In the early 1960’s I work in a picture tube rebuilder in Terre Haute Indiana. I was a college student and passed the shack where the tube rebuilder was located.

One day I stopped and asked if they had any part time work. The next day I was washing “duds” to get them ready for the rebuild process on equipment very much the things you are restoring particularly the vertical lathe. I lengthened the neck, fused the electron gun assembly into the neck and operated the evacuation ovens.

The ovens were large enough to fit 27” tubes.

It was miserable piece work, hot in the summer and so cold in the winter that we had to let the tubes cool in the oven or they would crack due to thermal stress.

The positive aspect was that the hours were flexible to fit a student’s schedule. The negative part was the “dag” conductive paint was nearly impossible to wash off so with on my hands and face I was often mistaken for a bum on campus.

Needless to say I lacked a steady girlfriend during that period of my life. Thanks for the reminder that my life has improve over time.

Sherman