

Holiday Ice, Inc. Highlights Why 2,500 lb Daily Ice Output Fits Mid-Size Food Processors

Holiday Ice explains why a 2,500 lb-per-day ice capacity fits mid-size food processors, and why over-specifying costs more than it delivers.

LONGWOOD, FL, UNITED STATES, June 14, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Global ice machine manufacturer outlines the operational and infrastructure factors that make 2,500 lb-per-day ice production the appropriate threshold for regional seafood, produce, and food service facilities.

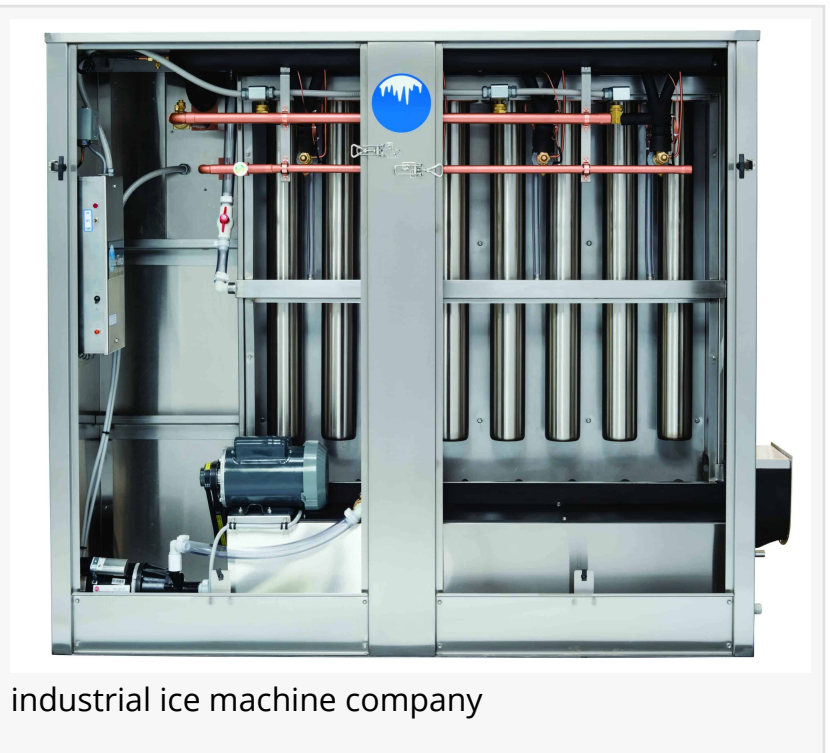
Holiday Ice, Inc., a [world-leading industrial ice machine manufacturer](#) with over 60 years of operation, has identified a recurring pattern among

mid-size food processing buyers: facilities routinely overspecify daily ice production capacity, selecting systems engineered for 4,000 to 10,000 lbs per day when their actual operational demand falls between 2,000 and 2,500 lbs. The consequences are measurable, including higher capital outlay, more demanding electrical infrastructure, and maintenance complexity that exceeds the operational staff capacity at smaller facilities.

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The right-sized industrial ice machine, whether a skid-mounted or vertical tube cracked ice machine, cuts costs and infrastructure demands for mid-size food processors.”

Lauren Harbit



The Infrastructure Gap Most Buyers Miss

The electrical requirement is where over-specification creates the most immediate friction. The Arctic-Temp® 500 AR-L operates on 208/230-volt, single-phase, 60 Hz power, a standard electrical configuration available at virtually every food processing facility in North America without infrastructure modification. Its 5.5 HP Copeland® Scroll

compressor draws a Full Load Amperage rating of 34.5 amps with a minimum circuit ampacity of 42.0 amps, requirements that a standard 60-amp dedicated circuit satisfies.

Systems at the 10,000-lb-per-day ice making machine tier, require 208/230-volt or 460-volt, three-phase, 60 Hz power, with a 15 HP Copeland® Discus compressor. For facilities without existing three-phase service, that gap means a panel upgrade, utility coordination, and installation costs that can exceed the price differential between capacity tiers entirely. For a regional seafood dock or a produce packing shed running 2,000 lbs of daily ice demand, that investment returns nothing in output.

