Brazing a copper tube

Objective
To heat a copper tube to 1500 ºF (816 ºC) for a brazing application; the end product is used in swimming pool heaters and pumps

Material
- Copper tubes (0.87”/22 mm O.D.)
- Braze wire

Temperature
1500 ºF (816 ºC)

Frequency
200 kHz

Equipment
- Ambrell EASYHEAT 10 kW, 150 to 400 kHz induction heating system equipped with a remote workhead containing two 1.5 uf capacitors for a total of 0.75 uf
- A single position six-turn split helical induction heating coil designed and developed specifically for this application

Process
The braze preforms were positioned on the tube, and the assembly was then placed in the coil. After 30 seconds of heating, the braze alloy had melted and flowed into the joint area. The power was then turned off and the process was completed.

Results/Benefits
- Speed: The client had been using a torch, which took 50 seconds instead of 30
- Precise, repeatable heating: The main reason that the client turned to induction was to increase repeatability and in turn boost part quality
- Safety: There is no open flame with induction, which makes it a safer method of heating than torch heating
The assembly during heating