

# Ten top tips

to keep your spiral heat exchanger  
in tip top condition



1. Your Alfa Laval heat exchangers are key parts of your processes. Ensure good-as-new performance, operational reliability, and maximum return on investment by servicing them regularly.
2. Make sure the operating conditions (temperatures, pressures and flow rates) comply with the design specifications. Check these parameters regularly to discover deviations that may indicate performance issues, possibly leading to energy losses and unnecessarily large CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
3. Vent the plate heat exchanger during startup, and open and close the valves slowly to avoid pressure surges and water hammer.
4. Use upstream filters, strainers, and back-flushing equipment to protect the plate heat exchanger from debris and minimize fouling.
5. Perform a Condition Audit to obtain detailed insight into the mechanical condition of your heat exchanger, as well as the services required to correct any potential issues.. This will enable proactive service planning to prevent unplanned downtime.



6. Conduct a Performance Audit (during operation) to define a preventative maintenance plan according to the specific conditions of your plant and processes. This lets you optimize maintenance intervals and reduced energy costs thanks to improved thermal efficiency.
7. If conditions permit, consider Cleaning-In-Place (CIP) as the primary method for cleaning your plate heat exchanger to avoid the need for opening/closing it. Utilizing CIP can extend the lifetime of gaskets and plates, minimize labor, and maximize operational uptime..
8. When employing manual cleaning methods such as hydro jetting or brushing, it is crucial to always securely tighten the unit to the correct specification (A measure) to prevent leaks.
9. Keep spare parts for your critical heat exchangers in stock to eliminate the risk of long and costly downtime.
10. Always use original spare parts to ensure performance, reliability, and long equipment lifetime.

