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Episode 12 Show Notes – Your First Set of Twins

Using two filter or softener tanks instead of a single tank, helps avoid failed installations. This happens when a single tank bed can no longer function because the contaminant has overwhelmed the bed and fouled the media. This can result in excessive pressure drop, and cloudy, dirty water coming out of the tap.

Discussion

This is one of the biggest issues we see when treating dirty water. This problem occurs because the backwash or regenerant water is untreated raw water. The media is getting fouled at the bottom and top of the single tank. The solution is twin tank systems. When regeneration or backwash is called for, a portion of the water is drawn from the clean secondary tank.

This option has been commercially available for a long time. It naturally comes at a higher expense and may not have always been practical for a home. For a residence, Kinetico standard equipment uses twin tank systems. Recent improvements in valve technology make it possible for dealers other than Kinetico to competitively offer the twin tank option to homeowners. This is accomplished with the use of a MAV – Motorized Alternating Valve.

The MAV is electronically controlled by the valve on top of each tank. When the primary tank is ready for regeneration or backwash the secondary “clean” tank is shuttled by the MAV and it becomes the primary tank and a portion of its water is used to regenerate/backwash the dirty or exhausted tank. It’s a shuttling method back and forth.

Applications/Alternates

- Use a MAV to draw from a separate clean water source if available, then a single tank can use the clean water source for regeneration water.
- When there is not enough water volume available to backwash a single filter tank, two smaller tanks can be installed.
- With the correct electronic package, multiple MAV’s can operate up to four (4) tanks. These tanks can run in series or parallel. For example, applications which require zero (0) hardness at higher flow rates require a third or fourth tank. Consult us for the proper application of multiple tanks.



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Sizing the System

- Raw water analysis
- Desired outcome – contaminant levels post treatment
- Flow rates – low, average, peak
- Water pressure
- Hours of operation for commercial sites
- Operating pressures
- Operating temperatures
- Electrical requirements

[MAV Literature](#)

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