Consider the advantages of electric heaters over a central steam system when making a process heating investment. These advantages translate into increased uptime, lower startup costs, and reduced operating costs.

### Advantages of Electric Heaters over Steam Systems

**Electric**
- Electric heaters offer much lower startup costs
- Adding new electric heaters is quick and easy
- Electric immersion heaters need no regular maintenance other than cleaning
- Equipment problems can be solved and maintained at individual tanks without affecting the rest of the process line
- Electric heaters are over 99% efficient. All of the heaters’ energy goes directly into the process liquid
- Electric heaters are operated with simple push-button digital temperature controllers

**Steam**
- A new boiler with the many associated accessories represents a very large capital investment
- Boiler systems have fixed heating capacity. An alternative source of heat will need to be considered if capacity requirements change
- Older boilers require high maintenance. Heat exchangers also require cleaning
- Central steam systems may require a system shut down for maintenance or problems, resulting in production downtime for the entire line
- Newer boiler systems barely reach 80% efficiency due to incomplete combustion, piping surface losses, and condensate losses. Older systems are even less efficient
- Many locations with steam systems require full-time boiler operators

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