Answer on Question #82414, Physics / Molecular Physics | Thermodynamics

Question:

An inventor claims to have constructed an engine that has an efficiency of when operated 75% when operated between the boiling and freezing points of water. Is this possible ? Illustratively explain.

Solution:

The max possible efficiency of a heat engine has one working on Carnot cycle and it equals to

$$\eta = 1 - \frac{T_l}{T_h}$$
 what in this case means $\eta = 1 - \frac{273}{273 + 100} = 0.27$ or 27%.

Evidently the statement isn't not possible and the inventor isn't correct.

The answer:

It's not possible - please see above.

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