

## User's Information Manual



**VX**  
SERIES

Residential Boilers

### WARNING

If the information in this manual is not followed exactly, a fire or explosion may result causing property damage, personal injury, or loss of life.

Do not store or use gasoline or other flammable vapors and liquids or other combustible materials in the vicinity of this or any other appliance.

#### **If you smell gas:**

- » Do not try to light any appliance.
- » Do not touch any electrical switch; do not use any phone in your building.
- » Immediately call your gas supplier from a nearby phone. Follow the gas supplier's instructions.
- » If you cannot reach your gas supplier, call the fire department. Installation and service must be performed by a qualified installer, service agency or the gas supplier.

# Water quality



## Warning

Water quality has a significant impact on the lifetime and performance of a boiler's heat exchanger.

Improperly prepared water in a heating circuit may cause damage to the heat exchanger through fouling or corrosion. Repeated or uncontrolled water fills will increase the potential for damage.

High levels of dissolved solids or minerals may precipitate out of the fluid onto the hottest part of the heat exchanger, impairing heat transfer and resulting in overheating and premature failure. The amount of solids that may form on the heat exchanger will depend on the degree of hardness and the total water volume in the system. A high water volume system with a low hardness count may cause as much damage as a system with less volume and higher hardness, so it is recommended to treat water so as to remove all dissolved solids. Other water chemistry allowable limits are as follows:

- » Acidity pH is to be between 6.6 and 8.5
- » Chloride is to be less than 125 mg/l
- » Iron is to be less than 0.3 mg/l
- » Cu less than 0.1 mg/l
- » Conductivity is to be less than 400 $\mu$ S/cm (at 77°F [25°C])
- » 7 grains/ gal (120 ppm)

**Important:** Ensure that these limits are acceptable for the other water-side components in the system.


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# Safety information

## Manual safety markings

 **Danger**  
Points out an immediate hazardous situation that must be avoided to prevent serious injury or death.

 **Warning**  
Points out a potential hazardous situation that must be avoided to prevent serious injury or death.


 **Caution**  
Points out a potential hazardous situation that must be avoided to prevent possible moderate injury and/or property damage.


 **Note**  
Points out installation, maintenance and operational notes to enhance efficiency, longevity and proper operation of the boiler.


## Important safety instructions

Installation, start-up and servicing of IBC boilers must be performed by competent, qualified, licensed and trained heating technicians.

Failure to read and comply with all instructions and applicable national and local codes may result in hazardous conditions that could result in property damage and injury to occupants, and in extreme cases to death. Keep instructions near the air handling appliance for future reference.

 **Danger**  
Should overheating occur or the gas supply fails to shut off, do not turn off or disconnect the electrical supply to the pump. Instead shut off the gas supply at a location external to the appliance.

 **Warning**  
Keep boiler area free and clear of combustible materials, gasoline, and other flammable vapors and liquids.

 **Warning**  
Combustion air must not be drawn from areas containing corrosive air from swimming pools or spas, including air directly next to outdoor pools and spas.



**Warning**

The boiler must not be exposed to water leaks from piping or components located overhead. This includes condensation dropping from un-insulated cold water lines overhead.



**Warning**

In areas of high snow fall, users must check side wall exhaust vent and air intake terminations on a regular basis to ensure blockages do not occur.



**Warning**

Do not use this boiler if any part has been under water. Immediately call a qualified service technician to inspect the boiler and to replace any part of the control system and any gas control that has been under water.



**Warning**

Improper installation, adjustment, alteration, service or maintenance can cause property damage, personal injury, or loss of life. Read and understand the entire manual before attempting installation, start-up, operation, or service. Installation and service must be performed only by an experienced, skilled installer or service agency.

Failure to follow all instructions in the proper order can cause personal injury or death. Read all instructions, including all those contained in component manufacturers' manuals before installing, starting up, operating, maintaining, or servicing the appliance.



**Warning**

Close fill valve after any addition of water to the system, to reduce risk of water escapement.



**Warning**

Disconnect power supply before any wiring/service is performed. Failure to do so could result in damage to appliance and/or electric shock.



**Caution**

The boiler must be installed so that electrical components are not exposed to water during operation.



**Warning**

Bacteria growth can develop in domestic hot water tanks and indirect water heaters if the minimum water temperature is not set high enough to prevent its growth.

