

VLW Series Hydronic Air Handler
Installation Instructions

AllStyle Coil Company, LP
7037 Brittmore
Houston, TX 77041
Phone 713-466-6333 Fax 713-466-6363

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**VLW Series
Hydronic Air Handlers**

Installation – Maintenance – Operation

The VLW series units are designed for recessed wall installation, designed to be mounted on a platform or hung on the wall in a closet, utility room, alcove, or basement. Optional DX coils are available that provide add-on DX air conditioning to meet the specific requirements of the outdoor equipment. Two or three row hot water coils are available for hydronic heating. Installation tabs are built into the cabinet to facilitate mounting the unit.



INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Installation of this unit shall be made in accordance with the National Electric Code, NFPA No 90A and 90B, and any other local codes or utilities requirements.

Warning:

Do not operate this unit unless all service panels / access doors are in place. If unit is located in the same area as the water heater or boiler, then the return air must be ducted to the unit. Seal all service entrances to the unit to prevent combustible byproducts from the water heater or boiler entering the air stream.

Warning:

Due to possible damage to equipment or personal injury, installation, service and maintenance should be performed by a qualified technician. Consumer service is recommended only for filter replacement.

Warning:

Ensure all power is disconnected before installing or servicing this unit. More than one disconnect device may be required to de-energize the equipment. Hazardous voltage can cause severe personal injury. Make certain all panels are in place before operating this unit.

Warning:

This unit is designed to be connected to a potable water system, therefore, the installation must comply with the applicable code of the local jurisdiction. Regardless of local code requirements, make certain that you do not use ferrous piping in connecting this unit to the water heater. The unit should be installed using new piping that is approved for potable water application.

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Unpacking

Carefully unpack the unit and inspect the contents for damage. If any damage is found at the time of delivery, proper notification and claims should be made with the carrier who delivered the unit.

Check the unit rating plate to ensure model number and voltage, plus any kits agree with what you ordered. The manufacturer should be notified within 5 days of any discrepancy or parts shortage.

Location

The blower coil unit should be centrally located and may be installed in an attic, basement or crawl space with "0" clearance from any side, front, rear or duct work. The unit must be installed in a level position to ensure proper condensation drainage. Make sure the unit is level in both directions within 1/8"

When the unit is installed in an enclosed area, the room should be large enough, and have an opening large enough to allow replacement of the unit. All servicing is done from the front and a clearance of 24 inches is needed for service.

The VLW unit should not be installed in any location that is subject to freezing temperatures. If the VLW is installed in a location where a water leak could cause damage, then an auxiliary drain pan should be installed.

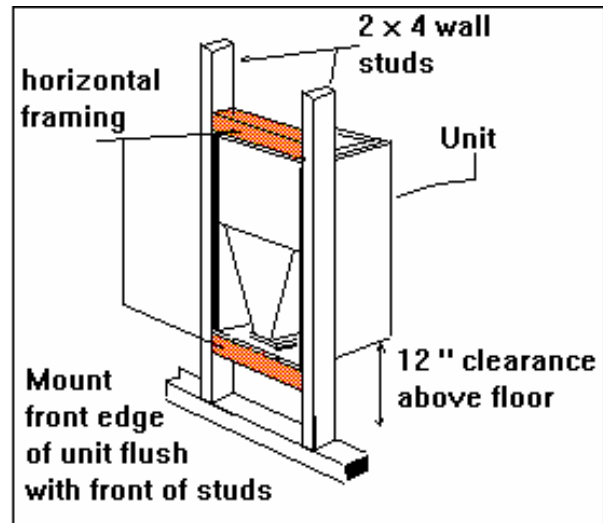
VLW Recessed Installation

When the unit is mounted flush in the wall between studs, the optional return air filter grille panel is required. The unit should be positioned a minimum of 12" above the finished floor elevation between the studs of the wall. This will allow proper spacing to trap the primary and auxiliary condensate drains.

Any modifications to the existing framing should be accomplished by the general contractor to ensure structural strength of the wall is maintained. The framed opening should be 40 1/2" high and 20 3/4" wide. The unit should be positioned so that the front edge of the cabinet is flush with the front face of the wall stud. All service connection openings are recessed away from the front to allow clearance for 3 1/2" wall framing.

