CLAIMS

1. A method of optimising operating conditions in a foraminous burner configured to treat an effluent stream comprising hydrogen from a semiconductor processing tool, said method comprising:

supplying said effluent stream and a supply of oxidant to said foraminous burner,

determining a concentration of carbon monoxide present in an exhaust of said foraminous burner, when treating said effluent stream; and

adjusting said supply of oxidant to said foraminous burner in response to said concentration of carbon monoxide, wherein adjusting comprises:

i) determining whether, following an increase in said supply of oxidant, said concentration of carbon monoxide increases and, if so, decreasing said supply of oxidant, or

ii) determining whether, following a decrease in said supply of oxidant, said concentration of carbon monoxide increases and, if so, increasing said supply of oxidant,

until, in steps i or ii, said concentration of carbon monoxide reaches its lowest level.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said determining comprises measuring said concentration of carbon monoxide with an infrared spectrometer.

3. An apparatus comprising:

a foraminous burner with an exhaust, said foraminous burner configured to:

treat an effluent stream comprising hydrogen received from a semiconductor processing tool; and

receive a supply of oxidant;

a sensor configured to determine a concentration of carbon monoxide present in said exhaust of said foraminous burner; and

a processor configured to adjust said supply of oxidant to said foraminous burner in response to said concentration of carbon monoxide, wherein adjusting comprises:

i) determining whether, following an increase in said supply of oxidant, said concentration of carbon monoxide increases and, if so, decreasing said supply of oxidant, or

ii) determining whether, following a decrease in said supply of oxidant, said concentration of carbon monoxide increases and, if so, increasing said supply of oxidant,

until, in steps i or ii, said concentration of carbon monoxide reaches its lowest level.