

A heat exchanger is a device used to transfer heat between two or more fluids. Another example is the heat sink, which is a passive heat exchanger that transfers the heat generated by an electronic or a mechanical device to a fluid medium, often air or a liquid coolant. They are widely used in space heating, refrigeration, air conditioning, power stations, chemical plants, petrochemical plants, petroleum refineries, natural gas processing, and sewage treatment. A solid wall to prevent mixing may separate the fluids or they may be in direct contact.