Weight, Footprint, and Installation Reality

Equipment weight compounds the infrastructure calculation. The Arctic-Temp® 500 AR-L remote configuration ships as two components: a 215-lb evaporator section and a 300-lb condensing unit, for a combined installed weight of 515 lbs. The skid-mounted 500 SM-L, which serves as a [2,000 lb ice machine maker](#) in facilities where remote condenser placement is not practical, ships as a single 650-lb unit.



artic temp ice machine supplier



industrial ice maker for sale

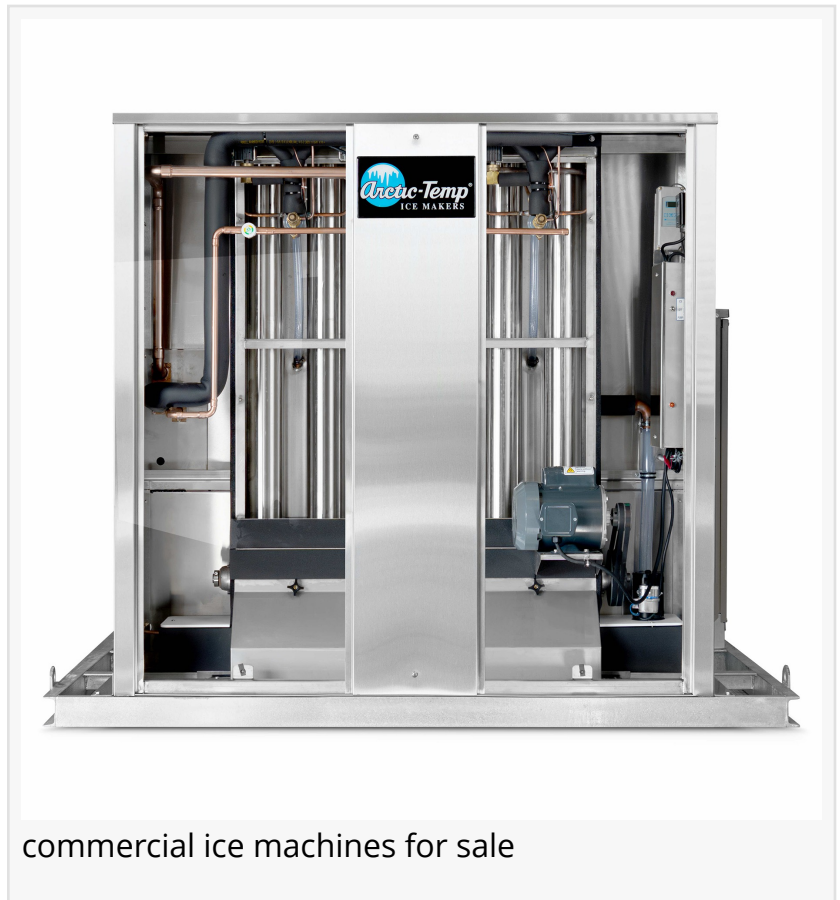
By contrast, the 1500 SM-B model is Holiday Ice's highest-capacity skid-mounted configuration at 10,000 lbs per day. Facilities evaluating both tiers need to assess floor load ratings, forklift access, and clearance requirements before a capacity decision becomes a capital decision.

Where 2,500 lbs Per Day Covers Real Operational Demand

For fresh produce packing operations, correctional facility food service kitchens, and regional seafood distributors, daily ice demand rarely exceeds the 2,500 lb threshold during normal production cycles. Produce hydro-cooling and top-icing applications at mid-size packing sheds typically consume ice in batches timed to harvest schedules, not continuous draws. Correctional food service operations serving populations under 1,500 residents operate within daily ice budgets that a single 2,500-lb system covers with a margin for peak demand. Regional seafood buyers, such as live haul operations, small processing lines, direct-to-market distributors do

move product in quantities where [2,500 lbs of hard-cracked ice per 24-hour cycle](#) matches actual throughput rather than theoretical maximum.

The Arctic-Temp® 500 AR-L carries the same Type-304 stainless steel construction and the same five-year evaporator tube warranty as Holiday Ice's highest-capacity systems. Buyers at the 2,500-lb tier receive USDA-approved equipment with a 15-lb R-404A refrigerant charge, hot gas defrost for rapid harvest cycles, and a vertical tube freeze zone that contains no augers, gears, or rotating seals. This is the same engineering standard applied across every Arctic-Temp® model regardless of output capacity.



Perspective from Holiday Ice, Inc.

"The question we get most often from mid-size facilities is not 'which machine is most powerful' — it's 'which machine is right for our load,'" said David Harbid, Representative of Holiday Ice, Inc. "A 2,500-lb-per-day system on single-phase power, with a five-year tube warranty and no moving parts in the freeze zone, covers the real ice demand at most regional seafood, produce, and food service operations. Selling a facility a 10,000-lb machine when their load is 2,000 lbs is not a favor, it's an unnecessary infrastructure problem."

About Holiday Ice, Inc.

Holiday Ice, Inc. is a veteran-owned ice machine manufacturer featuring Arctic-Temp® series of vertical tube industrial ice machines producing 2,500 to 10,000 lbs of hard cracked ice per day. The company has served seafood processing, meat and poultry, fresh produce, bakery, correctional food service, and ice distribution industries for over 60 years, shipping nationwide.

Learn more at <https://holiday-ice.com/industrial-ice-machines/500-ar-l/>.

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