

Anticipation of Extreme Subzero Temperature

In anticipation of the extreme cold weather, First Point Mechanical would like to help customers and facilities protect their buildings as best as possible.

Until the temperatures rise to above freezing, the following are some recommendations of what can be done, either internally or performed by First Point Mechanical, to help protect your equipment:

- Keep units running continuously at occupied set point. Do not allow unit to go lower unoccupied settings
- Shut any minimum outside air damper settings. Set to zero
- Try to avoid operating any large exhaust systems, even if for production
- Hot water make up air systems recommended to be shut down, if possible. Outside air dampers checked to make sure they're closed, all pumps running and coils are hot
- Box buildings with space heater/make up air units will have a hard time maintaining space temperatures since they can bring in 100% outside air and are usually rated to maintain at temperatures of 0-10 degrees outside
- Buildings can expect to not maintain proper temperatures as the unit design for Chicago is 10 degrees to -10 degrees minimum

In regards to make up air systems, extra precaution is recommended:

- If shutting down a make up air unit, it would be recommended that all exhaust fans are shut down too as this could cause a separate and worse issue if the building pulls in cold air from the exhaust and could potentially freeze up the coils and/or sprinkler heads, etc. within the buildings
- **WITH ANY PRECAUTION, TAKE ALL MEASURES INTO CONSIDERATION**

Consult with your First Point Technician or the building staff if they will be implementing any temporary changes to verify it is the safest measure for your building. Not all of the above measures are safe for every building. First Point Mechanical's goal with the above measures is to help prevent any freeze up situations.