Contherm® Scraped-Surface Heat Exchanger

The Ultimate Food Heat Transfer Solution
Why a scraped-surface heat exchanger (SSHE)?
Many prepared foods prevent optimal heat transfer because of their consistency or content. For example, food or products with the following characteristics can quickly block or foul certain types of heat exchangers:

- **Viscous**
  Ketchup, mayonnaise, chocolate, fruit pie filling, gravy and sauces, whipped/aerated products, peanut butter, pizza sauce, pudding, salad dressing, salsa and taco fillings, sandwich spreads, mechanically deboned meat, gelatin, scrambled eggs, baby food, ointment, lotions, mascara and candle gels.

- **Crystallizing/Phase Change**
  Coffee/tea extracts, icings and frostings, lard, sugar concentrates, margarine, shortening, spreads, beer and wine.

- **Particulate**
  Chicken pieces, fish meal, jams and preserves, pet food, rice pudding, yogurt and fruit.

- **Sticky**
  Caramel, cheese sauces, lecithin, process cheese, confectionery and starch.

The Heart of the System
Scraped-surface heat exchangers are at the heart of many modern continuous and semi-continuous processes of various food products. Also at the heart of many of today’s systems are the Contherm SSHEs, which have earned the trust of many producers of today’s food products.

Optimizing thermal efficiency
Continuous production is a prerequisite for modern food processing because it promotes:
- high throughput
- uniform heat transfer
- better economy

Today convenience food plays an important role in peoples’ lifestyles. However, fresh flavor and pleasing texture at an affordable price are critical qualities to the modern consumer. This presents a challenge to food manufacturers, particularly with prepared foods made from delicate raw materials or with consistencies that demand special processing.
How it works

- Product enters the cylinder through the lower tangential port and flows upwards through the cylinder.

- Simultaneously, media travels in a countercurrent flow through the narrow annular channel.

- Rotating blades continuously remove product from the cylinder wall to ensure uniform heat transfer to the product.

- A coil in the annulus increases media velocity, adding to the heat transfer efficiency.

- Product exits the cylinder through the upper tangential port.

- Product flow and rotor speed can be varied to suit the properties of the product flowing through the cylinder.

- Numerous configurations of the Contherm are available. By varying materials of construction, features and options, you can customize your SSHE to meet your requirements.
Features and options for lifetime economy

Contherm design features and options ensure reliability, flexibility and maximum runtime, adding up to increased lifetime economy and return on investment.

**Tangential product head design**
- Product enters the cylinder under the rotor in a corkscrew pattern in the direction of the rotor to assure gentle product treatment. Product enters and exits the cylinder in the same direction as the turning rotor, maximizing product integrity and quality. This gentle handling is a must for products such as pie fillings, fruit preserves and soups and stews.

**Aseptically sealed units**
- Minimize the risk of microbial contamination
- 3A Approved
- A closed-system design keeps air, bacteria and foreign material out
- Remove the risk of contamination with flushable seals that are able to withstand the high pressures and temperatures found in aseptic processing
- Offer a variety of seal designs and materials to choose from
- Feature steam flush to maintain sterility of the product seal

**Dedicated hydraulic rotor lift system**
- Daily or weekly inspections
- Only one person required to raise and lower the rotor assembly, translating into reduced labor
- Reduces clean-up time significantly
- Maintenance and inspection times are cut in half as all Conthers have a devoted hydraulic rotor lifting device
- Fast and easy to use, keeping down time to a minimum
- Fixed and secure integral design ensures safe operation

**Contherm: mounting options to maximize space**
Contherm is available in both vertical and horizontal configurations. However, it is most effective when mounted vertically. Contherm’s design has proven to be the most effective in providing a comprehensive range of benefits, including:
- Saving valuable floor space – requires a fraction of the floor space (3 ft.² per unit)
- Maximizing product recovery by providing effective air purging/plug flow
- Optimizing cleaning-in-place (CIP) and reducing the risk of contamination
- Facilitating rapid and safe removal of the rotor assembly for simple inspection and labor-saving maintenance through the use of Contherm’s dedicated hydraulic rotor lifting system

Horizontal mounting may be required when there is insufficient ceiling height for vertical installations. Portable frames are also available to accommodate your SSHEs.

**Bellows Thermal Expansion Joint**
- Welded product cylinder and media jacket employs a bellows thermal expansion joint, eliminating maintenance associated with gasket-style expansion joints.
- Allows for more production time
- Ensures that steam or toxic media, such as ammonia, will not leak.
**Contherm Specifications**

**Working temperature range:**

-30°F to +300°F  
(-35°C to +150°C)

**Maximum working pressure:**
300 psig (20 bar) on the product side, 250 psig (17 bar) on the media side. 400 psig (27 bar) design also available.

