



HVAC Tech Note #10 – November 2003

Liquid Gold

After water has been in a closed hydronic system for a while, it gives up all its nastiness. The oxygen in the entrained air oxidizes with the ferrous components, and any other contaminants get used up as they form scale or otherwise react with the system. The water becomes 'dead', and in many instances will also have been chemically treated. It may look bad when it's drained out, but as far as the system is concerned, that 'dead' water is liquid gold.

If it's not contaminated in some way, any of this fluid that is drained for service reasons should be put back into the system instead of being dumped and replaced with 'live' untreated raw water. This is particularly important if the system fluid is an anti-freeze solution, or if treatment chemicals in the fluid represent an environmental hazard.

Installing a packaged system feeder for system pressurization will make re-injecting this liquid gold easy – just pour it back into the feeder tank.

Axiom Industries Ltd. – Specialty Products for Hydronic Systems