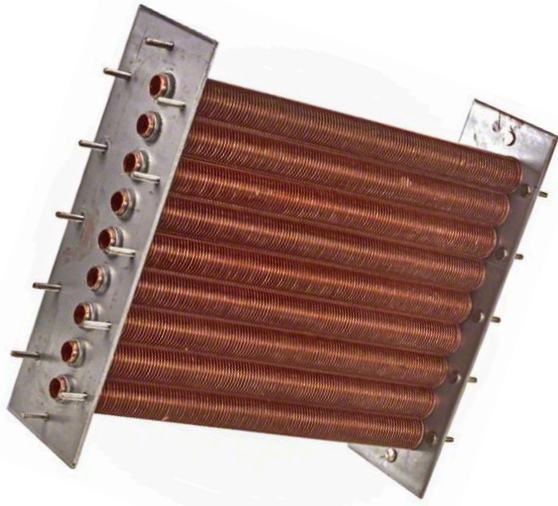


TUBE BUNDLE VS HEAT EXCHANGER



PART IDENTIFICATION IS A CRUCIAL PART OF A TECHNICIAN'S JOB. MISNAMING PART NAMES CAN CAUSE CONFUSION BETWEEN US AND SUPPLY HOUSES PRODUCING UNNEEDED COMPLICATIONS. TWO COMMONLY MISNAMED PARTS ARE THE TUBE BUNDLE AND THE HEAT EXCHANGER.

WHAT IS A TUBE BUNDLE?

A TUBE BUNDLE CONSISTS OF MULTIPLE PARALLEL TUBES (TYPICALLY COPPER OR CUPRONICKEL). THE TUBES ARE FINNED, INCREASING THE SURFACE AREA TO MAXIMIZE HEAT TRANSFER.

WHAT IS A HEAT EXCHANGER?

A HEAT EXCHANGER IS A COMPLETE TUBE BUNDLE WITH HEADERS.

WHAT IS A HEAT ENGINE?

HI-EFFICIENCY UNITS DO NOT HAVE TUBE BUNDLES, THEY HAVE HEAT ENGINES (SMALL TUBE BOILERS). IT IS BEST PRACTICE TO COMBINE A HI-EFFICIENCY UNIT WITH A WATER SOFTENER. ANY WATER HARDNESS TEST PRODUCING 15 GRAINS PER GALLON OR MORE REQUIRES A WATER SOFTENER FOR THE EQUIPMENT. A TEST PRODUCING 15 GRAINS OR LESS IS STILL RECOMMENDED TO HAVE A SOFTENER BECAUSE THE SOURCE OF WATER MAY CHANGE FOR THE CITY IN FUTURE YEAR INCREASING THE HARDNESS OF THE WATER.

