Installation Instructions

Ecologix EC™ Series Air Handler

Hot water coil

Internal pump

ECM High Efficiency Motor

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# CHECKLIST FOR THE INSTALLER

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **A Quick Check List** |
|  |  |
|  | Are the water connections to the water heater oriented in a way to avoid trapping air in the heating circuit? |
|  | Is the purge valve installed on the return line from the air handler upstream from the isolation valve? |
|  | Is the air handler hung and isolated to avoid transmitting vibration through framing and duct work? |
|  | Are the isolation valves full-port? Restrictive valves will limit performance. |
|  | Is outdoor cooling unit contactor wired according to the wiring diagram? |
|  | Are Thermostat connections correct, including cooling and continuous run connections? Do they operate their intended zone? |
|  | Have the packing materials been removed from the blower and the pump ? |
|  | Is there an installation manual and controls user manual for the home owner ? |
|  | Is the unit accessible? Are there clearances for service and component replacement? |
|  | Is the return duct/drop acoustically lined ? (at least 6 ft. of the return duct/drop must be lined) |
|  | Is the filter cover in place? Is a clean filter in place? Is the supplied filter rack installed? |
|  | Has the electronic controller been properly configured as per instructions in the controls user manual? |

# TYPICAL PLUMBING CONNECTIONS



# INTRODUCTION

The **EB™ series air handler** is designed for use in hydronic (boiler) systems, Hydronic Heat Pump systems or combination space and water heating systems (Combo Systems). Combo heating systems use the home’s water heater to provide both the space heating and domestic hot water, eliminating the need for a furnace. The equipment can be configured for heating only, heating and cooling or cooling only applications.

# Features

Ecologix air handlers offer many unique features that set them apart:

## *Rotary Speed selector knobs*

The control has a selector knob for each speed: heating, cooling, continuous run. The knobs are colour coded and labelled for easy identification. Each mode speed is independently selectable directly from the control board.

## *Soft Start*

This feature starts the fan slowly and quietly rather than a large “thump” common in some furnaces and air handlers.

## *Evaporator Coil Freeze Protection*

If the evaporator coil air temperature drops outside of the expected operating range this indicates a potential evaporator coil freeze condition. Coil freezing can lead to slugging (liquid refrigerant going back to the compressor) which will damage the compressor. All EB series come equipped with a sensor which will respond by shutting off the outdoor cooling unit to allow the system to warm up. Note that this freeze condition is not normal and may indicate blocked ducts, dirty filter or an over-sized cooling unit.

## *TT Connections*

TT connections are provided for the heating contractor to operate a boiler or external pumps and devices with any heating call. Refer to the wiring diagram in the controls user manual for details.

# PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

## 

## *Cabinet*

All cabinets have a tough, durable low maintenance painted finish.

Cabinet dimensions are designed to provide maximum installation flexibility. Refer to installation requirements for more details.

## *Heating coils*

All heating coils are potable water grade copper suitable for use in plumbing systems. No lead solder is used in any component construction. All coils and internal piping conform to ASTM B68 or ASTM B88 standards.

High-density aluminum fins provide maximum heat transfer for small coil surface.

## *Fan and Motor*

All fans are wide body dynamically balanced for extra quiet operation. Multi-directional sleeve bearing motors allow mounting in any direction for maximum installation flexibility.

## *Circulating pump*

The circulating pump is matched for maximum performance. Air handlers come with internally mounted pumps for ease of installation. Air handlers can be special ordered with external, field installed pumps, when it is desirable to locate the circulator below the air handler, such as in attic installations.

## *Check Valve*

Air handlers come with built in spring loaded check valves located in the outlet of the internal pump

Check valves protect against back-flow of water to avoid short circuiting around the water heater during domestic water use.

