



Heat transfer Fluids an Overview

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Indirect refrigeration systems vs. DX

Restrictions and limitation of refrigerant range, indirect refrigeration systems are still in focus.

Pros

- “Regular” pipes and low pressure levels
- Plastic pipes can be used (diffusion tight)
- Does not require certified welders
- Not directly sensitive to water (as refig.)
- Cheaper installation - cost efficient
- Broad range of installation components

Cons

- In some cases corrosive fluids
- High pressure drop
- High pump power
- Bigger pipes
- One “extra” heat exchange



- All HTF have pros and cons
- Water may have “no” disadvantages at least at $> 0^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Choose a HTF suitable for the actual application and plant

Properties to consider when choosing HTF

Health and Environment Hazards

Fire Hazards

Energy efficiency – Thermophysical properties

Corrosivity – electrical conductivity mS/cm

Corrosion protection

Installation – restriction on materials

Lifespan

Cost or rather life cycle cost



Common used water based HTFs and organic fluids

Properties of fluids

Later comparisons consider food stuff applications

Types of HTF

- Alcohols Ethanol
- Glycols MEG
MPG including PDO
- NH_3 / Water
- Hydrocarbons
- Salts or brines Inorganic Calcium chloride, CaCl_2
Organic Potassium Acetate / Formate

Ethanol – Regular alcohol

High viscosity also at high temperature

Compatible with most materials

Normally no need for corrosion inhibitors

Inflammable – therefore normally used down to -10/-15°C

Risk of explosion above 30%

Permission from the authorities to use alcohol

Mono propylene glycol – 1,2 -Propanediol - MPG

Propylene glycol has high viscosity at low temperatures and increases sharply already at -5° / -7°C

Compatible with most materials

The high viscosity leads to high energy consumption in pumps

Propylene glycol is less toxic than ethylene glycol

3-5 times the viscosity that of ammonia/water or brines already at -10°C

Ammonia in water - Ammonium hydroxide NH_4OH

Good thermal properties

Tough odour even at very low concentration

Very high pH value (13-14)



You will need high grade quality material and of course no copper

Follow local regulations using ammonia

Hydrocarbons - for instance Marlotherm XC - Ethylmethylbenzene

Very low freezing point lower than $-90\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Industrial cooling

