Considerations for Hose Insulation

Free Air Convection
Hoses that transfer cold or hot fluids can impact the temperature of other nearby fluid systems. When cold hoses are routed too close to each other, the surface temperature of the hoses can fall below the dew point, causing condensation to form. When hot hoses are routed too close to each other, hot spots can develop that are above allowable temperature parameters.

The smaller the distance (d) between the hoses, the closer the air temperature (T_a) between the hoses will be to the media temperature (T_m) in the hose. A general recommendation is to keep hoses at least 12 in. (31 cm) apart. If hoses are spaced closer than this, consider using additional layers of insulation.

Air Flow
Stagnant air creates an undesirable scenario for the surface temperature of the hose due to the decrease in heat transfer coefficient. As air flow increases, surface temperatures will trend more towards the ambient environment temperature.

Humidity and Dew Point
Dew point can be approximated using the formula:

\[ T_d = T - \left( \frac{100 - RH}{5} \right) \]

where \( T_d \) is the dew point temperature (in degrees Celsius), \( T \) is the ambient air temperature (in degrees Celsius), and RH is the relative humidity (in percent).

When selecting the number of layers of insulation to prevent condensation in an application, use the highest expected humidity that the hose will experience.

Energy Savings
Uninsulated hoses are a constant source of wasted energy. Insulation can typically reduce energy losses by up to 90% and help ensure proper and consistent temperature of plant equipment. Other reasons to insulate these hoses include:

- To facilitate proper temperature control to a process, such as steam or coolant lines.
- To protect the environment and reduce the amount of energy used for heating purposes, resulting in lower emissions.
- To control surface temperatures for personnel protection and safety.

Safe-to-Touch Recommendations
ASTM C1055 (Standard Guide for Heated System Surface Conditions that Produce Contact Burn Injuries) recommends that surface temperatures remain at or below 60°C (140°F), as the average person can touch a 60°C (140°F) surface for up to five seconds without sustaining irreversible burn damage. Choosing the proper thickness of insulation can lower the external temperature to reduce the chance of a burn injury.

Bending an Insulated Hose
Hose technical data, including minimum bend radius, does not change when insulating a hose. However, bending the hose may affect the insulation properties, as shown in Figure x. To minimize these effects, employ bends with a larger bend radius. If this is not possible, consider using additional layers of insulation.
**Options**

**Y Insulation Option**

**Features**
- Rated for continuous hose surface temperature use from -53°C (-65°F) up to 125°C (257°F).
- Low thermal conductivity aerogel insulation material minimizes the bulk needed to achieve desired surface temperatures.
- Flexible polyolefin heat shrink cover enables the product to be flexible, vapor permeation resistant, and abrasion resistant.
- Silicone boots at hose ends protect the insulation.

**Suffix Code Structure**

Example hose assembly part number:
SS-FJ8TA8TA8-55-YB4

1. **Insulation Designator**  
   Y = Insulation Option

2. **Cover Color**  
   Standard  
   B = Blue  
   R = Red

   Optional  
   K = Black  
   W = White

3. **Layers of Insulation**
   Nominal Radial Thickness  
   2 = 0.21 in. (5.4 mm)  
   3 = 0.30 in. (7.7 mm)  
   4 = 0.39 in. (10.0 mm)  
   5 = 0.48 in. (12.3 mm)

**Nominal Radial Thickness of Insulation**

Option X Series without Insulation

For more information, contact your authorized Swagelok sales and service representative.

**Hose Surface versus Media Temperature on 1/2 in. X Series hose**

Test conditions for example plots:
- Environment temperature: 23°C (73°F)
- Air flow: Isolated in a chamber with no air flow
- Media Pressure: 6 to 10 psi (0.41 to 0.68 bar)
- Media Flow Rate: 22 to 26 l/min
- Media type: Liquid
- Free air around hose: 6 in (15.2 cm)