Three installation tabs are provided on each side of the unit to facilitate mounting. Bend the tabs out 90 degrees and the tabs will position the unit to allow for 1/2" sheet rock finished walls.

Typical Recessed Installation



VLW Closet Installation

The VLW unit is designed for installation in a closet on a platform or for hanging on a wall. The return air is drawn through the base of the unit. The filter in the base of the unit may be used or a remote return air filter grille may be utilized.

The platform must be constructed sufficiently to support the unit. The unit should be mounted within 1/8" of level to allow for proper condensate drainage. The closet should be of adequate size to allow for proper service of the unit and the door must be sized to allow the unit to be removed. If the unit is mounted on the wall, then you must utilize the tabs on the rear of the unit if they align with a solid wall material capable of supporting the weight of the unit or you may utilize the optional wall hanging kit. Follow the instructions in the kit carefully.

Caution

If the unit is located in the same room as the gas water heating appliance, then the return air must be ducted from the conditioned space to the air handler and all doors must be secured in place before operating the system. Make certain that the combustible byproducts of the water heating appliance can not enter the air stream of this system. Contact the local gas inspection department or contact the factory if you have any question concerning this matter.

Ductwork

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The duct work should be installed in accordance with the NFPA No. 90A "Installation of Air Conditioning and Ventilating systems" and No. 90B "Residential Type Warm Air Heating and Air Conditioning Installation."

The duct work should be insulated in accordance with the applicable requirements for the particular type installation as required by HUD, FHA, VA the applicable building code, local utility or other governing body.

Condensate Drains

The unit is supplied with 3/4 inch primary and auxiliary condensate drains. Both drains must be trapped outside the unit and piped in accordance with applicable building codes. Do not reduce the drain line size less the connection size on the drain pan. Condensate should be piped to an open drain or to the outside. All drains must pitch downward away from the unit a minimum of 1/8" per foot of line to ensure proper drainage.

Refrigerant Piping

Refrigerant pipe connections are located on the top of the unit. Refrigerant piping external to the unit shall be sized in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer of the outdoor equipment. When units are recessed mounted in the wall, make certain that piping connections are pressure tested prior to the wall being closed.

Metering Device

All units are shipped with a checkflow piston installed which is designed for air conditioning or heat pump operation. If your application requires a thermal expansion valve or check expansion valve then it is necessary to remove the piston from the distributor assembly and install the proper metering device. Be sure to follow the instruction in the kit to ensure proper installation.

Wiring

Consult all schematic and pictorial wiring diagrams of this unit and the outdoor equipment to determine compatibility of the wiring connections and to determine specific requirements.

All field wiring to the blower coil should be installed in accordance with the latest edition of the National Electric Code NFPA No. 70 and any local codes.

Check rating plates on unit for rated volts, minimum circuit ampacity and maximum over current protection. Supply circuit power wiring must be 75 degree C. (167 degree F) minimum copper conductors only. Copper supply wires shall be sized to the National Electric Code or local code requirements, whichever is more stringent. The unit is shipped wired for 115/120 Volt AC 60 HZ 1 Phase Operation.

Be sure the unit is properly grounded.

Class 2 low voltage control wiring should not be run in conduit with power wiring and must be separated from power wiring, unless class 1 wire of proper voltage rating is used. Low voltage control wiring should be 18 Awg, color coded (105 degree C minimum). For lengths longer than 100ft., 16 Awg wire should be used. Make certain that separation of control wiring and power wiring has been maintained.

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Air Filter

An air filter must be installed prior to the air entering the evaporator coil to protect the coil, blower and other internal parts from excessive dirt and dust. If the unit is installed for the return air through the unit base, then the internal filter rack may be utilized.

If you decide to use a remote filter, then it should be sized for a maximum of 300 feet/minute air velocity.

If the unit is recess mounted in a wall utilizing the optional wall mount return filter grille, be sure to install a filter in the panel. The door must be fastened in place securely to ensure proper filtration of return air.

Thermostat

Select a thermostat that is commonly referred to as a single stage cooling with electric heat subbase. This stat will energize the fan on a demand for heat or cool.

Install the thermostat on an inside wall, away from drafts, lights or other heat sources in a location that has good air circulation from the other rooms being controlled by the thermostat. The thermostat should be mounted 4 to 5 feet above the floor.

