# HEATING WITH WOOD



# Wood Boiler Planning Guide

- Boiler Planning
- Plumbing Layouts
- Thermal Storage
- Clearances
- Wiring







## Wood Boiler Planning Guide

### Tarm Biomass®-Improving the way you live!

#### Dear Valued Tarm Biomass® Customer

We at Tarm Biomass® want to make your installation go as smooth as possible. This document includes important design criteria including clearances, chimney requirements, thermal storage sizing, system concept diagrams, and wiring.

The system concepts shown in this guide are only examples and they should not substitute for complete system planning.

We reserve the right to make technical changes without prior notice.

For final specifications, please see product owner's manuals which supercede all guidance in this document.

If more information is needed, please contact your local Tarm Biomass® dealer or call us directly at 1-800-782-9927.

Thank You,

Tarm Biomass®

# About Tarm Biomass®

Tarm Biomass®, is a thirdgeneration, family-owned business that has pioneered the sales and service of high efficiency biomass boilers in North America for over 30 years.

Tarm Biomass<sup>10</sup> primary objective is to offer innovative heating solutions, paired with a significant commitment to consumer education and environmental awareness. Exclusive partnerships with ISO 9001 certified manufacturers allows Tarm Biomass<sup>10</sup> to offer products with reliability and very high over-all efficiency, all while promoting the utilization of carbon-cycle biomass that is critical to the lowering of net greenhouse gas emissions.

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# Planning your installation



#### **Boiler Sizing**

Sizing a boiler properly is critical for ensuring a problem-free installation. A boiler must not only be large enough to meet the heating needs of the building, but also meet the demands of those who tend it. A boiler that is too small may not keep up with a heating load or even if it can keep up, may still demand too much tending and too many fillings. A boiler that supplies more heat than the heating load demands will require a larger thermal storage tank to perform properly. While proper sizing of a boiler requires the heat loss analysis of a skilled installer, there are rules of thumb and other information that can help guide a sizing decision such as historical fuel usage, building size, type of heating system, any new or future building improvements, and/or the number of linear feet of radiant tubing or baseboard radiators. Installation of thermal storage significantly improves the liklihood that an over-sized wood boiler will meet heating loads while not operating inefficiently or in a way that will damage the boiler. The installer bears responsibility for proper boiler sizing.

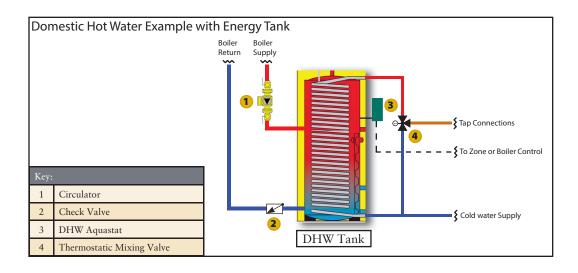
#### Thermal Storage Tank Sizing

All wood boilers benefit from thermal storage. The most advanced and efficient wood boilers available are designed for use with thermal storage and will not perform to their design capability without thermal storage. Fot that reason all Tarm Biomass® wood boilers require thermal storage and it is important to size the storage tanks properly. A volume of 75-85 gallons of thermal storage per 10,000 Btu's of boiler output is ideal, though sometimes smaller volumes provide perfectly satisfactory operation. More thermal storage volume is almost always better. Added storage volume increases the number of hours or days between re-firing a boiler while allowing for less discretion about how much wood to load in the firebox each firing. Other factors to consider are boiler combustion chamber size, house characteristics, summer/shoulder season use, and lifestyle. At Tarm Biomass® we prefer pressurized thermal storage, but offer pressurized and unpressurized thermal storage options. For your convenience, there is a chart below that can be used to determine proper thermal storage sizing.

Tank Sizing (Minimum-Ideal)				
Boiler Model	Volume (gals)			
Fröling S3 Turbo 30	400-850			
Fröling S3 Turbo 50	600-1500			

#### **Domestic Hot Water Production**

Domestic hot water can be produced at the same time that building heat is provided by using an indirect hot water heater. A smaller tank than those used for thermal storage, an indirect hot water heater, is connected to your heating system like a heating zone. The wood boiler system or your back-up boiler heats potable water through a heat exchanger within the tank. This is a very energy efficient and effective way of producing hot water using renewable energy. At Tarm Biomass® we offer indirect hot water heating options with very large heat exchangers. These heaters provide instantaneous potable hot water at lower boiler water or thermal storage tank temperatures.





#### The Chimney

The chimney is one of the most critical factors in the successful operation of any wood boiler. A good chimney will provide a continuous and dependable draft to pull the exhaust gasses out of the appliance.

Flue gas exhaust temperature can be low enough to cause condensation in chimneys. Condensation will over time, damage a masonry chimney. Accordingly, installation of a stainless steel chimney liner (made with 304, 316, or 321 alloys) inside the chimney flue is worth considering. Chimneys located outside the warm envelope of a building are especially susceptible to down-drafting and condensation. "Outside" chimneys often benefit greatly from insulated stainless steel chimney liners.

The chimney draft must be stable. The top of the chimney must be 3 feet above the roof and 2 feet above any structure within 10 feet measured horizontally. Please refer to NFPA 211.

#### Boiler Data for Planning the Flue Gas System

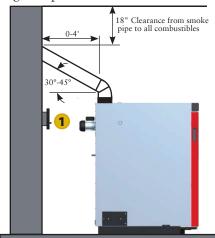
Chimney Data	Boiler Model		
Description	Unit	S3 Turbo 30	S3 Turbo 50
Flue Gas Temperature at Nominal Load	°F	300-340	300-340
Minimum Draft	inches WC	.03	.03
Maximum Draft	inches WC	.10	.10
Flue Pipe Diameter	inches	6*	6*
Distance to center of flue	inches	63 <b>%-67</b> ½**	67 <b>3/8-71</b> ½**

<sup>\*</sup>flue collar adaptor required. \*\*measurement is based on type of flue connection used (refer to page 6).

