

800 mechanical draft cooling tower

OPERATION - MAINTENANCE

Z0440252_C ISSUED 8/2018

READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS MANUAL PRIOR TO OPERATING OR SERVICING THIS PRODUCT.



notice

The following defined terms are used throughout this manual to bring attention to the presence of hazards of various risk levels, or to important information concerning the life of the product.

⚠ Warning

Indicates presence of a hazard which can cause severe personal injury, death or substantial property damage if ignored.

⚠ Caution

Indicates presence of a hazard which will or can cause personal injury or property damage if ignored.

Note

Indicates special instructions on installation, operation or maintenance which are important but not related to personal injury hazards.

These instructions assist in obtaining efficient, long life from Marley counterflow cooling towers. Direct questions concerning cooling tower operation and maintenance to your Marley sales representative. Always include your tower serial number when requesting information or ordering parts. Look for this number on the serial number nameplate.

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general

A cooling tower, like any heat exchanger, exchanges all heat imposed upon it from one fluid to another fluid. For a cooling tower, heat from the water is put into the air. The plant process replenishes the heat to the water, typically at another heat exchanger such as a condenser. A cooling tower differs from many heat exchangers in that heat is transferred in two forms—sensible and latent heat. As heat is transferred from the water, the air temperature increases (sensible) and the air's water content, or humidity, also increases (latent). As the heat load, inlet air wet-bulb temperature, or airflow on a cooling tower changes, the cooling tower will respond by finding a new equilibrium with the process. The cooling tower will still dissipate all the heat from the process, but at new water temperatures.

The cooling tower cold water temperature is the supply water temperature to the condenser, and changes in the cold water temperature usually affect efficiency of the plant output. Although the reduced cold water temperatures that result from maximum fan power utilization are usually beneficial to plant output, the amount of fan power affects the cost of running the cooling tower. As these variables interact on a cooling tower, the operator must find the proper trade-off between these opposing forces.

These instructions will assist in obtaining efficient, long life from Marley cooling equipment. Direct questions concerning tower operation and maintenance to your Marley sales office or representative. Always include your tower serial number when writing for information or ordering parts. Look for this number on the nameplate near the tower access.

Safety

⚠ Caution

Temporary safety barricades should be placed around any exposed openings in the operating (or nonoperating) tower, safety harnesses should be worn by personnel where appropriate, and other safety precautions should be taken in compliance with OSHA regulations and standards.

before start-up

⚠ Caution

Microorganisms including Legionella bacteria can exist in premise plumbing including cooling towers. The development of an effective water management plan (WMP) and implementation of maintenance procedures are essential to prevent the presence, dissemination and amplification of Legionella bacteria and other waterborne contaminants throughout premise plumbing. Before operating the cooling tower, the water management plan and maintenance procedures must be in place and regularly practiced.

1. Consult a knowledgeable water treatment professional to clean and treat your new cooling tower prior to startup. Cooling towers must be cleaned and disinfected regularly in accordance with ASHRAE Standard 188 and Guideline 12.
2. Do NOT attempt any service unless the fan motor is locked out.

Inspection

It is imperative that all operating assemblies be inspected before they are placed in operation. The following is a list of components to be checked before starting the tower:

- Check driveshaft alignment. Realign if necessary. See the Drive Shaft User Manual.
- Check tightness of bolts that attach mechanical equipment support to the tower structure. Check tightness of bolts in fan cylinder joints and fan cylinder anchorage.
- Check concrete structural surfaces for spalling and cracks. Repair as necessary.
- Check tightness of the following bolted joints in the fan and drive assemblies:
 - Fan hub clamp bolts. See the Fan User Manual for correct torque setting.
 - Fan hub cover bolts, where applicable.
 - Geareducer and motor mounting bolts.
 - Driveshaft coupling and guard bolts.
- Check Geareducer oil for sludge or water by draining off and testing a sample as outlined in the Geareducer User Manual. Check Geareducer oil level at “oil level” mark on the side of the case. Add oil as required. The oil level placard must be adjusted so that its “full” mark is at the same elevation as the “full” mark on the side of the Geareducer case. Check oil lines to be sure there are no leaks and all joints are tight. See the Geareducer User Manual for oil filling procedure and list of recommended lubricants.



before start-up

- Rotate fan by hand to be sure of free rotation and ample tip clearance. See the Fan User Manual.
- Check motor insulation with a megohm meter. Refer to the Maintenance Section of Marley “**Fan Motor**” User Manual.
- Lubricate the motor according to motor manufacturer’s instructions.
- Test run each fan separately for a short time. Check for excessive vibration or unusual noise. If either is present, see **Troubleshooting** on pages 22 and 23 of this manual. Fan must rotate clockwise when viewed from above. Recheck Geareducer oil level.
- Check functioning of make-up water supply.
- Make sure the blowdown or bleed-off will carry the proper amount of water. See **Blowdown** on page 18.