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Blower

This unit is supplied with a multi-speed motor with a direct drive blower wheel which can obtain various air flows. The unit is shipped with the blower connected for high speed. If a lower blower speed is required, disconnect all power to the unit, remove the black indoor fan motor lead from the fan relay, place an insulated cap on the black lead, remove the insulated cap from the red indoor fan motor lead, place a spade connector on the lead and connect it to the fan relay where the black lead was originally connected. Be sure to check the air flow and the temperature drop across the evaporator coil to ensure that you have sufficient air flow.

Water Piping

This unit requires hot water that is supplied from an external source. Piping is required to connect the water source and this air handling unit. This piping must be installed in accordance with prevailing building, safety and N.E.C. codes and requirements.

1. Material: It is recommended that all piping between the water heater and the hot water coil be 3/4" nominal (7/8 OD) copper or "polybutylene". Other material approved for potable hot water systems may also be used if approved by local code authorities. Use only brass or copper fittings on joints.....NEVER USE plastic fittings.

2. Solder Connections: ALL copper joints in the water lines must be made with low temperature, non-lead solder.

3. Insulation: It is recommended that all piping be adequately insulated to prevent freezing and a "Low Limit Control: (See "Options") be installed on the hot water coil to prevent freezing when piping is run in a space subject to freezing conditions.

4. Length: Piping should not exceed 140 total feet in length

5. Shut-off Valves: In addition to the main cold water valve supplying the water heater, it is recommended that on shut-off valve be installed on the hot water supply line to the air handler and one on the return line from the air handler (or hot water coil). These valves will facilitate air purging during start-up and allow unit isolation for repair.

6. Piping connections: The water inlet or "supply" connection to the hot water coil is marked accordingly. Air handlers with internally installed

circulating pumps will not heat if piped backwards. Water lines to and from the air handler must be connected to the horizontal connection of the "T" fittings in the vertical hot and cold water supply lines at the water heater. This insure that any air in the water heater will bypass the heating loop and then be purged each time hot water is used in the dwelling. If this piping procedure is not followed the pump may "air lock" and fail to pump hot water. If it is necessary to "T" off from a horizontal hot water line, we recommend coming off the bottom of the horizontal line to feed the air handler or hot water coil. Any other piping procedure must address the elimination of air in the heating loop. Contact the factory for assistance with alternate piping procedures.

Air handler: Holes should not be drilled into the air handler or coil cabinets (except through duct flanges) since damage to the coils could result. Multiple air handler may be installed on one water heater provided the water heater is sized properly. Piping should be similar to that required for individual air handler.

Water heater: Water heaters should be installed according to the manufacturer's installation instructions. If a "back flow preventer" is required by code, the T & P valve on the water heater may tend to drip water because of pressure build-up in the water heater. This problem is a direct result of the back flow preventer..... not the heating system. An expansion tank may need to be installed to solve this problem. Most water heaters are now labeled with this information.

Multiple water heaters: When sizing requirements call for more than one water heater per air handler, water heaters may be connected together according to the water heater manufacturer's instructions.

Mixing valve: A water heater is designed to produce hot water. Hot water represents a serious safety hazard due to the potential of scalding. The temperature of water normally required to provide space heating (120 to 140 degrees) may be, hotter than. Certain codes allow for domestic hot water. A "mixing valve" can be installed in the hot water piping which would allow a lower temperature than the space heating water. These can be obtained locally and would allow the domestic water to be supplied at

This system may be used in conjunction with potable water or closed loop systems. It is strongly

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recommended that a licensed contractor be employed to install the required water piping.

This unit maybe operated with water temperatures reaching 180 degrees. The use of a water tempering valve is recommended on systems which tie to potable water systems.

Use only new materials when installing this unit. Suitable types of material are copper polybutylene rated for hot water of the temperature you are utilizing. Other materials approved for potable hot water applications may also be used if approved by local code authorities.

