



System Startup: Galvanized Towers

Since many of the "white rust" problems on new systems originate during the first few months of operation, it is important to use the correct procedures in system start-up. The following recommendations should be used.

1. Do not circulate an alkaline or acid cleaner through the cooling tower. If an alkaline cleaner is specified, the piping should be isolated for the procedure.
2. The galvanized tower should be pretreated with a phosphate based treatment, regardless of the specified corrosion inhibitor/dispersant program. CT-110 at 225 ppm for a period of 2-3 days is the recommended program. For optimum results, a pH of 7.5 - 8.0 is recommended.

This program will passivate the galvanized steel surfaces, thereby preventing the initiation of "white rust". A periodic passivation with CT-110 (say once a year or with any visible sign of "white rust") is also a good technical recommendation, particularly, if the normal treatment is used under highly alkaline conditions.

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