Very low viscosity

Low specific heat and thermal conductivity

Compatible with most materials

Inflammable

Fatal when swallowed

Respiratory irritation

Toxic to aquatics



Calcium Chloride CaCl_2

Good thermal properties

Freezing point $> -45^\circ\text{C}$

High pH value: 10-11

No use of stainless steel – titanium heat exchangers

Very corrosive, dichromate inhibitors needed



Potassium Acetate / Formate brines and mixtures

Good thermal properties

Very low freezing point

Compatible with most materials

Not hazardous. Acetate is a preservative E261

pH: Acetate: 8-9 Formate 10-11

Electrical conductivity: Acetate: 135 mS/cm, Formate 250 mS/cm



Comparison between different HTF

- *Pressure drop*
- *Heat transfer coefficient*
- *Pumping energy demand*

HTF – medium and low temperature applications

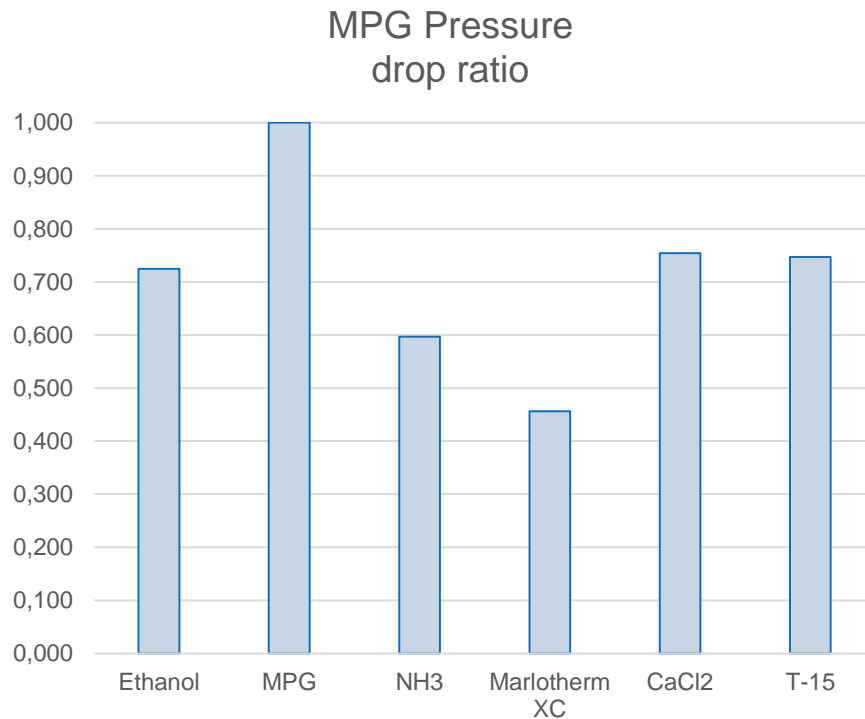


- Typical inlet temperature to cabinets or rooms is approximately -8°C for fridges
- Suitable freezing point for HTF, is then -15°C

Freezing point -15°C @ -8°C

HTF	Ethanol	MPG	NH ₃ /Water	Marlotherm XC	CaCl ₂	Temper-15
Conc. %	24,4	32,9	10,8	100	18	-
Density, kg/m ₃	974	1037	961	885	1168	1121
Dyn Visc. cP	9,38	12,95	2,51	0,91	3,70	4,16
Kin Visc. cSt	9,63	12,49	2,61	1,03	3,17	3,71
Spec. heat J/kg K	4284	3855	4235	1790	3122	3381
Therm. Cond. W/m K	0,419	0,411	0,477	0,135	0,535	0,486

Pressure drop ratio with MPG. -15°C / -8°C

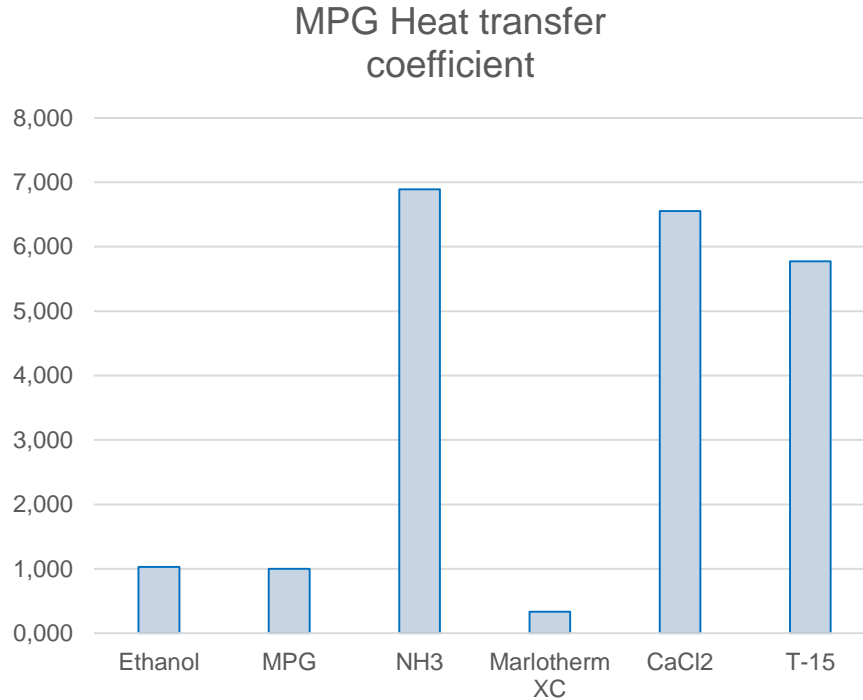


Re number

<i>Ethanol</i>	<i>1661</i>
<i>MPG</i>	<i>1282</i>
<i>NH3</i>	<i>6134</i>
<i>Marlotherm XC</i>	<i>15504</i>
<i>CaCl₂</i>	<i>5044</i>
<i>Temper-15</i>	<i>4306</i>