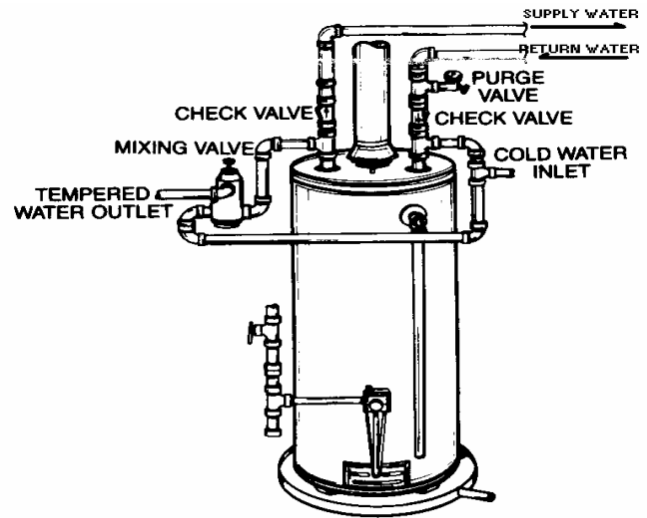
Use only only brass or copper fittings on joints. All soldering joints must be made using only low temperature non lead solder.

Total piping should not exceed 140 feet. Piping must be insulated to prevent heat loss and to protect from freezing temperatures. The optional "Low limit control" is recommended if the air handler is located where it might be subject to freezing temperatures.

A check valve must be installed in the supply or return water line between the air handler and the water source. This prevents thermosyphoning of water in the cooling mode.

START UP (Heating cycle)

1. Open the main shut - off valve to the water heater and the two shut - off valves to and from the air handler or hot water coil.
2. Fill the water heater. Open a hot water faucet somewhere in the house while filling the water heater in order to vent the air. When the tank is full and all the air is purged, close the faucet.
3. Ignite the water heater according to the manufacturer's instructions and allow it to come up to temperature (about 45 minutes). **DO NOT IGNITE THE WATER HEATER WITHOUT WATER IN THE TANK!**
4. Purge the air handler hot water coil and lines. Once the air is completely removed upon start - up, the circulating pump will circulate the required amount of hot water through the heating loop providing the pipe has been properly sized.
5. On Grundfos pumps, vent the air from the pump chamber by loosening the large screw plug on top



of the pump motor until water appears, then re-tighten the plug.

6. Switch the room thermostat to "heat" and set it high enough to energize the fan motor and pump. It may be necessary to "feel" the pump to determine it is operating. If the pump is operating properly and the water temperature in the water heater has reached the set point, the hot water line going into the air handler will begin to get hot. The return line from the VLW should be 15 to 20 degrees cooler than the supply line. If the pump is running but hot water is not circulating, refer to "troubleshooting".

7. Adjust the water heater thermostat so that the water entering the hot water coil is 135 to 140 degrees with the system energized and operating long enough for all temperatures to stabilize.

IMPORTANT: For system to operate properly power should be turned ON and all shut - off valves should be OPEN.

TROUBLE SHOOTING: (Heating Mode)

Pump does not run: These pumps may sometimes "stick" due to non - use and fail to start. Before replacing Pump:

1. Turn off power. On Grundfos pumps remove large screw plug in end of pump motor and turn shaft several times with a small screwdriver. Replace plug and start system. Pump should start.

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2. If pump has to be replaced, first disconnect electrical power to the unit, disconnect electrical power supply to the pump, shut off all isolation valves between the water heater and air handler and relieve the city water pressure by opening the air purge valve. Then remove the four screws that attach the pump motor to the pump volute rather than unsoldering the entire pump assembly. Fan motor runs on cooling but not on heating: (Units equipped with optional EWT) Check the temperature of the water leaving the pump, it must be a minimum of 120 degrees for the entering water thermostat to close and allow the fan to run. If the water temperature is above 120 degree, (CAUTION: THE EWT IS WIRED TO HIGH VOLTAGE) then check the EWT by ohming the leads to insure that it is closed. If the switch is open and the water temperature is above 120 degrees, then replace the EWT.

If the EWT checks good, then ascertain whether you have the correct control Thermostat installed. If the thermostat is the wrong type (a gas furnace type thermostat will not bring on the fan motor in the heating cycle on certain air handlers). For correct type of thermostat, see "System Components".

Pump is noisy: Air may still be in the heating loop. Re-purge the system as described under "start - up procedure".

