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AbsolutAire is excited to announce a new option for units containing cooling coils (DX, CW) and/or filters: UVC Emitters. UVC refers to ultraviolet C, C being the most germicidal in the wavelength. The UVC lamps emit this germicidal ultraviolet energy to destroy both surface and airborne microorganisms, resulting in improved indoor air quality, unit efficiency, and operational costs. Similar types of UVC Emitters have been used for decades in the HVAC industry with this same goal, but until recently, have been unsuccessful due to their low-output and subsequent high maintenance. Innovations in the lamps, however, have resulted in high-output, low maintenance UVC Emitters that are drastically changing the performance of DX coils and filters.

Coils and filters can be breeding grounds for mold and infectious microbes that thrive in cool, moist environments. These harmful microorganisms are then moved through the unit and into the building, resulting in occupant discomfort, allergy-asthma symptoms, and possibly illness. This is an issue of importance in all buildings, but especially in schools, restaurants, food processing facilities, and hospitals where the occupants are more susceptible to infectious diseases and illnesses associated with the spread of microorganisms. UVC lamps placed in the air handling or make-up air unit near the filters and/or coils emit germicidal energy that penetrates these microbes, killing or destroying DNA and RNA, making it impossible for the cells to grow and multiply. The eradication of these dangerous microbes leads to improved indoor air quality, resulting in less absenteeism and discomfort, and higher levels of productivity.

UVC Emitters also improve the efficiency of the unit itself, reducing energy consumption and operational costs. Clean coils and filters are more efficient in regards to airflow and temperature and humidity control, so less energy is needed to obtain the same results. Additionally, the UVC lights restore heat transfer and net cooling capacity, again because they keep the filters and coils clean.

Of course, there are other seemingly less expensive ways to clean coils and filters. In the past, when low-output, high maintenance UVC lights were the alternative, cleaning programs and chemicals/disinfectants seemed like the obvious, most beneficial choice. This is not so anymore. High-output UVC Emitters have a service life of at least 12 months, requiring little to no maintenance between yearly bulb changing. And, unlike cleaning programs or chemicals that are generally used once the coils and filters have sustained some mold buildup, UVC Emitters run 24/7, keeping the coils and filters clean at all times. There is also no worry of introducing potentially harmful chemicals into the airflow of the building when using UVC lamps. UVC Emitters do not produce ozone or other secondary contaminants, so they will not harm building occupants, equipment, or furnishings. And, since they reduce energy and operational costs, in addition to increasing productivity and performance, the UVC Emitters can pay for themselves in a matter of months.

Please let us know if you have further questions or would like more information on this new option offering for cooling coils and filters. We hope that you and your customers will quickly see the advantages of using UVC Emitters in AbsolutAire products!

