Air Cooled Heat Exchanger Fouling

During operation ACC heat exchangers get fouled.

The different kinds of fouling are:

- Fibers and dust
- Bird droppings and pollen
- Lime stone from water
- Oil products
- chemicals

Fouling on ACC's

Typical fouling Single Row Condenser tube

Fouling on one side of the base tube due to

air flow direction initiated by the fans



Fouling

Fouling takes place as long as there is an airflow. Fouling increases the air-flow resistance over the finned tubes, therefore there will be less air for cooling.

The reduced heat transfer coefficient is less important

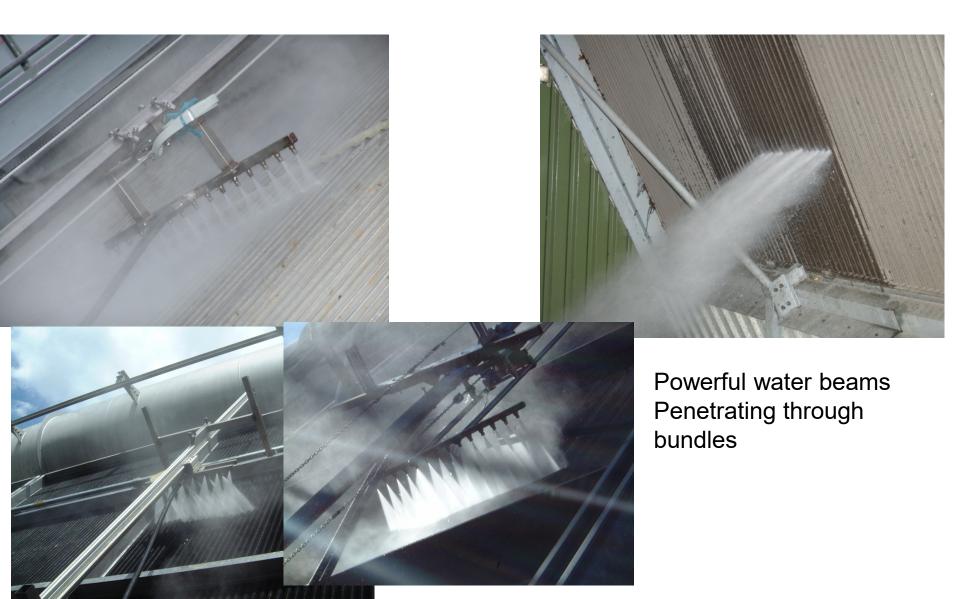
Solid mud by chemical cleaning



fibers

Dust and season pollen

A-frame coolers



Material removed from fins



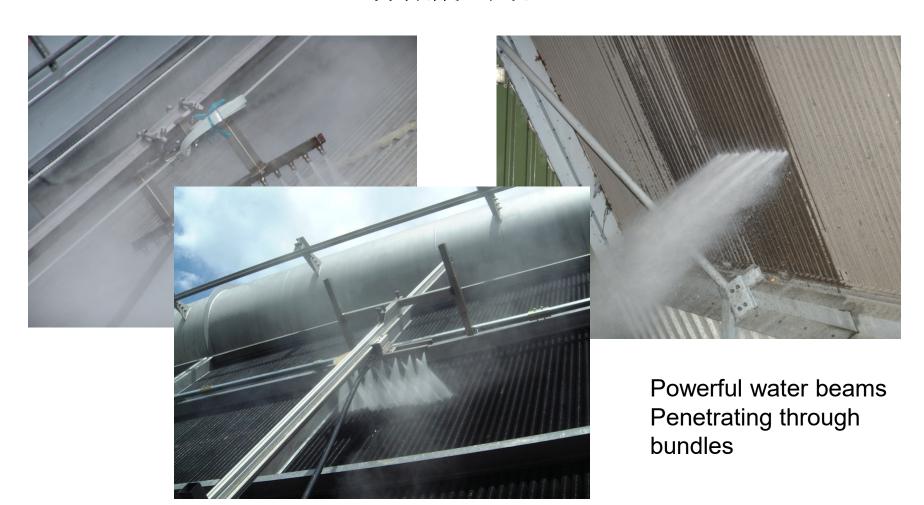
This material is hardly to be removed by chemical cleaning.





