

# Short Path Evaporator (SPE) 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage Process Guide (Optional)

#### 1. Purpose

- a. Additional stages can be added to a WFE system to perform further refinement or separate additional components out of a compound in a continuous flow operation.
- b. Additional stages increase throughput of multiple separations/refinements and are ideal for higher volume operations.
- c. Distillate from 2<sup>nd</sup> stage can be fed into a 3<sup>rd</sup> stage as well.

## 2. Fed Product

- a. Either the distillate or residue derived from the WFE 1<sup>st</sup> Stage (or previous SPE stage), are introduced into the SPE as a feed stream for additional processing.
- b. A pump from the 1<sup>st</sup> stage will introduce product into the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage WFE.
- c. The operation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage evaporator is similar to the 1<sup>st</sup> stage evaporator.
  - i. The feed comes from the previous stage and is fed directly to the top plate of the rotating wiper basket.
  - ii. This spinning disk distributes the liquid evenly around the wall of the evaporator as in previous stages.
  - iii. The fed product will flow down the heated wall of the evaporator.
  - iv. As in the first stage, temperatures can typically be set to maintain 50-350°C using the jacketed hot oil system.

## 3. Evaporation

- a. The lighter (lower boiling point) portion of the fed material will be vaporized.
- b. The heavier (higher boiling point) portion flows down the evaporator in a liquid state, to be collected in a receiver.

#### 4. Condensation

- a. The vaporized product will be condensed using the appropriate process coolant.
- b. The liquid distillate will be discharged through the intermediate receiver.
- c. The distillate receiver operates under vacuum and is discharged by the use of a vacuum rated gear pump.
- d. The distillate is then pumped to additional downstream stages, processing equipment, or packaging containers as the process requires.
- e. The residue portion flows into a residue receiver, operating under vacuum.
  - i. The receiver is equipped with an isolation valve for maintenance purposes.
  - ii. A vacuum rated gear pump is used to pump the residue from the receiver to additional downstream stages, process equipment, or packaging containers as the process requires.
- 5. The 2<sup>nd</sup> /3<sup>rd</sup> stage evaporators run sequentially, and typically operate at higher Atmospheric Equivalent Temperatures (AET's) than the 1<sup>st</sup> stage evaporator. They typically discharge both a distillate and a residue, both of which may have higher average boiling point ranges than achieved in the previous stage.