



HEAT TRACE PLANNING CHECKLIST FOR FACILITY MANAGERS

Ensure your system is safe, efficient, and reliable year-round.

1. ASSESS YOUR FACILITY'S VULNERABLE POINTS

- ☐ Identify exposed piping in outdoor or unheated areas
- ☐ Map all critical process lines requiring temperature maintenance
- ☐ Review past freeze incidents or flow disruptions for risk trends
- ☐ Note materials sensitive to temperature (e.g., chocolate, oils, chemicals)
- ☐ Identify environmental hazards (e.g., explosive areas, washdown zones)

2. DEFINE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ Determine whether goal is freeze protection, temp stabilization, snow melt, or process temp control
- ☐ Check required temperature ranges for each system
- ☐ Consider hygiene/sanitary standards (FDA, food-grade, etc.)
- ☐ Determine tolerance for temp fluctuation

3. GATHER SYSTEM SPECS

- ☐ Pipe lengths, diameters, and materials
- ☐ Ambient temperature conditions (min/max operating ranges)
- ☐ Existing insulation or lagging condition
- ☐ Voltage availability at trace locations and overall power requirements
- ☐ Area classifications and regulatory requirements



4. SELECT APPROPRIATE HEAT TRACE COMPONENTS

- ☐ Choose the correct heating cable type (self-regulating, constant wattage, etc.)
 - ☐ Include temperature control and glass tape, if needed (mechanical or electronic thermostats)
 - ☐ Specify junction boxes and termination kits
 - ☐ Add monitoring or alarm systems plus warning labels for safety and reliability
-

5. PLAN FOR INSTALLATION AND INTEGRATION

- ☐ Coordinate with contractors or in-house maintenance teams
 - ☐ Confirm power source locations and cable routing
 - ☐ Review installation guidelines from the manufacturer (e.g., Nelson Electric)
 - ☐ Determine control panel or building automation tie-ins if needed
-

6. ENSURE COMPLIANCE AND DOCUMENTATION

- ☐ Verify all components meet required certifications (UL, CSA, ATEX, etc.)
 - ☐ Maintain as-built drawings and cable test results
 - ☐ Register warranty and keep record of maintenance schedule
-

7. PARTNER WITH THE RIGHT SUPPLIER

- ☐ Work with MCE for:
 - ✓ Application review and specification help
 - ✓ Quick-ship inventory and bundled kits
 - ✓ Technical support from design to install
 - ✓ Experience with complex or regulated environments

Pro Tip:

Early planning improves system performance, reduces installation risk, and ensures temperature-sensitive processes stay protected – no matter the conditions.