AQUALOGIC CASE STUDY

DESCALING CASE STUDY – OPENING, INSPECTION AND SCALE REMOVAL FROM A BEAUMONT CYLINDER

There is a strong association between scale and the growth of Legionella. This is why hot water cylinders should be regularly inspected internally and descaled. This case study shows the care that must be taken in the descaling process and some of the pitfalls that can be avoided with the right approach.

The Beaumont cylinder had been descaled previously but records of the method employed and inspection records were not available.

Residents of the block served by the cylinder were warned prior to the works that there would be a disruption to the hot water supply on the day of the works. The boiler room was made safe with signage as appropriate warning that acids were in use.

After isolating the cold feed and primary flow to the cylinder, it was drained and the side hatch unbolted as shown.

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The heat exchanger and internal surfaces were inspected, and rust and scale were found both lying on the base and adhered to the heat exchanger surfaces.

In addition to this, it was noted that the cylinder has previously been shot blasted and lined with a corrosion proof paint. As this would not survive the acid descaling process the loose material was removed manually and the surfaces carefully scoured.

Once the loose material was removed, the heat exchangers were acid washed taking care not to damage the anti-corrosion lining.

Following the acid wash of the heat exchangers, the gasket was checked for integrity, the hatch re-bolted, the cylinder filled, disinfected and returned to service with fresh water.

A certificate of works was issued to the client and uploaded to the Aqualogic online log book, Aqua-login, and the cylinder signage updated to give a clear site record of the works.

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Legionella Control Association
KEEPING WATER SYSTEMS SAFE