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(54) Tire mold with helically extending heating conduit

(57) An apparatus for transferring heat into a product, such as a tire, formed at least in part by molding is provided. The apparatus includes a mold (10) that has a central axis with a forming surface disposed radially outward from the central axis. A heating conduit (20) is included and is at least partially located radially outward from the forming surface of the mold (10). The heating conduit (20) is configured for use with a gas, such as

saturated steam, in order to effect heat transfer to the forming surface of the mold (10). The heating conduit (20) extends helically with respect to the central axis in order to allow condensation formed in the heating conduit to be drained therefrom via the force of gravity. A drainage connector may be in communication with the exit of the heating conduit and have a lower longitudinal axis than the heating conduit to allow condensation to drain more easily therefrom.