Operate Water System

Complete steps 1 through 4 under **Initial Starting Procedure** on page 7. Circulate water over the tower continuously for several days before starting the mechanical equipment and putting the tower into continuous operation.

⚠ Caution

Do not circulate water over the tower in freezing weather without a heat load. See Caution note on page 8.

initial starting procedure

- 1– Fill the cold water basin and circulating water system to a level 1/2” (13 mm) below the overflow.
- 2– Bypass valve should be closed unless start-up is in cold weather. See **Routine Starting Procedure** on page 8.
- 3– Prime and start the circulating water pumps one at a time. Increase the flow of circulating water gradually to design water rate to avoid surges or water hammer which could damage the distribution piping.
- 4– When flow has stabilized at or near the design rate, adjust water make-up to maintain the level that the water has pumped down to in the cold water basin. See **Cold Water Collection Basin** on page 10. This should coincide reasonably with the recommended operating water level indicated on the Marley project drawings.
- 5– Start the fan(s). After 30 minutes operating time, to permit Geareducer oil to come up to operating temperature, check motor load with watt meter, or take operating volt and ampere readings and calculate motor horsepower. Refer to the Fan User Manual for instructions.

⚠ Caution

If it is necessary to adjust fan pitch to pull correct contract horsepower, measure results when circulating design water rate at design hot water temperature. Horsepower will change with air density. Lock out all electrical service before entering fan area.

routine starting procedure

After periods of routine shutdown, the following restarting procedure should be followed:

- Start the circulating water pump(s). Increase the flow of circulating water gradually to design water rate to avoid surges or water hammer which could damage the distribution piping.

⚠ Caution

Circulating cold water over a tower in freezing weather will cause ice to form, which may cause damage to the fill system. Water should be bypassed directly to the cold water basin until the heat load causes its temperature to rise above 70°F (21°C), at which time it may be directed over the tower. Also, towers must not be operated with reduced water rate and/or no heat load during freezing weather. If a bypass is used, Do Not modulate.

- Start the fan(s). On multicell towers, only as many fans should be started as are needed to produce the desired cold water temperature. If the tower is equipped with two-speed motors, fans may be progressively started at half speed, increasing to full speed as necessary to maintain the desired cold water temperature. See **Temperature Control and Energy Management** on pages 13 and 14.

operation

Tower Performance

The following is intended to serve as a guideline for the operation of this counterflow mechanical draft cooling tower. The owner may use this information to develop preliminary operating procedures. As operational experience with the system accumulates, more definitive responses to specific conditions will be developed by the owner's operating personnel.

Keep the tower clean and the water distribution uniform to obtain continued maximum cooling capacity. See **Caution** note on page 15 and **Warning** note on page 17. Do not allow excessive deposits of scale or algae to build up on the filling or eliminators. Keep the nozzles free of debris to assure correct distribution and cooling of water. **Uniform** water distribution over the entire fill plan area is vital to the efficient operation of a film-filled cooling tower.

The capacity of a tower to cool water to a given cold water temperature varies with the wet-bulb temperature and the heat load on the tower. As the wet-bulb temperature drops, the cold water temperature also drops. However, the cold water temperature does not drop as much as the wet-bulb temperature.

Wet-bulb temperature is the temperature indicated by the wet-bulb thermometer of a sling or mechanically aspirated psychrometer.

A tower does not control the heat load. For a given heat load, the quantity of water circulated determines the cooling range. The hot and cold water temperatures increase with higher heat loads. **Cooling range is the temperature difference between the hot water coming into the cooling tower and the cold water leaving the tower.**

Fan Drive

Air is caused to move through the tower by the operation of electric motor-driven fans. At full speed, these fans are designed (and pitched) to move the amount of air required to accomplish the design thermal performance. Proper utilization of these fans provides the operator a means by which to adjust the level of thermal performance to suit the requirements of the load. See **Temperature Control and Energy Management** on pages 13 and 14.

