



Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Rental Boilers



When damage occurs to equipment or property, necessitating the installation of rental boilers, the last thing you want is the rental equipment to fail. Rental boilers present a unique exposure to life and property. Temporary equipment must be connected into an existing system, which may require modification to accommodate tie-ins.

Fuel, feedwater, condensate piping, steam piping and electrical lines should be properly installed and supported to prevent equipment failure. Rental boilers are often located in proximity to buildings and pedestrian traffic. Stack gases can pose an immediate health exposure to nearby occupants. Piping and electrical lines can pose burn or shock hazards.

The following points are critical to managing exposures presented by rental boilers:

- Integrating the stationary system to the rental boiler requires proper basic safety protections. Relief devices need to be properly sized, and discharge lines must be directed to a safe point of discharge. Electrical equipment must have proper protection and grounding.
- The boiler, steam piping, feed piping and electrical conductors must be properly sized for the intended load.
- Operators might not be familiar with the equipment. Clear OEM operating and safety instructions are critical and should be posted.
- Fuel, electric and condensate systems that may have contributed to the need for the temporary boiler installation must be inspected, cleaned and repaired before installation. Events such as flooding can cause fuel oil contamination that could damage the fuel delivery system to the boiler. Fuel oil should be tested for quality. Fouled condensate or feedwater equipment can damage or block tubes, causing the rental boiler to fail. Electrical equipment contaminated by flooding must be dried, cleaned and thoroughly tested. Electrical grounding connections should also be tested.
- Correct water treatment is critical with all boilers, including rental boilers. Depending on the rental supplier, a chemical water treatment system may be included with the temporary boiler. In such instances, operators will have to learn the requirements of the new system.

- Maintaining the security and boundaries of the temporary boiler will protect the equipment and prevent unauthorized individuals from coming into proximity of the temporary installation.
- Careful consideration should be given to the rental boiler stack location and nearby windows and fresh air intakes. Nearby windows and intakes should be sealed and labeled, and carbon monoxide detectors should be placed in appropriate areas and monitored.
- Boiler blow-down piping must be directed to a safe point of discharge.

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- Rental boiler installations may include portable electric generators, temporary fuel tanks or temporary water tanks. Following fuel-handling instructions and properly securing the equipment and appurtenances will mitigate these exposures.
- The jurisdiction may have operator licensing and/or training requirements. Operator logs may also be required.
- The installation of equipment may require registration with the jurisdiction. The rental company or installer should provide the proper documentation for registration and inspection of the boiler and other equipment.
- Scheduled maintenance activities in accordance with the OEM will need to be completed on the temporary equipment. Maintenance staff will need to familiarize themselves with these requirements and keep stock of specific items to support such activities.

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