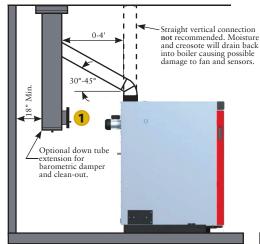
#### **Chimney Connection**

The smoke pipe connecting the boiler to the chimney flue must be black or stainless steel, have a minimum thickness of 24 gauge, and rise a minimum of ¼" per foot of run toward the chimney. Smoke pipe sections must be attached to one another with a minimum of three sheet metal screws and sealed with a high-temperature sealant such as high temperature silicone. The smoke pipe should not contain more than two 90° elbows (45° elbows are preferred over 90° elbows).

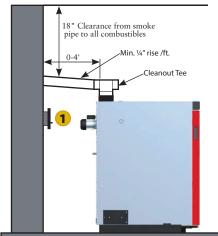
A barometric draft regulator is installed only when there is the presence of excessive or irregular draft. A strong natural draft can cause the boiler to continue burning when the draft fan is off. This is highly unlikely with boilers connected to a thermal storage system because the draft fan should rarely be off. If however, an irregular draft is present a barometric draft regulator can be installed. Boilers with an induced draft fan must have a sealed chimney connection to prevent ash and dust from penetrating into the room. A barometric draft regulator should be installed in postion 1 as shown in the images below. With the barometric draft regulator installed below the flue connection it is not in the air flow path of the boiler and is on the negative pressure side of the connection.



Boiler connected to chimney with connecting flue at 30-45° to help prevent ash build-up in flue.



Boiler connected to manufactured chimney.

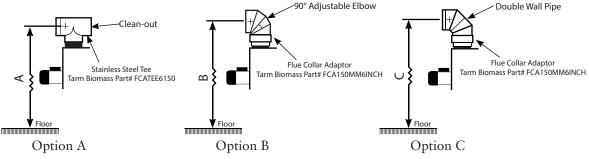


Boiler connected to chimney with minimum ¼" rise per foot. A cleanout tee is recommended for easy ash cleanout.

# Planning your installation



#### **Smoke Pipe Connection Options**



Height to Center of Flue Connection		Boiler Model	
Measurement	Units	S3 Turbo 30	S3 Turbo 50
Option A	inches	633/8	67%
Option B	inches	66 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	707/8
Option C	inches	671/2	<b>71</b> ½

#### **Outside Combustion Air**

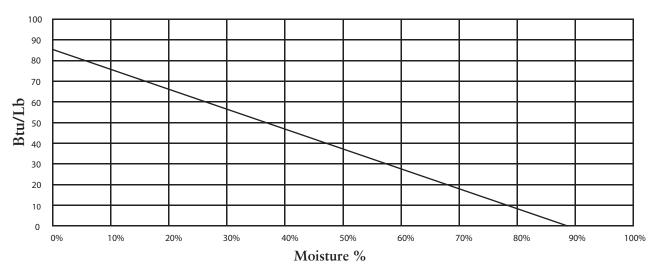
Provision for outside combustion air may be neccessary to ensure that the wood burning appliance does not discharge products of combustion into the building. Guidelines to determine the need for additional combustion air may not be adequate for every situation. If in doubt, it is advisable to provide additional air. The Canadian ANSI/NFPA requirement is 1 in², per 1,000 Btu/hr. The European ÖNORM H 5170 standard states that all fan-assisted boilers need a supply cross section of 2 cm² per kW (.3 in² per 3412 Btu/hr) of rated output. Please follow all applicable local codes.

#### **Electrical Connection**

The Fröling S3 Turbo requires a 240 VAC, 4-wire power supply. The electrical connection should be from a dedicated 15 amp circuit breaker.

#### **Wood Fuel**

Preparing firewood properly is very important. A common mistake is acquiring firewood too late to allow adequate time for proper drying. A drying time of one to two years is required to properly dry firewood, especially for dense wood species like oak and maple. Tarm Biomass® wood boilers are designed to burn clean, dry cord wood. They can burn any species that is cut and split into pieces not larger than 4-6" thick with lengths between 18-20". Oak ideally is not burned as the only source of wood for long periods because of its high tannic acid content. When oak is the predominant species available, try to mix it with other species. The wood must be dry, with a moisture content between 15-25% (15-18% being ideal). In addition to increasing the likelihood of generating creosote in the boiler and chimney, burning wet wood uses a substantial amount of available energy in the wood to evaporate the water present in the wood, reducing the available energy for heat (see the chart below). Properly preparing, stacking, and covering firewood will result in much less labor in the long run.

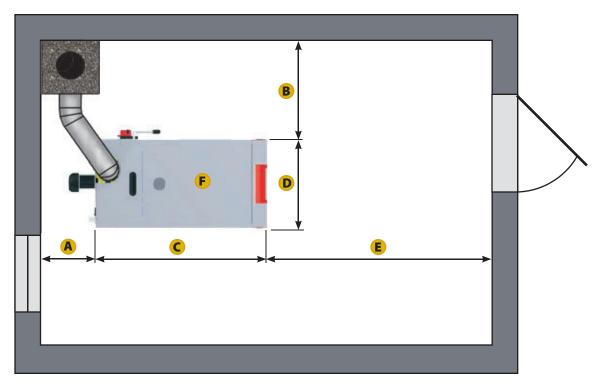




#### Locating the Boiler and Boiler Clearances

The boiler must be installed with the minimum installation clearances to combustible materials outlined below. Clearances may only be reduced by means approved by the regulatory authorities.