## *Pump Exerciser*

The air handler is equipped with a pump exerciser that brings on the pump for 90 seconds every 24 hours to flush any water through the system at least once a day. A test button on the control allows for easy verification that the pump exerciser is operating correctly

# EQUIPMENT SIZING AND SELECTION

## *Procedure*

1. Conduct a complete heat loss / heat gain calculation.
2. Determine inlet water temperature
3. Select Air Handler
4. Determine zones within the space
5. Select # outlets per room
6. Determine Duct Layout

## *Heat Loss / Heat Gain*

Room by room calculations need to be completed using HRAI, ASHRAE, or another approved sizing methods.

## *Air Handler Selection*

The selected air handler must be sized according to the following rules:

1. Heating capacity should be between 100% and 140% of the heat loss.

*(110% to 140% for combo systems @ 130°F water temp)*

1. Cooling capacity should be between 75-100% of the heat gain. Do not oversize

When using a boiler system, select a boiler with an output that meets or exceeds the heat loss of the space being heated. If the boiler is serving additional loads, size the boiler to meet the total combined load.

For combo heating systems, use an approved sizing method such as the Unified Combo Guidelines published by HRAI.

# INSTALLATION

The installer must adhere strictly to all local and national code requirements pertaining to the installation of this equipment. Detailed instructions are shipped with all accessory items and should be followed closely.

## *Air Handler Mounting*

The air handler can be installed in any direction. Some precautions must be observed for some of the possible mounting positions. For installations where the access door faces up or down, select an air handler with an external pump to avoid the pump being mounted with its shaft vertical. The pump shaft must be mounted horizontally to avoid premature failure.

The air handler can be hung by securing straps through any of the existing screw holes in the cabinet. When the existing screw is too short for securing a mounting strap, a longer screw can be used provided care is taken not to damage any internal components. When fastening straps using screws other than those supplied with the cabinet, special care should be taken in the vicinity of the coil to avoid tube puncture.

The cabinet is designed so that the return air can be located on either side of the cabinet, through the bottom of the cabinet, or from the back. Position the filter rack so that the filter is readily accessible.

Install the air handler with the door firmly screwed in place to make sure the cabinet remains square.

Provide at least 2 feet (0.75 metres) of service clearance in front of the access panel of the air handler. Zero clearance is acceptable on all other faces.

## *Ductwork*

Duct connections at the air handler should be labeled for future reference (eg. basement, main, upstairs).

Supply trunks may be square or round. SEAL all joints and seams with metal tape or sealing compound. Locate outlets at least 6 inches from outside walls or window coverings.

Ductwork installed in unheated spaces such as attics must be installed between the insulation and the heated space. Provide at least R-12 of insulation above ducts. If cooling is required, the branch and trunk lines must be insulated and sealed with a vapour barrier prior to applying house insulation.

## 

## *Risk of Freezing*

**Steps must be taken to prevent the hot water coil from freezing. Coils that have failed due to freezing and damage caused by frozen coils are not covered under warranty.**

HRV and Fresh air connections

If a fresh air duct is required, make connection to return air plenum at least 18 inches from filter. Insulate all fresh air ducts.

Fresh air and HRV connections to ductwork can pose a risk of dumping cold air into ductwork during periods of stand-by or continuous run. Calculate mixed air stream temperatures and provide interlock controls to prevent freezing conditions.

If an HRV is to be attached to the return ductwork, the HRV must be interlocked to the air handler controls to ensure the air handler fan is forced to run if the HRV is in operation. This interlock is require for both summer and winter operation.

## *Evaporator coils*

The EC series air handler is designed to provide acceptable airflow for cooling. Make sure the fan speed is correctly selected for the cooling load installed. Abnormal conditions such as plugged filter can pose the risk of freezing. All EC series air handlers include a temperature sensor in the air stream that will detect a near freezing condition and will interrupt the air conditioner until it warms up. (Refer to wiring diagram mounted inside air handler.

## *Attic and crawl spaces*

Air handlers may be located in areas subject to freezing conditions. It is necessary to protect the hot water coil from freezing. An optional Freeze protection remote bulb thermostat wired in parallel to the room thermostat can be used to cycle on the pump and blower when conditions get close to freezing. The Freeze Protection thermostat cannot protect piping that passes through unconditioned spaces

# ELECTRICAL

**Warning!** - Make sure unit is properly grounded. Locate air handler on a separate electric circuit.

All air handlers operate on 115VAC/1ph/60hz line voltage. All control circuits are low voltage, either 24VAC or 0-10VDC.

