

HEATBASE Ltd FACTSHEET 3

Oil Tank Isolation, Oil Filters and inaccessible connections

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If your oil filter cannot be cleaned or replaced due to damage, or if the isolation valve does not turn off, or that it is buried, inaccessible or too close to the ground to remove the filter bowl, you will need to contact an Installer to have remedial work carried out at the earliest opportunity. If you are a tenant, you should contact your landlord or letting agent to inform them.

Oil Tank Isolation

If the isolation valve at your oil tank does not turn off it will eventually cause a problem! It means that the fuel filter cannot be cleaned or replaced, and some other oil line components may not be able to be replaced either. Although at first this may not seem like a major problem, should your filter become blocked or an oil line item need replaced it may then become urgent. It also means that in the event of a fire or if the oil line between the tank and house becomes damaged the supply of fuel cannot be stopped; which could have catastrophic consequences. An isolation valve that does not turn off would therefore be deemed a potential environmental risk, as well as a potential safety risk.

If the filter becomes blocked, it will lead to a breakdown which may not be able to be rectified until the filter and/or isolation valve is replaced.

Oil Filters

If the filter has become buried or is touching concrete/masonry or wet ground, appropriate remedial work will need carried out as soon as possible by an Installer. If a filter is left in this situation it will eventually rot through and will then leak, leading to contamination and environmental pollution. This is deemed as a potential environmental risk.

Inaccessible and incorrectly installed flexible Oil lines

The connections between the copper oil line and the flexible Oil lines should be within the appliance casing (where applicable) so any oil spillage is contained within the drip tray of the boiler casing. These connections also need to be accessible so that when the flexible oil line(s) needs replaced, they can be. If the connections are not accessible and there is an Oil leak it could lead to fuel spillage and pollution issues as well as safety issues relating to fumes and increased risk of fire. This would be classed as a potential safety and environmental risk.

If any of the above applies, then you should contact an Installer to have this remedial work carried out at the earliest convenience. If you are a tenant, you should contact your landlord or letting agent to inform them.

It is the Owner/householders responsibility to ensure their system is compliant and safe.