

Thermal Engineering



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This book, Thermal Engineering, is an outgrowth of a textbook by the same authors, Elementary Heat Power, the first edition of which was published in 1946.

In recent years the objectives of engineering education have undergone critical evaluation as a result of which curricula and course content have been revised to place increased emphasis on the engineering sciences and to de-emphasize instruction in the art of engineering. We believe that this change in emphasis has been correct but feel that in some instances it has been carried too far. It has been stated frequently

that the distinguishing characteristic of the engineer is ability to design. It is doubtful that an engineering student can study intelligently the principles involved in the design of mechanical engineering systems and components if such common items of equipment as heat exchangers, prime movers, pumps, and compressors are looked upon as mysterious black boxes or as circles or rectangles in a flow diagram. We believe that the student must acquire an understanding of the major principles of construction, operation, and performance of some of the types of common mechanical equipment and that, from the standpoint of motivation and conservation of time, such knowledge should be acquired as early as possible in his scholastic program.

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