

MUNTERS IS THE NHL PREFERRED SUPPLIER OF DESICCANT DEHUMIDIFICATION SYSTEMS



In order to run a successful ice arena, it is critical to improve efficiency and eliminate down time. Most recreational ice arenas operate year round and ice sports continue to gain popularity placing a greater demand for ice time. Constant and efficient humidity control is important.

Uncontrolled humidity results in fog, condensation, mold and poor ice conditions—all of which compromise skater performance and safety and spectator enjoyment. Additionally, humidity causes an increased load on the ice refrigeration system resulting in higher energy costs than necessary.

NHL PREFERRED SUPPLIER

Munters, the world's largest manufacturer of desiccant dehumidification wheels and systems, has led the way in developing the most efficient and effective way to dehumidify ice arenas. Munters has more than 1000 ice arena installations in North America.

NHL has named Munters the "Preferred Supplier" of desiccant dehumidification systems. The NHL recommended standard is 60°F and 40%RH which equates to a 35F dewpoint temperature. Speed skating venues require even more stringent conditions to create an ice surface worthy of world record times. Such conditions can be difficult if not impossible to achieve with cooling based dehumidification systems. Because sub-freezing dew points are efficiently and continuously achieved with desiccant dehumidification, today most ice arenas rely on Munters.



St. Louis Blues practice arena.

NHL Preferred Supplier



FACTS

By Installing the Munters System, NHL Ice Arenas have:

- Annual Cost Savings
- High-Quality Ice Surface
- Fresh Air Without Humidity
- Fast Recovery From Resurfacing
- No Fog
- Reduced Maintenance Costs



The Humidity Expert

THE PROBLEMS

Humidity from the air forms as frozen water vapor on the ice sheet surface, the ice softens, forms a “frosty” surface that may develop puddles. This affects the quality of the ice, which impacts skater performance and causes skaters to get wet when they fall. The ice refrigeration system works overtime to refreeze the ice. High humidity causes fog, which obscures the ice action and leads to safety problems. Excess moisture condenses on the glass, structure and cold surfaces causing drips which damage the ice, wet floors, seats and stairs, mold and deterioration of the building. High energy costs, indoor air quality, safety, mold & mildew and the competitive nature of the industry requires arena owners to focus attention on providing proper arena environmental conditions.