⚠ Caution

If two-speed motors are used, allow a time delay of a minimum of 20 seconds after de-energizing the high speed winding and before energizing the low speed winding. Tremendous stresses are placed on driven machinery and motor unless the motor is allowed to slow to low speed rpm or less before the low speed winding is energized. When changing fan direction of rotation, allow a minimum of two minutes time delay before energizing the fan motor.



operation

Hot Water Distribution System

Hot water from the process flows through an inlet to each cell, which supplies a distribution header and a system of branch arms and nozzles. Each distribution header may be equipped with a vent standpipe to minimize water hammer, to maintain a slightly pressurized water distribution system, and to provide vacuum release at pump shutdown.

⚠ Caution

If an Amertap condenser tube cleaning system is part of plant equipment, care should be taken during operation to back-wash the strainer section only after the sponge rubber cleaning balls are removed from the system by trapping them in the collector. Balls that are allowed to enter the cooling tower supply piping may clog some of the nozzles, although the generous flow paths through the nozzles make this unlikely. However, balls escaping the nozzles will accumulate on top of the fill, ultimately causing unequal water distribution that will affect thermal performance. The top of the fill should be frequently checked until such time as the operational sequence of the Amertap system assures that no balls enter the cooling tower distribution system.

Fill

Water leaving the nozzles is scattered uniformly over the fill plan area. The water flows through the fill, coating each fill sheet to maximize water surface exposure to the air being moved by the fans.

Drift Eliminators

Air leaving the fill passes through a level of drift eliminators covering the entire plan area of the tower. The purpose of these drift eliminators is to minimize the amount of water that is caused to exit the tower by the velocity of the moving airstream.

Cold Water Collection Basin

Water leaving the fill falls into the cold water basin that forms the base of the tower. The normal water level in the concrete basin is approximately 12" (305 mm) below the top of the curb. Adjust the make-up water supply to maintain approximately this water level. Maintain sufficient water depth to prevent cavitation.

freezing weather operation

Note

During periods of low ambient air temperatures, 35°F to 40°F (2°C to 4°C) or below, it is advisable to maintain the cold water temperature at or above 70°F (21°C) to retard the formation of ice and to assist in its control. The methods used in Minimizing Tower Energy Use, described on page 13 are those which the operator would use to maintain water temperature at or above 70°F (21°C).


In combinations of low ambient air temperatures and reduced loads, fan speed manipulation may not be sufficient to maintain an acceptable water temperature. Even with fans off, the natural movement of air through the tower may be enough to continue reducing the water temperature. When that happens, it will become necessary to open the bypass valve, if so equipped, and allow total circulation to flow directly into the cold water basin until such time as the basin water inventory rises to a temperature level sufficiently high to preclude frequent changeovers from normal flow to bypass flow. That temperature level might be 85°F to 90°F (29°C to 32°C), but should be determined by operator experimentation.

Deicing

The formation of ice on towers operating in freezing weather cannot be completely prevented, but can be acceptably controlled. Ice will form on the relatively dry parts of the tower that are in contact with the incoming air. Primarily, this includes the columns, structural framing, and fill at the air inlets. Ice forming characteristics on any given tower will vary, depending on velocity and direction of wind, circulating water rate and heat load.

The Class 800 tower is designed with few structural components in the falling water zone, which prevents damage due to falling ice. However, structural damage can still result from excessive buildup of ice attached to the fill.

A regularly programmed inspection (one walk around the tower per shift) during cold weather operation is the best way to determine if ice buildup on the fill is occurring. If ice is observed and determined to be acceptable, maintain full (total) design flow over the tower. Excessive ice formation may be controlled by regulating air and water flow through the tower by one or more of the following procedures:

- Shut the fan down. This reduces the cooling rate to a minimum and increases the quantity of warm water at the air inlet to a maximum. Except for extreme cold conditions or extended freezing conditions, this procedure will normally control ice formation. If the tower has two-speed motors, operate the fan at half speed forward. This also reduces the cooling rate and increases the quantity of warm water at the air inlet. 

freezing weather operation

- Under extended extreme cold conditions, it may be necessary to operate the fan in reverse. This forces warm air out through the air inlets, melting any accumulated ice. Reversal may be at either full or half speed; however, full speed is recommended if adequate heat load is available. Reverse operation of the fan should be avoided, where possible, and should not exceed 15 to 20 minutes.

