INSTALLATION ACCESSORIES

Room Thermostats
The Rheem Thermostat line includes temperature control solutions for all Rheem residential and commercial HVAC equipment.

Ultraviolet Treatment Systems
Breathe cleaner air with a Rheem Ultraviolet Treatment System. If you want improved air quality in your home, install a Rheem UV-C Treatment System to work along side your Rheem central heating and cooling system.

Air Cleaners
Improving the air in your home is easy with the Rheem Whole-House Electric Air Cleaner or the Rheem Whole-House Media Air Cleaner.

Service Valves
The service valve kits available from Rheem offer an easy means to install and maintain your Rheem tankless water heater.

Tankless Flush Kit
The Rheem tankless flush kit is an easy solution to flush mineral deposits your tankless water heater.

Indoor Cooling Coils
Rheem Indoor Coils are designed for use with Rheem outdoor units. They can be matched with your Hydronic Air Handler.

PROBLEMS OR QUESTIONS

If you need assistance with your Hydronic Air Handler please contact your local installing contractor, or Rheem distributor.

See the manufacturer’s warranty for additional details.

Install Date: __________________________ Installed by: _________________________________

Contact Number: _____________________ Contact Address: _____________________________

In keeping with its policy of continuous progress and product improvement, Rheem reserves the right to make changes without notice.

Rheem.com
This guide is designed to provide a high-level installation overview and address key installation questions. It does not supplement the installation instructions in the Use and Care Manual provided with the water heater. All instructions and installation requirements, as well as any local or national codes, must be followed.
**TYPICAL INSTALLATION**

**Tankless with the RHWB Air Handler**

This system is specifically designed for use with tankless water heating. The tankless gas water heater will provide the hot water for the system. The air handler has a built-in pump that is designed to push the necessary head and proper flow through a Rheem- or Ruud- brand tankless gas water heater.

NOTE: Proper operation cannot be guaranteed with any other brand of tankless gas water heater. Use with any other water heating system such as a tank or boiler is not recommended. The water heating system must also provide domestic hot water to the building (an open system). A closed system is not permitted with the tankless water heater.

Figure 1 - Typical Air Handler and Tankless Water Heater Installation
**SIZING CONSIDERATIONS**

**Tankless Gas Water Heater Installation**
The tankless gas water heater must be installed in accordance with the Installation Instructions listed in the Use and Care Manual provided with the tankless water heater. Review all safety guidelines and installation considerations before installing the tankless water heater.

**Tankless Gas Water Heater Sizing**
The tankless gas water heater must be sized properly to supply the hot water demand of the fixtures along with the hot water demand used to supply the hydronic air handler. Fill out Chart 1 for a simplified calculation to approximate the BTU/HR capacity of the tankless water heater required for the system.

**Chart 1 - Tankless Sizing Calculation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Use Calculator</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixtures</strong></td>
<td><strong>Qty</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tub/Shower*</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden Tub</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lavatories</td>
<td>0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen Sink</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dishwasher</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washer</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Complete the Water Use Calculator before proceeding to J

- **Simultaneous Use Factor,** multiply (G) by (I)
- **Hot Water Use Factor,** multiply (J) by (F)
- **Heat Factor, constant number (provided)**
- **500**
- **Heat Factor Calculation,** multiply (L) by (C)
- **Water Heating BTU Calculation,** multiply (M) by (K)
- **Tankless Water Heater Efficiency** (Example: 94% or .94)
- **Tankless BTU/HR Requirement, divide (N) by (O)
- **Air Handler BTU/HR Capacity**
- **Total System BTU Requirement, add (P) and (Q)**

- **WUF Total, sum above**
- **Total Household Members**
- **Sim Use, multiply (H) by 0.1**

The Total BTU/HR Capacity should be equal to or close to the value calculated in (R). Some variation is allowed for in this formula. This form should not be used to size a general hot water system alone. The values here are adjusted to consider the use with a tempered water system in conjunction with an air handler.

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* Showers are based on a typical 2.5 GPM Shower head and do not include any specialized fixtures.
** See the Hydronic Air Handler/Tankless Water Heater Performance Chart located in the Air Handler Installation and Operation Manual for the nominal BTU/HR Capacity.

† Simultaneous use is the total number of fixtures in the home that can be used at the same time.
‡ Heat Factor Calculation is total amount of BTU/HR required to raise the water temperature by the differential.
INSTALLATION CONNECTIONS

Figure 3 - Air Handler Water Connections

Figure 4 - Tempering Valve and Expansion Tank

Water Piping
The system should be plumbed with a minimum of 3/4”-rigid copper piping (CPVC and PEX can be used where codes allow). A maximum of 100 equivalent feet is permitted between the air handler and tankless water heater. For details, use the information under the “Procedure For Calculating Total Equivalent Length of Pipe” in the Installation and Operation Manual provided with the air handler.