Basic conditions:
Tube diameter: 16 mm
Flow velocity: 1 m/s
Length: 10 m

Heat transfer coeff. ratio with MPG. -15°C / -8°C



Re number

<i>Ethanol</i>	<i>1661</i>
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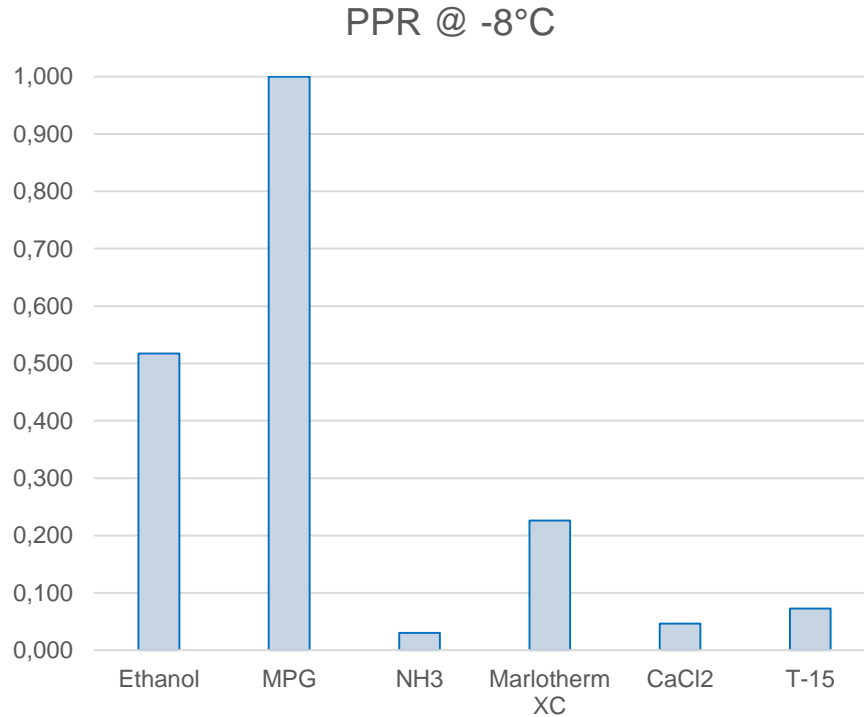
Pumping energy demand

$$\text{PPR}_{12} = (v_1/v_2)^{1,95} * (\rho_1/\rho_2)^{-0,05} * (k_1/k_2)^{-2,3} * (Cp_1/Cp_2)^{-1,05}$$

- PPR_{12} using the thermophysical properties from the different products, describes the amount of energy needed to pump a fluid 1 relative to fluid 2 in order to get the same heat transfer performance.
- v = Kinematic viscosity
- ρ = Density
- k = Thermal conductivity
- Cp = Specific heat capacity

- This PPR_{12} equation comes from substituting appropriate values in Equation 9 of the following paper: Sherwood, G, "Secondary Heat Transfer Systems and the Application of a New Hydrofluoroether", 1195 International CFC and Halon Conference

