

**SECTION 23 72 00**  
**AIR-TO-AIR ENERGY RECOVERY EQUIPMENT**

**PART 1 - GENERAL**

**1.1 DESCRIPTION**

This Section specifies air to air heat pipe heat exchangers, and run-around heat recovery systems.

**1.2 RELATED WORK**

- A. Section 01 00 00, GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: Requirements for pre-test of equipment.
- B. Section 23 05 11, COMMON WORK RESULTS FOR HVAC: General mechanical requirements and items, which are common to more than one section of Division 23.
- C. Section 23 21 23, HYDRONIC PUMPS: Requirements for pumping equipment.
- D. Section 23 07 11, HVAC and BOILER PLANT INSULATION: Requirements for piping insulation.
- E. Section 23 21 13, HYDRONIC PIPING: Requirements for piping for expansion tanks.
- F. Section 23 82 16, AIR COILS: Requirements for run-around system coils.
- G. Section 23 31 00, HVAC DUCTS and CASINGS: Requirements for sheet metal ducts and fittings.
- H. Section 23 40 00, HVAC AIR CLEANING DEVICES: Requirements for filters used before heat recovery coils.
- I. Section 23 09 23, DIRECT-DIGITAL CONTROL SYSTEM FOR HVAC: Requirements for controls and instrumentation.
- J. Section 23 05 93, TESTING, ADJUSTING and BALANCING FOR HVAC: Requirements for testing, adjusting and balancing of HVAC system.
- K. Section 23 08 00 - COMMISSIONING OF HVAC SYSTEMS: Requirements for commissioning, systems readiness checklists, and training.
- L. Section 01 91 00 - GENERAL COMMISSIONING REQUIREMENTS

**1.3 QUALITY ASSURANCE**

- A. Refer to paragraph, GUARANTEE in specification Section 00 72 00, GENERAL CONDITIONS.
- B. Refer to specification Section 01 00 00, GENERAL REQUIREMENTS for performance tests and instructions to VA personnel.
- C. Refer to paragraph QUALITY ASSURANCE in specification Section 23 05 11, COMMON WORK RESULTS FOR HVAC.



- D635-10.....Standard Test Method for Rate of Burning and/or  
Extent and Time of Burning of Plastics in a  
Horizontal Position
- E84-10.....Standard Test Method for Surface Burning  
Characteristics of Building Materials
- E. American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)  
ASCE 7-10.....Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other  
Structures
- F. Underwriters Laboratories, Inc (UL)  
1812-2009.....Standard for Ducted Heat Recovery Ventilators  
1815-2009.....Standard for Nonducted Heat Recovery Ventilators

**PART 2 - PRODUCTS**

**2.1 AIR-TO-AIR HEAT PIPE HEAT EXCHANGERS**

- A. Used for AHU wrap-around heat pipe around chilled water coil. Thermal recovery units shall be capable of operating at temperatures ranging from a minimum of -29 degrees C (-20 degrees F) to a maximum of 49 degrees C (120 degrees F). The heat transfer between air streams shall take place in a counterflow arrangement. The unit shall have no moving part and shall be one piece construction.
- B. Tube core shall be either 18-mm (5/8 inch) or 25-mm (1 inch) OD seamless copper tubing permanently expanded into the fins to form a firm, rigid and complete metal pressure contact between the tube and fin collar of all operating conditions. For high-humidity locations, provide copper tubes and copper fins.
- C. Fin: copper.
  - 1. Fin and Tube Joint: Mechanically bonded or soldered or helically wound around tubing.
- D. Secondary surfaces shall be of continuous plate type copper fins, 0.18 mm (0.007 inch) thick, and of corrugated design to produce maximum heat transfer efficiencies.
- E. Basic capillary wick shall be an integral part of the inner wall of the tube and provide a completely wetted surface for maximum heat pipe capacity with minimum heat transfer resistance.
- F. Refrigerants used shall be approved by EPA.
- G. Coil to be located in air handler and wrapped around chilled water coil designed to reduced incoming air temperature to chilled water coil and reheat outgoing air temperature leaving chilled water coil. unit to be supplied and installed as part of the air handling unit from the air handling unit manufacturer.

