



Risk Control

Air Conditioning Start-Up Maintenance Tips

When HVAC system failures occur, businesses face a potential disruption to operations. However, proper maintenance of HVAC systems can result in lower electrical consumption and repair costs and increase the life span of the equipment. This checklist provides helpful start-up inspection tips, guidance and practices for air conditioning systems.

Validate operational and safety controls

Check to make sure controls are in proper working order and properly calibrated.

Energize crankcase heater

Heater should be energized at least 24 hours before starting up the HVAC system, otherwise compressor damage may occur.

Clean evaporators

Limits potential air-flow obstructions.

Change filters

Promotes clean air, lessens allergens in the work environment, and allows for proper refrigeration process and pressures.

Inspect belts/pipes/fittings

It is critical to adjust all belts to ensure proper air volume is produced in the unit.

Clean condensers/coils

Prevents high head pressure, which can shorten the unit's life span, and keeps air quality cleaner.

Ensure proper refrigerant levels

Check refrigerant levels and pressures to ensure dehumidification is maintained at proper levels.

Check electrical connections/motors

Oil and lubricate all bearings and motor shafts to ensure the unit will not overheat. Make sure all terminal connections are checked and tightened. Check wiring for nicks and kinks. Verify voltage and amperage in the unit. Install surge protection.

This article is meant for informational purposes only. Please refer to the HVAC manufacturer's recommendations and contact your HVAC maintenance representative for specific procedures and recommendations.

To learn more about managing risk and increasing efficiency, visit cna.com/riskcontrol.

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