

COOLER MAINTENANCE TIPS

Do

- ✓ Check air temperature of coolers and keep logs. A minimum of 38-39F is required to keep food at 41F or below
- ✓ Replace plastic inserts with stainless steel pans. Stainless conducts cold—plastic insulates against cold
- ✓ Fill all compartments in a prep cooler with pans. Air will escape out empty compartments
- ✓ Keep lids on pans & add water to empty pans



Don't

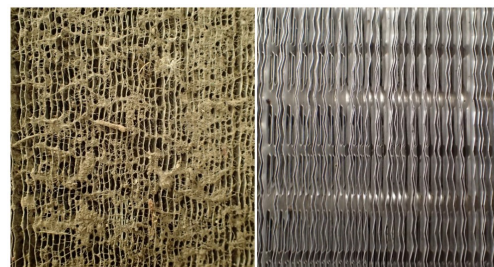
- ✗ Stack food above the rim of the pan
- ✗ Stack items around the evaporator—this restricts air flow and decreases performance



CLEANING PROCEDURE FOR CONDENSERS, FANS & DRAIN PANS

Can you see light through the condenser? If not, it needs cleaning!

- 1) Unplug the unit
- 2) Use a stiff bristled brush to brush condenser fins in the direction of the fins, not against them. Clean the brush after each pass (a snow removal bristle brush works well)
- 3) Wipe dust off of other components
- 4) If washing, use mild detergent or commercial condenser cleaner then rinse/flush thoroughly with spray bottle. Do not leave detergent or chemicals on refrigeration components—causes corrosion
- 5) Check that fan rotates freely—fans should not squeal
- 6) Check all fan blade set screws and tighten as needed
- 7) Lubricate motors where applicable with food grade lubricant—not motors with sealed bearings



Before

After

OTHER HELPFUL TIPS

- * Clean and conduct maintenance at least every 3 months. Put a reminder on the calendar!
- * If there is more than a 4°F temperature difference between the food and the air temperature, there is a problem. (call technician)
- * The length and time of the defrost cycle can be adjusted on some units (call technician)
- * If there is dust on the front of the condenser the back side is worse
- * Install strip curtains on walk-in and display coolers
- * Seal cracks or replace worn gaskets to prevent air entering/exiting the cooler
- * Low airflow through the honeycomb could indicate the coils are iced up. Ice build-up on the evaporator coil indicates a possible refrigeration leak. An entire build-up on coil indicates the unit needs defrosting
- * If unit has multiple fans, they must all be working. If one is not, air will leak back through the opening of the stopped fan instead of being forced through the evaporator
- * If access is from the back of the cooler then install castors to easily move it for cleaning and maintenance