

It's Hot!

FIVE WAYS TO KEEP YOUR BERGKAMP PAVER RUNNING COOL

Whether you operate in the desert Southwest, where it's been hot for months, or in the Northeast where annual temps are now at their hottest — the heat certainly takes a toll on your micro surfacing paver.

Our BCS Tech Support expert Monty Oberle offers 5 tips for operating in hot weather, which will help your crews get maximum performance from your paver with minimum downtime.



1 Engine radiator, hydraulic coolers, and charge air coolers (if equipped) need periodic cleaning

It's a simple fact that the paving environment and materials used for paving can cause cooling equipment to plug. The fines, mineral filler, and spray tack all can stick to the cooler tubes and fins, which causes the coolers to lose their efficiency.



Rinsing may not be enough in extreme situations. Use a tank sprayer to apply soapy water into the fins, let it soak overnight and rinse.

You know it's clean when water sprays easily through the cooler.



2 Verify motor function speeds

Running motors faster than needed requires the pumps to work harder and the oil velocity going through the cooler to increase — not allowing it enough dwell time to cool properly. Below are a couple of guides for proper motor speeds.

Proper Rear Mix-control Motor Speeds

- Pugmill – 250 rpm or less
- Box augers – less than 100 rpm

Proper Loading Function Motor Speeds:

- Water load pump – 3,200 rpm
- Emulsion load pump – 570 rpm
- Front conveyor – less than 30 laps per minute
- Front auger – 75 rpm



3 Fill all fluid levels — radiator coolant, hydraulic oil, engine oil, and gear box oil — to the proper fill level with recommended fluid.

If these levels are not maintained, the oil does not have time to dwell and shed heat before having to get back to work.

Remember — these systems share the same space. High engine temperatures can cause hydraulic temps to rise, or vice-versa. Use the right fluids to guarantee optimal performance.



4 Keep water strainers clean and fittings tight to maximize water flow

Water and additive usage can skyrocket when temperatures rise.

Keep your strainers clean, tighten fittings and fix hose leaks so that water is available when you need it.



5 Periodically check brake pressure at the driver's station

Dragging brakes on a paver cause tremendous increases in hydraulic temperatures.

The gauge should read between 200-400 psi. Do not drive the paver and call Bergkamp Tech Support at 785-825-1375 if the reading is out of that range.

