

## **Instructions for Using the WTS-1 and WTS-2 Thermal Wire Strippers**

### **DESCRIPTION**

The WTS-1 and WTS-2 thermal wire strippers are ideal tools for effectively removing the insulation from most strain gage leadwires. They are designed to strip all thermoplastic insulations, including Teflon®, in sizes ranging from 14 AWG to 36 AWG [1.63 to 0.13 mm diameter]. Thermal stripping of wire is desirable since mechanical strippers may nick or break individual conductor strands.

The WTS-1 is designed for 110 Vac operation, while the WTS-2 is intended for 220 Vac operation.

The power unit is controlled by a convenient foot switch that provides the operator excellent control. Additionally, the power unit is compatible with the WRS Resistance Soldering Unit (See Micro-Measurements Strain Gage Accessories Data Book).

### **SETUP**

Rotate the power control dial fully counterclockwise to the OFF position.

Slide the tapered metal pins, located on the cable which connects to the hand piece, into the sockets on the front of the power unit.

Plug the unit into a properly grounded ac outlet.

### **Note for the WTS-2**

Since there is currently no “standard” plug configuration for 220 Vac, the power cord of the WTS-2 is supplied without a plug. It is necessary to obtain a plug properly designed for the wall receptacle to which the WTS-2 will be connected. Attach the plug to the power cord according to the manufacturer’s instructions.

### **USING THE WTS-1 AND WTS-2**

#### **Step 1**

Turn the power dial to the desired setting. The exact setting will vary depending on the type of insulation and size of the wire. For PVC insulated wires such as Micro-Measurements Type 326-DFV, a power setting of 40-50 is acceptable. Teflon insulated wires normally require higher heat settings.

#### **Step 2**

Place the wire to be stripped between the two heating elements.

#### **Step 3**

Depress the foot switch to energize the unit. The elements will heat up within several seconds.

#### **Step 4**

Squeeze the hand piece and allow the heated elements to melt through the insulation at the desired location. Release the foot switch and hand piece and remove the wire.

#### **Step 5**

Remove the insulation by pulling with the thumb and forefinger.

### **REPLACEMENT ELEMENTS**

WTS-A replacement heating elements (set of two) are available from Micro-Measurements.

Additional hand pieces, heating elements, and accessories are available for the WTS-1 and WTS-2. Contact our Applications Engineering Department for additional information.

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