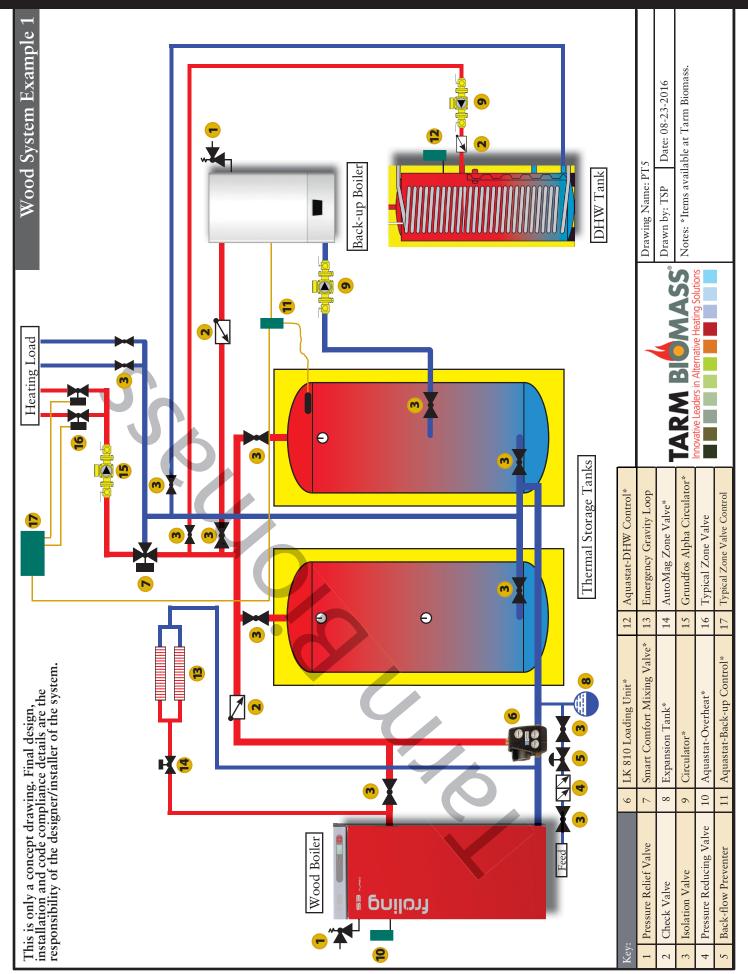
- The boiler is not suitable for outdoor installation. It must be located in a weather-tight protected space. Conditioned spaces are recommended.
- The boiler must be placed on a level, non combustible floor, such as a concrete slab on earth. If the boiler is placed 8" above the floor it may be easier to load and clean the boiler.
- If the boiler is placed near inhabited rooms, so that flue gas can penetrate into these rooms, a carbon monoxide alarm must be installed.
- Chimney flue clearances may supercede boiler clearances.



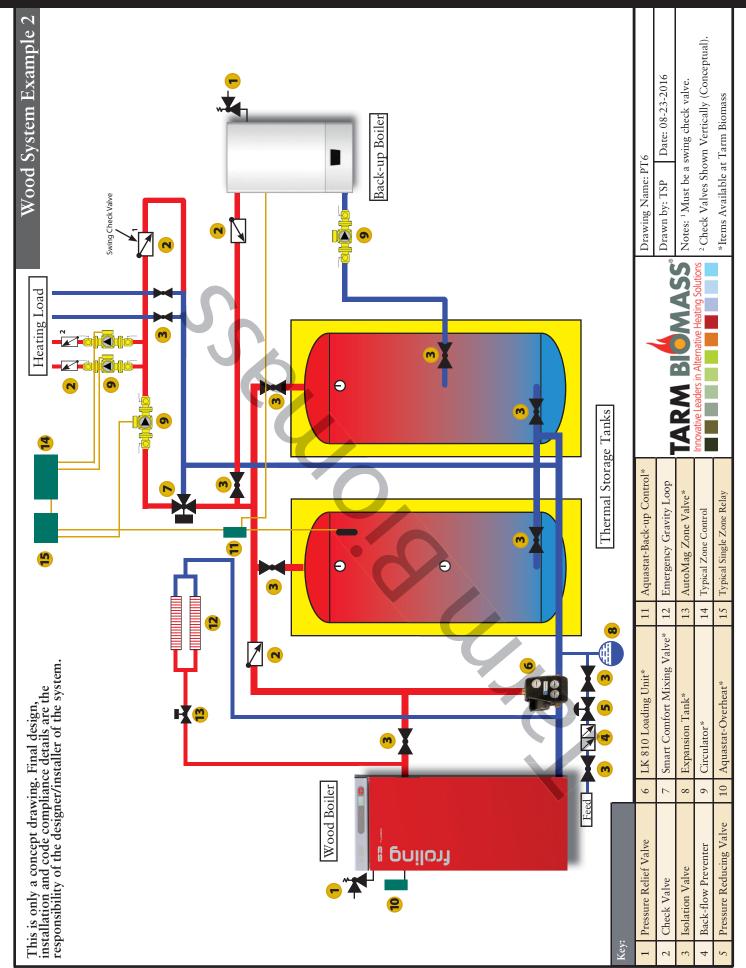
Clearances to Combustibles		Boiler Model	
Measurement	Units	S3 Turbo 30	S3 Turbo 50
A-Backwall to Appliance	inches	14	14
B-Sidewall to Appliance*	inches	9	9
C-Boiler Depth	inches	451/2	501/4
D-Boiler Width	inches	221/2	27
E-Distance in Front of Boiler	inches	36	36
F-Ceiling to Appliance	inches	24	24

