TEMP-A-CURE™ OIL COOLERS

Earl's Design

For many years, professional racers have been using modular style oil coolers almost exclusively. Virtually every Formula One, Indy and GTP or Trans-Am car depends on these type units for engine and transaxle cooling. Temp-A-Cure coolers have been developed specifically for use in all types of engines and transmissions subjected to temperature extremes, including competition and high performance uses. They are designed for the range of air speeds and oil flows normally encountered in automotive use, but built to aircraft standards of quality. They are constructed of high grade aluminum and are completely furnace brazed to insure the most thermally efficient joint possible between the oil tubes and air fins. The internal design of the oil tubes and the large area collector tanks provide maximum surface area with minimum pressure drop. The highly concentrated air fins offer maximum heat transfer to the outside air.

Typical Tube & Fin Design

The tube and fin cooler has little to offer in the way of efficient oil cooling. Its typical serpentine design has a large pressure drop due to the tube length and to the restricted bends. The tube and fin cooler cannot approach the cooling efficiency of Earl's Fin density and oil side to air side mechanical bond. If the tube and fin serpentine style were the most efficient in terms of cooling, wouldn't you expect to see this design used for radiators on OEM installations and racing cars?

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Air Velocity: The Critical Factor in Heat Dissipation

EARL'S TEMP-A-CURE OIL COOLERS are designed to efficiently use all of the air that passes through them. The center chart below shows that a Temp-A-Cure cooler of comparable size is between two and three times more efficient in terms of heat rejection as a typical tube and fin type cooler. ("B")

Cooler "A" in our chart below is of a popular stamped dish plate design; where the dish plates are the only components—no fins and no corrugated screen. This design, while extremely attractive to the manufacturer, sacrifices efficiency of heat transfer for ease of assembly.

The right hand chart below represents testing to determine pressure drop. It shows that the Temp-A-Cure cooler can handle a larger volume of oil (four times the volume!) with less than half the pressure drop of a typical tube and fin style oil cooler.

Earl’s Temp-A-Cure oil coolers are properly termed “air to liquid heat exchangers”. In order to operate efficiently, they must be mounted in a stream of moving air at ambient temperature. It is not a good idea to mount the oil cooler behind the water radiator where it will receive only heated air. It is not enough to lead air to the cooler—the heated air must have somewhere to go after it passes through the core. Remember, air always obeys the immutable laws of fluid dynamics. Simply put, air will only flow from a region of relatively high pressure to a region of relatively low pressure. Any attempt on our part to convince it to do otherwise is doomed to failure.

![Graphs showing heat rejection and pressure drop](image-url)