for being approachable, thorough and easy to work with.

“Henniker’s after sales support is first class. They have always been extremely responsive if we have ever had need to call on them.”

Steve Rackham, Teledyne

RENTAL PLASMA TREATMENT SYSTEMS
We carry a wide range of our standard equipment in stock and available for short or long term hire. This is particularly useful for in-house proof of concept trials or to satisfy short term contract work.

“The low risk option of hiring a plasma unit for evaluation was a key reason that we chose to work with Henniker and one that enabled us to proceed with confidence.”

Dr. Chris Nicklin, Reinnervate

METHOD DEVELOPMENT
We have invested significantly in laboratory facilities to assess, test and investigate all aspects of plasma surface modification on a wide range of materials. Coupled with extensive in-house and real-world knowledge, we can usually deliver a tailored treatment quickly and efficiently to suit your individual product or production needs.

“The technical team at Henniker are very knowledgeable and supportive and always approachable. I have found it a pleasure to work with them.”

Simon Baxter, BAE Systems, AI

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