## 2.2 RUN-AROUND ENERGY RECOVERY SYSTEM

- A. System shall be field fabricated, as shown, containing coils, piping and 40 percent propylene glycol, pumps, insulation, filter racks and accessories.
- B. Automatic Temperature Controls and Sequence of Operations: As shown on drawings and as specified in Section 23 09 23, DIRECT-DIGITAL CONTROL SYSTEM FOR HVAC. In areas with climates where the outdoor design temperature is below freezing, the sequence shall include a defrost cycle to modulate glycol flow to the outdoor air coil as required to maintain the exhaust air temperature above freezing.
- C. Components shall comply with requirements in the following specification sections:
  - 1. Pumps: Section 23 21 23, HYDRONIC PUMPS
  - 2. Insulation: Section 23 07 11, HVAC AND BOILER PLANT INSULATION
  - 3. Pipes, Fittings, and Specialties: Section 23 21 13, HYDRONIC PIPING
  - 4. Coils: Section 23 82 16, AIR COILS
  - 5. Controls: Section 23 09 23, DIRECT-DIGITAL CONTROL SYSTEM FOR HVAC
- D. Outdoor air coil shall be part of the air handling unit with 4" filter rack and shall be supplied and installed as part of the air handling unit from the air handling unit manufacturer.
- E. Exhaust air recovery coil (Rooftop unit):
  - 1. Roof top unit shall be fabricated from insulated, solid double-wall galvanized steel without any perforations in draw-through configuration. Galvanizing shall be hot dipped conforming to ASTM A525 and shall provide a minimum of 0.275 kg of zinc per square meter (0.90 oz. of zinc per square foot) (G90). Aluminum constructed units may be provided subject to VA approval and documentation that structural rigidity is equal or greater than the galvanized steel specified. Finish color to be manufacturer's standard finish and color.
  - 2. The contractor and the RTU manufacturer shall be responsible for insuring that the unit will not exceed the allocated space shown on the drawings, including required clearances for service and future overhaul or removal of unit components. All structural, piping, wiring, and ductwork alterations of units, which are dimensionally different than those specified, shall be the responsibility of the contractor at no additional cost to the government.
  - 3. RTUs shall be fully assembled by the manufacturer in the factory in accordance with the arrangement shown on the drawings. The unit shall be assembled into the largest sections possible subject to shipping

and rigging restrictions. The correct fit of all components and casing sections shall be verified in the factory for all units prior to shipment. All units shall be fully assembled, tested and then split to accommodate shipment and job site rigging. On units not shipped fully assembled, the manufacturer shall tag each section and include air flow direction to facilitate assembly at the job site. Lifting lugs or shipping skids shall be provided for each section to allow for field rigging and final placement of unit.

4. The RTU manufacturer shall provide the necessary gasketing, caulking, and all screws, nuts, and bolts required for assembly. The manufacturer shall provide a local representative at the job site to supervise the assembly and to assure the units are assembled to meet manufacturer's recommendations and requirements noted on the drawings. Provide documentation that this representative has provided this service on similar jobs to the Contracting Officer. If a local representative cannot be provided, the manufacturer shall provide a factory representative.
5. Gaskets: All door and casing and panel gaskets and gaskets between air handling unit components, if joined in the field, shall be high quality which seal air tight and retain their structural integrity and sealing capability after repeated assembly and disassembly of bolted panels and opening and closing of hinged components. Bolted sections may use a more permanent gasketing method provided they are not disassembled.
6. Structural Rigidity: Provide structural reinforcement when required by span or loading so that the deflection of the assembled structure shall not exceed 1/200 of the span based on a differential static pressure of 1991 Pa (8 inches water gage) or higher. B. Base:
  1. Provide a heavy duty steel base for supporting all major RTU components. Bases shall be constructed of wide-flange steel I-beams, channels, or minimum 125 mm (5 inch) high 3.5 mm (10 Gauge) steel base rails. Welded or bolted cross members shall be provided as required for lateral stability.
  2. RTUs shall be completely self supporting for installation on roof curb or steel support pedestals.
  3. The RTU bases not constructed of galvanized material shall be cleaned, primed with a rust inhibiting primer, and finished with rust inhibiting exterior enamel.
7. Casing (including wall, floor and roof):

