

31.27 $30 \frac{lb}{hr}$ of $30psia$ saturated steam enters a steam heat exchanger and leaves as a saturated mixture after heating $1000 \frac{lb}{hr}$ of water by $25^\circ F$. What is the quality of the leaving steam?

- A. 0.12
- B. 0.26
- C. 0.74
- D. 0.88

On the steam side of the heat exchanger, consider the entering steam as State 1 and the leaving saturated mixture as State 2.

The heat added to the water is equivalent to the heat given up by the steam.

$$\dot{Q}_{steam} = \dot{Q}_{water}$$

Use the mass flow rate, specific heat capacity, and temperature differential to calculate the heat gained by the water.

$$\dot{Q}_{water} = \dot{m}_{water} c_p \Delta T = \left(1000 \frac{lb}{hr}\right) \left(1 \frac{Btu}{lb^\circ F}\right) (25^\circ F) = 25,000 \frac{Btu}{hr}$$

Use the [Properties of Saturated Water and Steam](#) table to look up the enthalpy at State 1.

$$P_1 = 30psia \text{ (saturated)}$$

$$h_1 = 1164.13 \frac{Btu}{lb}$$

Write an expression for the heat provided by the steam and set equal the to heat added to the water. Solve for the enthalpy at State 2.

$$\dot{Q}_{steam} = \dot{m}_{steam} (h_1 - h_2) = \dot{Q}_{water}$$

$$h_2 = h_1 - \frac{\dot{Q}_{water}}{\dot{m}_{steam}} = 1164.13 \frac{Btu}{lb} - \frac{25,000 \frac{Btu}{hr}}{30 \frac{lb}{hr}} = 330.8 \frac{Btu}{lb}$$

Return to the steam table to obtain enthalpy values at $30psia$.

$$P_2 = 30psia$$

$$h_f = 218.92 \frac{Btu}{lb}$$

$$h_{fg} = 945.21 \frac{Btu}{lb}$$

Determine the quality at State 2.

$$\chi_2 = \frac{h_2 - h_f}{h_{fg}} = \frac{330.8 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lb}} - 218.92 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lb}}}{945.21 \frac{\text{Btu}}{\text{lb}}} = 0.118$$

Answer A