Pump energy demand **-15°C / -8°C**



HTF – medium and low temperature applications

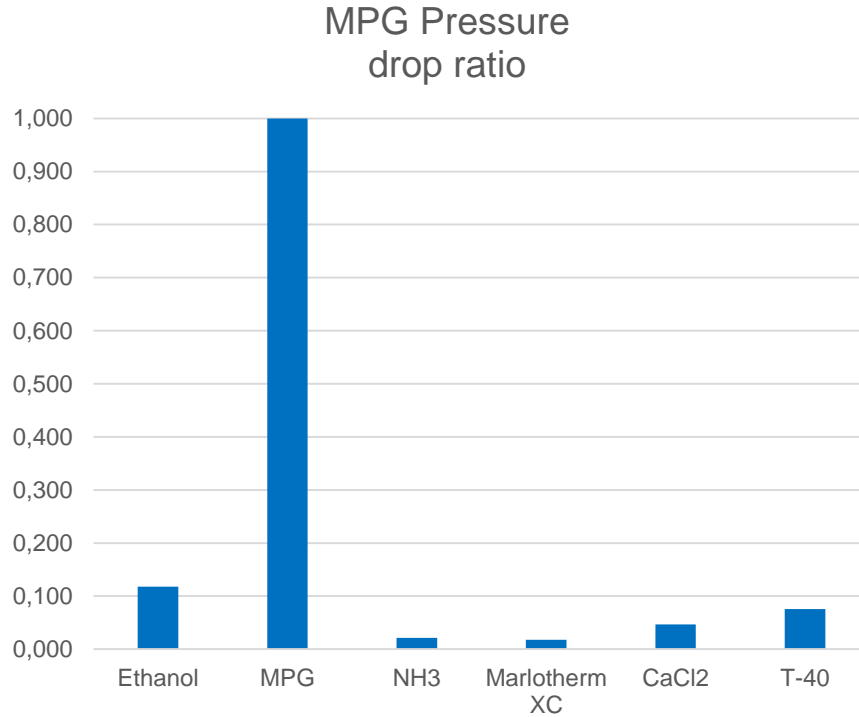


- Typical inlet temperature to cabinets or rooms is approximately -32°C for freezers
- Suitable freezing point for HTF, is then -40°C

Freezing point -40°C @ -32°C

HTF	Ethanol	MPG	NH ₃ /Water	Marlotherm XC	CaCl ₂	Temper-40
Conc. %	53,1	54,0	21,0	100	28,3	-
Density, kg/m ₃	949	1068	939	904	1285	1225
Dyn Visc. cP	42,90	364,75	7,85	1,41	17,02	27,65
Kin Visc. cSt	45,22	341,53	8,33	1,56	13,24	22,57
Spec. heat J/kg K	3367	3359	4296	1750	2682	2865
Therm. Cond. W/m K	0,294	0,321	0,385	0,140	0,490	0,408

Pressure drop ratio with MPG. -40°C / -32°C

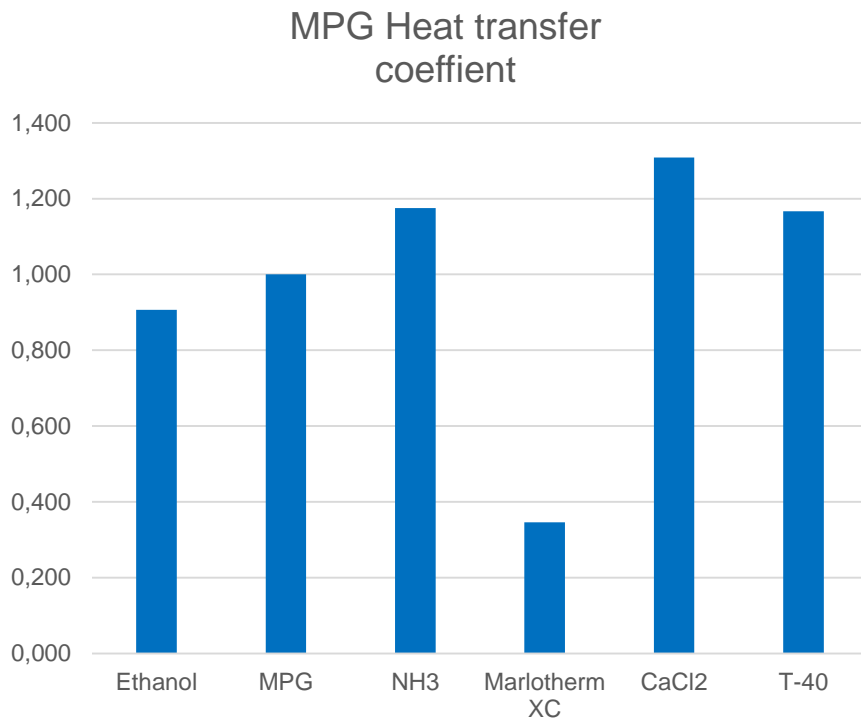


Re number

<i>Ethanol</i>	<i>354</i>
<i>MPG</i>	<i>47</i>
<i>NH3</i>	<i>1921</i>
<i>Marlotherm XC</i>	<i>10286</i>
<i>CaCl₂</i>	<i>1208</i>
<i>Temper-40</i>	<i>709</i>