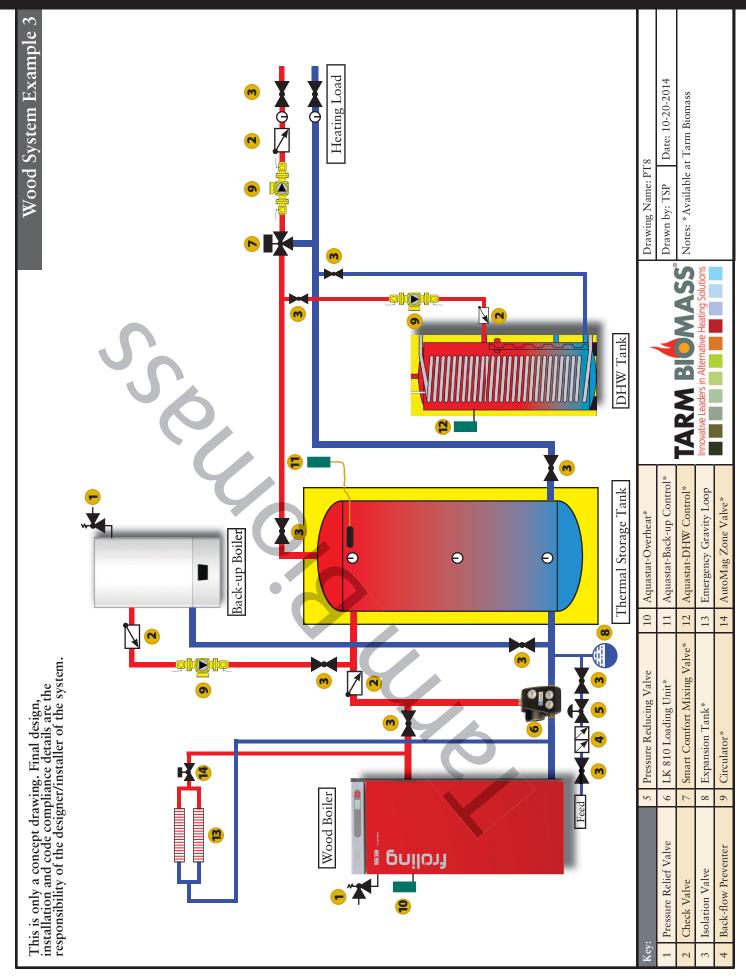
<sup>\*</sup> Minimum clearance to combustibles are shown. Additional clearance may be desireable for service and maintenance.



