

Date: Thursday, December 15, 2011

Number: AOSBG 84004

Dura-Max® Product Obsolescence - March 1st 2012

Please be advised that as of March 1st, 2012 we will no longer be able to manufacture A. O. Smith Dura-Max copper boiler models DB-720 thru DB-1810 and water heating models DW-720 thru DW-1810 for sale in the USA and Canada. The Dura-Max models will no longer meet the minimum efficiency standards set forth by the Department of Energy new Energy Efficiency Pact (EPACT).

Please work with your customer to get any known needed units ordered by February 10th, 2012. We will not accept any new orders after that date and no plans have been made to build any inventory.

A. O. Smith will provide replacement heat exchangers and other service parts for the Dura-Max units we have in the field for the foreseeable future. Some parts not considered serviceable parts (such as jacket parts) may no longer be available.

To continue meeting your water heating demands, A. O. Smith will now offer the Genesis boilers as substitutes for the Dura-Max, when or if a replacement is required. The Genesis models have similar heat inputs and footprints and offer several benefits which make it an outstanding choice as a replacement including stage firing, pressurized combustion, advanced electronics and higher efficiencies. The Genesis boilers offers gas and water connections with similar orientation as the Dura-Max, but may require some slight modifications to accommodate existing piping.

Venting of the Genesis will require vent modifications due to the reduced size of the vent. Standard guidelines as listed in NFPA and the installation manual should be followed to provide the correct draft and obtain the best boiler performance. Existing vent pipe may be adapted to the boilers when these conditions are met. The addition of a barometric damper may be required when reusing existing larger vent systems to allow the draft to be adjusted and set for the new Genesis replacement. If new venting is required, the existing vent can also be used as a chase as long as local and governmental codes are met.

All other A. O. Smith boiler product lines will meet or exceed the new standard including upgraded HW Burkay® models that will go into production sometime mid February 2012. I will provide additional/updated information on the HW Burkay update as we get closer to that product launch.

If you should have any further questions or need any additional information please give me a call.

Thanks again,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Howard Holliman'.

Product Manager
Specialty Commercial Products
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