

Efficiency in food and energy processes

Optimized equipment configuration reduces operational costs

Energy-efficient HVAC climate control of computer centers, with GEA Ultra-Denco close control systems

The new GEA Ultra-Denco Close Control HVAC systems ensure exact temperatures and humidity in climate control. They were especially designed for employment in computer centers. This equipment range includes three sizes with a maximum cooling duty of 50 to 150 kW. New configuration and optimization of components – heat exchangers, filters, valves, and especially fans – have enabled GEA experts to minimize air- and water-side pressure drops and consequently to reduce power consumption by more than 50 %. Further savings potential is offered by the combination of systems with chillers that offer free-cooling functions: for example, GEA GLFC.

The Close Control HVAC units in the GEA Ultra-Denco Range are available, as standard, with 6-row high-capacity cooling banks and with modulating 3-point servovalves in 2- or 3-way versions – and with EC free-running (plug) fans. As a result of their efficiency of more than 90 %, EC fans – especially in partial-load mode as, for example, with standby redundant features – enable reduction of power consumption by up to 45 % in comparison to systems with AC fans in full-load mode. Location of the fans in a raised floor radically reduces flow reversal losses and thereby reduces power consumption of the overall unit by more than 50 %.

Enlarged filter surfaces – with the resulting reduction in pressure drop – lead to longer maintenance intervals. The large heavy-duty heat exchanger with 6-tube rows is designed for greater output: or for operation with more energy-efficient media temperature while enabling the same output. By optimization of the components through which water flows – such as heat exchangers, valves, and piping – GEA Denco has succeeded in extremely reducing water-side pressure drop.

Since the fans in this configuration pull in air only through the unit itself, the enclosure is not under pressure and is characterized by great air tightness. This prevents leaks. Service staff has simple access from the front to maintain the system.

When used in high-capacity server environments, a control-system combination with an automatic pressure-controlled system (APC) provides exact monitoring and optimization of the pressure prevailing in the raised floor. This configuration always supplies the correct amount of air that is momentarily required. Pressure-dependent control allows further reduction of power consumption by the fans. These solutions also minimize the risk of so-called hot spots: i.e., areas in which high temperatures can develop in small areas. This GEA system operates particularly effectively in combination with cold- and hot-aisle containment.

With cooling requirements over the entire year, one highly recommended solution is the combination of GEA Ultra-Denco Close

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Control HVAC units and chillers with free-cooling functions. As soon as these free-cooling systems can provide the water (or water-glycol mixture) 1 K below the required return-flow temperature, mixed operation is possible. At low air temperatures, it is often possible to switch off the compressor entirely: for example, during winter operation. This reduces compressor operation time and lowers power costs.



The GEA Ultra-Denco Range assures exact temperatures and humidity.

Press Relations and Public Affairs

GEA Air Treatment GmbH - Carola Wolters
Suedstrasse 48 - 44625 Herne (Germany)
Phone: +49 (0)2325 468 419 - Fax: +49 (0)2325 468 401
carola.wolters@geagroup.com
www.gea-airtreatment.com

Journalist enquiries:

Press'n'Relations II GmbH - Ralf Dunker
Guntherstrasse 19 - 80639 Munich (Germany)
Phone: +49 (0)89 17 99 92 75 - Fax: +49 (0)89 17 99 92 89
du@press-n-relations.de
www.press-n-relations.de

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About GEA

GEA Group Aktiengesellschaft is one of the largest systems providers in the food and beverages industries and in energy production. Group sales in 2010 were more than 4.4 billion euros. As an internationally active technological enterprise, GEA Group has concentrated on process engineering and components for demanding production processes in a wide range of end-user markets. The Group generates around 70 % of its sales in long-term growth industries for food, beverages, and energy. As of 31 December 2010 the Group internationally employed more than 20,000 staff. In its business areas, GEA Group is among the leading companies on the market and in technological developments. GEA Group is listed on the German MDAX stock index (G1A, WKN 660200).