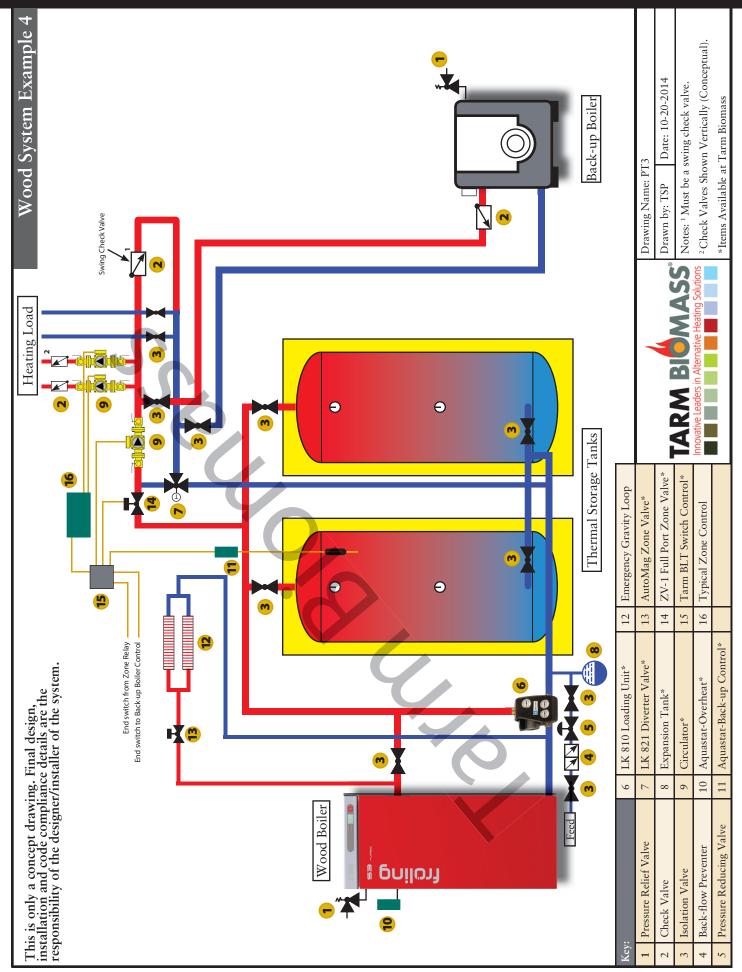




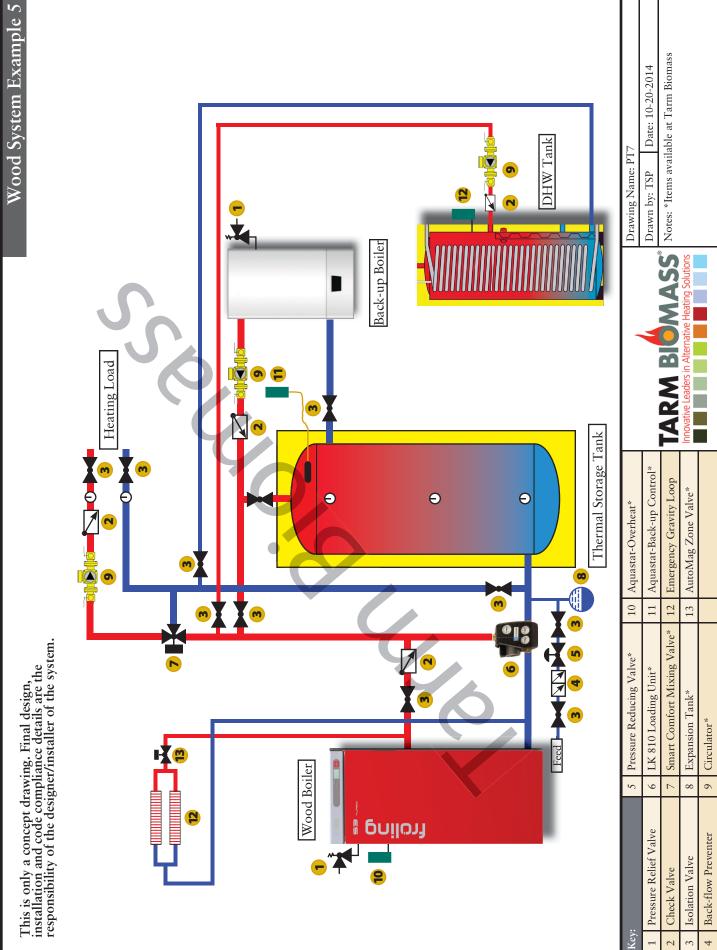




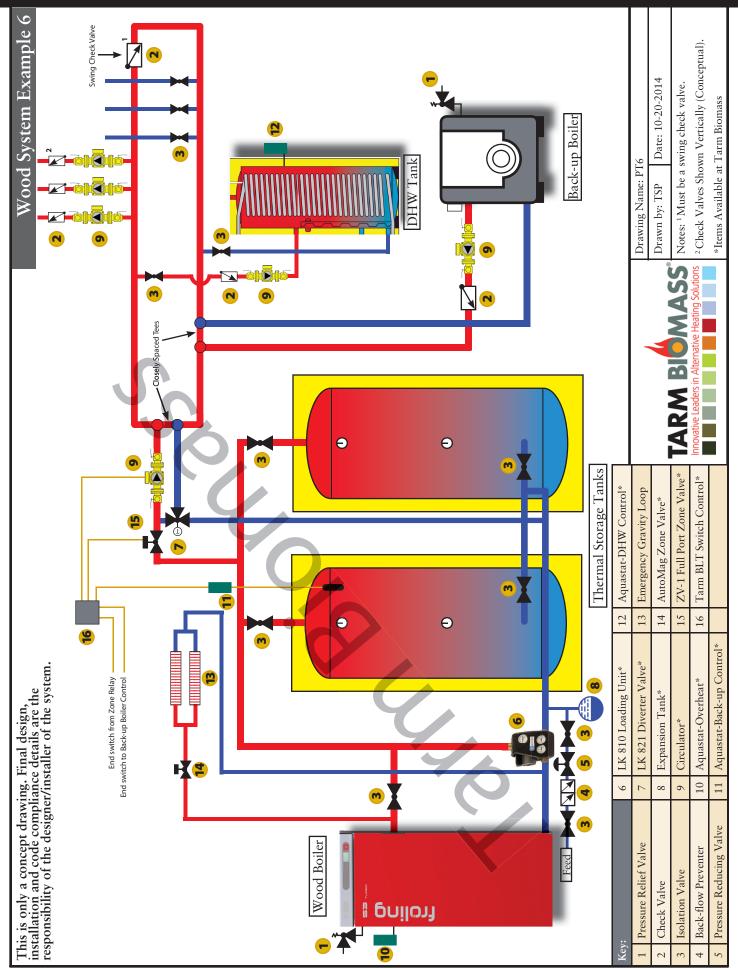














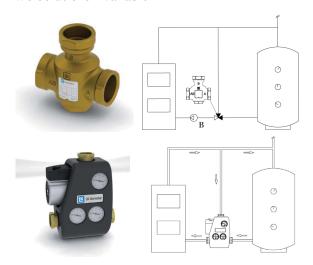
#### Thermostatic Loading Valve/Unit

A thermostatic loading valve/unit must be incorporated into every wood/pellet storage tank installation. The loading valve/unit is installed to ensure optimal temperature stratification in the thermal storage system and a high return temperature back to the boiler. This increases the efficiency of the boiler system and prevents condensation and creosote within the boiler, which helps prolong the life of the boiler.

#### **Installation and Function**

The thermostatic element in the loading valve/unit prevents return of cold return water to the boiler. When the boiler reaches operating temperature, return flow from the system is allowed. As the boiler reaches temperatures above 160° F, the valve/loading unit gradually opens, blending hot boiler water with the cold return water. Once system temperature equalizes (approximately 176° F), the Termovar opens fully to allow flow to and from the heating load (the building and/ or storage tank system).

#### Two Solutions Available



#### LK 823 ThermoVar Mixing Valve

Unlike the LK 820, the LK 823 regulates two ports. A balancing valve is not required. When the valve exceeds the nominal opening temperature by 10° C the supply port closes ensuring optimal flow rate through the valve. A circulator (B) must be installed controlled by the boiler or by temperature with an aquastat.

#### LK 810 ThermoMat Loading Unit

The easiest to install option. The LK 810 loading unit combines all the features of the LK 823 with the boiler's circulator. It saves time and space with installation and also includes insulation and temperature gauges on all three ports.

