

The Portable Curmudgeon

My only aversion to vice, is the price.
~ Victor Buono

He hasn't a single redeeming vice.
~ Oscar Wilde

Virtue is insufficient temptation.
~ George Bernard Shaw

Virtue has never been as respectable as money.
~ Mark Twain

I never vote for anyone. I always vote against.
~ W.C. Fields



* RATIONALIZATIONS TO LIVE BY *

WIDE-SCREEN TVS ARE EASIER ON YOUR EYES.

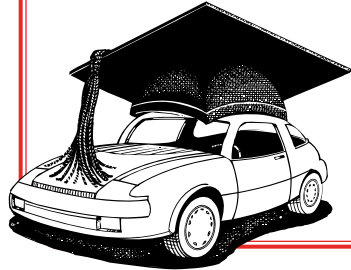
ALL THIS SHOPPING IS GOOD FOR THE ECONOMY.

I WAS BLOND AS A CHILD.

VALENTINE'S DAY

Do something special on Valentine's Day. It's the first day of the rest of your wife.

When I was eight years old I bought my mother a bottle of cologne that had so much alcohol in it – you could wear it, burn it or drink it.



Our son, the freshman, made a special trip home for Valentine's Day – and gave his mother something that brought tears to her eyes. A heart-shaped five pound box of laundry.



ANSWER TO QUESTION FROM INSIDE PAGE:
It only needs to be designed to withstand the weight of the water! Why? A ship always displaces an amount of water that weighs the same as the ship, regardless of how heavily a ship may be loaded.



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February 2010

Water Bridge & RTTS® Coolers



Photo taken on day of inauguration.

Press Release/Germany/10.10.2003

Europe's largest water bridge opens in what's being hailed as an engineering masterpiece, two important German shipping canals have been joined by a giant kilometer-long concrete bathtub. The new waterway near the eastern town of Magdeburg opens Friday.

Public infrastructure projects are notorious for taking longer than expected, but Germany's new water bridge tying the Elbe-Havel canal to the important Mittelland Canal, which leads to the country's industrial Ruhr Valley heartland, was more than 80 years in the planning.

Engineers first dreamt of joining the two waterways as far back as 1919. Construction to bridge the Elbe River near Magdeburg actually started in the 1930s, but progress was halted during the Second World War in 1942. After the Cold War split Germany, the project was shelved indefinitely, but things were put back on track following reunification in 1990.

Taking six years to build and costing around half a billion euros, the massive undertaking will connect Berlin's inland harbor with the ports along the Rhine River. At the center of the project is Europe's longest water bridge measuring just shy of a kilometer at 918 meters. The huge tub to transport ships over the Elbe took 24,000 metric tons of steel and 68,000 cubic meters of concrete to build.

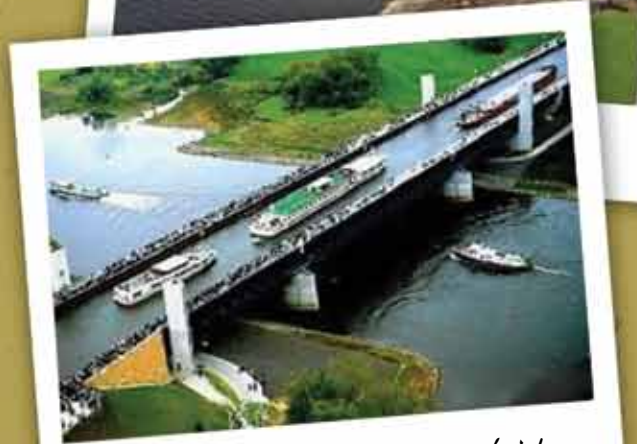
The water bridge will enable river barges to avoid a lengthy and sometimes unreliable passage along the Elbe. Shipping can often come to a halt on the stretch if the river's watermark falls to unacceptably low levels.

"It's important to us to make the waterways attractive to industry as a safe and environmentally friendly transportation way," German Transportation Minister Manfred Stolpe said at the opening ceremony on Friday, according to the Associated Press.

To those who appreciate engineering projects, here's a puzzle for your armchair engineers and physicists.

Did that bridge have to be designed to withstand the additional weight of ship and barge traffic, or just the weight of the water?

(Answer on last page.)

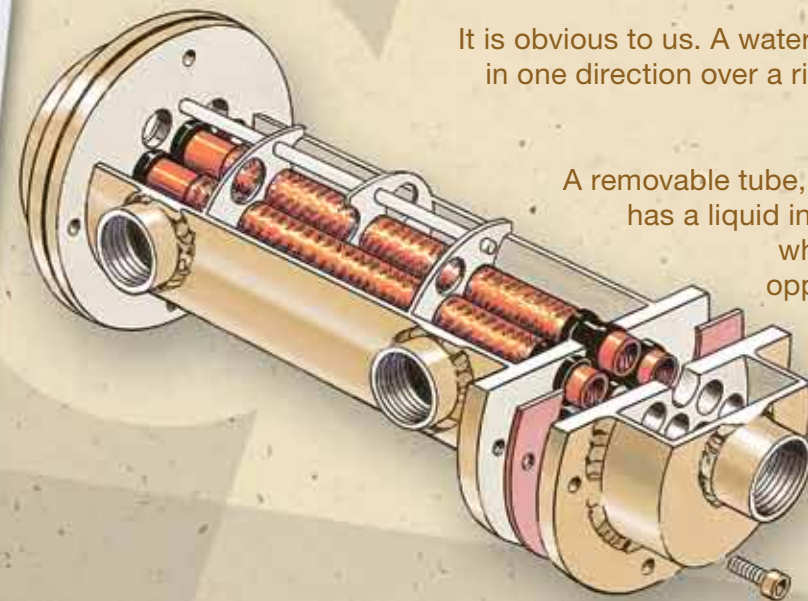


Europe's largest water bridge.

What does a water bridge over a river have to do with L&M Radiator RTTS® (removable tube, tube and shell) Cooler?

It is obvious to us. A water bridge contains water moving in one direction over a river containing water moving in another direction.

A removable tube, tube and shell (RTTS®) Cooler has a liquid in tubes moving in one direction while another liquid moves in the opposite direction over the tubes, but still inside a large shell containing both liquids and the tubes. Elementary.



Alex Chisholm