Residential and Light Commercial HVAC

Instructional/Task Analysis

Related Information: What the Student Should Know

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 1: Psychrometrics for Residential HVAC

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Basic information found on a psychrometric chart
- 3. The location of dry-bulb temperature readings
- 4. The location of wet-bulb temperature readings
- 5. The location of dew point temperature readings
- 6. The location of relative humidity readings
- 7. Three basic cumulative psychrometric processes
- 8. Typical air-conditioning processes that can be shown on a psychrometric chart
- 9. Sling psychrometers
- 10. Operating a sling psychrometer

- 11. Determine relative humidity when only drybulb and wet-bulb temperatures are known
- 12. Determine dew point when only dry-bulb and wet-bulb temperatures are known
- 13. Determine how outside air should be conditioned to provide a comfortable humidity and temperature combination in winter heating
- 14. Determine how outside air should be conditioned to provide a comfortable humidity and temperature combination in summer cooling
- 15. Determine the relative humidity of a conditioned space
- 16. Determine the relative humidity of an outdoor space
- 17. Determine the wet-bulb temperature of the air inside a duct

Unit 2: Residential Load Calculation

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. The value of standardized load calculations
- 3. Factors in determining heat loss and heat gain
- 4. Steps in calculating heat transfer multipliers
- 5. Factors to consider when sizing heating equipment
- 6. Factors to consider when sizing cooling equipment
- 7. Ways structural modifications can affect equipment selection

- 8. Calculate heat loss and heat gain for a residence using "entire house" for a quick calculation
- 9. Determine shaded and unshaded glass area for use in heat gain calculations
- 10. Calculate heat loss for a residence, room by room
- 11. Calculate heat gain for a residence, room by room

Related Information: What the Student Should Know

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 3: Residential Duct Design and Sizing

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Types of supply duct systems
- 3. Factors affecting system design and the effects they have on the system
- 4. Major steps in air system design and their procedures
- 5. Factors affecting return air duct design
- 6. Location of registers and grilles
- 7. Advantages and disadvantages for locations of registers and grilles
- 8. Climatic zone conditions
- 9. Control devices and their applications
- 10. Factors to consider in the distribution of conditioned air
- 11. Grille design factors and their meanings
- 12. Outlet replacement and recommended velocities
- 13. Air duct calculators

Unit 4: Residential Air Treatment

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Air contaminants that affect humans
- 3. The advantages of maintaining proper humidity in a residence
- 4. Factors which affect humidity in a residence
- 5. Common types of residential filtering equipment
- 6. Operation of an electronic air cleaner
- 7. Operation of a dehumidifier
- 8. Operation of a typical humidifier with a forced air furnace
- 9. Air-to-air exchangers
- 10. Radon monitoring

- 14. Solve problems using the friction loss per 100 feet chart
- 15. Solve problems using the friction chart for flex duct
- 16. Design an air distribution system from a drawing
- 17. Determine the pressure drop across an evaporator coil
- 18. Determining the CFM being delivered by a selected forced air system

- 11. Install a humidifier with low voltage controls
- 12. Install an electronic air cleaner

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 5: Psychrometrics for Light Commercial HVAC

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Using a psychrometric chart for light commercial applications
- 3. Specific humidity
- 4. Enthalpy
- 5. Specific volume
- 6. The load triangle

- 7. Determine relative humidity when dry bulb and wet bulb temperatures are known.
- 8. Determine dew point and enthalpy when dry bulb and wet bulb temperatures are known
- 9. Determine the condition of air presented to the evaporator coil when outside air for ventilation is mixed with room return air
- 10. Plot a load triangle on a psychrometric chart when return and supply air dry bulb/wet bulb temperatures are known
- 11. Calculate a load triangle for a given light commercial installation

Unit 6: Light Commercial Load Calculations

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. *Manual N* and light commercial load 10. calculations
- 3. Load components for heat loss and heat gain in a light commercial space
- 4. Other sources of light commercial heat gain
- 5. The winter humidification load
- 6. Time of day corrections
- 7. Selecting equipment for a normal cooling application
- 8. U values