Basic conditions:
Tube diameter: 16 mm
Flow velocity: 1 m/s
Length: 10 m

Heat transfer coeff. ratio with MPG. -40°C / -32°C

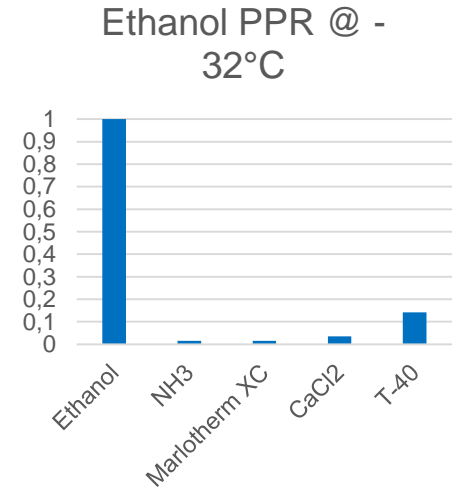
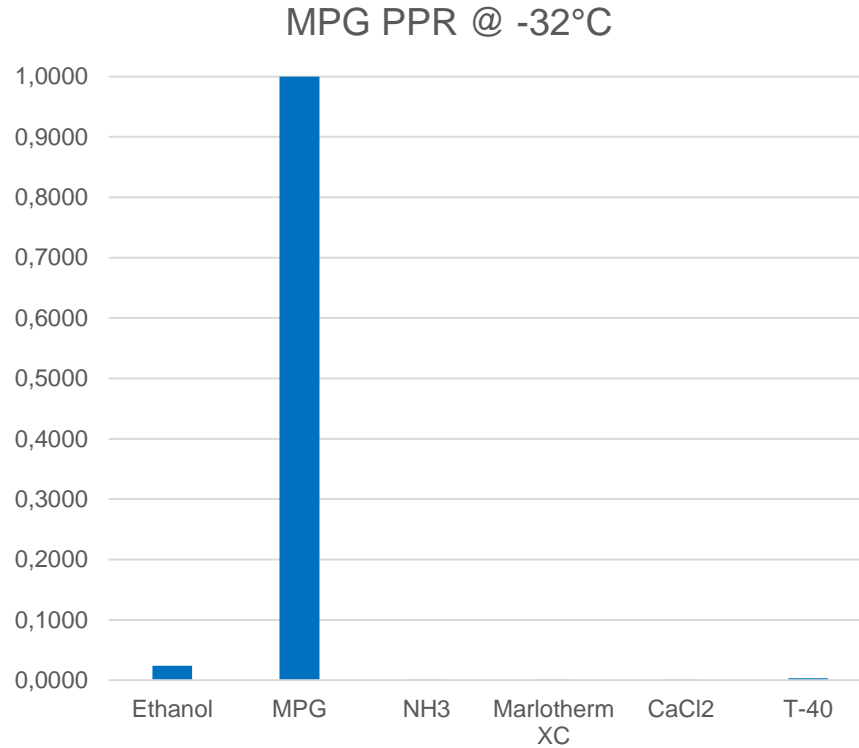


