Thermodynamic Fundamentals Design









DESIGN SOFTWARE







GOAL ORIENTED DESIGN

I-CHILL DESIGN is an advanced software for HVAC product design and selection, for comfort data center, refrigeration, and industrial process application (such as Chillers, Heat Pumps, Multifunctional Units). It is an evolutionary-type tool developed to revolutionize the traditional design workflow.

Unlike competitor software, which mainly works as a verification tool requiring users to preselect all components, I-CHILL implements a reverse and predictive methodology.

Starting from desired performance and dimensional goals (cooling capacity, efficiency, footprint), the system uses optimization algorithms and an integrated component database to automatically generate, within seconds, a range of technically valid and optimized configurations.

I-CHILL DESIGN is dedicated to HVAC engineering and R&D, applying an algorithmic, goal-oriented design approach.



Architecture and Data Flow



The system is based on a centralized relational database that serves as a single source of truth for all company departments.

The architecture has three main layers:

- Calculation Layer (Engine): The core of the software, containing thermal balance and optimization algorithms.
- Component Database: A large, hierarchical database containing mathematical models and performance data for compressors, heat exchangers (evaporators, condensers), fans, expansion valves, and other components.
- User Interface (UI): An intuitive dashboard guides the user in defining specifications and displays generated solutions.

Data Flow Visualization



User Input Data and requirements

collected from user

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Engine Processing

Core logic processes and validates input datadataents collected from user



Component DB Query

Retrives relevant components from database



Configuration Generation

Generates optimized configuration settings



Output & Storage

Results stored in shared database for access



Functional Specifications of the Design Module

Project Input (simplified and goal-focused):

- **Load Conditions:** Flow rates, inlet/outlet temperatures for process fluids (water/glycol side) and condensation fluid (air/water side).
- Performance Targets: Required cooling capacity (kW), efficiency targets (e.g., COP, IPLV).
- Design Constraints: Coil face velocity, refrigerant type, ambient operating temperature range.
- Machine Type: General configuration (air-to-water, water-to-water, etc.), type of compressor, heat exchanger, and fan to use.





Calculation Engine (ENGINE)



The ENGINE is the heart of I-CHILL DESIGN, known for rigor, speed, and precision.

Heat Exchanger Methodology:

Heat exchangers are modeled using a multi-zone infinitesimal approach (NTU- ϵ method and local balances). The refrigerant path is divided into many finite intervals. For each, the software solves a system of equations including:

- Energy balance and conservation equations
- Mass balance equations
- Heat transfer equations (rigorous calculation of convective coefficients for subcooled liquid, two-phase, and superheated vapor regions)
- Pressure drop equations

Refrigerant thermodynamic and transport properties are calculated in real time for each local condition using integrated reference libraries (CoolProp).

Fan Management:

The model includes the fan P-Q performance curve. The software determines the optimal operating point, adjusting airflow (or frequency for inverter fans) to balance heat transfer and absorbed power, maximizing seasonal efficiency.

Compressor Models:

The database includes full multidimensional performance maps for compressors (Hermetic, Semi-hermetic, Rotary, Scroll, Screw, Turbocor). For inverter and Turbocor compressors, the algorithm optimizes and selects the best operating frequency to reach the required thermodynamic point while minimizing specific energy and maximizing efficiency.

Expansion Valve Calculation:

Refrigerant mass flow and nominal power required for the valve are calculated using correlations such as $m'=Cv\Delta p\cdot \rho$, ensuring target superheat both at design and off-design conditions.



Output- Reporting and Visualization



For each configuration, the software generates a detailed report including:

Full technical operating data- cooling/heating performance, flow rates, pressure drops, evaporation and condensation temperatures/pressures, fan airflow. Data are compliant with **EUROVENT, ERP, AHRI** standards.

Component Data: Model/brand of **compressor** (with frequency if applicable), **heat exchanger** data (surface area, number of circuits), **fan** details (flow, static pressure, absorbed power), **expansion valve** specs.

Performance Indicators: Cooling capacity, absorbed power, EER, COP, SEER, SCOP, SEPR, IPLV, NPLV, controllability, flow rates, losses, electrical data, etc.

Dimensional Estimate: Approximate footprint and weight.

Advanced Energy Calculations: Automatic calculation of efficiency indices (AHRI, ISO) including SEER, SCOP, SEPR, IPLV, NPLV, based on user-defined load curves. The Energy Analysis tool also evaluates product efficiency according to installation location.

Editing Mode



Any automatically generated configuration can be manually modified by the designer:

- Replace a component with another compatible one from the database
- Modify operational parameters (fan speed, subcooling/superheating setpoints, etc.)
- Update boundary conditions and recalculate performance





SALES Users (I-CHILL SELECTION):

Accessory List: Automatically proposes compatible standard accessories (control panels, hydraulic kits, etc.) with pricing options.

AI-Generated Descriptions: Al analyzes the configuration and generates detailed technical-commercial descriptions, editable and customizable.

Catalog Creation: Exporting configurations, renderings, and specifications in formats suitable for creating product catalogs and preliminary technical sheets. An optional application allows extensive customization of product description and graphic appearance.

Engineering Users (I-CHILL Engineering Hub):

Attach final dimensional drawings (2D/3D) and electrical diagrams to unit records.

Define the machine's operating envelope (temperature interaction limits of working fluids).

Marketing Users (Approval):

Marketing/sales management can review and formally approve units for release to the sales network.

I-CHILL SELECTION:

Fully integrated with DESIGN. Sales users can query approved units, filtering by performance, dimensions, and features, to quickly find the right unit for a specific application without redesign.



System Requirements



I-CHILL DESIGN runs on MS Azure or Amazon servers, with access controlled by administrator-defined user profiles. Authentication and authorization use differentiated roles (Designer, Engineer, Sales, Admin, etc.).

Certifications

I-CHILL DESIGN results comply with the most widespread certifications:



EUROVENT ERP

AHRI

Why Choose I-CHILL

I-CHILL DESIGN represents an evolutionary leap in chiller design, shifting the focus from manual verification to automated goal-driven optimization. Its integrated architecture and shared database create a digital ecosystem **connecting design, engineering, sales, and marketing**, drastically reducing time-to-market while maximizing efficiency and product optimization.

- **→** Web software is accessible anywhere
- Accurate Selection Easily find the best chiller for your project based on cooling/heating requirements.
- Performance Simulation Test how your system will perform under real-world conditions before installation.
- User-Friendly Interface Simple navigation for both experienced professionals and newcomers.
- Custom Configurations Allows engineers to tweak parameters like refrigerants, compressors, and heat exchangers.
- Professional Reports Generate detailed technical reports and performance charts with a single click.
- Allows to fix a target for energetic class optimizing the costs

Thank you for choosing us!