Air Separator
To keep air from building up in the system during use, it is required that an Air Separator, similar to Taco 4900 Series, be installed in the system between the water heater and air handler.

Pipe Insulation
All water piping between the air handler and tankless water heater should be well insulated to prevent heat loss.

Thermostatic Tempering Valve
When using the system with hot water settings above 120°F, we recommend a thermostatic tempering valve, such as a Taco 5000 series, be installed to supply the fixtures in the building. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for the installation of the tempering valve.

Thermal Expansion
An expansion tank should be installed on the plumbing system when using this air handler. When water is heated, it expands. This expansion can cause the pressure in the plumbing to increase and potentially damage faucets and fixtures. A properly installed expansion tank will prevent this unsafe build-up of pressure. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for installing the expansion tank.
Service Valves
We recommend the installation of tankless service valves with your tankless water heater. Service valves provide a quick and easy method to service and flush your tankless water heater.

Gas Supply
Most tankless water heaters require a minimum of a ¾” gas supply line. Gas supply is critical to the proper operation of the tankless water heater and system. An improperly sized and/or installed gas supply system can cause operational problems with the tankless water heater, and result in the loss of air handler-provided heating for the building. Consult the installation instructions provided with the tankless water heater regarding gas pipe sizing and installation.

Venting
The tankless water heater is designed to be vented outdoors. Direct vent style models require the combustion air be drawn from the outdoors. Follow all venting requirements as outlined in the installation instructions provided with your tankless water heater.

Tankless Remote Control
Rheem and Ruud tankless water heaters are provided with a remote display and control. It is recommended that this remote be installed where the owner can easily access it. The remote will not only allow the water temperature to be adjusted, but will notify the owner of any operating issues.

Tankless Water Heater Temperature Adjustment
The Rheem and Ruud Tankless water heaters can only operate up to a maximum of 140°F as configured from the factory. In most applications, the Hydronic air handler will need water temperatures of 150°F to 160°F to provide the maximum heating capacity for your comfort. A “Temperature Upgrade Kit for Commercial and Hydronic Heating” is available from Rheem. This temperature upgrade kit will adjust the programming in the computer for the tankless water heater and allow a maximum temperature setting of up to 185°F. Each upgrade kit is made for a specific tankless model. Consult with your distributor or Rheem Technical Service to determine the proper temperature upgrade kit for your specific Rheem or Ruud tankless water heater.
AIRFLOW ADJUSTMENTS - COOLING

Airflow Application, Adjustments, and Measurements
This guide provides the basic information about how to configure the system to deliver proper airflow to allow for adequate comfort and quiet operation of the air handler system. In order to accomplish this, the proper fan speed must be selected. This section will provide information on proper airflow selection, adjustment, and measurement methods.

Load Requirements and Ductwork Application
Before installing the new RHWB Hydronic Air Handler, the load requirements must be accounted for and the ductwork system properly designed. NOTE: A licensed HVAC technician must install this equipment. For heat gain/loss requirements, reference the HVAC industry standard, ACCA Manual J. For proper ductwork design, reference HVAC industry standard, ACCA Manual D. Failure to design to these standards will result in poor system performance, noisy operation, inadequate airflow, or poor heating and cooling. An improperly installed system could void the warranty.

Proper Airflow Selection Requirements
The following sections provide the basics to determine the proper airflow for the system and to illustrate where the motor speed taps need to be placed. The first step in this process is to determine what the proper airflow should be depending on the type of equipment that is being installed. For example, this calculation will show the installer how to determine the proper airflow for an RHWB-04WMX36A air handler matched with a 14AJM25 outdoor condensing unit and a RCFL-H*2417 evaporator.

NOTE: The following information is for the combinations aforementioned and provided for example only. Typical air flow for indoor/outdoor combinations range from 350 to 450 CFM per ton. Combinations of other equipment will be different from what is shown in these examples. See applicable instructions for details.

Cooling Airflow Calculations
Finding the rated airflow for the 14AJM25 condensing unit can be done by locating the condensing unit’s airflow addendum, which is provided with the condensing unit. See Chart 2 for a sample of what the addendum will contain.

