

# Thermal Design Piping Systems

## Technical Section



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To determine the heat loss that must be replaced by the heating cable, the following should be determined:

- TF Fluid temperature to be maintained
- TA Minimum ambient temperature
- Size of pipe to be heated
- Thermal insulation- type and thickness

### 1. Temperature Differential

Determine the temperature differential to be maintained by subtracting the ambient temperature from the fluid temperature to be maintained. (TF-TA)

### 2. Heat Loss

Use Table 5 to look up the heat loss for the proper pipe diameter and thickness of insulation. If a rigid insulation such as calcium silicate is used, the insulation should be oversized to the next available size. Insulation should also be oversized when using any cable besides the standard self-regulating heater, without over jackets. This will allow adequate space for the heating cable and allow the insulation joints to properly seal. As an example, you would use 2 inch pipe diameter heat losses for 1-1/2 inch pipe heating application if rigid insulation were used. Heat loss figures from Table 3 include a 10% safety factor.

### 3. Adjustments to Heat Loss Values

The heat losses in Table 3 are based on glass fiber insulation. If other insulations are used, multiply the heat loss value by the correction factor (shown in Table 6) for your insulation. Heat losses are based on outdoor applications with 20 m.p.h. wind. If piping is used indoors, multiply heat loss values by 0.9.

### 4. Adjustments for Heat Sinks

Any thermally conductive item that protrudes through the insulation will require extra heat to be applied to the pipe. The footage shown in Table 5 should be added to the required heater cable length to compensate for these extra heat losses. When multiple-tracing or spiraling cable, increase the cable adders proportionately.

### 5. Spiral Pitch Factor

For some applications the effective cable heat output per foot of pipe may be increased by spiraling the heater along the pipe. Use Table 6 to determine the spiral pitch factor.

### Example:

- Water line to be maintained at +10°C (+50°F)
- Minimum ambient temperature is -23°C (-10°F)
- Pipe is three-inch diameter steel
- Insulation is one-inch thick mineral fiber insulation

### 1. Calculate Temperature Differential

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Delta T = TF - TA & \Delta T = TF - TA \\ \Delta T = 10 - (-23) \text{ C} & \Delta T = 50 - (-10) \text{ F} \\ \Delta T = 33^\circ\text{C} & \Delta T = 60^\circ\text{F} \end{array}$$

### 2. Heat Loss

Use Table 3 to find heat loss. Where the desired temperature differential falls between two values, use interpolation:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{From Table 3: } @10^\circ\text{C } Q = 14.4 \text{ w/m} & @38^\circ\text{C } Q = 30.2 \text{ w/m} \\ QF = 14.4 \text{ w/m} + (-10/23) \times (20.2 \text{ w/m} - 14.4) & \\ QF = 14.4 + (-2.5) = 11.9 \text{ w/m} & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{From Table 3: } @50^\circ\text{F } Q = 4.4 \text{ w/ft} & @100^\circ\text{F } Q = 9.2 \text{ w/ft} \\ QF = 4.4 \text{ w/ft} + 10/50 \times (9.2 - 4.4 \text{ w/ft}) & \\ QF = 4.4 + 0.96 = 5.4 \text{ w/ft} & \end{array}$$

### 3. Adjustments to Heat Loss

Adjust the heat loss for mineral fiber. From Table 4, the adjustment factor is 1.2.

$$\begin{array}{ll} QM = QF \times 1.2 & QM = QF \times 1.2 \\ QM = 11.9 \text{ w/m.} \times 1.2 & QM = 5.4 \text{ w/ft.} \times 1.2 \\ QM = 14.3 \text{ w/m} & QM = 6.5 \text{ w/ft.} \end{array}$$

Since the piping is outdoors, no adjustment is necessary for the absence of wind.