### Known Corrosive Contaminants to Avoid

Cements and glues	Refrigerant leaks from cracks in coils
Paint or varnish removers	Sodium chloride or potassium chloride used for water softening
Adhesives used to fasten building products and other similar products	Chemicals in perming solutions
Chlorinated waxes or cleaners	Chlorofluorocarbon chemicals found in spray cans
Chlorine-based swimming pool chemicals	Antistatic dryer sheets in clothes dryers
Hydrochloric acid or muriatic acid used in household cleaning and stain removal	Chlorine-type bleaches, detergents, and cleaning solvents found in household laundry rooms
Calcium chloride used for snow and ice clearing	

## Domestic hot water



### Warning

#### HOT WATER CAN SCALD!

Water Temperatures over 125°F / 52°C can cause severe burns instantly or death from scalds.

Children, disabled, and elderly are at highest risk of being scalded.

- » Never leave then unattended in or near the shower, bathtub or sink.
- » Never allow small children to use a hot water faucet or draw their own bath.

To avoid any potential scald hazard or if codes require specific water temperatures at the hot water faucet, the installer must:

- » Install a thermostatic mixing valve at the outlet of the Domestic Hot Water Indirect Water Heater outlet and ensure it is working properly.

AND

- » Set the thermostatic mixing valve to the lowest temperature which satisfies your hot water needs.

#### To avoid injury:

- » Feel and adjust water temperature before bathing or showering.
- » Water drained from the system drain valve may be extremely hot.
- » Make sure all connections are tight.
- » Direct water flow away from any person.

## About the boiler controller

This boiler is equipped with a touchscreen controller for programming the boiler. For detailed instructions on using the controller, see the *V10 Touchscreen Controller* manual.

The controller is equipped to provide:

- » Control of up to 5 pumps – 1 boiler pump + 4 separate load pumps
- » Outdoor Reset control
- » Set Point temperature regulation
- » Domestic Hot Water (DHW)
- » External control via 0-10VDC or 4-20mA signaling
- » Alarm dry contacts
- » Zoning - simultaneous operation of two water temperature loads
- » Load Combining – simultaneous operation of two similar water temperature loads
- » The control can manage and/or operate in a network of up to 24 IBC boilers. Some of the new features available in the touchscreen control include:
  - » Express Setup Menu for simple, quick programming
  - » Software updatable in the field with an SD card or a USB stick
  - » Setup configuration back-up and cloning using an SD card or USB stick
  - » Superior warning messages while setting up the control
  - » Advanced Error messages with visual display on the Home Screen
  - » Internet/LAN connectivity
  - » BACnet (with activation)



## Controller

When the boiler is first energized, the controller will go through a power up sequence that will take approximately 90 seconds. During this time the controller is completing a self- diagnostic and loading all previous settings. In the event of a power interruption the boiler will automatically resume operation when power is restored with all the previously stored values. The controller provides overall management of the boiler operations including:

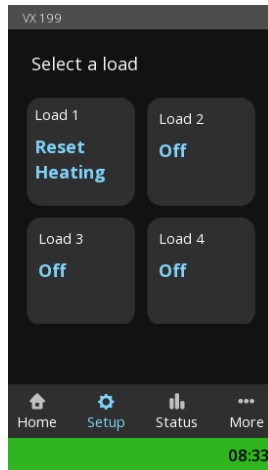
- » Power-up, self-diagnostics, easy Load parameter adjustments
- » Burner operation, safety management systems, Call for Heat management and Load Priority
- » Real time boiler data
- » Temperature and throttle operation

- » Maintenance of operational and error service logs
- » 2-way communication between other IBC boilers and controls

Operational and historical data may be accessed at any time using the System Status and Load Profiles sections of the control. Error logs are available in the Diagnostics section and the controller is capable of recording any or all errors since original power-up complete with the date and time of the error.

## Control interface

The control interface is provided through a color touchscreen display. The touchscreen responds to a light finger touch on the screen. You can also use a stylus or similar device to operate the touch controls. Do not use a sharp or metallic object such as a screw driver to operate the control as it could damage the touchscreen.



The controller display is divided into two areas, the screen active area and the boiler status bar. All screens have an active area consisting of the screen title bar at the top and a border surrounding the active area. At the bottom of the display there is space reserved for the boiler status bar.

Prior to any interaction with the touchscreen, the display shows the Home screen details of the current boiler status. If the controller has been left on the Home screen long enough (user adjustable, 10 minutes by default) the display will be dimmed to save power.

The control will automatically return to the home screen if left unattended. The screens will step back one screen at a time in 10 minute increments if the touchscreen has not been touched. The pop-up windows will also step back automatically in 2 minute intervals.

