

Ten top tips

to keep your gasketed plate heat exchangers in tip top condition



Energy saving service

1. Your plate heat exchanger is a key part of your process. Ensure good-as-new performance, operational reliability, and maximum return on investment by servicing it regularly.
2. Make sure the operating conditions (temperatures, pressures and flow rates) comply with the design specifications. Check these parameters regularly to discover deviations that may indicate performance issues, possibly leading to energy losses and unnecessarily large CO₂ emissions.
3. Vent the plate heat exchanger during startup, and open and close the valves slowly to avoid pressure surges and water hammer.
4. Use upstream filters, strainers, and back-flushing equipment to protect the plate heat exchanger from debris and minimize fouling.
5. Perform a Condition Audit to obtain an indication of the remaining lifetime for plates and/or gaskets. This will enable proactive service planning to prevent leaks.
6. Conduct a Performance Audit (during operation) to optimize maintenance and cleaning intervals and obtain recommendations on the best cleaning procedures (cleaning-in-place, reconditioning or manual cleaning).
7. If conditions permit, consider Cleaning-In-Place (CIP) as the primary method for cleaning your plate heat exchanger to avoid the need for opening/closing it. Utilizing CIP can extend the lifetime of gaskets and plates, minimize labor, and maximize operational uptime. Reserve reconditioning as a cleaning method for situations where plates exhibit moderate to heavy fouling.
8. When employing manual cleaning methods such as hydro jetting or brushing, it is crucial to always:
 - a) Securely tighten the unit to the correct specification (A measure) to prevent damages to plates and gaskets.
 - b) Follow the plate hanging list to avoid malfunction.
9. Keep spare parts for your critical plate heat exchanger in stock to eliminate the risk of long and costly downtime.
10. Always use original spare parts to ensure performance, reliability, and long equipment lifetime.

