



OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS  
OF STEAM TRAPS

ATTRIBUTE	F & T	INVERTED BUCKET	BALANCED PRESSURE THERMOST.	BIMETAL THERMOST.	IMPULSE	DISC THERMO- DYNAMIC
Trap Failure Open or Closed	Closed	Open	Could Fail ei- ther way D/B will fail, open		Open	Open Could Fail
Approximate Pressure Ranges	Vacuum to 250 psig	10 to 2700 psig	Vacuum thru 25 psig (comfort heating)	0 to 3100 psig		50 to 600 psig
Operation with Back pressure	Good	Good	Good		Bad	Bad
Maximum Capacities Approximate Lbs/hr.	50,000 @ 150 psi	19,000 @ 200 psi	670 @ 25 psi			2700 @ 200 psi
Good for Start-up Loads	Excellent	Fair	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Bad
Corrosion Resistance	Good	Excellent	Good	Excellent		Excellent
Resistance to Wear	Good	Excellent	Fair			Bad
Ability to Handle Dirt	Poor	Excellent	Fair	Poor	Poor	Poor
Operating Efficiency (Loss of Steam)	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Fair

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Trap Life		Good	Excellent	Fair			Poor
°F Subcooling Req'd for Capacity Tests (WWT-696)		5°	5°	20°	20°	30°	5°
Safety Factor Recommended in (WWT-696)		1.5-2.5	2-4	2-4	2-4	1.2-2.	1.2-2
Orifice Change for a Pressure Change		Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Relative Size and Weight		Large	Large	Small	Small	Small	Small
Relative Cost		High	Moderate	Moderate			Low
			TRAP APPLICATION				
Air Heating Coils	Mod. Valve Control- ed	Small Booster	2	N	1		N
		Large	1	N	N		N
	Full Line Press. at all Times	Small Booster	2	2	1		N
		Large	1	1	N		1
Radiation		2	N	1			N
Propeller fan Unit Heaters		1	1	N			1

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APPLICATION		F & T	INVERTED BUCKET	BALANCED PRESSURE THERMOST.	BIMETAL THERMOST.	IMPULSE	DISC THERMO-DYNAMIC
Steam to Water Heat Exchangers	Mod. Valve Controlled	1	N	N			N
	Full Line Pressure at all times	1	1	N			1
Absorption Machine		1	N	N			N
Steam Main Drip Points		1	1	N			1
Flash Tanks (use a closed float trap)		N	N	N			N

Note: (1) Under trap application section a "1" denotes first choice a "2" denotes 2nd choice and a "N" denotes not a recommended choice.

(2) These attributes were taken from many sources. A specific trap by any manufacturer may not follow all of the attributes above. There may be exceptions to the list, it is offered as a general guide only.