

## Field Service Bulletin

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**Product Category:** Residential Indoor Aluminum Evaporator Coils

**Topic:** Cleaning and Repairing Aluminum Coils

### Background:

Aluminum coils are very robust and are designed for years of trouble-free operation. Aluminum coils and copper coils are different, and need to be handled differently.

### Cleaning:

Cleaning aluminum coils can create issues if the wrong cleaning materials are used. Avoid using chemicals that may damage aluminum, such as cleaning products designed for use with copper coils.

To prevent damaging the coil during cleaning, we recommend using only water with no additional chemicals.

Cleaners containing chlorine (such as bleach) must be strictly avoided.

Chlorine attacks aluminum and using it for cleaning will damage the tubing and create leaks.



### Repairing:

Aluminum coils may be more difficult to successfully repair in the field. Unlike copper joints, aluminum joints require lower brazing temperatures and precise temperature control. Several different types of joints are used in the construction of the coil depending on the specific model and configuration:

- Copper-copper joints should be brazed with AWS BCuP-3 type brazing rod (Harris Stay-Silv 5 or equivalent).
- Copper-aluminum joints should be brazed with Zinc-Aluminum flux-core brazing rod (Lucas-Milhaupt Handy One AL 822 or equivalent).
- Aluminum-aluminum joints should be brazed with AWS BAlSi-4 type flux-core brazing rod (Lucas-Milhaupt Handy One AL 718 or equivalent).