⚠ Caution

Reverse operation of fans for prolonged periods during subfreezing weather can cause severe damage to fans and fan cylinders. Ice can accumulate inside fan cylinders at fan blade plane of rotation and fan blade tips will eventually strike this ring of ice, damaging the fan blades or cylinder. Ice can also accumulate on fan blades and be thrown off, damaging fan cylinder or blades. Reverse operation of fans with adjacent fans not operating increases probability of icing. The low discharge velocity of moist air from fan cylinders in which fans are not in operation can result in moisture-laden air being pulled into the adjacent cylinder in which the fan is operating in reverse, increasing this ice buildup. Therefore, fans each side of the one operating in reverse must be operated in forward rotation at full or half speed, or all fans must be operated in reverse. Allow a minimum of 10 minutes delay between reverse operation and forward operation during subfreezing weather to permit ice to dissipate from fan blades and fan cylinders.

- With no heat load on the circulating water, icing cannot be controlled effectively by air control alone during freezing weather. Towers must not be operated with reduced water rate and/or no heat load during freezing weather. If a bypass directly into the cold water basin is used, all water must be bypassed. **Water flow over the tower must never be modulated during freezing weather.**

⚠ Caution

See Fan Drive on pages 9 and 10 for fan speed change and reversing precautions.

Intermittent Operation

⚠ Caution

When the unit is operated intermittently during winter weather, it is necessary that the water be drained from the tower piping to insure protection against freezing and possible rupture.

temperature control and energy management

The wet-bulb temperature of the ambient air varies significantly on a daily basis, and considerably from season to season. As the wet-bulb temperature reduces, the tower becomes capable of producing colder and colder water—or it becomes capable of producing a given cold water temperature at reduced airflow through the tower. These characteristics are the “opposing forces” referred to on page 4.

Maximizing Tower Performance

If your operating system is one which benefits from the coldest possible water; that is, if colder water allows you to increase your output—or allows you to operate your system at significantly lower cost, then continuous full speed operation of the fan(s) may be your best mode of operation.

In this mode of operation, concern for the cold water temperature level would be limited to the potential for the tower to form ice during freezing weather. See **Caution** note on page 8 and **Freezing Weather Operation** on pages 11 and 12. Although the 70°F (21°C) cold water temperature indicated on page 11 is appropriate for cold weather start-up and operation, acceptable temperatures during full operation in spring, summer, and fall may be appreciably lower, perhaps as low as 50°F (10°C) or less. **Refer to your performance curves for expected tower cold water temperatures at varying flow rates, ranges, and wet bulb temperatures.**

Minimizing Tower Energy Use

Most systems gain no operating or production benefits from water temperatures below a certain level, and that level is not usually below the aforementioned 70°F (21°C). When a reducing ambient wet-bulb permits the tower to reach that target cold water temperature level, further reductions in the wet-bulb temperature permit manipulation of fan speeds or operation to maintain that temperature level.

Single-speed fans can be cycled on and off for cold water temperature control, with the steps of control depending upon the number of fan cells in the tower. Two-speed motors offer twice as many control steps—with the added bonus that half-speed (which produces half of the normal airflow through the tower) requires less than 20% of the full-speed power requirement.



temperature control and energy management

⚠ Caution

Excessive cycling of motors causes overheating of the windings and ultimate failure of the motor. The total amount of starting time (period of high inrush current) should not exceed 30 seconds per hour. On fans 20 feet diameter and smaller, this may allow 4 or 5 starts per hour. On larger fans, 1 or 2 starts per hour may be the limit. Determine the number of seconds it takes your fan to get to full-speed (by observation) and divide that number into 30 to obtain the recommended maximum number of starts per hour. Two-speed motors cycling between half and full speeds permit a commensurately greater number of control cycles.

Variable frequency drives, of course, provide the ultimate in both temperature control and energy management and can be easily retrofitted to your system. Please discuss this with your Marley representative.

maintenance

Well maintained equipment gives the best operating results and the least maintenance cost. A regular inspection schedule is recommended to insure effective safe operation of the cooling tower. Use the **Inspection and Maintenance Schedule** on page 25 to obtain continuously good performance with least tower maintenance. See the **Inspection Checklist** on pages 26 and 27 in this manual. Keep a continuous lubrication and maintenance record for each cooling tower. Conduct regular inspections, repair personnel safety items (items 20 and 21 in the table on page 25) and maintain records of all—this is especially important. For a supply of check list forms, contact your Marley sales office or representative.

Hot Water Distribution System

Keep the circulating water and distribution system (piping and nozzles) clean and free of dirt, algae, and scale. Algae and scale may clog nozzles, eliminators, fill, and piping, and may collect on the equipment served thus reducing its performance

Note

See Caution note under Fill.

Access

The optional access door in the fan deck with an optional short ladder to the top of the fill provides a means for inspection of the plenum area above and below the eliminators.