Sequence of Operation

Cooling When the thermostat calls for cooling, the circuit between R and G is completed, and the blower relay is energized. The N.O. contacts will close and the indoor blower will operate. The circuit between R and Y is completed: causing the contactor on the outdoor equipment to close and start the compressor and the outdoor fan motor.

Once the temperature of the air passing over the thermostat reaches the set point, the thermostat will de-energize the circuit between R and Y and cause the contactor on the outdoor unit to de-energize. At the same time the circuit between R and G is interrupted and the indoor fan will stop.

Heating When the thermostat calls for heat, the circuit between R and W is completed, the pump relay is energized and causes the circulation pump to start. Hot water is circulated through the hydronic coil. The fan relay is energized and the indoor fan comes on. This forces the air from the structure through the hydronic coil and heat is rejected from the water coil to air which is then

distributed through the duct work of the structure. When the thermostat is satisfied, the pump relay and the fan relay will be de-energized and the pump and fan will be shut off.

Maintenance

The system air filter(s) should be inspected, cleaned or replaced at least monthly. If the filter is mounted internal to unit, make sure that electrical power is disconnected before removing the access panels. Make certain that the access panels are replaced and secured properly before placing the unit back in operation. This product is designed for dependable service; however, periodic maintenance should be scheduled to be conducted by trained professional service personnel. This service should be conducted at least annually, and should include testing and inspection of electrical and refrigerant components. The heat transfer surface should be cleaned. The blower motor is permanently lubricated for normal operating conditions.

Warnings

Do not store or use any corrosives or combustibles in the vicinity of this unit. All panels must be in place and properly secured before operating this equipment.

All electrical power servicing this unit must be disconnected prior to removal of any panels. Service of this unit must be accomplished by qualified trained professional personnel only

Conforms to UL STD 1995

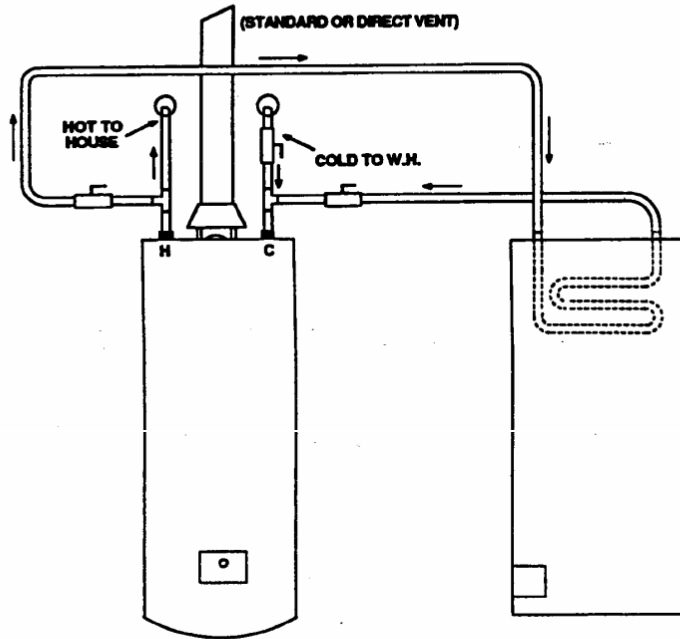
THIS UNIT IS MANUFACTURED IN THE USA BY:

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7037 Brittmore
Houston, TX 77041

