

46.35 A variable frequency drive producing 100W of waste heat during continuous operation is housed in an insulated sheet metal enclosure mounted in a machine room. The insulation is $\frac{1}{8}$ in thick with a thermal conductivity of $0.2 \frac{Btu}{hr \cdot ft \cdot ^\circ F}$. The thermal resistance of the sheet metal is negligible. The surface area of the enclosure is $8ft^2$. The machine room is maintained at $76^\circ F$. The film coefficients both inside and outside the enclosure are $4 \frac{Btu}{hr \cdot ft^2 \cdot ^\circ F}$. What is the steady state temperature inside the enclosure?

- A. $52^\circ F$
- B. $88^\circ F$
- C. $100^\circ F$
- D. $112^\circ F$

Model the enclosure as a **Composite Wall** with 3 layers: 2 films and the insulation. Negligible thermal resistance is provided by the sheet metal. The total heat transfer through the composite wall may be described by the equation $\dot{Q} = UA\Delta T$, where the overall coefficient of heat transfer, $U = \frac{1}{R_T}$, and where R_T is the total thermal resistance. Determine the total thermal resistance by adding the individual thermal resistances in series.

$$R_T = \frac{1}{h_i} + \frac{L_{ins}}{k_{ins}} + \frac{1}{h_o}$$

$$R_T = \frac{1}{\left(4 \frac{Btu}{hr \cdot ft^2 \cdot ^\circ F}\right)} + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{8}in\right) \left(\frac{1ft}{12in}\right)}{0.2 \frac{Btu}{hr \cdot ft \cdot ^\circ F}} + \frac{1}{\left(4 \frac{Btu}{hr \cdot ft^2 \cdot ^\circ F}\right)} = 0.55 \frac{hr \cdot ft^2 \cdot ^\circ F}{Btu}$$

Calculate the overall heat transfer coefficient from the total thermal resistance.

$$U = \frac{1}{R_T} = \frac{1}{0.55 \frac{hr \cdot ft^2 \cdot ^\circ F}{Btu}} = 1.8 \frac{Btu}{hr \cdot ft^2 \cdot ^\circ F}$$

Calculate the temperature differential using the total heat transfer, the overall heat transfer coefficient, and the surface area.

$$\Delta T = \frac{\dot{Q}}{UA} = \frac{(100W) \left(3.412 \frac{Btu}{hr \cdot W}\right)}{\left(1.8 \frac{Btu}{hr \cdot ft^2 \cdot ^\circ F}\right) (8ft^2)} = 23.7^\circ F$$

Use the temperature differential to calculate the temperature inside the enclosure based on the room temperature.

$$\Delta T = T_{enclosure} - T_{room}$$

$$T_{enclosure} = \Delta T + T_{room} = 23.7^\circ F + 76^\circ F = 99.7^\circ F$$

Answer C

46.36 In a counterflow heat exchanger, the cold fluid increases in temperature from $50^{\circ}F$ to $100^{\circ}F$ and the warm fluid is cooled from $180^{\circ}F$ to $145^{\circ}F$. What is the logarithmic mean temperature difference?

- A. $45^{\circ}F$
- B. $87^{\circ}F$
- C. $115^{\circ}F$
- D. $119^{\circ}F$

It is valid to use the Reference Handbook formula for **Log Mean Temperature Difference**. There is also a generalized version of the **LMTD** equation not provided in the reference handbook which is easier to remember and applies to both **Counterflow** and **Parallel Flow** heat exchangers, provided the flow directions are drawn out first. Note the opposite direction for the arrows for a counterflow heat exchanger.

$$\text{Cold Fluid : } 50^{\circ}F \longrightarrow 100^{\circ}F$$

$$\text{Hot Fluid : } 145^{\circ}F \longleftarrow 180^{\circ}F$$

Define one *physical* side of the heat exchanger as 'A' and the other side as 'B' and determine the respective temperature differences. Conveniently, the assignment of labels A and B turns out to be arbitrary. However, the *direction* of the flows is critical.

$$\Delta T_A = 145^{\circ}F - 50^{\circ}F = 95^{\circ}F$$

$$\Delta T_B = 180^{\circ}F - 100^{\circ}F = 80^{\circ}F$$

Use the formula below to calculate the log mean temperature difference.

$$LMTD = \frac{\Delta T_A - \Delta T_B}{\ln\left(\frac{\Delta T_A}{\Delta T_B}\right)}$$
$$LMTD = \frac{95^{\circ}F - 80^{\circ}F}{\ln\left(\frac{95^{\circ}F}{80^{\circ}F}\right)} = 87.3^{\circ}F$$

Answer B