Removal of eliminator packs allows access to the spray chamber for inspection and maintenance of the nozzles and top of fill.

⚠ Warning

Under no circumstances are the eliminators to be used as a walking surface.

Provide top surface protection before walking on the fill.

⚠ Caution

Fill

Clean, free-flowing, unobstructed fill is key to the continued efficient operation and performance of a cooling tower. The owner/operator must keep the circulating water clean by treatment, screening, or filtering to avoid the possibility of fill clogging. Sea water, if used, will typically present increased clogging problems due to suspended solids and/or biological growth if the water is not properly filtered and treated. The dissolved ions do not present unusual clogging problems.



maintenance

Contributors to the clogging of fill are trash and debris, algae, slime, and scale—with the effects of scale often being worsened by the presence of suspended muds. All of these can be controlled with some combination of water treatment, screening, and filtration, and it is the owner's responsibility to institute a program of water treatment and maintenance that will minimize their impact. See **Water Treatment** on pages 18 and 19.

Tower Framework

Inspect for cracks and spalling and repair if necessary. Keep bolts tight in the mechanical equipment supports. Maintain a positive Langelier index in your circulating water. See **Water Treatment** on pages 18 and 19.

Driveshaft

Check driveshaft alignment and condition of couplings every six months. See the Driveshaft User Manual for correcting misalignment, balancing, or replacing parts.

Fan Motor

Lubricate and maintain each electric motor in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. If repair work is necessary, contact the nearest representative of the motor manufacturer. See Warranty Section of the Marley **"Fan Motor"** User Manual. Fan motors with sealed bearings do not require lubrication maintenance.

Fan

Inspect fan blade surfaces every six months. For detailed maintenance information, refer to the Fan User Manual.

Geareducer

Make weekly and monthly oil checks. Inspect internal parts during seasonal oil change. Refer to the Geareducer User Manual for detailed maintenance instructions.

Cold Water Collection Basin

Inspect collection basin occasionally for cracks, leaks, and spalling and repair if necessary. Maintain a positive Langelier index in your circulating water. See **Water Treatment** on pages 18 and 19. Keep cold water outlets clean and free of debris. Make-up and circulating water controls must operate freely and maintain the desired water quantity in the system.

inspection and maintenance

⚠ Warning

Microorganisms including Legionella bacteria can exist in premise plumbing including cooling towers. The development of an effective water management plan (WMP) and implementation of maintenance procedures are essential to prevent the presence, dissemination and amplification of Legionella bacteria and other waterborne contaminants throughout premise plumbing. Before operating the cooling tower, the water management plan and maintenance procedures must be in place and regularly practiced.

In addition, the following steps are recommended:

Do NOT attempt any service unless the fan motor is locked out.

- Consult a knowledgeable water treatment professional to clean and treat your cooling tower prior to startup. See **Before Startup** section of this manual.
- Cooling towers must be cleaned and disinfected regularly in accordance with ASHRAE Standard 188 and Guideline 12.
- Workers performing decontamination procedures must wear personal protective equipment (PPE) as directed by their facility safety officer.
- Cooling towers must be visually inspected regularly to assess signs of bacterial growth, appearance of debris and scale on drift eliminators and general operating conditions. Refer to ASHRAE Standard 188 and Guideline 12 for specific frequency recommendations.
- Replace worn or damaged components.

To minimize the presence of waterborne microorganisms, including Legionella, follow the water management plan for your facility, perform regularly scheduled cooling tower inspections and maintenance, and enlist the services of water treatment professionals.

For additional technical support, contact your Marley sales representative. For help identifying the sales representative in your area, visit spxcooling.com/relocator.

References:

ashrae.org. Search “ASHRAE Standard 188” and “ASHRAE Guideline 12.”

cdc.gov. Search “Water Management Program.”

water quality and blowdown

Blowdown

Blowdown, or bleed-off is the continuous removal of a portion of the water from the circulating system. It is used to prevent dissolved solids from concentrating to the point where they will form scale. The amount of blowdown required depends upon the cooling range (design hot water temperature minus design cold water temperature) and the composition of the make-up water (water added to the system to compensate for losses by blowdown, evaporation, and drift). The following table shows the amount of blowdown (percent of total water flow) required to maintain different concentrations with various cooling ranges:

Cooling Range	Number of Concentrations						
	1.5X	2.0X	2.5X	3.0X	4.0X	5.0X	6.0X
5°F (2.78°C)	.78	.38	.25	.18	.11	.08	.06
10°F (5.56°C)	1.58	.78	.51	.38	.25	.18	.14
15°F (8.33°C)	2.38	1.18	.78	.58	.38	.28	.22
20°F (11.11°C)	3.18	1.58	1.05	.78	.51	.38	.30
25°F (13.89°C)	3.98	1.98	1.32	.98	.64	.48	.38

Multipliers are based on drift of 0.02% of the circulating water rate.

