

The present invention relates to the technology of directly heated cathodes designed for electron-beam devices, specifically kinescopes. The proposed method of electrothermal aging of directly heated cathodes consists in energizing the cathode heater by a cyclic series of current pulses in the aging process. The pulse period exceeds the time required for achieving the readiness of the cathode for operation. The relationship between the cathode heater temperature in the aging process and the temperature of the cathode emitting element is regulated by varying the heater current pulse period. The current pulse duration in the aging process is less than the cathode readiness time by a factor equal to the ratio between the squared value of the mean cathode heater current in the aging process and the squared value of the cathode heater current in the operation mode.