#### **Pipe Sizing**

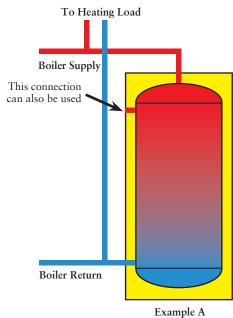
It is crucial to install the proper size pipe between the wood boiler and the thermal storage tank system. Most residential systems are designed for a 20° F temperature drop. In a wood system the temperature drop between the supply and return can range between 10-40° F based on the temperature of the thermal storage tank. The thermostatic mixing valve will guarentee at least a return temperature of 135° F. As the thermal storage tank temperature gets closer to boiler operating temperature the the temperature drop will decrease. Use the chart below to properly size the pipe size.

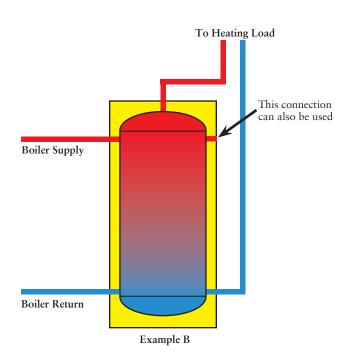
Pipe Flow Rates (Based on Copper Piping)					
Pipe Size	Pipe Size   Maximum Flow Rate   Maximum BTU/Hr at a Temperature Drop of:				
(inches)	(GPM)	10° F	20° F	30° F	40° F
1"	9	45,000	90,000	135,000	180,000
1¼"	15	75,000	150,000	225,000	300,000
1½"	20	100,000	200,000	300,000	400,000
2"	35	175,000	350,000	525,000	700,000



#### Pipe Connections at the Thermal Storage Tank

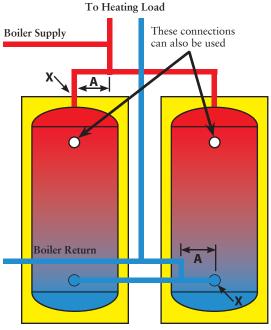
#### **Single Tank Connections**

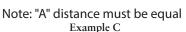


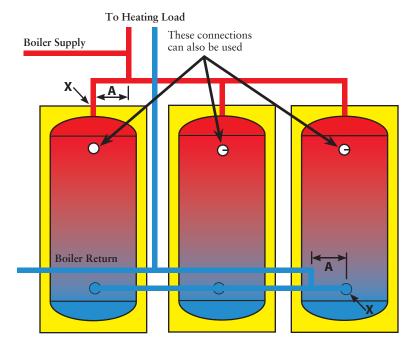


The above examples represent the best ways to pipe to a single pressurized thermal storage tank. Example A is piped to two connections on the tank. Supply and return connections to the heating load are pulled off before the tank. In example B, the wood boiler is piped to one side of the tank and the heating load is piped on the other side. The tank now acts as a large hydraulic seperator. The advantage of this design is that each side of the tank works independently.

#### **Multiple Tank Connections**







Note: "A" distance must be equal Example D

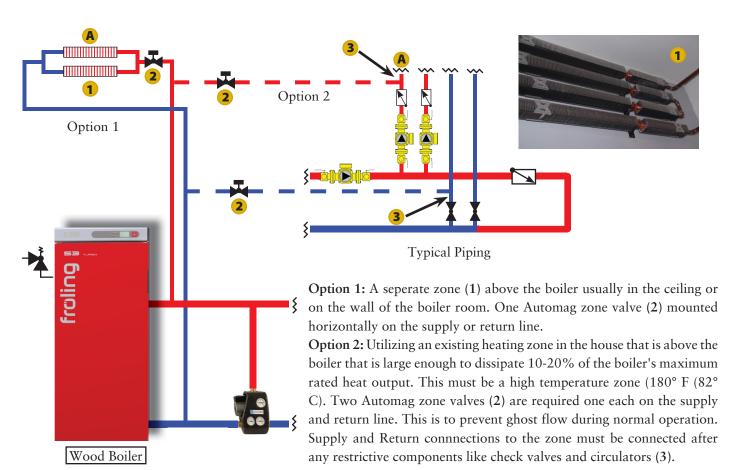
The above examples show multiple tank connections. The tanks are manifolded together. To guarantee equal flow through the tanks, it is important to use approximately the same pipe length to the tanks. This is accomplished by connecting to the tanks diagonally (X-X). When piped this way the tanks act as one. Sometimes this is called reverse return piping.



#### Overheat Loop with Loss of Power

The piping and controls must be connected to the boiler in such a way that in the event of a power failure there is at least one loop of radiation available for gravity circulation. This loop must not be obstructed by any valves or other fittings which could prevent gravity circulation during a power failure. The piping is plumbed in such a way that excessive pressure will not be developed in any portion of the boiler or system. The loop must be large enough to dissipate 10-20% of the boiler's maximum rated heat output, assuming an ambient temperature temperature of 65° F (18° C) and a mean water boiler temperature of 180° F (82° C).

The minimum pipe size for this loop is ¾" (1"is recommended) and if possible, the loop should be located and pitched to maximize natural thermal convection of the water. The loop must be positioned above the boiler. The design of the loop must be such that it can be made inoperative only in a deliberate manual action. If large enough, an existing heating radiation zone may be used for the over-heat loop. The loop must be equipped with a zone valve which will open automatically during a power failure. We recommend AutoMag Zone Valves for this application (offered as an accessory).



