

Given:

The food compartment of a refrigerator is maintained at 4°C by removing heat from it at a rate of 360 kJ/min.

Required:

If the required power input to the refrigerator is 2 kW, determine the coefficient of performance of the refrigerator and the rate of heat rejection to the room that houses the refrigerator.

Solution:

The heat supplied to the refrigerator cycle (that which is removed from the cooled space) is defined as

$$\dot{Q}'_L := 360 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{min}}$$

The work supplied to the refrigerator is defined as

$$\dot{W}'_{net,in} := 2 \text{ kW}$$

The COP of the refrigerator is then given by

$$COP_R := \frac{\dot{Q}'_L}{\dot{W}'_{net,in}} = 3$$

The heat rejected by the refrigerator cycle is then found by

$$\dot{Q}'_H := \dot{Q}'_L + \dot{W}'_{net,in} = 480 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{min}}$$