## *Thermostat*

The **EC™** air handlers are compatible with all thermostats. Some electronic thermostats (primarily “power robbing” types) require the addition of a resistor between the W & C terminals and the Y & C terminals. This is usually covered in the thermostat instruction manual. A path is provided to bleed off this residual power under most operating conditions.. If you encounter older style thermostats that require significant power to be dissipated, there are large resistors that can be switched into the circuit to accommodate these thermostats. See the board wiring diagram for location of the dip switches. DO NOT turn on these resistors unless they are required to avoid wasting electrical power unnecessarily.

The EB™ air handler is compatible with all standard setback thermostats. Setback thermostats can be used to achieve greater energy savings.

The EB series air handler is compatible with both heat/cool and heat pump thermosets. A switch is provided on the control board to toggle between thermostat types

Thermostat wires are connected to the control using push button terminal strip inside the air handler electric box.

## *humidistat*

Humidistat connection is provided on the control board for switching the humidistat on and off with the heating cycle. Do not connect to the Y terminal to drive the humidistat 24 volt circuit. See wiring diagram inside unit for details.

# START-UP PROCEDURE

**Do not start the air handler or water heater until ALL air has been purged!**

1. Fill the boiler loop or water heater with water, but do not start it.
2. Purge all air from the boiler heating or domestic water system.
3. Purge all air from the space-heating loop by closing the isolation valve on the return leg of the loop and open the drain to purge air. Open the return leg isolation valve and then close the drain valve.
4. Start the boiler or water heater according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Set the design water temperature and wait for the system to shut off. You can check that the water heater is set properly during the warm up by running a small amount of water into a glass in a sink while the water heater is warming up. Using a thermometer measure the temperature of the water as soon as the water heater burner shuts off. If the set-point temperature is too low or is above 140F/60C, reset the tank control, run water until the burner starts again and repeat the measurement.
5. Turn on the power to the air handler and set up the air flow desired for heating, cooling and continuous run speeds. This is important to ensure that the correct airflows are used for the equipment as installed.
6. Set the room thermostat for heat to energize the fan and pump. If a gurgling sound is present, it should subside within one minute. If noise is still present after one minute, repeat step 3 to purge air as necessary.
7. Check pipes for heating to make sure there is flow and feel the pump motor to see if it is running hot.

# SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE

## *Filter*

All **Ecologix** air handlers are provided with a pleated filter media. This filter should be inspected monthly and replaced as required. Replacement filters are available from Ecologix.

## *Duct cleaning*

If proper filter maintenance is adhered to, duct cleaning will not be required for the life of the equipment.

## *Coils*

Air conditioning and heating coils should not require cleaning if the filter maintenance schedule is adhered to. If a filter is damaged or collapses from plugging, dust may foul the coils. If this happens, replace the filter and carefully vacuum the heating coil. The fan may need to be removed to gain access to the face of the heating coil.

## *Air conditioning coil*

At the start of each cooling season, check the drain connection to the cooling coil to ensure it is free of debris. If a plugged air conditioning coil is suspected, call a service technician for testing and cleaning

## *Fan and motor*

Check fan for dust once a year. If dirty, vacuum to remove dust. Keeping the fan blades clean will reduce noise and improve the capacity and efficiency of the heating system

## *Pump*

The circulating pump is water lubricated and should require no regular maintenance. A cycle timer is available to exercise the pump even during prolonged periods of no heat to avoid seizing from long idle periods.

# TROUBLESHOOTING

## *Thermostat Call Error*

If the air handler does not run when thermostat is calling, check the status lights to see if the call is being seen by the control and check the error lights to see if there is a thermostat error. Thermostat error occurs when a heating and cooling call are simultaneously being received by the control. Note that some thermostats have a delay (typically five minutes) before they will start the air handler in cooling the first time.