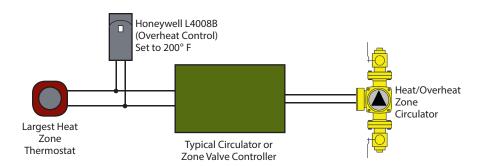
Suggested Minimum Baseboard Length				
Boiler Output				
30kW (100,000 BTU/Hr) 20*				
50kW (172,000 BTU/Hr) 30*				

<sup>\*</sup> These are only suggested lengths, the installer is responsible for final specifications. The overheat loop should be tested periodically, especially if the system has been serviced.



#### **Overheat Aquastat Wiring Connections**

All wood boiler installations require the control of a heating zone in the event of aboiler overheating. The zone must be able to take hot water and must not be controlled by a mixing valve (i.e. radiant floor zone). A HONEYWELL L4008b close-on-rise or equivalent aquastat installed in one of the wells on the woodboiler, must be wired in parallel with the thermostat on the zone with the most heating capacity in the main living area (dump zone). Upon reaching the aquastat set point (200° F), the dump zone will be activated, pulling heat away from the boiler. The home owner is alerted to a potential problem with the boiler by an overly warm living space. Use the wiring diagram below for a typical installation.

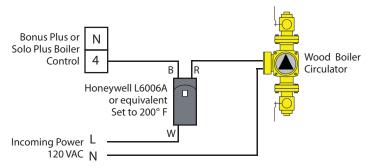


#### **Boiler Circulator Wiring Connections**

A wood boiler requires a circulator installed to properly remove heat away from the boiler. For the HS Tarm Bonus Plus, Solo Plus, and older boiler models, use the wiring examples below.

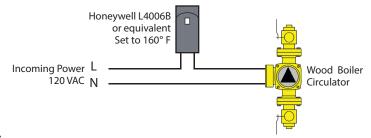
#### Option 1

This option is for HS Tarm wood boilers with a control panel. The circulator is controlled by the boiler's control panel and will shut-off as soon as the boiler's lo-limit aquastat indicates the boiler is out of fuel. The HONEYWELL L6006A dual acting (SPDT) aquastat or equivalent must be installed in case of a power failure or increase in boiler temperature, after the lo-limit aquastat has dropped out. This aquastat is set to 200° F.



#### Option 2

For older boilers without a control panel or if a dual acting aquaststat is not available, the example below can be used. A HONEYWELL L4006B close-on-rise aquastat or equivalent can be used to turn on and off the wood boiler circulator. The aquastat is installed in either a well on the boiler or in a tee on the supply line within 6" to the boiler. A strap-on type aquastat could also be used. The recommended aquastat setting is 160° F.



#### Note:

Wood boilers like the Fröling FHG, S3, and the HS Tarm Solo Innova have the boiler circulator wired directly to the boiler's control system.



#### **Understanding System Integration Options**

It is important to have the correct system integration components to have an efficient and seamless operating wood boiler system. We offer two options that will work with any existing heating system.

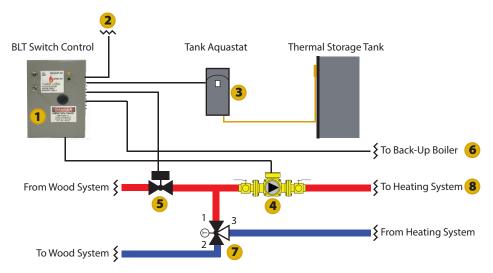
#### **Boiler Tank Control System**

This is the perfect option for integrating into an existing heating system or for heating systems that require high temperature water like heat exchangers used in forced hot air systems. The heart of the system is the BLT Switch control with three mode operation: automatic back-up, back-up only, or wood only modes.

#### How it works:

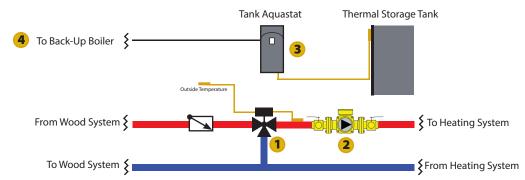
The BLT Switch control (1) takes input from a zone relay control (thermostat call) (2) and determines based on thermal storage tank temperature (tank aquastat) (3) whether to pull heat from the storage tank system/woodboiler or the back-up boiler (6). Return water passes into the bottom of the thermal storage tank and exits the top of the tank, re-heated by the thermal storage tank system, and moves to the supply manifold. If the wood boiler is heating, the return water is re-heated by the boiler. If however, upon a call for heat, the temperature in the thermal storage tank is below the tank aquastat set point, the circulator (4) will cease operation. The zone valve (5) will close. The back-up boiler will be energized through the BLT Switch control to meet the heat demand (8).

The diverter valve (7). Port 3 of the valve receives water from the return manifold. Port 1 is connected to the supply manifold and Port 2 is connected to the return of the boiler and the thermal storage tank system. When the thermostatic valve senses water above 165° F and above, it shunts water from Port 2 to Port 1. The result is both the heating zones and the thermal storage tank receive hot water from the boiler. This prevents short-cycling of the boiler and an overall more efficient system and responsive heating system. Refer to Appendix A for wiring options.



#### **Smart Comfort Control System**

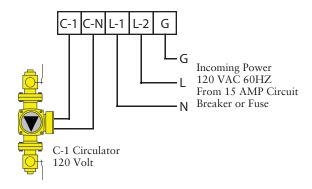
Smart Comfort is a simple, patent pending, energy efficient option that replaces the diverter valve with a mixing valve and an active temperature controller (1) with outdoor reset capabilities. The Smart Comfort valve responds to outdoor or indoor temperature to send the proper water temperature to the heating zones. Minimum and maximum temperatures along a curve can be set. An energy efficient circulator (2) can also be utilized providing the correct flow. The Smart Comfort extends the energy capacity of the thermal storage tank system while making the house more comfortable. An aquastat (3) responding to tank temperature can be used to control a back-up boiler (4). Refer to Appendix B for wiring options.



