

2009 Guideline for Induced Draft Furnace Heat Exchanger Inspection



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IMPORTANT
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FOREWORD

Gas Furnaces are known for their safety, performance and longevity. This is largely due to their certification to nationally recognized safety standards and the building standards and codes that require equipment be installed according to the manufacturers' installation instructions.

AHRI recognizes that despite the excellent safety record of gas furnaces, there have been infrequent reports of gas furnace heat exchanger problems. To address these situations, an industry-accepted procedure known as the "Three-Step Method for Detecting Unacceptable Flue Gas Leakage from Furnace Heat Exchangers" has been used since the early 1980's to conduct field inspections of gas-fired furnace Heat Exchangers. Though this procedure has been effective for testing Heat Exchangers in natural draft Furnaces, its effectiveness for testing Heat Exchangers on induced draft Furnaces that maintain a significant negative pressure within the Heat Exchanger has been questioned. Though it is unlikely for an induced draft Furnace to leak flue products from the Heat Exchanger to the circulated airstream, this guideline outlines a new test procedure to enhance the existing three-step methodology to make it more applicable, reliable and repeatable for the inspection of induced draft furnace Heat Exchangers.

Note:

This is a new AHRI Guideline.

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