

Magic-Pak® V-Series™ Return Air Installation Requirements

This bulletin will provide guidance on the retrofitting on Magic-Pak® V-Series™ HWC units.

In regards to return air ducting to the HWC; the preferred installation setup, particularly in new construction building projects is to have a ducted return from the conditioned living space to the unit. This approach ensures optimal system performance, increases cleaner air quality return and is in alignment with most local building code and National Fuel and Gas code requirements. However, with Magic-Pak® installations dating back to the 1960's, the learnings, best practices and code requirements have changed over the years and in some cases simply cannot be applied due to building constraints in retrofit or unit upgrade projects.

In the past, it has been acceptable to route return air into the mechanical closet or room to the HWC unit without a hard duct from unit to living space. In these types of applications, typically you would find the return air routed from the living space, through a return grill in the closet door, so that return air is routed in the vicinity of the product's return opening. The grill should be sized and maintained free from blockage so that a negative pressure is not created within the furnace enclosure. Although not optimal for performance and air filter life, this is acceptable from a product perspective and does not void any product warranty. Magic-Pak® V-Series™ units are direct vent so there is no concern regarding combustion or dilution air, however local code enforcement should be contacted to ensure compliance.

If you have any questions, please contact the Magic-Pak Application Support at 866-282-7257.

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