- a. General: RTU casing shall be entirely double wall insulated panels, integral of or attached to a structural frame. Construction shall be such that removal of any panel shall not affect the structural integrity of the unit. Casing finished shall meet salt-spray test as specified in paragraph 2.1.C.10. All casing and panel sections shall be tightly butted and gasketed. No gaps of double wall construction will be allowed where panels bolt to air handling unit structural member. Structural members, not covered by the double wall panels, shall have equivalent insulated double wall construction.
8. Double wall galvanized steel panels, minimum 51 mm (2 inches) thick, constructed of minimum 1.3 mm (18 gauge) outer skin and 1.0 mm (20 gauge) solid or perforated inner skin. to limit wall, roof and floor deflection to not exceed an L/240 ratio when the unit casing is pressurized to ( $\pm 1245$  Pa ( $\pm 5$  in. w.g.)). Deflection shall be measured at the midpoint of the panel height. Total housing leakage shall not exceed 1% of rated cfm when the unit casing is pressurized to  $\pm 5$  in. w.g. ( $\pm 1245$  Pa). The outer (skin) and inner panels shall be solid.
9. Blank-Off: Provide blank-offs as required to prevent air bypass between the AHU sections, around coils, and filters.
10. Insulation: Insulation shall be injected CFC free foam encased in double-wall casing between exterior and interior panels such that no insulation can erode to the air stream. Insulation shall be 50 mm (2 inch) thick, and  $48 \text{ kg/m}^3$  ( $3.0 \text{ lb/ft}^3$ ) density with a total thermal resistance (R-value) of approximately  $2.3 \text{ m.K/W}$  ( $13.0 \text{ hr-ft}^2 \text{ } ^\circ\text{F/BTU}$ ). Units with less than 50 mm (2 inch) of insulation in any part of the walls, floor, roof or drain pan shall not be acceptable. The insulation shall comply with NFPA 90-A for the flame and smoke generation requirements. Also, refer to specification Section 23 07 11, HVAC and BOILER PLANT INSULATION.

Table 2.2.C

Outer Panel	0.8 mm (22 Gage) Minimum
Inner Panel	0.8 mm (22 Gage) Minimum
Insulation	Foam
Thickness	50 mm (2 inch) Minimum
Density	$48 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ( $3.0 \text{ lb/ft}^3$ ) Minimum

Total R Value	2.3 m <sup>2</sup> .K/W (13.0 ft <sup>2</sup> .°F.hr/Btu) Minimum
------------------	--

11. Casing panels shall be secured to the support structure with stainless steel or zinc-chromate plated screws and gaskets installed around the panel perimeter. Panels shall be completely removable to allow removal of fan, coils, and other internal components for future maintenance, repair, or modifications. Welded exterior panels are not acceptable.
12. Access Doors: Provide in each access section and where shown on drawings. Doors shall be a minimum of 50 mm (2 inches) thick with same double wall construction as the unit casing. Doors shall be a minimum of 600 mm (24 inches) wide, unless shown of different size on drawings, and shall be the full casing height up to a maximum of 1850 mm (6 feet). Doors shall be gasketed, hinged, and latched to provide an airtight seal. The access doors for fan section, filter and coil section shall include a minimum 150 mm x 150 mm (6 inch x 6 inch) double thickness, with air space between glass panes tightly sealed, reinforced glass or Plexiglas window in a gasketed frame.
- a. Hinges: Manufacturers standard, designed for door size, weight and pressure classifications. Hinges shall hold door completely rigid with minimum 45 kg (100 pound) weight hung on latch side of door.
  - b. Latches: Non-corrosive alloy construction, with operating levers for positive cam action, operable from either inside or outside. Doors that do not open against unit operating pressure shall allow the door to ajar and then require approximately 0.785 radian (45 degrees) further movement of the handle for complete opening. Latch shall be capable of restraining explosive opening of door with a force not less than 1991 Pa (8 inches water gage).
  - c. Gaskets: Neoprene, continuous around door, positioned for direct compression with no sliding action between the door and gasket. Secure with high quality mastic to eliminate possibility of gasket slipping or coming loose.
13. Provide sealed sleeves, metal or plastic escutcheons or grommets for penetrations through casing for power and temperature control wiring and pneumatic tubing. Coordinate with electrical and temperature control subcontractors for number and location of penetrations. Coordinate lights, switches, and duplex receptacles and disconnect switch location and mounting. All penetrations and equipment mounting may be provided in the factory or in the field. All field penetrations