Unit 7: Light Commercial System Design

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Structural and space considerations in system design
- 3. Equipment location in system design
- 4. Control requirements in system design
- 5. Electrical considerations in system design
- 6. How ceiling design affects system design

- 9. Calculate the heat gain for an office
- 10. Calculate the heat loss for an office

Related Information: What the Student Should Know

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 7: Light Commercial System Design (continued)

- 7. Air distribution and system design
- 8. Noise and system design
- 9. Odor control and system design
- 10. Fire codes and system design
- 11. Filters and system design
- 12. Humidification and system design
- 13. Duct materials and system design
- 14. The methods of sizing duct
- 15. Twining furnaces
- 16. Balancing an air distribution system

Unit 8: Light Commercial Air Treatment

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Comfort level in a light commercial structure
- 3. Air cleaners and existing light commercial structures
- 4. Common electronic air cleaning devices for light commercial applications
- 5. Performance factors for air cleaner applications
- 6. Basic air patterns for air cleaners
- 7. Capacity sizing
- 8. Mechanical filters
- 9. Humidification for light commercial applications
- 10. Air-to-air exchanges for light commercial structures

Unit 9: Standard Gas-Fired Furnaces

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Furnace classifications
- 3. Gas furnace safety
- 4. Parts of a combustion triangle

11. Determine the number of electronic air cleaners needed for an office

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 9: Standard Gas-Fired Furnaces (continued)

- 5. Types of gas furnaces and their applications
- 6. Major components of a standing pilot furnace
- 7. Automatic ignition systems and their operations
- 8. Components of a gas burner assembly
- 9. Types of gas valves and their characteristics
- 10. Components of a combination electric gas valve
- 11. Characteristics of heat exchangers
- 12. Characteristics of draft diverters
- 13. Types of blower assemblies
- 14. Components of a control system
- 15. The functions of a transformer
- 16. Types of thermostats and their functions
- 17. Limit switch operation
- 18. Fan switch operation
- 19. Combination fan-limit switch operation
- 20. Pilot light operation
- 21. Thermocouple operation
- 22. Pilot safety operation
- 23. Potential sources for thermocouple failure
- 24. Potential sources of fan switch failure
- 25. Potential sources of transformer failure
- 26. Potential sources of high limit switch failure
- 27. Potential sources of gas valve failure
- 28. Potential sources of fan relay failure
- 29. Potential blower section failures and component sources
- 30. Potential sources of heat exchanger failure
- 31. Potential sources of pilot safety failure

Related Information: What the Student Should Know

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 9: Standard Gas-Fired Furnaces (continued)

- 32. Factors needed to determine gas pipe sizing
- 33. Energy conservation devices designed for retrofitting
- 34. Set back thermostats
- 35. Intermittent ignition systems
- 36. Vent dampers and their uses
- 37. Combustion air for a gas furnace

- 38. Trace the high and low voltage circuits of a gas furnace
- 39. Construct wiring diagrams for gas furnaces
- 40. Size a gas piping system
- 41. Install a gas furnace
- 42. Start and adjust a gas furnace
- 43. Disassemble, inspect, and reassemble an upflow gas furnace
- 44. Perform maintenance on a gas furnace
- 45. Troubleshoot a gas furnace on a "no heat" complaint
- 46. Install a retrofit package to replace a standing pilot with a cycling pilot

Unit 10: High-Efficiency Gas-Fired Furnaces

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Induced draft furnaces
- 3. Condensing furnaces
- 4. Pulse furnaces
- 5. Safety with high-efficiency furnaces
- 6. Maintaining and servicing high-efficiency furnaces
- 7. Trace the high voltage circuitry for an induced draft furnace
- 8. Trace the low voltage circuitry for an induced draft furnace
- 9. Troubleshoot an induced draft furnace on a "no heat" complaint
- 10. Troubleshoot a condensing furnace on a "no heat" complaint

Unit 11: Oil-Fired Furnaces

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Oil furnace types and their performance characteristics
- 3. Oil storage tanks
- 4. Major components of an oil burner assembly
- 5. Operation of a gun type atomizing burner
- 6. Flame retention
- 7. Visual flame detection and cad cell location

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 11: Oil-Fired Furnaces (continued)