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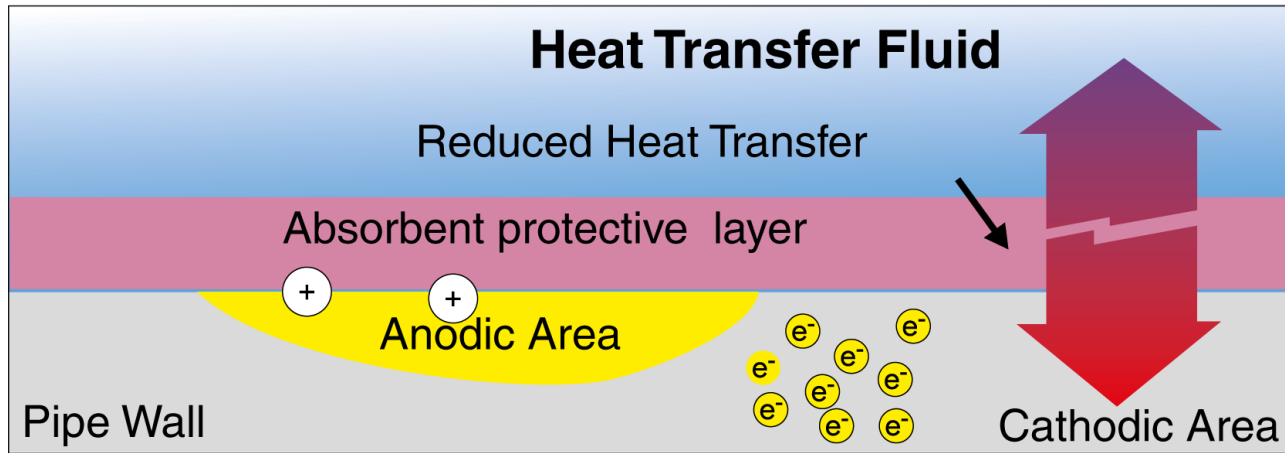
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*Basic conditions:
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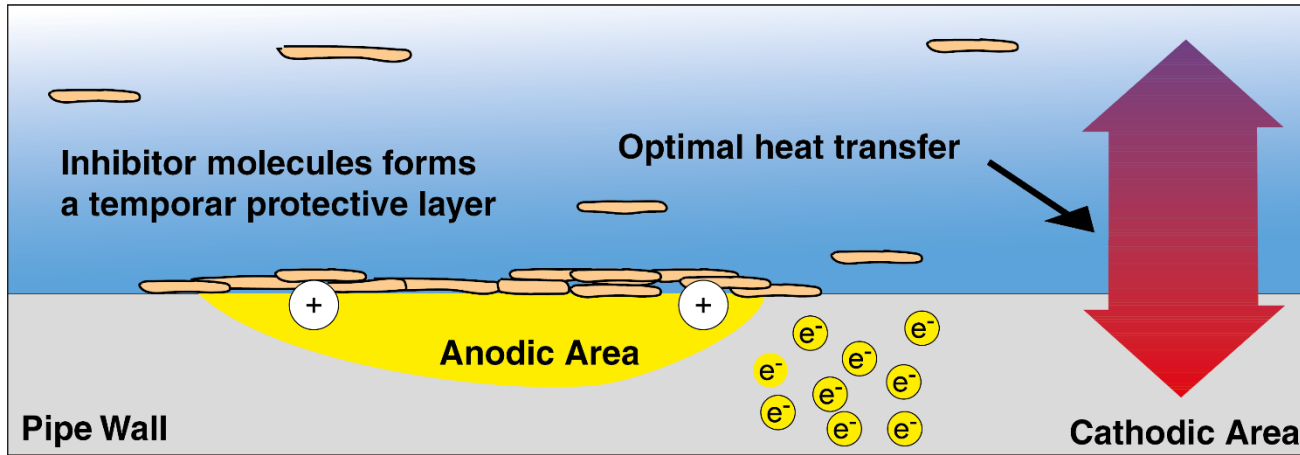
Pump energy demand -40°C / -32°C



Standard Corrosion Inhibitor Package



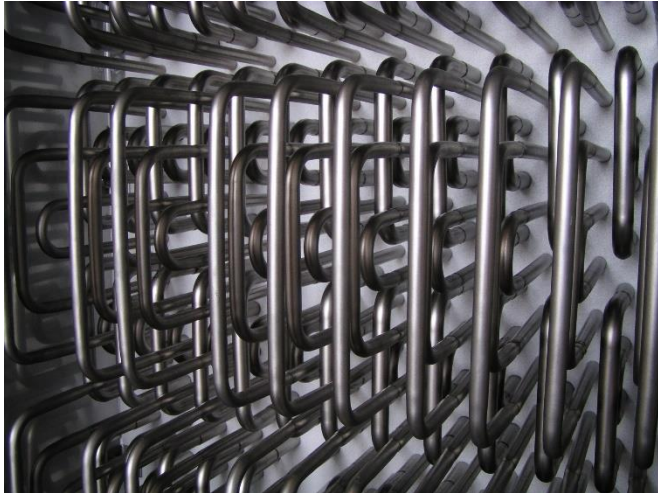
Advanced Corrosion Inhibitor Package



Areas of use



Areas of use



HTF may be used as waste heat defrost in CO₂ plants.

It takes a lot of electricity for electric defrosting.

At waste heat defrost, the heat is "free" and only the pump operation is operating cost.



Thank you very much for your attention!