ISS Heat Exchanger (Interface Heat Exchanger)  
  
[International Space Station's Cooling System: How It Works (Infographic) | Space](https://www.space.com/21059-space-station-cooling-system-explained-infographic.html)  
International Space Station's Cooling System: How It Works (Space.com) — Shows how heat exchangers are used within the overall system to cool components of the station.  
  
[ATCS Team Overview:](https://www.nasa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/473486main_iss_atcs_overview.pdf)  
Active Thermal Control System (ATCS) Overview (PDF) — Describes how an Interface Heat Exchanger (IFHX) is used to transfer heat from the indoor water system to the outdoor ammonia loops.  
  
summary  
  
The **Interface Heat Exchanger (IFHX)** is the component that mediates heat transfer from the internal cooling loops (often water-based) to the external ammonia loops. It carries the heat collected from internal systems into the ammonia coolant, which then flows to radiator panels in space.

The IFHX is essential for ensuring efficient thermal coupling between the internal and external systems without significant temperature mismatches or leaks. Multiple IFHX units are distributed across ISS pressurized modules (labs, nodes, etc.) to interface each internal module with the external thermal control system.   
  
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