- 8. Troubleshooting cad cell systems
- 9. Combustion chambers
- 10. Fuel pumps
- 11. Nozzles
- 12. Nozzle service guide
- 13. Venting
- 14. Normal operating sequence
- 15. Electrodes
- 16. Combustion testing
- 17. Burner components and required maintenance

- 18. Install an oil-fired furnace
- 19. Perform a stack temperature test of an oilfired furnace
- 20. Perform a CO₂ test and determine the combustion efficiency of an oil-fired furnace
- 21. Perform a smoke test on an oil-fired furnace
- 22. Perform an "overfire draft" and a "flue draft" test on an oil-fired furnace
- 23. Perform fuel pump service on an oil-fired furnace

Unit 12: Electrical Heating Systems

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Types of electrical heating systems
- 3. Duct heaters and electric heaters
- 4. Components of electric heating equipment
- 5. Causes of common failures of electric heating equipment components
- 6. Staging methods and their operations
- 7. Installing duct heaters
- 8. Installing heaters smaller or larger than ductwork
- 9. Installing slip-in heaters
- 10. Installing flange-type heaters
- 11. General recommendations for installing duct heaters
- 12. Gathering information for system sizing
- 13. Formulas for sizing electrical heating systems

- 14. Install, start, and check an electrical heating unit
- 15. Disassemble, inspect, and reassemble an electric fan
- 16. Troubleshoot an electric furnace
- 17. Perform maintenance on an electric furnace

Related Information: What the Student Should Know

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 13: Cooling Systems

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Basic mechanical components of a cooling system
- 3. Additional components found on some residential and light commercial units
- 4. Electrical components and their functions
- 5. Steps in a cooling cycle
- 6. Indoor fan operation
- 7. Compressor motor failures and ways to detect them
- 8. Compressor mechanical failures and ways to detect them
- 9. Causes of compressor failures
- 10. Problems with condensing units and their probable causes
- 11. Functions of low side section components in an air conditioner
- 12. Problems of low side sections and their probable causes
- 13. Steps in using a charging table
- 14. Guidelines for charging a system
- 15. The scroll compressor
- 16. Evaporative coolers
- 17. Evaporative cooling applications
- 18. Refrigerant recovery and recycling

Unit 14: Heat Pump Systems

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Heat pump configurations
- 3. Components of a heat pump
- 4. Components of a 4-way reversing valve
- 5. Operation of a 4-way reversing valve in the heating and cooling modes
- 6. Metering devices and check valves
- 7. A heat pump in the defrost mode

- 19. Trace the cooling circuit on a single phase package heat/cool unit.
- 20. Trace the cooling circuit on a 7¹/₂ ton three phase rooftop unit.
- 21. Troubleshoot an air conditioning condenser section on a "no cooling" complaint
- 22. Use a changing table to check the charge in a capillary cooling system
- 23. Perform maintenance on an air conditioner

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 14: Heat Pump Systems (continued)

- 8. Methods of defrost initiation and 20. termination
- 9. Components of a heat pump indoor section
- 10. Components failures of heat pumps
- 11. The heat pump touch test
- 12. Special precautions for replacing reversing valves
- 13. Special precautions for driers
- 14. General guidelines for supplemental heating strips
- 15. Temperature controls
- 16. Fossil fuel/add-on heat pumps
- 17. Water source heat pumps
- 18. Closed loop/ground source heat pumps
- 19. Rules for good heat pump operation

- 20. Trace operational circuits for a heat pump in the cooling mode
- 21. Trace operational circuits for first stage heating in a heat pump
- 22. Trace operational circuits for a heat pump in the defrost mode
- 23. Trace operational circuits for second stage supplemental heat in a heat pump
- 24. Trace operational circuits for a fossil fuel heat pump system in first stage heat mode below 40°F outdoor ambient
- 26. Wire a control system for a heat pump
- 27. Troubleshoot a heat pump indoor section in the cooling mode
- 28. Perform maintenance on an indoor section of a heat pump in the cooling mode
- 29. Troubleshoot a heat pump on a "no cooling" complaint
- 30. Troubleshoot a heat pump outdoor section on an "insufficient cooling" complaint
- 31. Perform maintenance on the indoor section of a heat pump
- 32. Troubleshoot supplemental heat on a heat pump
- 33. Perform maintenance on heat pump supplemental heating
- Troubleshoot a heat pump on a "no heat" complaint when the compressor will not run
- 35. Troubleshoot a heat pump on a "no heat" complaint when the compressor runs but cycles on compressor overload
- 36. Troubleshoot a heat pump on an "insufficient heat" complaint when the compressor will run
- 37. Check operation of an Essex solid state time-temperature defrost mode