The boiler status bar indicates if the boiler is in a normal, warning or alarm state. When no warning or alarm state is present, the bar will be green and the time will be displayed

inside the green area. The bar can also be yellow or red corresponding a warning or alarm state. Text inside the bar will indicate the specific warning or alarm present. If more than one alarm is present the text display will slowly change, rotating through whatever alarms that are present.



# Boiler operation

## Lighting and shutting down the boiler

<p><b>FOR YOUR SAFETY</b> READ BEFORE OPERATING</p> <p><b>WARNING: If you do not follow these instructions exactly, a fire or explosion may result causing property damage personal injury or loss of life.</b></p> <p>A. This appliance does not have a pilot. It is equipped with an ignition device which automatically lights the burner. Do not try to light the burner by hand.</p> <p>B. <b>BEFORE OPERATING</b> smell all around the appliance area for gas. Be sure to smell next to the floor because some gas is heavier than air and will settle on the floor.</p> <p><b>WHAT TO DO IF YOU SMELL GAS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not try to light any appliance.</li> <li>Do not touch any electric switch; do not use any phone in your building.</li> <li>Immediately call your gas supplier from a neighbour's phone. Follow the gas supplier's instructions</li> <li>If you cannot reach your gas supplier, call the fire department.</li> </ul> <p>C. Use only your hand to turn the gas control valve. Never force using tools. If the valve will not turn by hand, don't try to repair it, call a qualified service technician. Force or attempted repair may result in a fire or explosion.</p> <p>D. Do not use this appliance if any part has been under water. Immediately call a qualified service technician to inspect the appliance and to replace any part of the control system and any gas control which has been under water.</p>	<p><b>POUR VOTRE SÉCURITÉ, LISEZ</b> <b>AVANT DE METTRE EN MARCHÉ</b></p> <p><b>AVERTISSEMENT : Quiconque ne respecte pas à la lettre les instructions de la présente notice risque de déclencher un incendie ou une explosion en entraînant des dommages, des blessures ou la mort.</b></p> <p>A. Cet appareil ne comporte pas de veilleuse. Il est muni d'un dispositif d'allumage automatique du brûleur. Ne tentez pas d'allumer le brûleur manuellement.</p> <p>B. <b>AVANT DE FAIRE FONCTIONNER</b>, reniflez tout autour de l'appareil pour déceler une odeur de gaz. Reniflez près du plancher, car certains gaz sont plus lourds que l'air et peuvent s'accumuler au niveau du sol.</p> <p><b>QUE FAIRE SI VOUS SENTEZ UNE ODEUR DE GAZ :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ne pas tenter d'allumer l'appareil.</li> <li>Ne touchez à aucun interrupteur; ne pas vous servir des téléphones se trouvant dans le bâtiment.</li> <li>Appelez immédiatement votre fournisseur de gaz depuis un voisin. Suivez les instructions du fournisseur.</li> <li>Si vous ne pouvez pas rejoindre le fournisseur, appelez le service des incendies.</li> </ul> <p>C. Ne poussez ou tournez la manette d'admission du gaz qu'à la main; ne jamais utiliser d'outils. Si la manette reste coincée, ne pas tenter de la réparer; appelez un technicien qualifié. Le fait de forcer la manette ou de le réparer peut déclencher une explosion ou un incendie.</p> <p>D. N'utilisez pas cet appareil s'il a été plongé dans l'eau, même partiellement. Faites inspecter l'appareil par un technicien qualifié et remplacez toute partie du système de contrôle et toute commande qui ont été plongés dans l'eau.</p>
<p><b>OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>STOP! Read the safety information above on this label before doing anything.</li> <li>Set the thermostat to lowest setting.</li> <li>Turn off all electric power to the appliance by selecting main power switch to OFF.</li> <li>This appliance is equipped with an ignition device which automatically lights the burner. Do not try to light the burner by hand.</li> <li>Locate manual gas shut-off valve (see pictures below) and turn clockwise to "CLOSE".</li> <li>Wait five (5) minutes to clear out any gas. Then smell for gas, including near the floor. If you smell gas, STOP! Follow step "B" in the safety information above on this label. If you don't smell gas, go to the next step.</li> <li>Turn gas control valve to OPEN.</li> <li>Turn on electric power to appliance by selecting main power switch to ON.</li> <li>Set thermostat to desired setting.</li> <li>If the appliance will not operate, follow the instructions "TO TURN OFF GAS APPLIANCE" and call your service technician or gas supplier.</li> </ol>	<p><b>INSTRUCTIONS DE MISE EN MARCHÉ</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ARRÊTEZ ! Lisez les instructions de sécurité sur la portion supérieure de cette étiquette.</li> <li>Réglez le thermostat à la température la plus basse.</li> <li>Coupez l'alimentation électrique de l'appareil.</li> <li>Cet appareil est doté d'un mécanisme d'allumage automatique. Ne pas tenter d'allumer la veilleuse à la main.</li> <li>Repérer la valve de fermeture manuelle du gaz (voir images ci-dessous) et tourner dans le sens des aiguilles d'une montre pour FERMER.</li> <li>Attendre cinq (5) minutes pour laisser échapper tout le gaz. Reniflez tout autour de l'appareil, y compris près du plancher, pour déceler une odeur de gaz. Si vous sentez une odeur de gaz, ARRÊTEZ ! Passez à l'étape B des instructions de sécurité sur la portion supérieure de cette étiquette. S'il n'y a pas d'odeur de gaz, passez à l'étape suivante.</li> <li>Régler la position de la valve de contrôle du gaz à OUVERT.</li> <li>Mettez l'appareil sous tension.</li> <li>Réglez le thermostat à la température désirée.</li> <li>Si l'appareil ne se met pas en marche, suivez les instructions intitulées COMMENT COUPER L'ADMISSION DE GAZ DE L'APPAREIL et appelez un technicien qualifié ou le fournisseur de gaz.</li> </ol>
<p><b>TO TURN OFF GAS APPLIANCE</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set the thermostat to lowest setting.</li> <li>Turn off all electric power to the appliance by selecting main power switch to OFF.</li> <li>Turn gas control valve to CLOSE.</li> </ol>	<p><b>COMMENT COUPER L'ADMISSION DE GAZ DE L'APPAREIL</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Réglez le thermostat à la température la plus basse.</li> <li>Coupez l'alimentation électrique de l'appareil s'il faut procéder à l'entretien</li> <li>Régler la position de la valve de contrôle du gaz à FERMER.</li> </ol>
	

