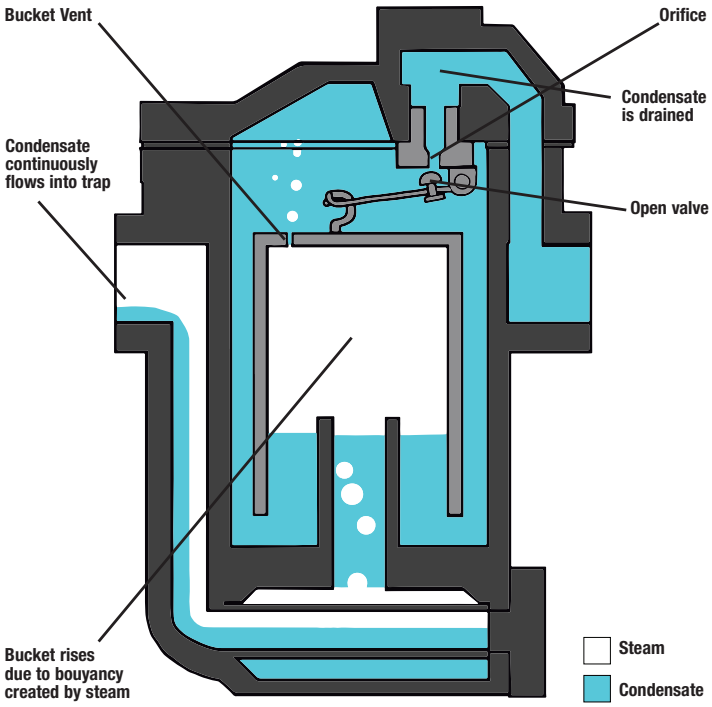
WAWAK®

INVERTED BUCKET TRAP **TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE**

Most "Trap" Troubles Are Actually Steam System Issues.



Sources: Armstrong International, Inc.

Issue: Trap Is Cold - No Discharge

Pressure may be too high

- Reducing valve may be out of order
- Trap orifice enlarged from wear
- The pressure going to trap was increased, without adjusting the orifice size in the trap
- Pressure gauge from boiler malfunctioning - giving a lower reading
- Higher vacuum in return line creates increased pressure differential, not allowing the trap to activate.

There is no condensate or steam coming to the trap

- Plugged strainer ahead of trap
- Failed valve ahead of trap
- Elbow joints or pipe line clogged

The trap has a faulty internal mechanism

- Part will need to be replaced

Body of trap is filled with debris

- Remove dirt
- Clean strainer in trap if applicable
- Install strainer prior to tap

The vent on the top of the bucket is clogged

- Install strainer in front of trap
- Use a scrubbing wire to clean bucket vent

Issue: Hot Trap - No Discharge

No condensate coming to trap

- Trap installed above a leaking by-pass valve
- Broken syphon pipe is a syphon drained cylinder
- Vacuum in water heater coils preventing drainage. Install a vacuum breaker between heat exchanger and trap

Issue: Hot Taps - Steam Loss

Valve not seating

- Dirt stuck in orifice
- Worn parts in trap

Trap loses prime

- Close inlet valve for a few minutes, then gradually reopen. If the trap catches its prime, the trap is ok. (Prime loss is due to sudden or frequent drops in pressure. Make sure check valves are installed and trap is installed below drip point)

Issue: Continuous Flow

Trap is too small

- A larger trap or additional traps in line are needed

Abnormal water conditions

- Boiler is foaming or priming, causing extra water into steam lines. Correct feed water conditions

Issue: Trap Works, But Units Are Not Heating Properly

Traps needed on each unit. Install traps on each unit

Traps may be too small for the job - install the next size trap

Issue: Trap Works When Not Connected To Return Line, But Fails When Connected To Return Line

Backpressure reduces traps capacity

- Return line is too small (trap will be hot)
- Other traps blowing live steam (trap will be hot)
- Blockage in return line (trap will be hot)
- Excessive vacuum in return line (trap will be cold)