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 14: Heat Pump Systems (continued)

- Check operation of a Ranco E-15 mechanical time-temperature defrost control
- 39. Check operation of an Essex 149-600 solid state demand defrost control

Unit 15: Balance Points

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. The COP of a direct electrical heating element and the COP of a heat pump
- 3. The COP of a heat pump at a given design temperature
- 4. Balance points and their relation to COP
- 5. Balance points and typical stages in heating continuity
- 6. Factors needed to plot balance points
- 7. A heat pump performance curve from manufacturer's specifications
- 8. Balance point #1 and design conditions
- 9. Additional balance points and design conditions
- 10. The procedure for sizing a heat pump on the cooling load
- 11. Advantages of controlled heating stages
- 12. Installation considerations related to heat pump performance

Unit 16: Introduction to Hydronics

- 1. Terms and definitions
- 2. Basic types of hydronic systems
- 3. Classifications of hydronic systems with their water temperature/pressure characteristics
- 4. Types of common hydronic system designs

- 13. Size a heat pump on the cooling load
- 14. Plot balance points for a heat pump at given design conditions
- 15. Locate equipment to obtain maximum COP from a heat pump
- 16. Set outdoor thermostats for proper staging of auxiliary heat

Related Information: What the Student Should Know

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 16: Introduction to Hydronics (continued)

- 5. Common hydronic system designs and their advantages and disadvantages
- 6. Design water temperature
- 7. Design water temperature drop
- 8. Design water flow rates through circuits
- 9. Flow rates through terminal units and their tubing sizes
- 10. Placement of terminal units
- 11. Terminal units, their characteristics and uses
- 12. Steps in the selection and sizing of terminal units
- 13. Fuels, ratings, and selection of boilers
- 14. Advantages and disadvantages of types of residential expansion tanks
- 15. Steps in selection of residential expansion tanks
- 16. Types, design, and sizing of residential pumps
- 17. Factors in the selection of residential pumps
- 18. Steps in the selection of residential pumps
- 19. Factors affecting pipe sizing
- 20. The procedure for selection of pipe sizes
- 21. Types of hydronic specialties and their characteristics and uses
- 22. Steps in designing a hydronic system
- 23. Integrated systems
- 24. Pulse combination boilers
- 25. Wall-mounted boilers

- 26. Lay out a series loop single circuit hydronic system with boiler located under floor of dining room
- 27. Select boiler and expansion tanks
- 28. Make a trial selection of pump and select pipe size for series loop system

Related Information: What the Student Should Know

Application: What the Student Should Be Able to Do

Unit 17: Customer Relations

1. Terms and definitions

- 9. Respond to problem situations
- 2. Ways good personal habits contribute to good customer relations
- 3. General rules in dealing with customers
- 4. Basic rules for service calls
- 5. Ways to turn service calls into good customer relations opportunities
- 6. Ways to handle an irritated customer
- 7. Ways vehicle operations affect customer relations
- 8. Ways to earn a customer's respect

Unit 18: Service Operations

1. Terms and definitions

- 14. Complete a return goods tag
- 2. Objectives of good service operations
- 3. Guidelines for maintaining inventory control
- 4. Guidelines for maintaining records of installations, service calls, and maintenance calls
- 5. Ways to gather information for a good equipment file
- 6. Procedure for handling return goods
- 7. Special precautions in handling return goods
- 8. Vehicle use, maintenance, and safety
- 9. Basic rules for scheduling and service calls
- 10. Ways to avoid legal problems with equipment and service
- 11. Other operations items and how they contribute to good service operations
- 12. How to handle accounting and money with service customers
- 13. The most important rule of good service operations