

Extruder Storage

Short-term storage after receipt of an extruder is allowable and should be in a warm, clean, dry, vibration-free environment. Special precautions need to be taken if the equipment will be stored for more than 3 months prior to commissioning. In particular, gearboxes and wear parts need special considerations to ensure protection against corrosion and other potential damage.

Short-term storage of equipment (3-6 months) requires that special actions be taken, per the following:

1. The equipment must be placed in a warm (above freezing), clean and dry location.
2. The recommended oil should be added to all gearboxes to fully submerge all gears, bearings, and seals to prevent contact of components with air and humidity.
3. Gearboxes should be rotated for 10 complete revolutions every month to ensure complete and maintained wetting of the internal components. This will also prevent seal damage on larger gearboxes.
4. Wear parts (screws and barrels) and any unpainted, exposed carbon steel surfaces should be periodically inspected and treated with a suitable coating or rust inhibitor to prevent corrosion. Note that some wear parts are highly corrosion resistant and may not require any additional protection.

Long-term storage of equipment (6+ months) requires additional actions to be taken, per the following:

1. Place desiccant bags in all the enclosures to help prevent moisture from damaging any electrical components.
2. Ensure the extruder is sealed up well to ensure mice and other rodents cannot access any of the wiring withing the extruder. Traps and/or poison are considerations for additional protection.
3. Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) that remain unpowered for 6-12 months are susceptible to natural deterioration within the VFD's capacitors. In order to prevent this, it is recommended to reform the VFD every 6-12 months. Many motor shops and

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VFD distributors offer, or can recommend a local company, to perform this service. Larger VFDs (50+ horsepower) are more susceptible to damage from deterioration within the VFD's capacitors, but it is possible in all VFDs.

4. Apply a rust inhibitor on all the exposed carbon steel surfaces (barrel flanges, side feeder barrels, vacuum stuffer barrels, inside of all barrels, on all screws, etc.).

Contact us if you need further assistance.

Did You Know?

ENTEK offers health and wellness checks!

ENTEK offers a variety of health and wellness inspections to keep your investment healthy.

Categories include but are not limited to:

- Critical Mechanical Health Checks
- General Mechanical Wellness Checks
- Customized Electrical Checks
- Customized Maintenance Checks

A scheduled health or wellness check includes:

- ✓ A pre-visit checklist and planning call
- ✓ One-day on-site extruder check-out by a trained technician
- ✓ A comprehensive report on the findings

Contact ENTEK to request a quote for your health and wellness needs.