Example: 150,000 gpm (34,069 m³/h) circulating rate, 28°F (16°C) cooling range. To maintain 3 concentrations, the required blowdown is 1.1% or .011 times 150,000 gpm (34,069 m³/h) which is 1650 gpm (375 m³/h).

If tower is operated at 3 concentrations, circulating water will contain three times as much dissolved solid as the make-up water, assuming none of the solids form scale or are otherwise removed from the system.

The use of corrosion and scale inhibitors is strongly recommended.

Note

Chemical Treatment

In some cases chemical treatment of the circulating water is not required if adequate blowdown is maintained. In most cases, however, chemical treatment is required to prevent scale formation and corrosion. Sulfuric acid or one of the polyphosphates is most generally used to control calcium carbonate scale. Various proprietary materials containing phosphates or other compounds are available for corrosion control. When water treatment chemicals are required, the services of reliable water treating companies should be obtained.

The circulating water pH should be maintained between 7.0 and 8.5.

Note

The Langelier index (calcium carbonate saturation index) has proven to be an effective tool in predicting the aggressiveness of cooling tower water toward concrete. The Langelier index relates the methyl orange alkalinity, the calcium hardness, the total solids, the pH value, and the temperature of the water. From

water quality and blowdown

these values it is possible to calculate the index and predict the corrosive tendencies of the tower water toward concrete. An explanation and method of calculating the Langelier index can be found in all books on water treatment. Maintaining a positive Langelier index provides excellent protection of concrete.

Biofilm, a gelatinous organic growth, and algae, a green or brown plant growth, may grow in the cooling tower or heat exchangers. Their presence can interfere with cooling efficiencies. Proprietary compounds are available from water treating companies for the control of slime and/or algae; however, compounds which contain copper are not recommended.

⚠ Caution

Chlorine, if used, should be introduced at a point in the circulating water system that will promote rapid dispersal, and residual chlorine should not exceed one part per million parts water (1 ppm).

Scaling

Scale can be caused by the uncontrolled presence of sulfates, silicates, carbonates, or oxides, and their effect can be accentuated by the presence of suspended muds. Some suggestions and limitations follow:

- **Calcium sulfate** may be introduced in the make-up water stream and/or produced by the use of sulfuric acid for pH adjustment. The concentration of calcium sulfate should be kept below 1000 ppm, expressed as CaCO_3 .
- **Calcium carbonate** generally will not form scale in the cooling tower if carbonate scaling does not occur in the condenser. However, if make-up water contains surplus free carbon dioxide, scaling may be inhibited in the condenser but may occur in the fill because of CO_2 stripping.
- **Silica** scale is virtually impossible to remove. However, silica scale is unlikely if concentrations of SiO_2 are held below 150 ppm.
- **Oxides**, such as iron oxide, can coat all parts of the system if soluble iron is present in concentrations above 0.5 ppm. Iron oxides do not usually develop into thick scales but, like mud, can accentuate the development of other scales.

Foaming

Heavy foaming sometimes occurs when a new tower is put into operation. This type of foaming generally subsides after a relatively short period of operation. Persistent foaming can be caused by the concentrations of certain combinations of dissolved solids or by contamination of the circulating water with foam-causing compounds. This type of foaming can sometimes be minimized by increasing the blowdown, but in some cases foam depressant chemicals must be added to the system. Foam depressants are available from a number of chemical companies.

seasonal shutdown instructions

Tower

Drain all tower piping.

During shutdown, follow recommendations in the **Cooling Tower Inspection and Maintenance** section of this manual before attempting repairs. Apply protective coating as required to all metal parts. Particular attention should be given to mechanical equipment supports, driveshaft and driveshaft guards, Geareducers, and motors.

Note

See Warning note on page 17 regarding tower cleaning.

Visually inspect for concrete deterioration. If ambient temperature is 32°F (0°C) or below, do not put cold water on tower.

Mechanical Equipment

Downtime for less than 3 months.

Each month, drain water condensate from the lowest point of the Geareducer and its oil system. Check oil level and add oil if necessary. Operate Geareducer briefly to recoat all interior surfaces with oil. At start-up, drain water condensate and check oil level. Add oil if necessary.

