AP-AutoCool™ is a proprietary cooldown methodology that is easily programmed into your control system to automatically cool the main cryogenic heat exchanger (MCHE).

**Benefits of the AP-AutoCool program include:**

- Faster and smoother cooldown within MCHE design limits
- Reduced flaring during cooldown
- Increased plant availability
- Consistent cooldown method
- Customized for new or existing plants

During a start-up or re-start of a liquefaction system, the MCHE is cooled to establish the required temperature profile, with the cold end of the MCHE reaching approximately –160°C (–256°F). Important design limits during the cooldown are:

- The cooldown rate (temperature change per hour)
- The temperature differences between process streams

Traditionally, the cooldown method has been manual and involved the adjustment of several process variables, such as JT valve positions and component make-up rates, using operator judgement. Using an automatic method frees up operator time to focus on other areas of the plant during the dynamic and critical cooldown.
The AP-AutoCool Program is easily configured into an existing control system. This technology has been evaluated in depth for various MCHE cooldown scenarios using Air Products’ advanced dynamic simulation models and tools. It can be customized to fit various liquefaction cycles, such as the AP-SMR™, AP-C3MR™, AP-DMR™, AP-C1™, and AP-N™ processes.

### Cooldown method comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cooldown method</th>
<th>AP-AutoCool</th>
<th>Manual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cooldown time (hours)**</td>
<td>5–7</td>
<td>7.5–10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average cooldown rate (°C/hour)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooldown rate standard deviation (°C/hour)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off-spec LNG (tonnes)</td>
<td>52–73</td>
<td>105–140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra LNG production (tonnes)**</td>
<td>1500–1800</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Cooldown time depends on the starting MR (Mixed Refrigerant) composition
**Assuming 5 MTPA (600 MT/hr) LNG production

### Example: AP-C3MR™ MCHE cooldown potential improvement

For AP-SMR™ processes, the pre-cooldown can also be included, starting from ambient temperatures, e.g. +30°C.

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**About Air Products**

Air Products is a world-leading industrial gases company celebrating 80 years of operation. The company’s core industrial gases business provides atmospheric and process gases and related equipment to manufacturing markets, including refining and petrochemical, metals, electronics, and food and beverage. Air Products is also the world’s leading supplier of liquefied natural gas process technology and equipment.