Professional Steam Coil Cleaning At Hospital Improves Air Flow

**Problem**
A hospital in the Southwestern U.S. was not satisfied with the performance of their air handling units (AHUs). They had been cleaning the AHUs in-house, but were unable to get them as clean as they would like. The units were operating inefficiently, which caused cooling problems throughout the facility as well as an increase in energy costs to operate the system.

**Analysis**
Chem-Aqua Services surveyed the site and recommended that the AHU coils be professionally cleaned using their exclusive steam cleaning process. The steam cleaning process was recommended to penetrate the coils and clean them much more thoroughly than the hospital’s in-house team could achieve.

**Solution**
The customer agreed to have Chem-Aqua Services use their steam process on two rooftop units with 64 square feet chill water coils. After the AHUs were cleaned, there was a marked increase in air flow from prior to cleaning: 27.4% higher air flow for the first AHU and 29.7% higher air flow for the second AHU. This helped improve system efficiency and also decreased energy costs. The customer was so pleased with the results they immediately arranged to have Chem-Aqua Services begin cleaning the hospital’s remaining 18 AHUs.

The customer was very satisfied with the success of the steam coil cleaning work, as well as the subsequent increase in air flow. There was a marked difference noted with the use of professional steam cleaning over previous in-house attempts.