Refer to the Geareducer User Manual for maintenance and lubrication instructions.

Downtime for 3 months or longer.

If the fan motors have space heaters, operate mechanical equipment one hour each month. Space heaters should be energized anytime motor is not operating. If the motors do not have space heaters, operate mechanical equipment one hour each week. At start-up, operate mechanical equipment one hour or until oil is warm, then shut the equipment down. Drain the oil and refill.

Refer to the Geareducer User Manual for instruction on changing oil. Refer to the **“Downtime Instructions”** User Manual for downtime of 6 months or longer.

⚠ Caution

Do not start motor without determining that there will be no interference with free rotation of the fan drive. Refer to the “Fan Motor” User Manual.

If shutdown period is longer than seasonal, contact your Marley sales office or representative for additional information.

spare parts

Spare Parts

SPX Cooling Technologies manufactures and inventories cooling tower replacement parts. Typical lead time is 10 working days. Contact your Marley representative for emergency service.

Owners should consider maintaining an inventory of critical mechanical components, such as a fan assembly, gear drive and driveshaft to avoid emergency shutdown of cooling tower operations. Be sure to furnish the cooling tower serial number when ordering parts.

troubleshooting

Trouble	Cause	Remedy
Motor will not start	Power not available at motor terminals	Check power at starter. Correct any bad connections between the control apparatus and the motor. Check starter contacts and control circuit. Reset overloads, close contacts, reset tripped switches or replace failed control switches. If power is not on all leads at starter, make sure overload and short circuit devices are in proper condition.
	Wrong connections	Check motor and control connections against wiring diagrams.
	Low voltage	Check nameplate voltage against power supply. Check voltage at motor terminals.
	Open circuit in motor winding	Check stator windings for open circuits.
	Fan drive stuck	Disconnect motor from load and check motor and Geareducer for cause of problem.
Unusual motor noise	Rotor defective	Look for broken bars or rings.
	Motor running single-phase	Stop motor and attempt to start it. Motor will not start if single phased. Check wiring, controls and motor.
	Motor leads connected incorrectly	Check motor connections against wiring diagram on motor.
	Bad bearings	Check lubrication. Replace bad bearings.
	Electrical unbalance	Check voltages and currents of all three lines. Correct if required.
	Air gap not uniform	Check and correct bracket fits or bearing.
	Rotor unbalance	Rebalance.
Motor runs hot	Cooling fan hitting end bell-guard	Reinstall or replace fan
	Wrong voltage or unbalanced voltage	Check voltage and current of all three lines against nameplate values.
	Overload	Check fan blade pitch. See Fan User Manual. Check for drag in fan drivetrain as from damaged bearings.
	Wrong motor RPM	Check nameplate against power supply. Check RPM of motor and gear ratio.
	Bearings over greased	Remove grease reliefs. Run motor up to speed to purge excessive grease. Does not apply to motors with sealed bearings.
	Wrong lubrication in bearings	Change to proper lubricant. See motor manufacturer's instructions.
	One phase open	Stop motor and attempt to start it. Motor will not start if single phased. Check wiring controls and motor
	Poor ventilation	Clean motor and check ventilation openings. Allow ample ventilation around motor.
	Winding fault	Check with Ohmmeter.
	Bent motor shaft	Straighten or replace shaft.
Motor runs hot	Insufficient grease	Remove plugs and regrease bearings. Does not apply to motors with sealed bearings.
	Too frequent starting or speed changes	Limit cumulative acceleration time to a total of 30 seconds per hour. Set on/off or speed change set-points farther apart. Consider installing a Marley VFD for fine temperature control.
	Deterioration of grease or foreign material in grease	Flush bearings and relubricate. Does not apply to motors with sealed bearings.
	Bearings damaged	Replace bearings.