## *Pump does not run*

In areas where hard water is present the pump may “stick” and fail to run. Often, closing the isolation valve on the return leg and opening the drain port so that water flows through the pump can free this. If this fails to free the pump, removal for cleaning or replacement is necessary. The daily pump exerciser will help prevent pump sticking

## *Pump is noisy at start-up*

Air is present in heating loop. If sound has not diminished within 1 minute, purge air in accordance with the *Start-Up* procedures. If heat source is a water heater, check to make sure branch connections for heating loop are horizontal to prevent the collecting of air in the heating loop. See the drawing: Typical Plumbing Connections at the front of this manual.

## *Water heater T&P is weeping*

A check valve or back-flow preventer may have been installed in the system. Some form of pressure relief may be required. Options are:

* Install expansion tank
* Install pressure relief valve; locate outlet over laundry tub or floor drain.
* Install combination toilet tank/pressure relief valve

## *Insufficient or no heat*

* Plugged air filter or coil. Refer to *Maintenance* section for filter care and coil cleaning.
* Air in heating loop; purge system.
* Inlet and outlet connections to air handler backwards; reverse connections.
* Water heater supply tube (dip tube) is restricted or damaged; check and/or replace.
* Supply water temperature set too low or not calibrated properly; check water temperature.
* Restrictions in heating loop; remove restrictions, check if valve is stuck, isolation valves could be too restrictive or left partially closed after purging, or closed valve.

## *Water heater supply temp is unstable*

Check water heater setting and temperature sensors for good contact on coil headers.

## *Cold water at hot faucet*

When heat source is a water heater, the most probable cause is reverse flow through the heating loop from a stuck check valve; repair or replace valve.

## *Fan runs for cooling but not heating*

Room thermostat may be connected improperly. Refer to *Electrical* section or wiring schematic on air handler for proper installation.

## *Heating during Standby Mode*

Probable cause is thermal siphoning. Make sure piping elevation instructions shown in piping drawings have been followed. Repair or replace check valve. Check elevation of air handler above water heater to see if motorized valve required for positive shut-off.

# Warranty

This product is warranted by Ecologix Heating Technologies Inc to be free from defects in materials and workmanship that affect product performance under normal use and maintenance within the applicable periods specified below. Replacements furnished will carry only the un-expired portion of the original warranty.

Two-Year Parts

Ecologix Heating Technologies Inc will provide replacement parts for **ANY part** that fail within two years of purchase, subject to the **terms** below.

Five-Year Parts

Ecologix Heating Technologies Inc will provide replacement parts for any **heating coils**, **cooling coils**, **cabinetry** and **piping** that fail within five years of purchase, subject to the **terms** below.

**Terms**

* Reasonable proof of original purchase date must be provided in order to establish the effective date of the warranty, failing which, the effective date will be based on the date of manufacture plus thirty days.  
  The warranty does not cover failure or damages caused by:
  + improper installation or operation
  + accident, abuse or alteration
  + operation of device at temperatures or pressures outside of the rated capacities
  + lime or scale deposits
  + corrosive operating environment
  + equipment moved from original installation location
* Replacements furnished under this warranty will be F.O.B. Ecologix Heating Technologies Inc product distribution points in the United States and Canada. They will be invoiced at regular prices. The account will be credited the full amount when the defective part is received by Ecologix, examined and approved as a valid warranty.
* Warranty applies to the original purchaser, but may be transferred to another owner provided the equipment is not moved from the original installation site.
* This warranty does not apply to labour, freight or any other cost associated with the service repair or operation of the product.
* Ecologix shall not be liable for any direct, special, incidental or consequential damages caused by the use, misuse, or inability to use this product.
* Ecologix is under no legal obligations to rectify, including but not limited to, lost profits, downtime, good will, damages to, or replacement of equipment and property
* Purchaser assumes all risk and liability of loss, damage or injury to purchaser and purchaser’s property and to others and their property arising out of the use, misuse or inability to use this product.