water vapor which would condense within the material, causing a serious increase in heat flow, possible breakdown of the material, and corrosion of metal surfaces. An insulating material with a high degree of moisture absorption might pick up moisture before application and then, when the seal is in place and the temperature of the insulated surface reduced, release that moisture to the cold surface. There are a number of methods of producing vapor seals, some of which have been worked out by insulation manufacturers to suit their products and others by applicators and users. Unless time proven methods are known, specifications of insulation manufacturers should be obtained and followed carefully.

The thickness of insulation required to prevent condensation on the outer surface is that thickness which will raise the temperature of the outer surface of the insulation to a point slightly higher than the dew-point of the surrounding vapor. The dew-point for various humidities can be readily ascertained from a psychrometric chart.

The approximate required thickness of insulation to prevent condensation on pipes and flat metallic surfaces may be obtained from Fig. 4 in which a surface resistance of 0.606 corresponding to a film conductance of 1.65, was used in calculating the curves. This value provides a slight factor of safety and its use is known to give satisfactory field results. In using the chart it is advisable to specify the next thicker, rather than the next thinner, commercial insulation in cases where an intermediate thickness is indicated.

TABLE 9. PIPE COVERING FACTORS

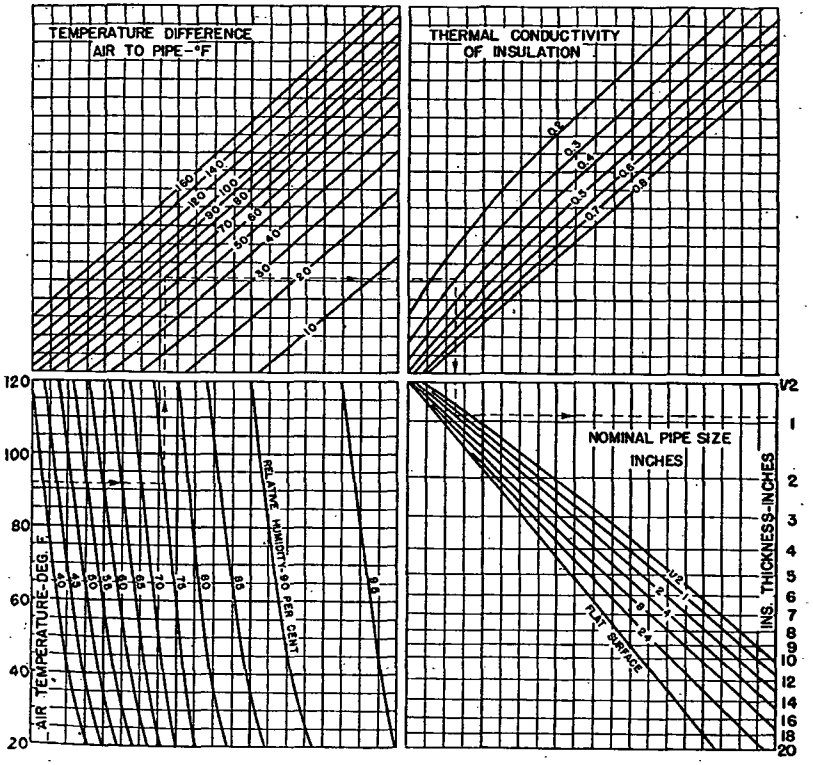
TYPES OF INSULATING MATERIALS	TEMPERATURE DIFFERENCE, PIPE TO AIR, DEG F				
	100	200	300	400	500
Corrugated Asbestos—Type					
4 Ply per 1 in.	1.30	1.36	1.42	.....	.....
6 Ply per 1 in.	1.19	1.23	1.27	.....	.....
8 Ply per 1 in.	1.15	1.19	1.23	.....	.....
Laminated Asbestos—Type	0.96	0.98	1.00	1.02	1.04
Mineral Wool—Type	0.98	1.00	1.02	1.05	1.07
Diatomaceous Silica—Type	1.37	1.36	1.35	1.35	1.34
Brown Asbestos Fiber—Type	0.86	0.88	0.91	0.93	0.96

Heat gains for pipes insulated with a material having an installed conductivity of 0.30 Btu per (sq ft) (hr) (deg F per inch) are given in Table 10. This table may be used for any of the commercial insulations offered for this purpose since they have conductivities very near the 0.3 value used.

INSULATION OF PIPES TO PREVENT FREEZING

If the surrounding air temperature remains sufficiently low for an ample period of time, insulation cannot prevent the freezing of still water, or of water flowing at such a velocity that the quantity of heat carried in the water is not sufficient to take care of the heat losses which will result and cause the temperature of the water to be lowered to the freezing point. Insulation can materially prolong the time required for the water to give up its heat, and if the velocity of the water flowing in the pipe is maintained at a sufficiently high rate, freezing may be prevented.

Table 11 may be used for making estimates of the thickness of insulation necessary to take care of still water in pipes at various water and surrounding air temperature conditions. Because of the damage and service interruptions which may result from frozen water in pipes, it is essential that an efficient insulation be utilized. This table is based on the use of a material having a conductivity of 0.30. The initial water temperature is assumed to be 10 F above, and the surrounding air temperature 50 F below the freezing point of water (temperature difference, 60 F).



*Solve problems as indicated by dotted line, entering chart at lower left-hand scale.

FIG. 4. THICKNESS OF PIPE INSULATION TO PREVENT CONDENSATION ON OUTER SURFACE[a]

The last column of Table 11 gives the minimum quantity of water at initial temperature of 42 F which should be supplied every hour for each linear foot of pipe, in order to prevent the temperature of the water from being lowered to the freezing point. The weights given in this column should be multiplied by the total length of the exposed pipe line expressed in feet. As an additional factor of safety, and in order to provide against temporary reductions in flow occasioned by reduced pressure, it is advisable to double the rates of flow listed in the table. It must be emphasized that the flow rates and periods of time designated apply only for the conditions stated. To estimate for other service conditions the following method of procedure may be used.