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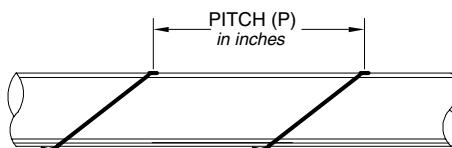
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Table 6: Spiral Pitch Factor

IPS (Inches)	Feet of Cable per Foot of Pipe in Millimeters (Inches)							
	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8
1	229 (9)	152 (6)	127 (5)	102 (4)	102 (4)	76.2 (3)	76 (3)	76 (3)
1-1/4	279 (11)	203 (8)	152 (6)	127 (5)	127 (5)	101.6 (4)	102 (4)	76 (3)
1-1/2	330 (13)	229 (9)	178 (7)	152 (6)	127 (5)	127 (5)	102 (4)	102 (4)
2	406 (16)	279 (11)	229 (9)	178 (7)	152 (6)	152 (6)	127 (5)	127 (5)
2-1/2	508 (20)	356 (14)	279 (11)	229 (9)	203 (8)	178 (7)	152 (6)	152 (6)
3	610 (24)	432 (17)	330 (13)	279 (11)	254 (10)	229 (9)	203 (8)	178 (7)
4	787 (31)	533 (21)	432 (17)	356 (14)	330 (13)	279 (11)	254 (10)	229 (9)
6	1143 (45)	787 (31)	635 (25)	533 (21)	457 (18)	432 (17)	381 (15)	356 (14)
8	1499 (59)	1041 (41)	813 (32)	686 (27)	610 (24)	559 (22)	508 (20)	457 (18)
10	1880 (74)	1295 (51)	1041 (41)	864 (34)	762 (30)	686 (27)	635 (25)	584 (23)
12	2210 (87)	1524 (60)	1219 (48)	1041 (41)	914 (36)	813 (32)	762 (30)	686 (27)
14	2438 (96)	1676 (66)	1346 (53)	1143 (45)	991 (39)	889 (35)	813 (32)	737 (29)
16	2794 (110)	1930 (76)	1549 (61)	1295 (51)	1143 (45)	1016 (40)	940 (37)	864 (34)
18	3124 (123)	2261 (89)	1727 (68)	1473 (58)	1295 (51)	1143 (45)	1041 (41)	965 (38)
20	3480 (137)	2413 (95)	1930 (76)	1626 (64)	1422 (56)	1270 (50)	1168 (46)	1067 (42)
24	4166 (164)	2896 (114)	2311 (91)	1956 (77)	1702 (67)	1524 (60)	1397 (55)	1270 (50)

### Example

For 3" pipe, with 1.3 feet of Self-Regulating heater cable per foot of pipe. P = 330.2 mm (13.0 in)





# Thermal Design Vessels/Tanks

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Vessel Type	Equation For Surface Area
	Rectangle $2(WxL + WxH + LxH)$
	Sphere $\pi D^2$
	Round Horizontal $\pi DL + \pi D^2/2$ (Sides) (Ends)
	Round Vertical $\pi DH + \pi D^2/4 + \pi D^2/4$ (Sides) (Top) (Bottom)
	Cone $H \times (D_1+D_2)/2 + \pi D_1^2/4 + \pi D_2^2/4$ (Sides) (Top) (Bottom)

Table 7: Vessel Heat Loss

Delta T °C (°F)	25 (1.0)	38 (1.5)	50 (2.0)	75 (3.0)
28 (50)	96.5 (3.8)	63.5 (2.5)	48.3 (1.9)	33.0 (1.3)
56 (100)	200.7 (7.9)	134.6 (5.3)	101.6 (4.0)	68.6 (2.7)
83 (150)	312.4 (12.3)	210.8 (8.3)	157.5 (6.2)	106.7 (4.2)
111 (200)	434.3 (17.1)	292.1 (11.5)	221.0 (8.7)	147.3 (5.8)
139 (250)	566.4 (22.3)	381.0 (15.0)	287.0 (11.3)	193.0 (7.6)
167 (300)	708.7 (27.9)	475.0 (18.7)	358.1 (14.1)	238.8 (9.4)

Table 8: Adders For Non Insulated Vessel Heat Sinks

Heat Sink Type	Watt Loss Adder
Support Leg	Add 1.51 (0.84) watts per degree temperature differential (°C/ °F) for each leg
Saddle Support	Add 13.7 (7.6) watts per degree temperature differential (°C/ °F) for each support
Concrete Pad	Calculate the heat loss from the tank bottom separate from the insulated tank. Use 0.377 w/m <sup>2</sup> (0.035 w/ft <sup>2</sup> ) per degree temperature difference (°C/ °F) between fluid temperature (TF) and 13°C (55°F) ground temperature
24" Manway	Add 5.6 (3.1) watts per degree temperature differential (°C/ °F) for each opening
36" Manway	Add 12.8 (7.1) watts per degree temperature differential (°C/ °F) for each opening



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