Sorting the good from the bad

Whether you are a planner, contractor or operator – with existing quotations for heat exchangers, you will often ask yourself whether the quoted units really keep what the quotation documents or the selection software promise. With Güntner products, the answer is simple. It is yes, for Güntner units are regularly tested by the certification programme "Eurovent Certify All". Thus you can be sure as a Güntner customer that you receive a unit where the given data is reliable and conform to the indicated capacity specifications.

Certified values inspire confidence

The Eurovent certification is a real benefit, but most users are not aware of this. In the initial quotation phase, certified products are often directly compared with non-certified products; in this direct comparison the non-certified products seem to have better values. But here it is often not considered that good apples are compared with bad ones, simply because the basis for comparison is not the same.

An example: A planner compares the quotation for a certified condenser with the quotation of a non-certified product. Both units achieve the required capacity and prescribed sound level. But the price of the certified unit seems to be higher.

Why should the planner or contractor then decide for the seemingly more expensive unit? And why should it be disadvantageous for him if he chooses the cheaper unit? A real comparison of quotations is only possible if the units’ data for sound pressure level, capacity etc. is measured precisely in the same way.

Measurement under realistic conditions

The actually measured sound pressure level of units certified by Eurovent may, for example, only exceed the indicated value by max. 2 dB. For indicating the correct sound pressure level, it is therefore not possible to simply "copy" the data given in the catalogues of fan manufacturers. For obtaining precise and realistic values, the fans have to be measured with original
nozzle and fan guard. Pressure-side and suction-side sound pressure level as well as the actual installation situation also have to be taken into concern. Non-certified competitors often use exactly the data given by fan manufacturers and, in doing so, they do not take into consideration the additional operating noise that occurs in real conditions. Consequently, for a unit with the same fans, the total sound pressure level given by a non-certified manufacturer can be 2 to 4 dB lower than the values measured at real installation conditions by a certified manufacturer.

Due to a very complex test procedure, the range for the tolerance values for a unit certified by Eurovent is very narrow. The compliance with this standard is strictly controlled in annually recurring test procedures. In a test initiated by Eurovent, different units of non-certified manufacturers were measured. This test showed deficiencies in output of up to 32.5% compared to the indications given by these manufacturers! For the operator of a plant this can get very expensive, because the deficiency in output of a heat exchanger has to be compensated by a higher power consumption of the compressor(s) or by investing in an additional unit. In the worst case, the low-capacity unit has to be exchanged if the installation area is too small for upgrading the refrigerating plant with an additional unit.

Further certified data

Besides the capacity and the sound pressure level, also the electric power consumption of the fans, the air volume flow and, for dry coolers, the pressure drop of the brine are certified. These certification tests are also effected to verify and confirm the reliability of the indicated capacity.

What is the tangible benefit for you?

Planners and operators can be sure that the capacity and the sound pressure level of the selected units comply with the data prescribed by Eurovent. In addition, the operator can count on long-term investment reliability, because the life cycle costs can be calculated precisely with the certified data.

Here especially costs for energy consumption play an important role. Also in this matter, certified units provide reliability: Certified units are categorised in the Eurovent Energy Efficiency Class, thus you can count on a high reliability for planning and consequently minimise operating costs. Due to the precise testing conditions for units of certified manufacturers, operators and planners have a sound basis for comparing quota-
tions of different manufacturers. All of this contributes to a fair competition and supports you in finding the unit that is best suitable for your application.

Summing up: Already in the initial phase of quotation you should only compare certified and thus comparable units.

What is Eurovent?

Eurovent is a non-profit association that represents the interests of the refrigeration and air conditioning industry in Europe. The association was founded in 1993; today over 180 manufacturers from 23 countries are listed in the certification index.

The defined objective of the certification programme is to create a basis for fair competition with precise and tested data and to increase planning reliability for planners, engineers and plant contractors by providing comparable data, thus facilitating the selection of units.

The certification is subject to strict regulations. All data provided by a manufacturer is tested by an independent laboratory. A unit will only be certified if the test results comply with the data indicated by the manufacturer. These tests are repeated annually.

In the heat exchanger sector, the "Certify all" programme prescribes in addition that a manufacturer has to ensure that all his units are certified by Eurovent. It is not possible to certify just one product group. For the customer this is a great benefit for he can be sure that not only one unit is conform to the strict Eurovent regulations, but that the entire drycooler, HFC evaporator or HFC condenser range of this manufacturer is certified. Not contained in the Eurovent certification programme are air coolers with brine, ammonia condensers, ammonia evaporators, 60 Hz units and radial fan units.