**Connections - product side:**
2" and 3" (51 and 76mm), union

**Connections - media side:**
2" (51mm), upper; 1-1/2" (37mm), lower

**Options**
- Alternative drive systems are available
- Standard stainless steel, Hipex stainless steel or nickel cylinders with or without single or triple-chroming
- Mounting column
- Stainless steel, Alfolon II plastic blades, or Nylon are offered in standard, slotted, and spring loaded types
- Standard, hard face, and aseptic seal designs available
- Rotors: 3", 4", 4½", and 5" (76, 102, 114 and 127mm)
- Eccentric rotor
- Staggered blades to prevent channeling of product
- Connections with a larger diameter
- A horizontal Contherm option is available for use in facilities with limited ceiling height
- Cryogenic units

**Particulars required for quotation**

To enable our representative to tailor a Contherm system to your exact requirements, inquiries should be accompanied by the following information:
- Flow rates required
- Temperature program
- Physical properties of your product(s) or a description
- Type of heating and/or cooling media preferred

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**Technical Information**

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*Excluding motor*
Over 35 years of successful processing
Contherm, supplied by Alfa Laval, embodies more than 35 years of efficiency and reliability. Units installed worldwide are fulfilling the demand for premium, uniform product quality. The Contherm is designed to meet the strictest sanitary standards and is widely used for aseptic processing applications. ISO9001 certification ensures that quality and dependable manufacturing practices are in place.

Nonstop performance
To be a frontrunner in your business, you must have strong support from your service supplier. The service has to go far beyond just solving problems when they occur. Rather, it is a lifelong investment that will help you optimize the performance of your processes. Alfa Laval® provides that support. We call our approach “Nonstop performance”. Nonstop performance gives you outstanding service. It offers you unique expertise. And it makes it easy to do business with us.

Customer support: An innovative technology that never ends
From initial contact to system operation, there are many ways in which we can help you get the most out of your investment in Alfa Laval®. Our customer support program includes application advice, test units, process development and configuration, and service contracts. By listening to your views and following processing trends at the source, we can fine tune our systems to satisfy your demands.

To enable your staff to run and maintain your Contherm SSHE during everyday production, we offer training courses and seminars covering all aspects of their use. And, of course, because we provide local support on a worldwide basis, we can respond rapidly to your emergency situations.

Parts and service
Parts and service agreements tailored to your individual requirements are an important part of Alfa Laval’s customer care program designed to maximize your production uptime.

Food Development Centers at your disposal
Put the Contherm and your product to the test. We have fully equipped Food Development Centers in the USA, Sweden and Japan, which are available for the cost-effective development and definition of process conditions prior to scale-up. Whether you want to test processing methods or plant efficiency, we have the facilities and application knowledge to help your decision making.

Rental units are also available
For reasons of confidentiality, if you prefer to carry out processing trials using Contherm in your own plant and with your own personnel, we can offer you a Contherm test unit on a rental basis along with qualified Contherm personnel during start-up.

Convap evaporation module
The Contherm SSHE can be modified to form the Convap evaporator, which is particularly suited to concentrating viscous products. The system normally operates under vacuum. The entrainment separator connected to the SSHE by means of a specially designed vapor head allows the separation of the concentrate from the vapor phase.

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CONITHERM is a registered trademark of Alfa Laval Inc.
Alfa Laval stands behind many innovations that have brought better, safer food at lower prices to more people. Your source for reliable food processing performance, Alfa Laval offers products to meet all of your requirements:

**Fluid Handling Equipment**
- Our wide range of centrifugal pumps provide high efficiency and low maintenance costs.
- Positive displacement pumps feature a tough, innovative construction and offer reliable, gentle pumping action.
- The widest selection of valves for the food processing industry, our single seat, mixproof, and manual and specialty valves will meet your exacting demands for safety, efficiency and hygiene while ensuring the careful handling of your product.
- Our wide range of control units offer high precision, reliability and performance.
- Fittings, tank equipment and other accessories for clean and efficient processes.

**Heat Transfer**
- Plate heat exchangers meet your exacting demands for food safety, efficiency and hygiene.
- Spiral heat exchangers for heating, cooling, interchanging or condensing, offering high efficiency in a compact size.
- Plate evaporators for condensing and evaporating; can be used as a booster with existing equipment or as a complete effect station.
- Scraped-Surface Heat Exchangers for heating, cooling, slush-freezing, pasteurizing, sterilizing and crystallizing media that is viscous, sticky or particulate.

**Separation**
- High performance sanitary decanter and disk-stack separators optimized for clarification, extraction, dewatering, and classification applications in the food and beverage industries meeting the highest standards of hygiene.
Alfa Laval in brief.

Alfa Laval is a leading global provider of specialized products and engineered solutions.

Our equipment, systems and services are dedicated to helping customers to optimize the performance of their processes. Time and time again.

We help our customers to heat, cool, separate and transport products such as oil, water, chemicals, beverages, foodstuff, starch and pharmaceuticals.

Our worldwide organization works closely with customers in almost 100 countries to help them stay ahead.