

Why Do I Need to Add an Inhibitor to a New Boiler?

It's time to start thinking about annual maintains of your customers' boilers. I am often asked if an inhibitor is necessary. Here is some food for thought... all heating systems have two major substances: metal and water. When these two meet it causes oxidization (rust) inside your pipes, boiler and heating radiate elements. To prevent this chemical reaction as much as possible you need to use a heating system inhibitor.

Because all heating systems have a lot of different components manufactured from different metals it should be standard practice to add an inhibitor to the water in every heating system.

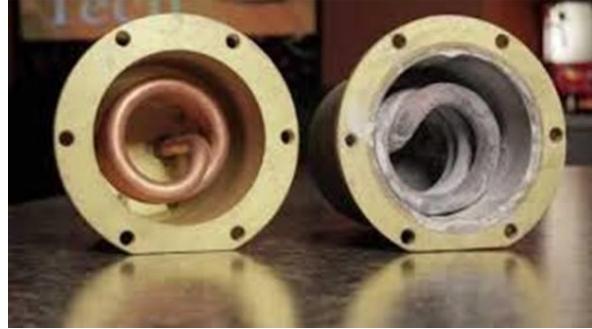


Apart from the reduction in part failures, there are added energy savings with a properly cleaned and treated heating system. Many technicians are starting to become aware of the benefits on both new installs as well as systems that have been installed for a long time.

Think about it - would you rebuild the engine of a 1965 Ford Mustang (my favorite car of all time) and put the old oil back in???. I didn't think so. But also think about this - did you do that the last time you installed a new boiler? Did you isolate the boiler and drain down the boiler only, pipe the new boiler in, purge the air out of the new boiler and open the isolation valves? Wouldn't that be the same thing? With the old boiler in place, open the fast fill and push all the old water out of the heating system and start with a new engine with new oil.

Most inhibitors come in a one-liter bottle, which should be sufficient to treat the average central heating system estimated at 100' of baseboard. If you have a system with more than 100' of baseboard, use two bottles, and don't worry, the product is forgiving. However, be sure to always check the manufacturer's dosing recommendations.

To add the inhibitor, simply add it through the boiler fill valve before adding water. Be careful not to purge the inhibitor out when purging the air out of the boiler. Or even better, install a magnetic filter on the return side of the boiler, then you can add the inhibitor through the filter - no purging needed!



By adding an inhibitor and a magnetic filter to the system, you will help ensure the boiler can work to its peak performance. The 2 products together will help protect the factory warranty as well as help ensure the heating elements are able to give off the heat they are designed to give off. If you have any questions, contact your local Supply New England representative.

By Nancy Imhoof