



Sealed Radiant Tube Heater

A list of best practices for loss prevention to help Ohio Mutual agent partners and members identify the most common hazards that are associated with Sealed Radiant Tube Heaters.

Best Practices



- Sealed radiant tube heaters are efficient, low intensity heaters used to provide warmth in commercial garages, warehouses, and industrial facilities.

These heaters heat people and objects directly, creating a “heat sink”, which allows for rapid heat recovery and greater comfort at lower air temperatures. Their lower fuel and electricity costs are another reason these appliances are extremely popular in unfinished or minimally finished environments. However, after installation, most are left untouched, so let’s examine establishing a new routine to enhance their safe use.

INSPECTION, CLEANING, & ANNUAL MAINTENANCE

- Heaters should be inspected, cleaned, and serviced annually before the start of each heating season or at any time excessive accumulation of dust and dirt is observed by trained gas installation and service personnel only. Consult the Infrared Heater Safety Council (IRSC) for current, accurate information, or to locate a qualified heating technician.

Routine Inspection: Particular attention should be paid to the following items:

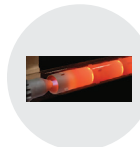


- Blower Motor:** Annual oiling of the blower motor with SAE oil will extend bearing life significantly. If oiling is required, add three to four drops of SAE 20 electric motor oil. Ensure that the squirrel cage in the blower is kept clean.

- Vent Pipe System:** Inspect the outside termination and the connections at the heater, checking the vent exhausts for leakage, damage, fatigue, corrosion, and obstructions

- Combustion Air Intake System:** Keep an eye out for any blockages and/or leaks. Check the outside termination and the connection at the heater.

- Heat Exchangers:** Maintain the integrity of the heat exchangers and replace if there are signs of structural failure. Check for corrosion and/or buildup within the exchanger passageways.



- Burner:** Check for proper ignition, burner flame, and flame sense. Flame should extend directly outward from burner without floating or lifting.

- Wiring:** Check electrical connections for tightness and/or corrosion and wires for any damage.

- Gas Connection:** Inspect the integrity of the gas connection to the heater. Check for leaks, damage, fatigue, or corrosion. Do not operate if repairs are necessary and turn off the gas supply to the heater.



- Reflectors:** Examine the integrity of the reflectors for damage, separation, missing or misaligned sections, repairing/ replacing as required. To maintain effective infrared heating, always keep both sides of the reflector clean, as dirt and dust can be vacuumed up or wiped with a soap and water solution. Use metal polish as necessary.

