

hospitals where air conditioning is installed, the doctors and nurses are comfortable, which tends to promote a steadiness of the nerves. The freedom from perspiration avoids the possibility of a wound infection from that source. Since some types of anesthetics are definitely known to have explosive characteristics, it is important to prevent the generation of a static condition that may prove disastrous. This is accomplished by maintaining a relative humidity of 50 per cent at which condition static is entirely eliminated.

In mines, air conditioning has been beneficial to the health and well being of the men working. In deep mines, without air conditioning, temperatures and humidities are excessive, which frequently cause prostrations. In shallow mines the roof and walls are at a temperature of approximately 50 degrees the year round and in the summer, when moist air is induced for ventilation, rapid condensation occurs and accumulates on the shale rock which increases the hazard due to falls. By supplying dehumidified air with a dewpoint equal to or below the shale rock temperature, moisture condensation will not occur, disintegration and falls are minimized.

Many air conditioning installations have been made in industrial plants where excessive process heat is generated, such as enameling rooms where materials to be enameled are at intensive temperatures. Air conditioning has reduced the number of

prostrations and hence benefited the health and increased the comfort of the employees.

Another important application is the removal of dust and small particles of irritant chemicals, such as are found in unconditioned match factories, some departments of chemical, paints and pharmaceutical plants.

In the manufacturing of rayon, an acid solvent is required in the process. Unless an exhaust system is tied into the air conditioning system, the acid fumes contaminate the air, producing unhealthful working conditions. The fumes affect the throat and eyes in particular.

Fuse loading departments in ammunition plants is another application where air conditioning produces safety for employees. The humidity is kept high enough to prevent a static spark. Cooling and dehumidifying in summer eliminate perspiration from the worker's hands, which prevents the powder from adhering to the steel dies.

Some lacquering processes require a solvent having explosive properties. Since in some plants doing this type of work the solvent has explosive properties, and dehumidifying is required, an exhaust system is installed and sufficient outside air supplied to prohibit an explosive mixture.

Humidification in tobacco plants keeps down dust, which otherwise would be hazardous to employees. In the drying process of manufacturing matches, uniform drying, which requires air conditioning, prevents flaring or sparking when ignited.

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