

POU Installation Guidelines

The European Point of Use Water Distribution Association (EPDWA) provides formal Hygiene Awareness and Installation training courses. All staff involved in the installation and sanitising of POU water coolers for an EPDWA member company must receive this training.

The purpose of this training program is to provide an overview of POU systems offered by OASIS and an introduction to the basic guidelines that should be followed when installing an OASIS water cooler onto an existing mains water system.

It is recommended that all companies undertake the necessary EPDWA training courses to help maintain the professional image of the industry

Installation Guidelines:

A documented site survey must be conducted prior to installing a cooler in a facility. Copies of all surveys should be held at the installer's premises. The purpose of the survey is to ensure that the cooler is installed in a suitable location.

The general guidelines below should be followed:

- The cooler must be located on a floor that is smooth, level and easily cleaned.
- Do not locate the cooler in direct sunlight.
- Do not locate the cooler next to a radiator.
- Do not locate the cooler within or directly adjacent to toilet facilities.
- Do not locate the cooler in constantly damp areas, beneath dripping pipes, or where water may collect underfoot.

The survey should examine the following:

- Location of electrical supply
 - The cooler should be installed no more than 2 meters from the nearest electrical socket.
 - It should be possible to access the plug when the cooler is in its final position
- Location of potable mains water supply
 - The cooler must be attached to a potable mains water source
 - The length of small bore tubing (usually 1/4") used to connect the cooler to the mains water supply should be kept to a minimum and must not exceed 20 meters.
 - If the planned cooler location is more than 20 meters from the connection point to the mains supply, then a new mains water feed will have to be added to the supply

Fittings:

All fittings and pipework used to attach the water cooler to the mains water supply must be approved to the relevant local standards. No standards apply in Ireland, so it is recommended that fittings approved to the Water Supply (Water Fittings) regulations in the UK are used. Such fittings will be approved by WRAS or KIWA.

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These fittings can be purchased from OASIS or OASIS can refer you to reputable suppliers of Point-of-Use parts in your market place.

Installation:

Each installation must include the following components

- An isolating and non return valve must be fitted at the point of connection to the water supply.
- An anti leak device must be fitted at the point of connection to the water supply downstream of the isolating and non return valves.
- Pressure limiting devices should be installed to protect the cooler and feed pipework from water pressure surges in locations where they may occur
- Each cooler must have an independent isolating tap. This is intended so that the cooler can be replaced without draining long lengths of piping

The following general guidelines apply to the pipework

- Pipework should avoid light fittings and electrical and gas piping
- Pipework in public view should be securely and neatly fixed.
- All pipework should be accessible and clearly labeled.
- Pipework should be lagged when necessary to avoid freezing or high temperatures.

The customer should be informed in writing of the location of all isolation valves

Sanitisation:

EPDWA guidelines state:

- All coolers must be sanitized before commissioning
- When a customer signs up to the sanitisation program, the cooler should be sanitized every 6 months
- Sanitisation should be carried out in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions – see attached documents.

Checking Water Supply before Cooler Installation:

In order for a POU cooler to operate correctly, there are certain requirements with regards to water flow rate and water pressure from the mains supply that must be satisfied. OASIS strongly recommends that you carry out the following tests prior to final installation of the cooler.

- **Water Flow Rate:** A minimum flow rate of 2 litres / minute is required to provide drinking water on demand. If flow rate is below this level, then it will be necessary to install some form of storage tank between the cooler and the installation connection
- **Water Pressure:** A minimum of 2 bar ^(*) water pressure is required to “push” water through the internal connections of the water cooler and its associated filtration system. If you do not have this mains water pressure available, then some form of booster pump must be installed to increase the pressure

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(*) 4 bar water pressure is required in the case of Reverse Osmosis products

These storage vessels and booster pumps can be purchased from OASIS or OASIS can refer you to reputable suppliers of Point-of-Use parts in your market place

Connecting Water Cooler to Mains Supply:

All OASIS POU water coolers are supplied with a push-fit connector that should be used to connect the cooler to the mains water supply. OASIS recommends that these guidelines should be followed when installing the cooler:

Use ¼” diameter tubing to connect the mains supply to the water cooler. Although 6mm tubing will appear to fit, it is actually approximately 5% smaller in size. The use of 6mm tubing will result in a leak.

In any mains water system, it is possible for “spikes” or sudden fluctuations in pressure to occur. These can result in instantaneous pressures in excess of 7 bar (100 psig) to occur. OASIS recommend that all installations include a pressure regulator, such as a slow flow regulator, which should be located in front of the cooler’s water inlet.