

Preparing for Internal Boiler Inspections



Thorough periodic boiler inspections are in line with best industry practices to ensure the boiler's safe and reliable operating condition.

How often you should have your boiler inspected varies according to jurisdictional law, so it's important to be familiar with your state and local regulations. Recommended frequencies range from one to five years, or at the inspector's discretion in the event of problems.

During an internal boiler inspection, the inspector conducts a thorough examination of the boiler's waterside and fireside conditions. All accessible boiler surfaces are visually examined for age, damage and proper installation.

Prepare for an Internal Inspection

Follow these steps to be prepared for an internal boiler inspection:

- De-energize the fuel supply and ignition systems, using lock-out/tag-out procedures.
- Don't drain the water until the boiler has been sufficiently cooled.
- Cool and thoroughly clean the boiler before the inspection.
- Disconnect pipes or valves to eliminate leakage of steam or hot water into the boiler.
- Remove products of combustion from fireside surfaces.

You will also want to follow these and other safety checks:

- Adhere to all applicable governmental, state, regional and local rules and safety regulations.
- Follow all proper lock-out/tag-out procedures.
- Do not allow entry until atmospheric test results are maintained at acceptable levels.

If the inspector finds deficiencies, you will be notified and asked to correct them, based on code requirements or in line with best industry practices.

Resource

National Board Inspection Code (NBIC), www.nationalboard.org/Index.aspx?pageID=4

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