Five things to consider before buying a heat exchanger

Investing in a new heat exchanger can have a significant impact – positive or negative – on your operations. So what should you think about before you invest? Here are five tips to help you make the best decision for your business.

There are various things to bear in mind when purchasing a heat exchanger. Here are five questions to ask yourself before making your choice:

1. Does your supplier offer 24-hour original spare parts delivery and round-the-clock support? Breakdowns and downtime should be rare, but sometimes the unexpected happens. Like any food and beverage processor, you want to minimize downtime at all times as production stops are disruptive and costly. One way is to choose a supplier that combines a strong local organization with a global spare parts supply chain. Rapid response on spare parts and support can get your heat exchanger in the minimum amount of time.

2. Choose a heat exchanger to meet today’s needs, but with a design that is easy to upgrade to meet future requirements. Future-proofing your production line enables you to easily change product or to add new capacity. For that you need a supplier that can install an upgrade and get it up and running. Tetra Pak tubular heat exchangers, for example, are specifically designed to accommodate extra tubes in the event you change product or increase your production volume.

3. Make sure your heat exchanger supplier understands your business. Choose a partner that knows how your production process works and can help you to configure your plant equipment for optimum results. Access to industry-leading expertise will save you time and money. Consider choosing a global company that can guide you in ordering high-performance heat exchangers best suited to your business.

4. Don’t forget service. Problems can and do arise. If they do, you will benefit from a local organization that can support you technically in your own language. Remember, too, that large heat exchangers can be difficult to service and thus more expensive to run. Choosing a compact design, even for large capacities, will reduce your service downtime and cut your costs.

5. Flexibility is key if you produce – or may one day produce – more than a single product. Tetra Pak can build two or three heat exchangers on the same frame, enabling you to run different product lines simultaneously. We can even include a small-capacity pilot testing line for when you experiment with new products. This unique Tetra Pak service is thanks to our heat exchangers’ ultra-compact and flexible design.