



INSTALLATION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE WORLD HEAT RANGE OF BUFFER VESSELS

1.0 DESCRIPTION

World Heat range of Heating and Chilled Water Buffer Vessels are for use with a variety of systems including, but not limited to; air conditioning systems, chillers, biomass boilers, heat pumps, solar thermal systems and conventional boiler systems. A Buffer Vessel is typically used as a storage method for water to cover peak loads or surges in demands that can't be met by the heating/chilling source alone.

World Heat manufacture Buffer Vessels in the following materials; Solid Copper, Mild Steel, Stainless Steel (various grades) and Galvanised Mild Steel. The standard range covers 10 litres up to 10,000 litres.

2.0 PED INFORMATION

The World Heat standard range of Buffer Vessels are designed and manufactured in accordance with the requirements of the Pressure Equipment Directive 2014/68/EU. As per the requirements of the directive, units that fall within the SEP (Sound Engineering Practice) category are not supplied with a CE Mark. Units that fall within categories I to IV are CE Marked and provided with the necessary markings, certification and inspectorates.

It is the responsibility of the user and/or installer to ensure that the unit is installed and operated safely, and in accordance with the instructions detailed within this document.

3.0 COSHH

Research has suggested that there are no specific items to highlight during normal operating conditions. However, during manufacture, dye-penetrant may be used as part of our pre-inspection process of testing welds. It is therefore essential that adequate flushing and sterilization is carried out before use and that the quality of water produced is to acceptable standards.

4.0 INSTALLATION

4.1 LIFTING AND HANDLING

- a) Lifting lugs, where fitted, should be used for lifting purposes.
- b) For units without lifting lugs, the user must arrange suitable lifting arrangements (i.e. the use of slings, lifting eyes etc.) to avoid damaging the vessel or its attachments during installation, taking into consideration the weight and design of the unit.
- c) Where fitted, insulation should not be used for lifting purposes.
- d) Due to the insulation and case characteristics, care should be taken when lifting and handling the vessel to prevent damage.
- e) Avoid the use of lifting straps where insulation is fitted, as they may damage or crush the insulating material or case.
- f) Do not lift the vessel using chains which are directly in contact with the vessel shell, particularly with light gauge copper vessels.
- g) Do not allow operatives to stand on the vessel.



WARNING: When lifting, please ensure a clean lift of the vessel using the lifting lugs provided. The legs/ring stand/vessel supports are not designed for pivoting during lifting/siting/installation. Vessels should be kept in the upright position.

4.2 STORAGE – *If storing the unit for any period of time before installation*

- a) Upon receipt of the unit, please check the packaging to ensure that it has not been damaged during transport. Any damage to the packaging should be fixed or replaced as necessary.
- b) It is recommended that the unit be stored indoors within a dry, frost-free environment with ambient temperatures between 4°C and 40°C.
- c) The integrity of the packaging should be checked monthly. Should the external seal be found to have broken or its condition found to have deteriorated (i.e. become wet, hardened or split), the packaging should be repaired or replaced.
- d) Once sited and the packaging has been removed, the condition of the unit should be thoroughly examined for any signs of corrosion or contaminant ingress.

4.3 SITING

- a) Unless specified at enquiry stage and specifically ordered to suit an external installation, the vessel must be sited indoors.
- b) Foundations or plinths must be firm and level to prevent settling, pipe strain or distortion of shell.
- c) Unless specified at enquiry stage and specifically ordered, the vessel must be installed in a level position.
- d) Ensure that there is sufficient maintenance space surrounding the vessel.