troubleshooting

Trouble	Cause	Remedy
Motor does not come up to speed	Voltage too low at motor terminals because of line drop	Check transformer and setting of taps. Use higher voltage on transformer terminals or reduce loads. Increase wire size or reduce inertia.
	Broken rotor bars	Look for cracks near the rings. A new rotor may be required. Have motor service person check motor.
Wrong motor rotation	Wrong sequence of phases	Switch any two of the three motor leads.
Geareducer noise	Geareducer bearings	If new, see if noise disappears after one week of operation. Drain, flush and refill Geareducer oil. See Geareducer User Manual. If still noisy, replace.
	Gears	Correct tooth engagement. Replace badly worn gears. Replace gears with broken or damaged teeth
Unusual fan drive vibration	Loose bolts and cap screws	Tighten all bolts and cap screws on all mechanical equipment and supports.
	Unbalanced driveshaft or worn couplings	Make sure motor and Geareducer shafts are in proper alignment and "match marks" properly matched. Repair or replace worn couplings. Rebalance driveshaft by adding or removing weights from balancing cap screws. See Driveshaft User Manual.
	Fan	Make certain all blades are as far from center of fan as safety devices permit. All blades must be pitched the same. See Fan User Manual. Clean off deposit build-up on blades
	Worn Geareducer bearings	Check fan and pinion shaft endplay. Replace bearings as necessary.
	Unbalanced motor	Disconnect load and operate motor. If motor still vibrates, rebalance motor.
	Bent Geareducer shaft	Check fan and pinion shaft with dial indicator. Replace if necessary.
Fan noise	Blade rubbing inside of fan cylinder	Adjust cylinder to provide blade tip clearance.
	Loose bolts in blade clamps	Check and tighten if necessary

safety

The tower has been designed to provide a safe working environment while either operating or shut down. The ultimate responsibility for safety rests with the Operator and Owner. When flow to the tower is shut off or when portions of the tower require maintenance, temporary safety barricades may be required around openings. Other safety precautions such as safety harnesses should be utilized where appropriate for compliance with OSHA regulations and standards and good safety practices.

Routine periodic maintenance must be performed on all personnel access and material handling accessories in accordance with the following schedule:

	Ladders, Stairways, Walkways, Handrails, Covers, Decks, and Access Doors	Davits, Derricks, and Hoists
Inspect for General Condition	Semi-annually	Semi-annually
Repair for Safe Use	As Required	As Required

inspection and maintenance schedule

General Recommendations

More frequent inspection and maintenance may be desirable.

	Fan	Motor	Drive Shaft and Guards	Gearreducer	Drift Eliminators	Fill	Cold Water Basin	Hot Water System	Water Make-up System	Suction Screen	Control Valves or Gates	Structural Members	Casing and Louvers	Fan Cylinder	Stairs, Ladders, Walkway, Doors, Handrails	Davits, Derricks, Hoists
1. Inspect for clogging					M	M		W		W						
2. Check for unusual noise or vibration	D	D	D	D												
3. Inspect keys, keyways, and set screws	S	S	S	S												
4. Make sure vents are open				S												
5. Lubricate (grease)		R									S					
6. Check oil seals				M												
7. Check operating oil level				D												
8. Check static oil level				M												
9. Check oil for water and sludge				M												
10. Change oil				S												
11. Check fan blade tip clearance	S															
12. Check water level							D	D								
13. Check for leakage				W			S	S	S							
14. Inspect general condition	S	S	S	S	Y	S	Y	S	Y	S	S	S	Y	S	S	S
15. Tighten loose bolts	S	S	S	S								Y	R	S		
16. Clean	R	R	R	R	R	R	S	R	R	R	R					
17. Repaint	R	R	R	R												
18. Rebalance	R		R													
19. Completely open and close											S					
20. Inspect/repair for safe use	Y		Y												Y	
21. Inspect and repair before each use																R

D-Daily; W-Weekly; M-Monthly; Q-Quarterly; S-Semi-annually; Y-Yearly; R-As Required

inspection checklist

Date Inspected _____ Inspected By _____
 Owner _____ Location _____
 Owner's Tower Designation _____
 Tower Manufacturer _____ Model No. _____ Serial No. _____
 Process Served by Tower _____ Operation: Continuous Intermittent Seasonal
 Design Conditions gpm _____ HW _____ °F CW _____ °F WB _____ °F
 Number of Fan Cells _____

Condition: 1–Good 2–Keep an eye on it 3–Needs immediate attention

	1	2	3	Comments
Structure				
Casing Material _____				
Structural Material _____				
Fan Deck Material _____				
Stairway? _____ Material _____				
Ladder? _____ Material _____				
Handrails? _____ Material _____				
Interior Walkway? _____ Material _____				
Cold Water Basin Material _____				

Water Distribution System				
Distribution Basin Material _____				
Inlet Pipe Material _____				
Inlet Manifold Material _____				
Flow Control Valves? _____ Size _____ "				
Nozzles – Orifice Diameter _____ "				

Heat Transfer System				
Fill _____				
Drift Eliminators _____				
Louvers _____				

Use this space to list specific items needing attention: _____

800 mechanical draft cooling tower

USER MANUAL

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Z0440252_C | ISSUED 8/2018

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