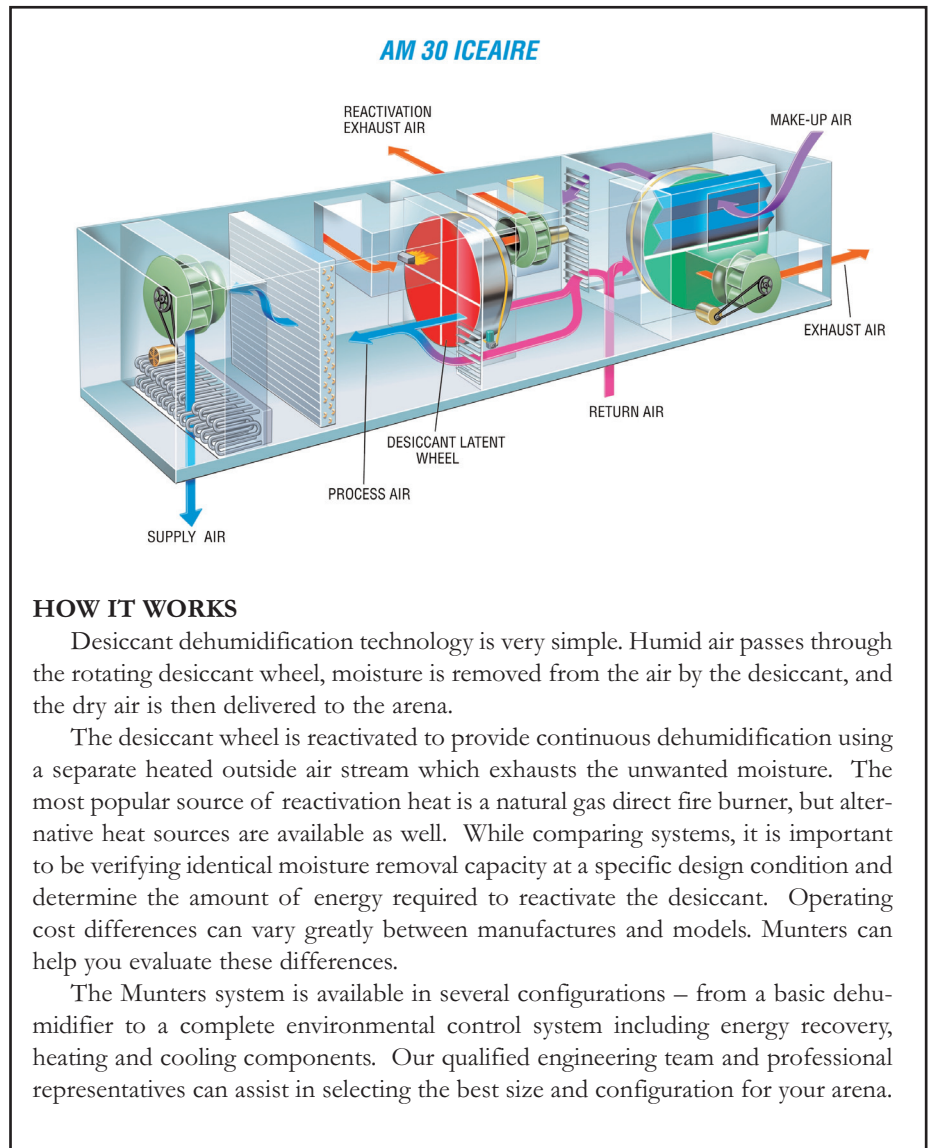
THE DESICCANT SOLUTION

Munters HoneyCombe® desiccant wheel acts like a sponge, absorbing moisture from the air, enabling arenas to achieve the desired humidity level. Munters uses titanium enhanced silica gel desiccant permanently impregnated throughout the Honeycombe structure; therefore the silica gel is never replaced. Munters manufactures the wheel and offers a wide range of diameters and depths to suit the moisture load requirements for arenas of all sizes, geographical locations and spectator capacities. Not all desiccant wheels are the same; Munters develops the most efficient wheel in the industry, using less energy and therefore costs less to operate than our competition. The Munters wheel requires very little attention throughout the life of the system.

Desiccant dehumidification technology allows facilities to conserve energy. In order to maintain desired arena space conditions of 60°F and 40%RH, a cooling based system would

need to sub-cool the air well below a 35°F dew point to address latent loads caused by air infiltration and people. Obviously, such cold air would need to be re-heated before being delivered into the arena to maintain a reasonable comfort level. Because cooling based systems condense moisture from the air onto the surface of a cold coil, ice will eventually accumulate and require some type of defrosting which interrupts the dehumidification process. This can be a very energy consumptive method of achieving the desired conditions.

However, because desiccant dehumidification removes moisture in a vapor phase sub-freezing dew points are easily achieved without interruption because defrost is never required. Post cooling is optional on the Munters systems for space temperature control. The post cooling coil would only provide sensible (dry) cooling and therefore never freeze or require a defrost cycle. The Munters system provides uninterrupted environmental control of the arena assuring arena operators a superior ice surface and a safe comfortable facility.



HOW IT WORKS

Desiccant dehumidification technology is very simple. Humid air passes through the rotating desiccant wheel, moisture is removed from the air by the desiccant, and the dry air is then delivered to the arena.

The desiccant wheel is reactivated to provide continuous dehumidification using a separate heated outside air stream which exhausts the unwanted moisture. The most popular source of reactivation heat is a natural gas direct fire burner, but alternative heat sources are available as well. While comparing systems, it is important to be verifying identical moisture removal capacity at a specific design condition and determine the amount of energy required to reactivate the desiccant. Operating cost differences can vary greatly between manufactures and models. Munters can help you evaluate these differences.

The Munters system is available in several configurations – from a basic dehumidifier to a complete environmental control system including energy recovery, heating and cooling components. Our qualified engineering team and professional representatives can assist in selecting the best size and configuration for your arena.