8-ACC Cleaning System

自动清洗系统



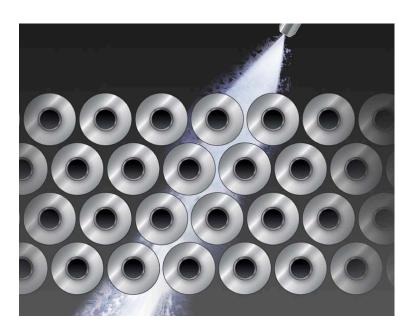
Fouling Removal of fouling

Heavy fouling



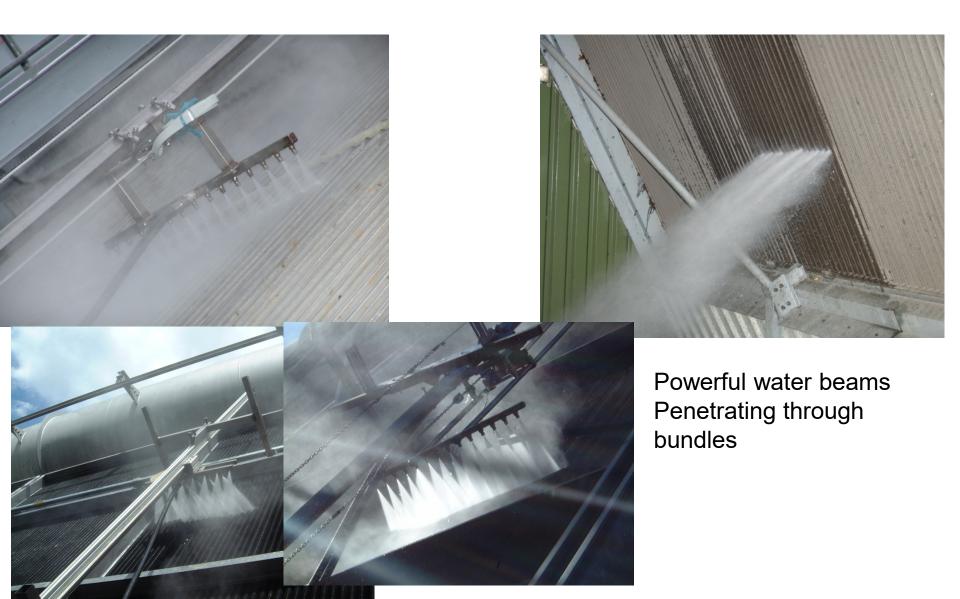
Clean finned tubes

The cleaning process



Impact of water removes fouling No chemicals or detergents used

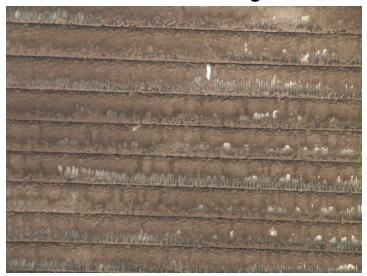
ACC Bundle Cleaning



Kinds of fouling

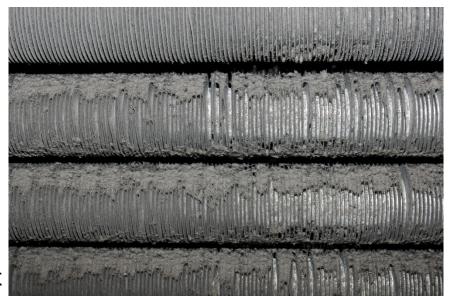
Fouling is always present at the bottom Removal must be done in opposite direction of the air flow.

Dust and fibers, netting



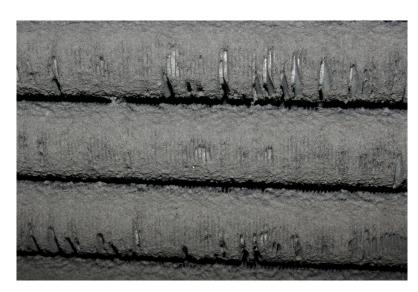


Damage by manual HP cleaning



Fibers and dust

Heavy fouling



Dust and fibers, easily to be removed



Lime stone by water spraying over bundles Very hard to be removed