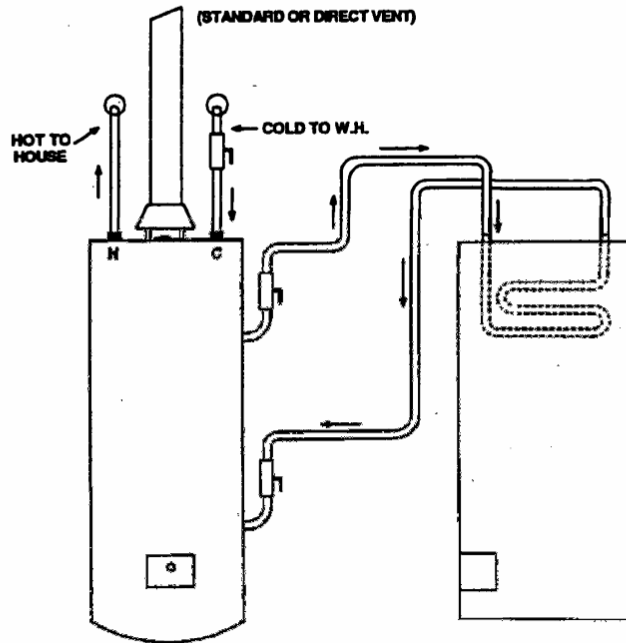


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Conventional Piping Diagram

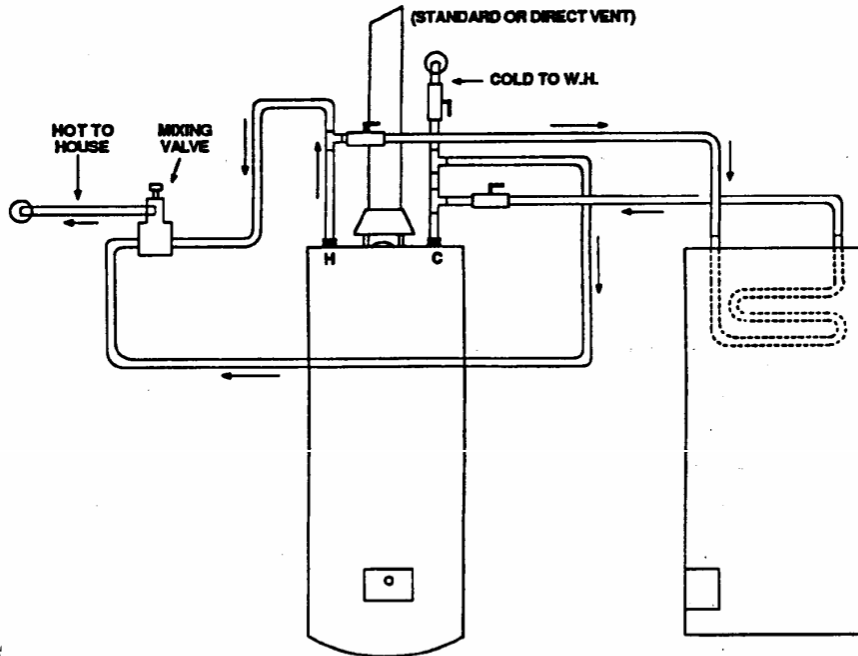


Side Tap (4 Pipe) Water Heater Piping

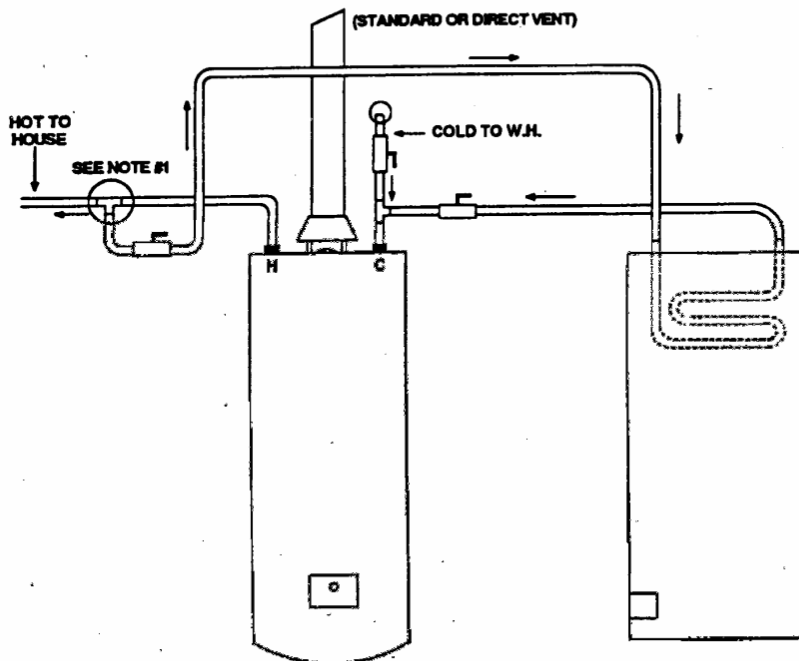


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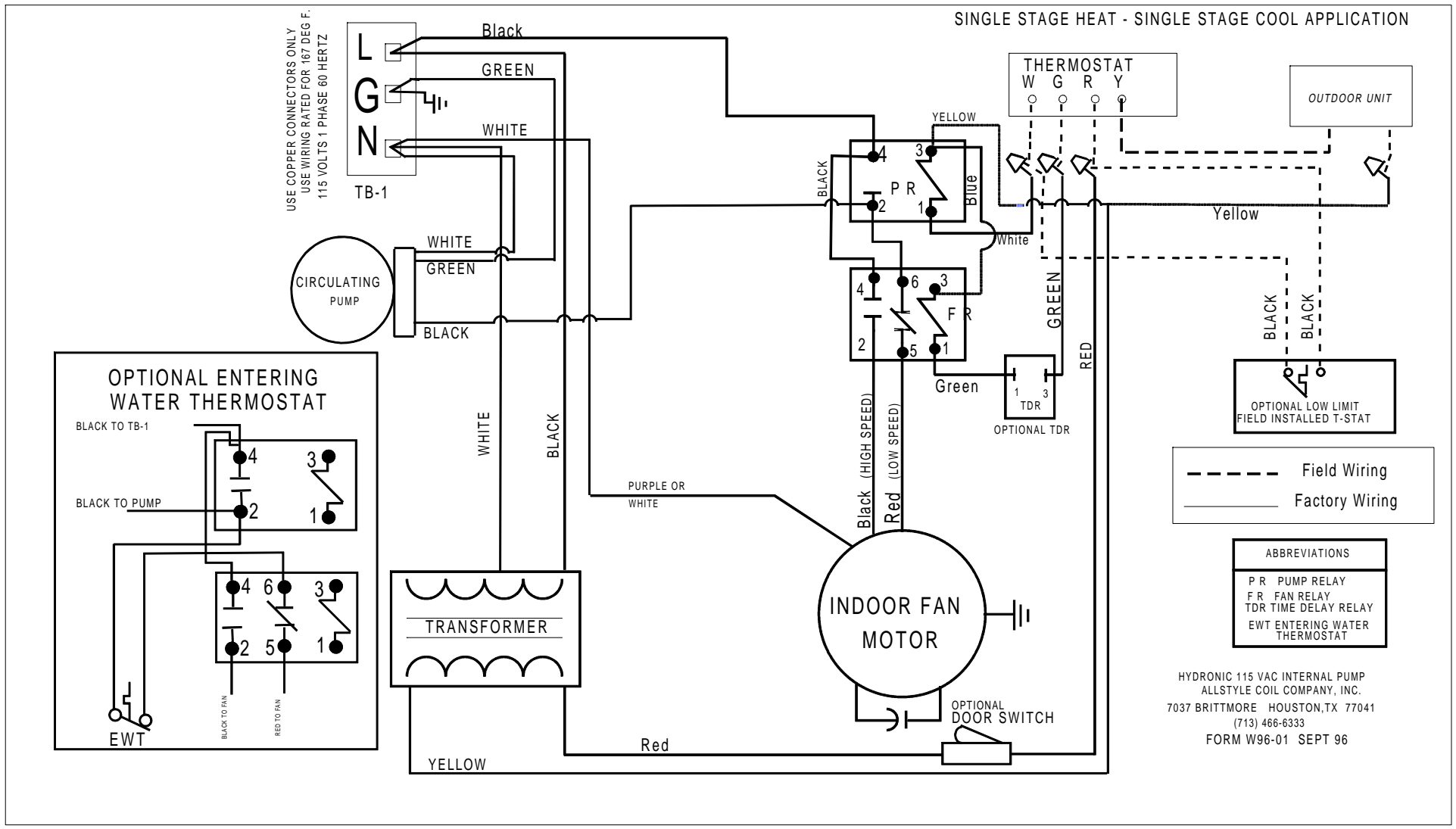
Water Heater With Mixing (Tempering) Valve



Hot Water To Air Handler From Horizontal Supply Line



Notes: 1. "T" connection taken from horizontal hot water line should face "down". This insures that any air in the hot water line will be purged out the domestic hot water faucets and showers.



115 VOLTS AC 60 HZ SINGLE PHASE