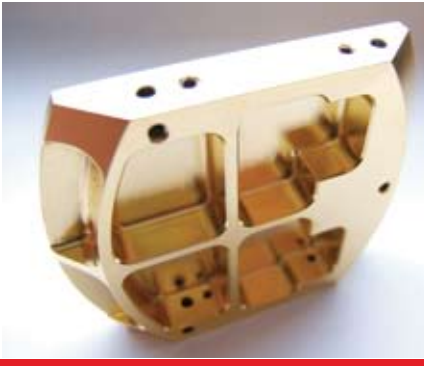


LASER BEAM PRODUCTS

NEWSLETTER February 2012

Reworking saves £8,000

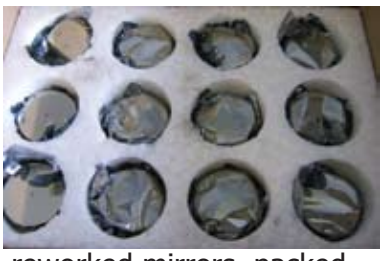
One of our customers, well-known for making domestic heat exchanger systems, uses a sophisticated welding machine for cutting and welding the pipework.

They contacted us about reworking the mirrors in their two beam delivery systems. With around 19 pieces of 70mm internally water cooled mirrors, including a roof prism beam splitter, the cost saving was around 8,000 GB Pounds compared to buying new mirrors.

Not quite believing that such large sums could be saved without compromising performance we made a few trial pieces that the customer was happy with. It wasn't long before we received all the mirrors for reworking, plus a lot of previously used ones that had been kept for a "rainy day".

The pictures show a typical 'before' mirror, burnt and scratched, and one layer of the return shipment after they had been repaired.

mirror before reworking



reworked mirrors, packed

Hardened Metal Mirrors

There are many industries where the demands on an optical mirror are more than reflectivity and laser damage threshold. For example surface hardness, chemical resistance and magnetic properties might be important.

We have had several requests for more unusual materials recently. We have made square mirrors from EN31 (a tool steel hardened to Rockwell 60-64) and we've produced mirrors from the more exotic Titanium (Grade 5) which is widely used in the aerospace and medical industries.

Tool steel square mirrors

Titanium mirror

We are always happy to make trials on novel materials, and over the years we've accumulated a database of dozens that we have production processes prepared for. These include Molybdenum, Tungsten, Aluminium, ARCAP, Brass, Nickel and 406 Stainless.

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