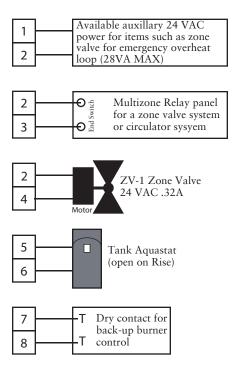


#### Appendix A. Tarm BLTCONTROL Wiring

#### 120 Volt Terminal Strip (In Panel)



#### Low Voltage Connections (Outside of Box)



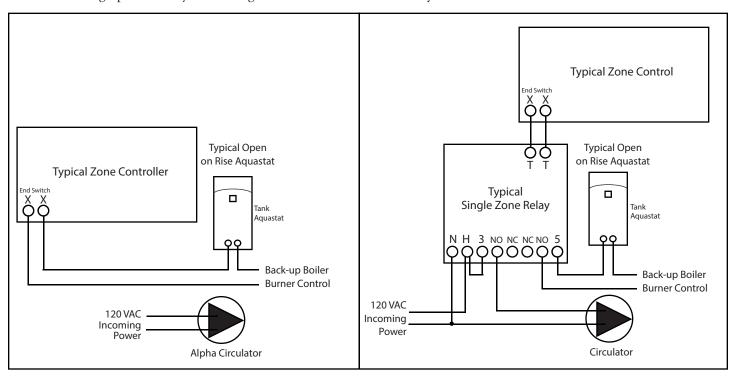
#### Note:

All wiring must comply with current National Electrical Code and any other applicable codes. Refer to schematic included with panel. 120 volt line voltage wiring shall be a code-approved type 14 gauge minimum. Low voltage wiring shall be 18 or 20 gauge thermostat wire.

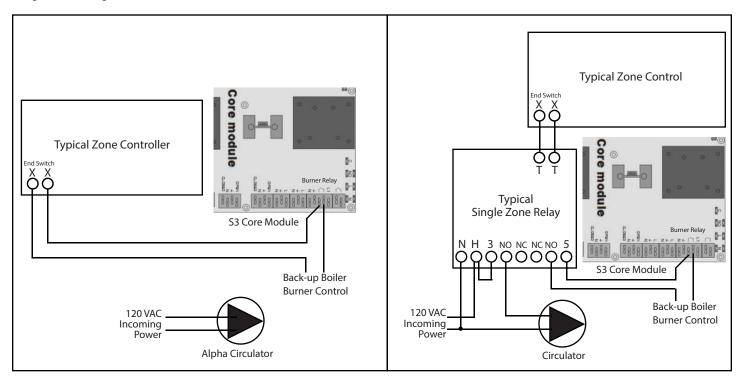


#### Appendix B. Smart Comfort Control System Integration Wiring Options

Below are wiring options for systems using the Smart Comfort Control System.

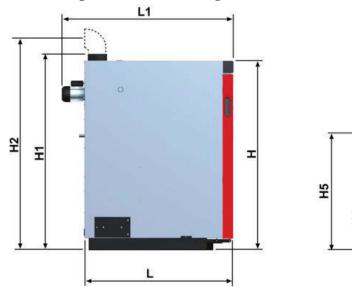


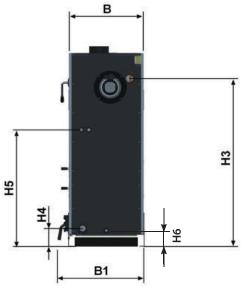
Below are wiring options utilizing the Burner Relay contacts on the S3 Core Module. Please refer to Lambdatronic Manual for parameter options.





# Appendix C. Fröling S3 Turbo Boiler Specifications





	8.5		160.21	2000
Dime	ensions	Units	S3 Turbo 30	S3 Turbo 50
L	Length of Boiler	inches	45 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	491/4
L1	Total Length Including Draft Fan	inches	49%	531/8
В	Width of Boiler	inches	221/2	263/8
B1	Width of Boiler Including Side Cleaning Door	inches	26¾	30¾
Н	Height of Boiler	inches	571/8	61¾
H1	Height of Boiler Including Flue Collar	inches	601/4	641/8
H2	Height, Flue Gas Connection (center)	inches	68 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	727/8
Н3	Height of Supply Connection	inches	503/8	543/8
H4	Height of Return Connection	inches	5½	5½
H5	Height of Cooling Coil Connection (not used)	inches	35	38 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Н6	Height of Drain Connection	inches	43/4	43/4
	Flue Collar Diameter	inches	6*	6*

<sup>\*</sup>flue collar adaptor required.

Measurements					
Weight-Empty	lbs	1179	1366		
Water Contents	gals	32	50		
Loading Door	inches	13X14½	13X14½		
Combustion Chamber Volume	cubic ft.	5	7.4		
Recommended Wood Length	inches	18-21	18-21		
Operating Data					
Operating Temperature-Water	°F	180-194	180-194		
Nominal Output	BTU/Hr	102,500	163,783		
Electrical Data					
Boiler Power Requirement	-	240V-60Hz/15A	240V-60Hz/15A		
Electrical consumption	W	180	180		
Piping Data					
Boiler Test Pressure	psi	65	65		
Boiler Relief Valve Setting	psi	30	30		
Supply and Return Pipe Stub Size	inches	1½	1½		
Minimum Boiler Loop Size	inches	1¼	1¼		
Fill/Drain Valve Size	inches	1/2	1/2		
Minimum Return Water Temperature	°F	131	131		





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