

Formulas and Tables

Fan Laws:

The fan laws can be used to predict the performance of a tower with a non-standard motor.

$$\text{RPM}_2 = \text{RPM}_1 (\text{CFM}_2) / (\text{CFM}_1)$$

$$\text{Static Pressure}_2 = \text{Static Pressure}_1 (\text{CFM}_2/\text{CFM}_1)^2$$

$$\text{Horsepower}_2 = \text{Horsepower}_1 (\text{CFM}_2 / \text{CFM}_1)^3$$

Formulas

Range = Entering Water Temperature - Leaving Water Temperature

Approach = Leaving Water Temperature - Ambient Wet-Bulb Temperature

Heat Rejected by a Cooling Tower:

$$\text{BTUH} = (\text{Flow}) \times (\text{Range}) \times 500 \times (\text{SG}) \times (\text{SH})$$

Note: SG = SH = 1 for water

$$\text{MBH} = 1000 \text{ BTUH}$$

Refrigeration Tons:

$$\text{Tons} = \frac{\text{BTUH}}{12,000}$$

Cooling Tower Tons:

$$\text{Tons} = \frac{\text{BTUH}}{15,000}$$

Basic Electrical:

$$E = I \times R$$

$$P = I \times E$$

where: E = voltage (volts) I = current (amps) R = resistance (ohms) P = power (watts)

AC Line Current in a Single Phase Supply

$$I = \frac{P}{E \times \text{PF} \times \text{EFF}}$$

AC Line Current in a Three Phase Supply

$$I = \frac{P}{\sqrt{3} \times E \times \text{PF} \times \text{EFF}}$$

Where:

I is the RMS line current in Amps

P is the average output power in Watts

E is the AC line voltage in Volts

PF is the input power factor

EFF is the efficiency of the supply

Did you know?

Cooling tower tons account for the heat of compression imposed by the chiller in addition to the building load. The heat of compression is typically assumed to be a 25% addition, or 3,000 BTUH per ton.



Steel Gauge Thickness and Weights

Gauge	Inches	lbs/ft ²
8	0.165	6.9
9	0.150	6.3
10	0.135	5.6
11	0.120	5.0
12	0.105	4.3
13	0.090	3.7
14	0.075	3.0
15	0.067	2.8
16	0.059	2.5

Specific Heat and Specific Gravity of Glycol

	Ethylene Glycol		Propylene Glycol	
	SH	SG	SH	SG
10%	0.957	1.015	0.981	1.009
20%	0.924	1.030	0.960	1.019
30%	0.887	1.045	0.934	1.027
40%	0.849	1.058	0.904	1.034
50%	0.809	1.071	0.868	1.040

Temperature Conversions

Fahrenheit to Celsius: Temp °C = 5/9 (Temp °F - 32)

Celsius to Fahrenheit: Temp °F = 9/5 (Temp °C) + 32

For quick temperature conversion, see page M13.

Water Quality Guidelines

To control the cycles of concentration such that BAC water quality guidelines* are maintained, it will be necessary to “bleed” or “blow down” a small amount of recirculating water from the system. This “bleed” water is replenished with fresh make-up water, thereby limiting the build-up of impurities.

The required continuous bleed rate can be calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Bleed Rate} = \frac{\text{Evaporation Rate}}{\text{Number of Cycles of Concentration} - 1}$$

Where:

$$\text{Evaporation Rate} = (\text{Flow}) \times (\text{Range}) \times 0.001$$

The evaporation rate can also be estimated as:

- 2 GPM per 1 million BTU/HR of heat rejection
- 3 GPM per 100 tons of refrigeration

Number of Cycles of Concentration

The degree to which dissolved solids and other impurities build up in the recirculating water may be defined as the cycles of concentration. Specifically, cycles of concentration is the ratio of the concentration of a dissolved solid (for example - chlorides, sulfates, etc.) in the recirculating water to the concentration of the same material in the make-up water.

$$\text{Water Make-Up Rate} = \text{Bleed Rate} + \text{Evaporation Rate}$$

* **Note:** BAC water quality guidelines are available in the applicable Operation and Maintenance Manuals in Section N.

