

STEAM TRAP EFFICIENCY

IF WE CAN DO NO MORE THAN DEFINE STEAM TRAP EFFICIENCY, WE'VE REALLY ACCOMPLISHED SOMETHING, COULD STEAM TRAP EFFICIENCY BE DEFINED AS ITS ABILITY NOT TO WASTE STEAM? I THINK NOT, WE ALL RECOGNIZE THAT STEAM TRAPS ARE A NECESSARY EVIL, THEY DON'T PRODUCE A PRODUCT; THEY'RE NOT A PIECE OF HEAT EXCHANGE EQUIPMENT; THEY'RE SIMPLY AN AUTOMATIC VALVE DEVICE USED TO IMPROVE THE OVERALL EFFICIENCY OF THE HEAT EXCHANGER THEY'RE TRAPPING, **WOULD** IT NOT, IN FACT, BE MORE ACCURATE TO DEFINE STEAM TRAP EFFICIENCY AS THEIR ABILITY TO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE PIECE OF HEAT TRANSFER MEDIUM THAT THEY' RE TRAPPING? AFTER ALL, WHAT WE ARE BASICALLY INTERESTED IN IS MORE WORK DONE PER BTU USED,