- shall be performed neatly by drilling or saw cutting. No cutting by torches will be allowed. Neatly seal all openings airtight.
14. Casing finished shall meet ASTM B117, 500-hour salt spray test, using 20 percent sodium chloride solution. Immediately after completion of the test, the coating shall show no sign of blistering, wrinkling, or cracking, no loss of adhesion, and the specimen shall show no sign of rust creepage beyond 1/8-inch on either side of scratch mark.
  15. Unit floor shall be level without offset space or gap and designed to support a minimum of 488 kg/square meter (100 pounds per square foot) distributed load without permanent deformation or crushing of internal insulation. Provide adequate structural base members beneath floor in service access sections to support typical service foot traffic and to prevent damage to unit floor or internal insulation. Unit floors in casing sections, which may contain water or condensate, shall be watertight with drain pan.
  16. Condensate Drain Pan: Drain pan shall be designed to extend entire length of coil including headers and return bends. Depth of drain pan shall be at least 43 mm (1.7 inches) and shall handle all condensate without overflowing. Drain pan shall be double wall construction, Type 304 stainless steel and have a minimum of 50 mm (2 inch) insulation, and shall be sloped to drain. Drain pan shall be continuous metal or welded watertight. No mastic sealing of joints exposed to water will be permitted. Drain pan shall be placed on top of casing floor or integrated into casing floor assembly. Drain pan shall be pitched in all directions to drain line.
    - a. Drain pan shall be piped to the exterior of the unit. Drain pan shall be readily cleanable.
    - b. Installation, including frame, shall be designed and sealed to prevent blow-by.
  17. Housed Centrifugal Fan Section:
    - a. Fans shall be minimum Class II construction, double width, double inlet centrifugal, air foil or backward inclined type, factory balanced and rated in accordance with AMCA 210 or ASHRAE 51. Provide self-aligning, pillow block, regreasable ball-type bearings selected for a B(10) life of not less than 40,000 hours and an L(50) average fatigue life of 200,000 hours per AFBMA Standard 9. Extend bearing grease lines to motor and drive side of fan section. Fan shall be located in airstream to assure proper air flow.
    - b. Provide internally vibration isolated fan, motor and drive, mounted on a common integral bolted or welded structural steel base with

- adjustable motor slide rail with locking device. Provide vibration isolators and flexible duct connections at fan discharge to completely isolate fan assembly. Refer to Section 23 05 41, NOISE AND VIBRATION CONTROL FOR HVAC PIPING AND EQUIPMENT, for additional requirements. Allowable vibration tolerances for fan shall not exceed a self-excited vibration maximum velocity of 0.005 m/s (0.20 inch per second) RMS, filter in, when measured with a vibration meter on bearing caps of machine in vertical, horizontal and axial directions or measured at equipment mounting feet if bearings are concealed. After field installation, compliance to this requirement shall be demonstrated with field test in accordance with Section 23 05 41, NOISE AND VIBRATION CONTROL FOR HVAC PIPING AND EQUIPMENT and Section 23 05 93, TESTING, ADJUSTING, AND BALANCING FOR HVAC. Following fan assembly, the complete fan assembly balance shall be tested using an electronic balance analyzer with a tunable filter and stroboscope. Vibration measurements shall be taken on each motor bearing housing in the vertical, horizontal, and axial planes (5 total measurements, 2 each motor bearing and 1 axial).
18. Fan Motor, Drive, and Mounting Assembly (Housed Centrifugal Fans):
- a. Fan Motor and Drive: Motors shall be premium energy efficient type, as mandated by the Energy Policy Act of 2005, with efficiencies as shown in the Specifications Section 23 05 12 (General Motor Requirements For HVAC and Steam Equipment), on drawings and suitable for use in variable frequency drive applications on AHUs where this type of drive is indicated. Refer to Section 23 05 11, COMMON WORK RESULTS FOR HVAC AND STEAM GENERATION, for additional motor and drive specifications. Refer to Specification Section 26 29 11, LOW-VOLTAGE MOTOR STARTERS.
  - b. Fan drive and belts shall be factory mounted with final alignment and belt adjustment to be made by the Contractor after installation. Drive and belts shall be as specified in Section 23 05 11, COMMON WORK RESULTS FOR HVAC AND STEAM GENERATION. Provide additional drive(s) if required during balancing, to achieve desired airflow.
  - c. Provide variable frequency drive as specified in section 26 29 11, Motor Controllers.
19. Filter Section: Refer to Section 23 40 00, HVAC AIR CLEANING DEVICES, for filter requirements.
- a. Filters including one complete set for temporary use at site shall be provided independent of the RTU. The RTU manufacturer shall

install filter housings and racks in filter section compatible with filters furnished. The RTU manufacturer shall be responsible for furnishing temporary filters (pre-filters and after-filters, as shown on drawings) required for RTU testing.

