

Introduction

The industrial society in which we live has depended during recent decades upon the earth's supply of oil and gas as its principal source of energy. These resources are dwindling, and most knowledgeable observers expect them to attain peak production on a worldwide basis during the next quarter-century. Possibly, the most important problem we face in the years immediately ahead is the timely development of alternate energy sources in sufficient quantity to avert serious economic and social disruption. Efficient utilization of the energy resources currently available will extend the time period during which new energy sources can be developed.

Approximately 25% of the cost of products is the cost of energy to operate plants. Energy is the fastest growing element of manufacturing cost.

Proper specification, design, and operation of evaporator systems will help to reduce the cost of producing a product by evaporation. Upgrading of existing evaporator systems is a fruitful area for achieving reduced energy requirements.