The cooling airflow performance is based on the total system static pressure downstream from the air handler. With our example coil, the total system static would be 0.23” (wet evaporator coil), plus 0.08” for the Static Duct Pressure, plus 0.08” for the Internal Air Filter, and plus 0.08” for an External Air Filter, giving a total of 0.59” w.c. in system pressure. Referenced in Chart 3 is the wet evaporator coil pressure drop for our example RCFL-H*2417 coil. This sample is from the airflow chart located in the Installation and Owners Manual of the indoor evaporator and shows the pressure drop across the coil for a given CFM of air flow. The Static Duct Pressure comes from the measurements described later in this instruction, the air filter numbers are based on common air filters. See applicable instructions for details.

Chart 2 - Sample Addendum

Chart 3 - Static Pressure Drop Chart

NOTE: Represents Coil-Only Airflow Ratings [ ] Designated Metric Conversion

HIGH EFFICIENCY COOLING COILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coil Model</th>
<th>Approx. Design Air Flow CFM [L/S] range</th>
<th>Outdoor Unit 14A*M</th>
<th>Indoor Coil and/or Air Handler</th>
<th>Indoor CFM [L/s]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2414</td>
<td>600/1000 [283/472]</td>
<td>4.56</td>
<td>RCFL-H*2417(RGTM-06?MAE?)</td>
<td>750 [354]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2417</td>
<td>600/1000 [283/472]</td>
<td>4.56</td>
<td>RCFL-H*2417(RHWB-04WMX36A)</td>
<td>825 [389]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2617</td>
<td>900/1400 [424/681]</td>
<td>5.70</td>
<td>RCFL-H*2417(RGTM-07OE03)</td>
<td>800 [378]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2617</td>
<td>900/1400 [424/681]</td>
<td>5.70</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: A licensed HVAC technician must install this equipment. For heat gain/loss requirements, reference the HVAC industry standard, ACCA Manual J. For proper ductwork design, reference HVAC industry standard, ACCA Manual D. Failure to design to these standards will result in poor system performance, noisy operation, inadequate airflow, or poor heating and cooling. An improperly installed system could void the warranty.
Chart 4 shows that the tap closest for the initial startup would be the “Medium-Low” tap (total static = 0.59”). Reference the section called “Control Board and Speed Taps” for instructions on how to adjust the speed taps for the motor.

Chart 4 - Hydronic Air Handler Air Flow and Pressure Chart

Heating Airflow Calculations

This section will outline how to select the proper heating speed tap for the Hydronic Air Handler using the same combination of factors that was used for the cooling selection section.

The Installation and Owners Manual for the RHWB lists the rated airflow for heating. Take note that the heating performance is based on 160°F water temperature supplied by the tankless water heater and 68°F ambient air temperature. The maximum exiting water temperature is limited to 140°F. Chart 5 is an example of the chart that is listed in the Installation and Owners Manual for performance.

Chart 5 - Hydronic Air Handler Performance Chart

Chart 5 shows that at 646 CFM with the given conditions, the unit will provide for a 57°F air temperature rise. If the CFM is higher, the unit will produce a smaller air temperature rise and higher outlet water temperature. If the CFM is lower, it will produce a higher air temperature rise and lower outlet water temperature. Since the outlet water temperature must be limited as water returns to the tankless water heater and the air temperature rise is important for comfort, a balance has to be achieved during the installation of the system.

Chart 6 - Static Pressure Drop Chart

646 CFM assume 0.17” pressure drop
The coil-only pressure drop chart, located in the manufacturer’s instructions, for air handlers airflow versus the static pressure chart is used to determine the starting point prior to startup. Similar to the cooling speed tap selection (see chart 3) add up the total estimated static external to the air handler: 0.17” Coil Pressure Drop, plus 0.20” Duct Static Pressure, plus 0.08” Internal Air Filter, and plus 0.08” for an External Air Filter for a total 0.53” w.c. pressure drop. Charts 6 and 7 show the pressure drop across the coil at 646 CFM and which speed tap matches up to the required CFM. Based on this information in the example, the charts show that the proper speed tap selection would be “Low” for the RHWB Hydronic Air Handler.

Chart 7 - Hydronic Air Handler Air Flow and Pressure Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Blow / Motor HP</th>
<th>CFM [L/S]</th>
<th>Air Delivery External Static Pressure inches Water column [kPa]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inches [mm]</td>
<td>0.1 [.02]</td>
<td>0.2 [.05]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Airflow = 686 CFM at 0.5” w.c. static pressure

Figure 6 - Hydronic Air Handler Control Board

Figure 7 - Hydronic Air Handler Motor Wire Colors

Wire Colors
- **R** = Red
- **BL** = Blue
- **Y** = Yellow
- **BK** = Black
- **W** = White
- **BR** = Brown
- **G** = Green
- **RC** = Capacitor