- b. Factory-fabricated filter section shall be of the same construction and finish as the RTU casing including filter racks and hinged double wall access doors. Filter housings shall be constructed in accordance with side service or holding frame housing requirements in Section 23 40 00, HVAC AIR CLEANING DEVICES.
20. Coils: Coils shall be mounted on hot dipped galvanized steel supports to assure proper anchoring of coil and future maintenance. Coils shall be side removable for future replacement thru the access doors or removable panels. Glycol-water exhaust heat recovery coils shall be designed and installed to insure no condensate carry over. Provide factory installed extended supply, return, drain, and vent piping connections. Refer to Drawings and Section 23 82 16, AIR COILS, for additional coil requirements.
21. Electrical and Lighting: Wiring and equipment specifications shall conform to Division 26, ELECTRICAL.
- a. Disconnect switch and power wiring: Provide factory or field mounted disconnect switch. Coordinate with Division 26, ELECTRICAL.

### **2.3 AIR FILTERS**

Air Filters: Disposable air filters, 4-inch deep with a MERV rating of 8, shall be provided upstream of outdoor air and exhaust run-around loop air coils and as indicated on the drawings. Comply with requirements in specification Section 23 40 00, HVAC AIR CLEANING DEVICES.

## **PART 3 - EXECUTION**

### **3.1 INSTALLATION**

- A. Follow the equipment manufacturer's instructions for handling and installation, and setting up of ductwork for makeup and exhaust air steamers for maximum efficiency.
- B. Seal ductwork tightly to avoid air leakage.
- C. Install units with adequate spacing and access for cleaning and maintenance of heat recovery coils as well as filters.
- D. Assemble roof top unit components following manufacturer's instructions for handling, testing and operation. Repair damaged galvanized areas with paint in accordance with Military Spec. DOD-P-21035A. Repair

painted units by touch up of all scratches with finish paint material.  
Vacuum the interior of air-handling units clean prior to operation.

- E. Leakage and test requirements for roof top units shall be the same as specified for ductwork in Specification Section 23 31 00, HVAC DUCTS AND CASINGS except leakage shall not exceed Leakage Class (C<sub>L</sub>) 12 listed in SMACNA HVAC Air Duct Leakage Test Manual when tested at 1.5 times the design static pressure. Repair casing air leaks that can be heard or felt during normal operation and to meet test requirements.
- F. Perform field mechanical (vibration) balancing in accordance with Section 23 05 41, NOISE and VIBRATION CONTROL FOR HVAC PIPING and EQUIPMENT.
- G. Seal and/or fill all openings between the casing and RTU components and utility connections to prevent air leakage or bypass.

### **3.2 FIELD QUALITY CONTROL**

- A. Operational Test: Perform tests as per manufacturer's written instructions for proper and safe operation of the heat recovery system.
  - 1. After electrical circuitry has been energized, start units to confirm proper motor rotation and unit operation.
  - 2. Adjust seals and purge.
  - 3. Test and adjust controls and safeties.
- B. Replace damaged and malfunctioning controls and equipment.
- C. Set initial temperature and humidity set points. Set field-adjustable switches and circuit-breaker trip ranges as indicated.
- D. Prepare test and inspection reports to the Senior Resident Engineer in accordance with specification Section 01 00 00, GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.

### **3.3 INSTRUCTIONS**

Provide services of manufacturer's technical representative for four hours to instruct VA personnel in operation and maintenance of heat recovery equipment.

### **3.4 STARTUP AND TESTING**

- A. The Commissioning Agent will observe startup and contractor testing of selected equipment. Coordinate the startup and contractor testing schedules with the COR and Commissioning Agent. Provide a minimum of 7 days prior notice.
- B. The air handling unit shall not be operated for any purpose, temporary or permanent, until ductwork is clean, filters are in place, bearings are lubricated and fan has been test run under observation.
- C. After the air handling unit is installed and tested, provide startup and operating instructions to VA personnel.

- D. An authorized factory representative should start up, test and certify the final installation and application specific calibration of control components. Items to be verified include fan performance over entire operating range, noise and vibration testing, verification of proper alignment, overall inspection of the installation, Owner/Operator training, etc.

### **3.5 COMMISSIONING**

- A. Provide commissioning documentation in accordance with the requirements of Section 23 08 00 - COMMISSIONING OF HVAC SYSTEMS for all inspection, start up, and contractor testing required above and required by the System Readiness Checklist provided by the Commissioning Agent.
- B. Components provided under this section of the specification will be tested as part of a larger system. Refer to Section 23 08 00 - COMMISSIONING OF HVAC SYSTEMS and related sections for contractor responsibilities for system commissioning.

### **3.6 DEMONSTRATION AND TRAINING**

- A. Provide services of manufacturer's technical representative for four hours to instruct VA personnel in operation and maintenance of units.
- B. Submit training plans and instructor qualifications in accordance with the requirements of Section 23 08 00 - COMMISSIONING OF HVAC SYSTEMS.

- - - E N D - - -