

tive humidity of 88 to 90 per cent is necessary to hold shrinkage to a minimum and, at the same time, develop the rind so it will be sufficiently tough to permit handling.

Tobacco from the field to the finished cigar, cigarette, plug or pipe tobacco, offers another interesting example of what may be done by industrial air conditioning in the control of color, texture and flavor. In the processing of tobacco, control of moisture regain, and of chemical and biochemical reactions, is involved and only through close atmospheric control can the best quality of leaf be developed.

Control of Rate of Crystallization

The rate of cooling of a saturated solution determines the size of the crystals formed. Both dry- and wet-bulb temperatures are of importance, as the one controls the rate of cooling, while the other, through evaporation, changes the density of the solution.

In the coating pans for pills, gum and nuts, a heavy sugar solution is added to the tumbling mass. As the water evaporates, each separate piece is covered with crystals of sugar. A smooth, opaque coating is only accomplished by blowing into the kettle the proper amount of air at the right dry- and wet-bulb temperatures. The wet-bulb depression determines the rate of moisture pick-up or drying by the air and may be termed the *drying head*. Of equal importance is the uniformity at which the wet-bulb is maintained. If this is allowed to vary, poor results will follow due to checking and cracking of the unfinished coating.

Elimination of Static Electricity

The presence of static electricity is very detrimental to the satisfactory and economical processing of many light materials, such as textile fibers, paper, etc. It is also extremely dangerous where explosive atmospheres or materials are present. Fortunately, this hazard is minimized by increasing the relative humidity if the material being processed is not damaged thereby.

In attempting to eliminate static electricity, it must be borne in mind that for successful elimination the air that actually comes in contact with the material in the machine must be at a relative humidity of 50 per cent or more. As some machines consume a great deal of power which is converted directly into heat, the temperature in the machine may be considerably higher than the temperature adjacent to the machine where the relative humidity is normally measured. In such cases, the relative humidity in the machine will be appreciably lower than that elsewhere in the room, and it may be necessary to maintain a room relative humidity of 65 per cent, or even more, before the desired results can be obtained inside the equipment.

CALCULATIONS

The methods for determining the heating and cooling loads for the various industrial processes are similar to those outlined in Chapters 14 and 15. The several other chapters previously cited call attention to additional phases of calculation which may be needed. Because of the large number of motors and heat producing units usual in an industrial application, it is particularly important that operating allowances for the latent and sensible heat loads be definitely ascertained and used in the calculations to determine the total design load.

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