

furnace. Such installation should be protected against excessive temperature or pressure by means of a limit control serving to check the fire when temperature or pressure conditions at the boiler or furnace reach a predetermined maximum.

All Year Domestic Hot Water Supply

Hot water or steam heating boilers with automatic fuel burning appliances can be used for all year heating of domestic water supply. The fuel burning appliance in this case is controlled from the temperature of water or pressure of steam in the boiler to maintain uniform boiler conditions and domestic hot water is heated by means of an indirect heater. The heating of the residence is normally governed by means of a thermostat which operates a control valve in the flow line of a gravity hot water or a steam system, or controls the operation of a circulating pump in a forced circulation hot water system.

Air Conditioning Systems

Residential air conditioning systems are of various types normally including a heating source and a motor-driven fan for circulating air. In addition, such installations may involve spray-head equipment, the purpose of which may be only to supply humidity, or which, in some instances, are of greater capacity and serve not only to humidify but to wash the air passing through them. It is also common practice to include dry filters to aid in air cleaning. Such installations distribute suitably heated and humidified air during the heating cycle, and during the summer or cooling cycle may be used effectively as conditioners if the washer unit is supplied with water at suitable temperature or if such an installation is equipped with other refrigeration means.

During the heating cycle the regulation of temperatures is normally one or the other of the problems previously discussed in connection with the various types of heating sources described, such as the oil burner, gas burner, stoker or the coal-fired heating plant under automatic control. Regulation of the humidity during the heating cycle is normally accomplished by opening and closing a solenoid water valve supplying water to the spray-heads, the solenoid valve being under control of a room type humidity control. In the average installation the fan is permitted to run only during such intervals as the thermostat is calling for heat or at the command of a limit control to prevent the overheating of the bonnet of a warm air furnace. The limit control should also prevent the operation of the fan at the command of the thermostat until the circulating air temperature has increased to a predetermined point.

When cooling equipment is provided in such installations, control during the cooling cycle will be an adaptation of the control principles described for central fan systems selected for the type of cooling equipment utilized.

The selection of automatic control equipment for residential air conditioning systems is just as important as for commercial installations. Fewer controls are generally used and systems are usually less complicated except in the case of a very large residence installation when the control system may become as complete as the commercial installation.

CONTROL OF REFRIGERATION EQUIPMENT

The most common means of providing cooling for air conditioning may be divided into four general classifications as follows:

Compressor Type Refrigeration

Refrigeration compressors may furnish refrigerant to direct expansion cooling coils through which air is being passed, or to coils in cooling tanks through which water is passed which is then pumped to air washers or cooling coils through which the air is passed.

In either case the compressor motor may be started and stopped in order to meet the demand for refrigeration or a pressure controller may be used to regulate the low side or suction pressure of the compressor. When the latter method is used, the flow of refrigerant to cooling coils may be regulated by the opening and closing of a solenoid refrigerant valve at the command of a temperature controller or thermostat.

A high pressure cutout as an individual unit or in combination with either a temperature or pressure controller provides a safety feature against the development of excessive pressures on the high side of the compressor.

Ice Cooling

When ice is used for the cooling or dehumidification of air, it is usually placed in bunkers and water is sprayed over it. This water, after being cooled, may be used in air washers or surface cooling coils and is usually returned to the bunker for additional cooling after being used.

Control of the water temperature leaving the cold water tank may be maintained by a temperature controller, which measures the temperature of the water in the tank and modulates a control valve in a by-pass which permits a portion of the return water to return directly to the tank instead of passing through the sprays.

Vacuum Refrigeration

A vacuum refrigerating system consists of an evaporator, compressor, condenser and auxiliaries. The refrigerant used is water, and water vapor (steam) is the power medium.

Water which has been passed through an air washer or cooling coil is sprayed directly into the evaporator or water cooler where it is cooled by its own evaporation. A condenser is attached directly to the compressor discharge and its function is to recondense the water vapor drawn from the evaporator, plus the steam which supplies the energy for compression.

The temperature of the cold water leaving the flash chamber should be measured by a temperature controller which will in turn operate a two-position or positive-control valve installed in the steam line to the jet so as to permit steam to flow only when cooling is required. If city water is used in the condenser, the amount of water should be modulated according to the demand as measured at the condenser outlet by means of a temperature controller and control valve.