**PSC Motor**

**Eco-Tech Motor**
FAN SPEED TAP CONNECTIONS

Control Board and Speed Taps
The previous sections explained the proper starting point for airflow of the RHWB Hydronic Air Handler. This section will address how to adjust the airflow through the unit’s control board with the motor speed taps for both the Eco-Tech and PSC versions. **NOTE: All power to the unit must be disconnected prior to adjusting any airflow.**

**WARNING!** Failure to disconnect power during the adjustment could result in serious injury including death.

Figure 6 is an illustration of the RHWB Hydronic Air Handler control board located on the blower assembly of the unit. The air handler unit is typically shipped from the factory with the cooling speed set at medium-high and the heating speed set at low. Using the previous examples to figure out the starting point of the application, the cooling speed tap and heating speed tap will need to be changed to the new recommended settings. This is accomplished by swapping the appropriately colored wires to the cooling and heating taps, and storing the unused wires on the storage taps.

Figure 7 shows which colors go to which speed tap on each of the motor types available in the air handler.

As in Figure 8, carefully grasp the wire at the connector, wiggle and pull the connector from the tap on the board. **Do not pull on the wire itself.** Connect the appropriately colored wire for the required fan speed by pushing it down on to the cooling or heating taps. Ensure the connector is fully seated down on the tap. Store any remaining wires on the M1 or M2 taps.

**NOTE:** In some cases the heating and cooling speed taps may need to be the same. A jumper wire is available, Rheem part number AS-50205-05-1D, that can be installed between the cooling fan and heat connections to allow for this.

Room Thermostat
Connect the wires for the room thermostat to the control board. The colors of the wires should match the letters on the board. Not all wire connections points may be used; it depends upon the system configuration and type of room thermostat used. Consult the Installation and Owners Manual as well as the manufacturer’s Room Thermostat Instructions for details.

Figure 9 - Room Thermostat Connection
Airflow Verification

After the system has been installed, it is important to verify the air handler is providing the proper airflow for optimum comfort. There are many different HVAC standard ways to accomplish this verification. This section will outline two common methods to calculate airflow: (1) measuring external static pressure, (2) using a flow hood.

External Static Pressure (ESP)

A common way of measuring the airflow of the system is to measure the external duct static of the system. The recommended way of doing this is to use a device called a Magnehelic Gauge (illustrated in Figure 10).

In order to measure duct static, the pressure reading should come from the supply side past the coil and the return side downstream of the filter. Therefore, Duct Static = ESP Supply – ESP Return.

The previous section mentioned that the airflow charts shown in the Installation and Operation Manual do not include the pressure drop of the coil. Therefore, that must be added to the duct static and compared to the airflow chart. It is important to note that the air handler is not designed to handle ESP of more than 1” w.c. and less than 0.1” w.c. external to the air handler, not including the coil.

For purpose of demonstration, let’s assume that when duct static was measured after initial startup the reading was 0.5” w.c. From here you would add that to the pressure drop of the coil, which is 0.23” w.c. Therefore, the total static external to the air handler is 0.73” as illustrated in Chart 8.

Flow Hood Method

The most accurate way to measure airflow is to use a flow hood. For this device it is important to follow the manufacturer’s instructions to ensure accuracy. IMPORTANT NOTE: Ensure a measurement is taken at each return inlet for the system. Add each of the measurements together to obtain the total air flow.
Flow Direction
The RHWB Hydronic Air Handler may be installed in either left- or right-side flow, upflow, or downflow configurations. When installing in a side or downflow installations, access for the plumbing connections at the top of the unit must be provided. The unit may sit directly on a plenum when installed in a downflow configuration; however, provisions should be made so the plumbing pipes are accessible for installation and service.

NOTE: Do not modify the internal plumbing of the RHWB Hydronic Air Handler.

Installation with a Heat Source Other than a Rheem Tankless Gas Water Heater
The RHWB Hydronic Air Handler is designed to be specifically installed with a Rheem or Ruud tankless gas water heater. Installation with any other water heating equipment, tanks, or boilers is not recommended. Depending on the specific RHWB Hydronic Air Handler model, the pump in the RHWB is designed with a high-head pressure to accommodate the head loss of the tankless gas water heater and maintain a proper flow rate of around 3 GPM.

While it is not recommended, if this hydronic air handler is installed with any other water heating system, other than a Rheem tankless gas water heater, a precision water flow control valve must be installed to limit the water flow rate through the hydronic air handler. This flow rate must not exceed than 3 GPM. Water flow rates exceeding 3 GPM will damage the air handler's heating coil and void the warranty.

Figure 11 - RHWB Dimensions and Clearances

The RHWB is Zero Clearance to the sides and back, with 1-inch clearance on top, and a recommended service clearance of 24 inches on the front of the unit.