

INVENTOR OF WORLD'S FIRST TRIPLE INDIVIDUAL FURNACES

M.S. Ahluwalia MCSWA A/26

Is there anything an Artificer can't do?

M.S. Ahluwalia M Ch. SWA II A/26 is one of the most leading “Package Boilers” manufacturer today. Total dedication to assigned work and keenness to learn has lead him to designing and manufacturing compact package boilers for catering the needs of industry.

During school and college days he did very well in cricket and in 1950 headed his schools cricket team to finals in state school cricket tournament. Later he was selected for PEPSU School Eleven Team and represented Mahendra College cricket team in intercollege cricket tournament of Pepsu and Punjab. Those days Services cricket team was at top in country. This motivated him to join the Indian Navy in 1954 as Seaman, later to be selected as Artificer Apprentice in July 1955. At INS Shivaji, he pursued his passion for cricket. This is one reason he opted for Shipwright branch to reach INS Angre. But the destiny had something else for him. On arrival in Shipwright School, he was pursued by seniors to give more importance to profession than to cricket as Navy is a professional force. Though it was disheartening, but he heeded to the advice and accepted the challenge gracefully, not to mention he continued topping in technical as well as practical studies during apprenticeship. The trend continued through the naval career. After serving in INS Mysore, INS Konkan, Shipwright School and INS Rajput, he bade goodbye to Indian Navy in 1969.

As a Shipwright, they develop expertise in welding, but boiler is not part of curriculum. But partner Walia, with the keen attitude to learn and making gold of opportunity developed expertise on various types of boilers during his short stints with Bombay Marine; Nestle Boiler and Reynold boilers at the beginning of his second innings in civil life. Out of this confidence he could assure the new employers M/s. Acme Engineers about manufacturing NIBR Packaged Steam Boilers. Somehow, a thought always haunted his mind – why not manufacture, market and service steam boilers on own. So, he floated a company Indra Fabricators in partnership and started manufacturing boilers in Mumbai from a rented industrial gala. Soon he moved to Ahmedabad, as there was better market in Gujrat and came clear of the partnership in 1977.

Walia Engineering Associates Pvt. Ltd. is manufacturing ‘ready to steam package boilers’ for small and medium scale industry requiring process / heating steam. The company grew with demand of product and services to add on new specialisation units ‘Boilertech Engineers, Boilertech Engineers Pvt. Ltd, Clean Combustion Pvt. Ltd., Ensave Boilers Pvt. Ltd. at Indore and Gopal Engineers at Chandigarh. All these companies manufacture and service the same product with various versions. Their product highlights are:

- Package NIBR Steam boiler.
- 3-pass, wet back solid fuel package boiler as per IBR.
- Multi Fuel Package Steam boiler
- Twin or 2- furnaces (Independent Combustion) multi-fuel package boiler, up to 20 ton, with pressure up to 21 kg/cm²
- Triple or 3 - furnaces (Independent Combustion) multi-fuel package boiler, up to 20 ton, with pressure up to 21 kg/cm²

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Walia Engineering Associates Pvt. Ltd. situated at GIDC Vatva, Ahmedabad has already completed 40 years providing steam generation and efficient utilization of steam services to user industry. The Clean Combustion Pvt. Ltd. situated near Bavla, 40km from Ahmedabad has also completed 22 years of service on a plotted area of 20,000 Sq.mtr. The units are fully equipped with 1000 ton hydraulic press capable of 40mm x 2500mm plate bending machine and 65mm radial drilling machine; besides welding equipment and quality producing welders as per IBR.

Mr. Walia has been instrumental in forming Indian Boilers Manufacturers Association and has been its president for 6 years and as such been a member of Central Boiler Board. Now that the age has caught up; the mantle is with his son Rajesh Walia who is also a qualified mechanical engineer from Bangalore University.

In short story is of Struggle for survival and rising after unpleasant experience of partnership breakup. His firm beliefs are • Honesty to self, • Honesty customer commitments • Courage and conviction to achieve, • Open mind and learning attitude from minute details and courageous approach to new ventures.

He is indebted to Indian Navy for training and attitudinal development.

