



Winter Storm Freeze Tips

Risk Solutions

Hartford Steam Boiler
One State Street
P.O. Box 5024
Hartford, CT 06102-5024
Tel: (800) 472-1866
www.hsb.com

October 2013

Protect equipment from freezing weather

HSB offers these tips to help prevent losses to equipment and property

Any interruption of electrical power during cold weather is a freeze hazard. In addition, ice and snow from winter storms can cause severe equipment and property damage during the storm and from flooding when the temperatures rise. The engineers at Hartford Steam Boiler recommend that you plan ahead and consider taking these steps in advance of a storm:

- **Building closures.** Make sure all doors, windows, shutters and dampers that can be closed are in place and secured to minimize heat loss.
- **Snow and ice removal.** Check snow removal equipment and have contracts or arrangements with reliable snow removal contractors.
- **Collect and circulate a list of emergency telephone numbers.** Distribute this emergency information to everyone in the organization who needs it. Have a backup communications strategy, such as using mobile phones and laptop computers and tablets, in case power and regular phone service is lost.
- **Heating systems.** If backup electrical power is not available, make arrangements in advance to obtain portable heating units which do not require electrical power.
- **Protect piping.** Piping systems which could freeze must be checked. Be sure that heat tracing is energized. Be prepared to supply backup power to electrical heat tracing systems or drain the piping. Pay particular attention to sprinkler fire protection systems. Any change in the readiness status of your sprinkler systems should be reviewed by your local fire department.
- **Anticipate flooding.** If the premises may be flooded as a result of severe cold weather or storms, take precautions. Move exposed equipment or stock to alternate locations if possible. Check operation of pumps or other dewatering equipment. **Do not energize equipment** which has been flooded until it is properly cleaned, dried out, and until insulation has been tested.



Hartford Steam Boiler