## Service and maintenance

Inspection of the boiler is to be performed annually by a qualified service technician.



### Caution

The heat exchanger has a small amount of combustion chamber insulation (refractory), which contains ceramic fibers. When exposed to extremely high temperatures, the ceramic fibers, which contain crystalline silica, can be converted into cristobalite - which is classified as a possible human carcinogen.

Care should be taken to avoid disturbing or damaging the refractory. If damage occurs, contact the factory for directions. Avoid breathing and contact with skin and eyes and follow these precautions:

1. For conditions of frequent use or heavy exposure, respirator protection is required. Refer to the "NIOSH Guide to the Selection and Use of Particulate Respirators Certified under 42 CFR 84" for selection and use of respirators certified by NIOSH. For the most current information, NIOSH can be contacted at 1-800-356-4676 or on the web at [www.cdc.gov/niosh](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh).
2. Wear long sleeved, loose fitting clothing, gloves and eyes protection.
3. Assure adequate ventilation.
4. Wash with soap and water after contact.
5. Wash potentially contaminated clothes separately from other laundry and rinse washing machine thoroughly.
6. Discard used insulation in an air tight plastic bag.

NIOSH stated first aid:

- » Eye contact - Irrigate and wash immediately.
- » Breathing - Provide fresh air.

## Maintenance checklists

Daily Maintenance	Check
Check the surrounding area – inspect for water leaks in the general area around the boiler and boiler piping	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check the maximum pressure relief valve setting. The heating system pressure should not drop below 10psi in most applications. If the pressure is outside this normal range or if the water pressure fluctuates more than 2-3psi, contact your qualified service technician for service.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check the area around the boiler and the air intake opening for obstructions and chemical contaminants.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Monthly Maintenance	Check
Check all the daily maintenance items.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check the pressure relief valve and discharge piping for signs of leakage or moisture. If water or moisture is found, contact your qualified service technician as soon as possible for service.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check the condensate trap and outlet pipe. The condensate trap must be full of water. The outlet hose may be connected to a condensate neutralizer, if so, check that the pH of the water coming out of the neutralizer is above 6.0pH. If the pH is below 6.0 then the neutralizer will need to be re-charged or replaced. Contact your qualified service technician for service.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inspect the flue gas exhaust and air intake connections. All connections should be tight and leak free.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inspect flue gas exhaust piping, combustion air piping and terminations.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Annual Maintenance	Check
Check the Error Logs for any issues.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inspect the flue gas exhaust and air intake connections. All connections should be tight and leak free.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inspect flue gas exhaust piping, combustion air piping and terminations.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inspect the boilers interior and vacuum if required.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check for water, gas and condensate leaks in the boiler and around the boiler.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check the condensate trap and clean if required. Re-fill the trap and re-install the trap hook.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check the water pressure, expansion tank and pumps.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Annual Maintenance	Check
Check the electrical connections.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check the ignition electrode and remove oxidation from the electrode. Replace if necessary.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check the gas valve and ignition cable.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check the controller settings.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Check the burner's flame (should be a quick and quiet ignition across the full burner).	<input type="checkbox"/>
If required, clean the heat exchanger and the burner. Refer to instructions in the boiler's <i>Installation and Operating Instructions</i> manual	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Note**

