

## STEAM COIL TYPES

*Scenario:*

- Your customer asks you for a steam coil, so you call SFI.
- We ask you, “What type of steam coil do you want – *standard steam* or *steam distributing*?”
- And you reply, “What’s the difference?”

Hopefully the following descriptions and diagrams will effectively answer that question.

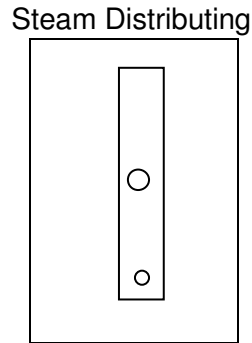
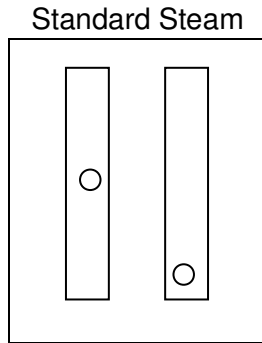
### Standard Steam

*Standard steam coils* might also be termed “u-bend” steam coils. For the most part they look like a hot water coil in that they have two headers, one for the steam supply and one for the condensate return. Frequently the connection on the supply header will be halfway up the header whereas on a hot water coil the supply will usually be at the bottom of the header. The condensate connection must be at the very bottom of the return header in order to not trap steam inside the header. Assuming that the supply and condensate connections are both on the same side, the end of the coil opposite the headers will have return bends just like a water coil.

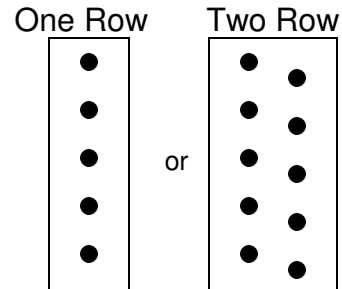
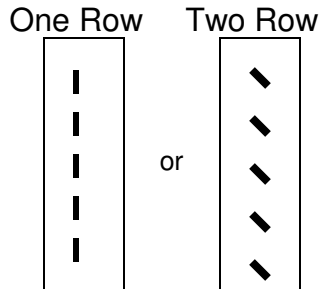
### Steam Distributing

*Steam distributing coils* are also referred to as “non-freeze” steam (a misnomer!), tube-within-a-tube, and IDT (inner distributing tube). Steam distributing coils do not have any return bends. Where the return bends would normally be located you will find a stub end of the tube. It might be crimped, capped, or sealed in another way. When you look at a steam distributing coil that has supply and return connections on the same side, you will only see one header and the supply connection will be directly above the return connection (if the header is copper or steel).

Below are end views, when supply and return are on the same side of the coil.



*Connection End*



*End Opposite the  
Connection Side*