THERMAL® SOLUTIONS
Innovative Equipment for Hot Water Systems

Concert Boiler Control

Consulting Engineer Suggested Specification

A. Boiler Control System

1. Scope of Supply

Boiler Control System shall provide safety interlocks and water temperature control. The control system shall be fully integrated into the boiler control cabinet and incorporate single and multiple boiler control logic, inputs, outputs and communication interfaces. The control system shall coordinate the operation of up to eight (8) fully modulating hot water boilers and circulation pumps. The control system shall simply control boiler modulation and on/off outputs based on the boiler water supply temperature and an operator-adjusted setpoint. However, using parameter menu selections, the control system shall allow the boiler to respond to remote system water temperature and outside air temperatures with domestic hot water priority (DHWP) and warm weather shut down (WWSD) or energy management system (EMS) firing rate demand, remote setpoint or remote start/stop commands. In order to support large domestic demands it shall be parameter selectable to start two boilers simultaneously in response to a DHWP demand.

2. Boiler Control

Using PID (proportional-integral-derivative) based control, the remote system water temperature shall be compared with a setpoint to establish a target boiler firing rate. If the secondary loop flow speed is greater than the primary loop flow speed, firing rate is increased in response to the decrease in secondary loop temperature. When the remote system temperature is near the boiler high limit temperature, the boiler supply sensor shall limit the maximum boiler supply temperature to prevent boiler high limit events. Alternately, using parameter menu selections, the control system shall allow the boiler to respond directly to boiler supply temperature and setpoint to establish a target boiler firing rate while remote system water temperature is used for display purposes only. Each boiler's fuel flow control valve shall be mechanically linked to the air flow control device to assure an air rich fuel/air ratio. All the automated logic required to ensure that pre-purge, post-purge, light-off, and burner modulation shall be provided.

3. Hot Water Temperature Setpoint

When the controller is in the local control mode, the control system shall establish the setpoint based on outside air temperature and a reset function curve, or be manually adjusted by the operator. When enabled, the setpoint shall be adjusted above a preset minimum setpoint upon sensing a domestic hot water demand contact input. When in remote mode, the control system shall accept a 4-20ma or Modbus [*OPTION: 0-10Vdc] remote setpoint or firing rate demand signal from an external EMS.

4. Multiple Boiler Sequence

The controller shall incorporate its peer-to-peer communications on each connected boiler (up to eight [8] units) by using standard RJ45 ethernet cables. The control system shall allow the connected boilers to exchange signals as required to provide coordinated fully modulating lead/lag

functions. It shall not be required to wire individual control signals between boilers. Multiple boilers shall be modulated in “Unison” (all at the same firing rate). To increase operational efficiency, the control system shall utilize both water temperature and firing rate based boiler sequencing algorithms to start and stop the boilers and shall minimize the total number of boilers in operation. The control system shall start and stop boilers when the water temperature is outside the adjustable temperature limit for longer than the adjustable time delay. In order to minimize temperature deviations, the control system shall start and stop the next boiler when the “lead” boiler is at an adjustable firing rate limit for longer than the adjustable time delay. The control system shall monitor both boiler lockout and limit circuits to automatically skip over those boilers that are powered down for maintenance, tripped or otherwise will not start. The boiler shall be run at low fire for warm-up for a preset low fire hold time. When enabled, warm weather shut down control logic shall prevent boiler operation. The controller shall also be capable of auto-rotation of the boilers based on user-selected run time hours.

5. User Interface

A touch screen message display shall be provided to display real time BTU/hr, numeric data, startup and shutdown sequence status, alarm, system diagnostic, first-out messages and boiler historical information. In the event of a fault condition, the display shall provide help screens to determine the cause of the problem and corrective actions. Historical information shall include graphical trends, lockout history, boiler & circulator cycle counts and run time hours.

6. Circulator Control

The controller shall be capable of sequencing the boiler, domestic hot water or system circulators. Simple parameter selections shall allow all three pumps to respond properly to various hydronic piping arrangements including either a boiler or primary piped indirect water heater. The controller shall perform circulator exercise to help prevent pump rotor seizing. [OPTIONAL: The boiler circulator shall be variable speed and supplied by the boiler manufacturer to work integrally with the boiler’s control system to optimize energy savings.]

7. EMS Communication

Control and monitor the boiler via communication RS485 Modbus or direct wiring. The control shall allow for simultaneous communication for boiler peer-to-peer communication and EMS communication interfaces. Loss of EMS communication shall automatically transfer the boiler control to local operation. Boiler operation shall not be lost due to corrupt or loss of EMS communication. The boiler control system shall allow individual boiler limits, lockout, boiler and system temperatures and firing rate status to be readable and water setpoint, boiler firing rate, and start/stop command to be readable and writable. The control shall provide easy parameter selection and options for the following: Modulation Source (4-20ma or Modbus [*OPTION: 0-10Vdc]); Setpoint Source (4-20ma or Modbus [*OPTION: 0-10Vdc]); and Enable/Disable (contact wired or Modbus). The control shall allow a real time, live & convenient list of all

interface signals to allow for quick interface verification. [OPTION: The boiler control system shall network with a communication gateway to connect with BACnet [LonWorks] [Johnson Controls Metasys N2] communication protocol.]

*Note to Spec Writer: 0-10Vdc option available with EMS Signal Converter

8. External Data Transfer
The control system shall include the ability to transfer parameters from boiler to boiler. Upon completion of commissioning the first boiler, a USB flash drive shall allow settings to be "downloaded" from one boiler and "uploaded" into the next. Additionally, these files shall be able to be sent via email and "uploaded" to a remote technical support system. Additionally, it shall be possible to restore parameters to the "as shipped state" by selecting a "Factory Default" Button.

9. Archive History
All hard lockouts, soft lockouts (holds), sensor faults, Energy Management System (EMS) signal faults, sequencer faults and limit string faults shall be recorded with a time and date stamp. The time and date log shall stores up to 3000 alarm & events even after power cycle." The alarm & event log must be downloadable to a USB thumb drive. The control shall include collect and store supply & return temperature, flame intensity and firing rate for at least 4 months. It shall be a simple matter to page through the boiler's operation using the boiler mounted display or download the historical data to a USB thumb drive for off-site analysis. All data must be stored in standardly compatible CRV files.

10. Quality Assurance
The boiler control system shall be supplied as part of a factory-assembled and tested burner control cabinet