ULTRA-FRAC® Technology
"The Tray that goes where no other tray can!"

Conventional Trays

Refinery Gas Plants
NGL Processing Plants
Fractionation Units with High Capacity Demands
Gas Plants
High Pressure Distillations
High and Low Liquid Rate Services

Koch-GLITSCH
Before the introduction of ULTRA-FRAC® trays, appreciable capacity increases in light hydrocarbon services could be achieved only through new column construction. With ULTRA-FRAC, existing columns can be retrofitted, resulting in significant capacity increases without the major capital expenditures and space requirements of building new columns.

ULTRA-FRAC is the ultimate tray, outperforming all other trays -- not only those in the KGI arsenal -- but also all other crossflow and counter flow trays. One-for-one change-outs of existing trays are possible for many services. ULTRA-FRAC is the next logical step on the stairway to increased capacity in existing vessels.

**WHY IS ULTRA-FRAC BETTER?**

- **Superior Liquid Handling**
  The unique operating principle of ULTRA-FRAC provides phenomenal capacity advantages above all other trays as illustrated in the graph below.

- **Superior Vapor Handling**
  ULTRA-FRAC functions as a deentrainer. Significantly higher vapor rates can be achieved without degrading efficiency. In fact, up to two times the vapor rate at a given liquid rate.

- **Foam Suppression**
  Recent laboratory results demonstrated that, at low to medium liquid rates, ULTRA-FRAC exhibits foam-suppression abilities.

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**Call Koch-Glitsch, ULTRA-FRAC® can save your vessel!**
In Search of the Holy Grail

**Efficiency Data**

Operating data is critical for validation of the capacity and efficiency of new products. Koch Hydrocarbon Company owns and operates a large natural-gas-liquids plant at Medford, Oklahoma. The 5-ft diameter Depropanizer tower was revamped in 1992 with ULTRA-FRAC® trays. This tower has recently been upgraded to a *Test and Demonstration* unit with Research capabilities.

The Depropanizer is capable of running in both production and R&D modes. The tower is equipped with new feed and reflux nozzles, ΔP cells, temperature RTDs and sample collection nozzles for precise matching of simulation results with operating data. Highly accurate Micro Motion mass flow meters on each of the feed, distillate, bottoms and hot oil streams, allow the heat and material balance closures that are so necessary for accurate tray and packing efficiency calculations. Additionally, these same meters facilitate the precise determination of flood points.

The empirical O’Connell correlation can be used to predict overall column efficiencies (Eoc)

\[
E_{oc} = 0.492(\alpha \mu_L)^{0.245}
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Relative Volatility</th>
<th>Liquid Viscosity, cp</th>
<th>Predicted Efficiency, %</th>
<th>Field Observed Efficiency, %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demethanizer</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td>0.040</td>
<td>77</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deethanizer</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>0.054</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depropanizer</td>
<td>2.14</td>
<td>0.066</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>78-82</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debutanizer</td>
<td>2.23</td>
<td>0.113</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>75-85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deisobutanizer</td>
<td>1.42</td>
<td>0.110</td>
<td>78</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2 Splitter</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>0.057</td>
<td>91</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3 Splitter</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>0.077</td>
<td>89</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Warning:** Cocurrent flow tray design requires expertise and experience. Trust no other large or small distillation equipment vendor.
ULTRA-FRAC® High Capacity Trays Increase Tower Handling Capacity by More Than 50%

Case Study

An 8 / 11.5-foot diameter deethanizer was revamped with ULTRA-FRAC high capacity trays to debottleneck a fractionation train in an NGL plant and to reduce the butane losses in the overhead ethane/propane (E/P) product. The proposed feed rate increase and processing changes threatened to push the existing trays beyond their hydraulic limit. Installation of ULTRA-FRAC trays provided the capability to handle the internal liquid and vapor traffic in the column. The butane content of the E/P product was significantly lowered. ULTRA-FRAC trays also provided additional capacity to further increase the feed rate to the deethanizer. As a result, the deethanizer is no longer the constraint in the fractionation train and the NGL plant has set new production records.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prior to Revamp</th>
<th>Post Revamp</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diameter, ft</td>
<td>8.0 / 11.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tray Type</td>
<td>Valve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tray Spacing, inch</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Column OVHD Pressure, psig</td>
<td>415</td>
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<tr>
<td>% Tray Efficiency</td>
<td>95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Butane in E/P Product, mol %</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R/D</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed Rate, %</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Traffic, %</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Emergency Numbers

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