Installers should inquire of local water purveyors as to the suitability of their supply for use in hydronic heating systems.

If water quality is questionable, a local water treatment expert must be consulted for testing, assessment and, if required, treatment.

Alternatively, water or hydronic fluid of known quality can be brought to the site.



**Warning**

Do not use automotive-type ethylene or other types of automotive glycol antifreeze, or undiluted antifreeze of any kind. This may result in severe boiler damage. It is the responsibility of the Installer to ensure that glycol solutions are formulated to inhibit corrosion in hydronic heating systems of mixed materials. Improper mixtures and chemical additives may cause damage to ferrous and non-ferrous components as well as non-metallic, wet components, normally found in hydronic systems. Ethylene glycol is toxic, and may be prohibited for use by codes applicable to your installation location. For environmental and toxicity reasons, IBC recommends only using non-toxic propylene glycol.

## Relief valve - maintenance and testing

The relief valve manufacturer requires that under normal operating conditions a “try lever test” must be performed every two months.

Under severe service conditions, or if corrosion and/or deposits are noticed within the valve body, testing must be performed more often. A “try lever test” must also be performed at the end of any non-service period.



### Caution

Before testing the relief valve, make certain the discharge pipe is properly connected to the valve outlet and arranged to contain and safely dispose of equipment discharge.

Test at or near maximum operating pressure by holding the test lever fully open for at least 5 seconds to flush the valve seat free of sediment and debris. Then release the lever and allow the valve to snap shut.

If the lever does not activate, or there is no evidence of discharge, discontinue use of equipment immediately and contact a licensed contractor or qualified service professional.

If the relief valve does not completely seal, and fluid continues to leak from the discharge pipe, perform the test again to flush any debris that may be lodged in the valve. If repeated attempts fail to stop the leakage, contact a licensed contractor or qualified service professional to replace the valve.

While performing a “try lever test”, a quantity of heat transfer fluid will be discharged from the piping system and the system pressure will drop. This fluid must be replaced. We strongly recommend using a system pressurization unit, such as an *Axiom Industries model MF200*, to refill and pressurize your system. Capture the discharged fluid in a container and recycle it returning it to the system feeder unit. This is particularly important when your system contains treatment chemicals or glycol solutions. If the system uses plain water, the boiler auto-fill valve must be turned on to recharge the lost fluid.

## Blocked vent safety system

The boiler is equipped with a blocked vent safety system to prevent the boiler from operating in the event the boiler's exhaust piping is blocked. The boiler will automatically stop operating when the restriction in the venting system becomes too restrictive. If the boiler shuts down due to a blocked vent, a qualified service technician must be called to inspect the boiler and venting system and correct the problem.



The following message is relevant to users in the USA:



**Important**

This Boiler is equipped with a feature that saves energy by reducing the boiler water temperature as the heating load decreases. This feature is equipped with an override which is provided primarily to permit the use of an external energy management system that serves the same function. **THIS OVERRIDE MUST NOT BE USED UNLESS AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS IS TRUE:** An external energy management system is installed that reduces the boiler water temperature as the heating load decreases. This boiler is not used for any space heating. This boiler is part of a modular or multiple boiler system having a total input of 300,000 BTU/hr or greater. This boiler is equipped with a tankless coil (not applicable to these boilers). US installers should contact IBC for any further information required.

**CAN IBC Technologies Inc.**

**A** 8015 North Fraser Way

Burnaby, BC Canada V5J 5M8

**T** 604-877-0277

**F** 604-877-0295

Toll Free: 1-844-HEAT-IBC/ 1-844-432-8422

**[www.ibcboiler.com](http://www.ibcboiler.com)**

**USA IBC Technologies USA Inc**

**A** 1702 Taylor's Lane

Cinnaminson NJ 08077 USA

**T** 856-877-0544

**F** 856-735-5584

Information in this document is subject to change without notice. IBC assumes no responsibility for changes made to the manual due to clerical errors, to regulation changes, or to product development.

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