4.4 INSTALLATION

- a) Protective covers and plugs may be fitted to connections to protect them in transit, these must be removed prior to use.
- b) If a connection is not required for any reason, the connection must be sealed appropriately.
- c) Check for any signs of contaminant ingress which may have got into the vessel during transportation or storage on site.
- d) Pipe-work connected to the vessel must be adequately supported to prevent any loads being transmitted to the vessel. Consideration must be taken with regards to thermal expansion through the use of bends and expansion joints.
- e) Isolation valves should be fitted prior to the vessel pipe-work (EXCLUDING THE VENT CONNECTION) to facilitate future maintenance and servicing.
- f) To avoid corrosion, use appropriate pipe materials to suit the vessel material. If copper pipe is connecting too the vessel then a brass or plastic fitting should be used as a break no more than 300mm from the vessel to prevent galvanic corrosion from occurring
- g) To connect to the vessel screwed connections, a suitable thread sealant should be used.
- h) To connect to the vessel flanged connections, bolts should be tightened in a diametrically opposite sequence in order to load the flanges evenly onto the gasket. The gasket should be suitably chosen for the application.
- i) A suitable safety relief valve should be fitted to prevent overpressure.
- j) An industry recognised inhibitor must be used on all primary buffer vessels. This must be checked annually to ensure the correct levels are always maintained to prevent corrosion of the vessels.



5.0 COMMISSIONING & OPERATION

Do not operate the equipment at pressures or temperatures in excess of those specified on the nameplate of the unit. Do not subject the vessel to conditions of vacuum or partial vacuum. For example, partial vacuum may occur if the cold feed or vent is restricted during draw off or drain down.

a) Assumptions

- It is assumed that the secondary pipe-work is already full of water.
- On sealed systems, it is assumed that the expansion vessel has been pre-charged and that any cold water booster set and/or pressure reducing valve has been commissioned and set to the correct pressure.

1. All isolating valves isolating the vessel from the system should be closed and any circulation pumps turned off.
2. Close the vessel drain valve.
3. Ensure the auto-air vent is fitted and operational.
4. Open any manual air vents fitted.
5. On sealed systems, open the expansion vessel isolating valve.
6. Open the fill connection valve and slowly fill the vessel with cold water.
7. When water appears at the manual vent valve, close it.
(If the vessel is open vented and shares a vent with other units, connect it to the common vent using a 3-way valve).
8. Add an industry recognised corrosion inhibitor to the required levels depending on system volume stated by the inhibitor manufacturers recommendations
9. Carefully open the remaining system isolating valves.

Whilst the unit is operating, check that all of the gaskets supplied with the unit are effective. Some bolt tightening may be required after the unit has been subjected to its first heating cycle and subsequently maintained.

Following installation and commissioning, it is advisable to remove, clean and reassemble any strainers prior to operation.

When the unit is taken out of operation, all fluids must be drained from the vessel to prevent freezing or possible corrosion.

6.0 MAINTENANCE

Annual maintenance of the unit should consist of internal inspection of the vessel shell and inspection of the gaskets supplied as part of the unit. As per guidelines regarding Legionella bacteria proliferation, it is recommended that the vessel internals are cleaned. Site insurers may also require annual inspection of the shell conditions.



In order to drain the cylinder down to carry out annual maintenance;

1. It is assumed that all isolating valves isolating the vessel from the system are open.
2. Switch off any circulating pumps.
3. Isolate the vessel by closing the isolating valves installed.
4. On sealed systems, reduce the residual pressure within the vessel by manually operating the safety valve.

Please Note: Some water will be produced by the safety valve

5. Open the manual vent valve and allow air into the vessel during drain down.
(If the vessel is open vented and shares a common vent with other units, isolate the vessel from the common vent using a 3-way valve and vent to atmosphere).
6. Ensure that the drain is piped away appropriately to a designated drain point before opening the drain valve and allowing the vessel contents to drain.
(If the drain connection is positioned on the side of the vessel, it will not completely drain the vessel. The residual water should be pumped or siphoned out appropriately).
7. The vessel internal should be inspected by removing the inspection opening cover. If an inspection opening has not been supplied, an Inspection Mirror or Camera can be used through one of the vessel connections.
8. Re-fill the vessel as per the instructions provided in Section 5.0 of this document.

7.0 RECYCLING

For details on the end of life disassembly, recycling and disposal requirements of the unit, please consult the general assembly drawing and technical data sheet issued at quote/order stage, to determine the materials used.

All materials should be disposed of responsibly and in accordance with local regulations.

Please contact our technical team for further information.

8.0 SPARES

World Heat recommends the following spares for a standard Buffer Vessel;

- Inspection Opening Gasket

Please contact our sales department for recommended spare prices and availability, please quote your vessel serial number in order for our sales team to correctly specify the spares required.