

EQUIPMENT STABILIZATION STRATEGIES FOLLOWING FLOODS

Unprecedented flooding is currently occurring throughout wide areas of the U.S. Great Plains after a strong late winter snowstorm recently wreaked havoc across Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas and Iowa. The storm's torrential rainfall melted snow, with surges overwhelming rivers, levees, roads and other critical infrastructure. As temperatures warm in the coming days and weeks, river levels are expected to continue to rise.

For decision makers responsible for business critical equipment and systems, it is important to monitor water levels and if possible move equipment to a safe location. Should water, silt or other flood debris contaminate equipment, we encourage you to quickly stabilize and preserve all impacted items so that they have a better likelihood of being restored in the weeks following.

Strategies for Preserving and Stabilizing Equipment

Water contamination incidents pose a unique set of challenges for businesses and insurers. Here are expert suggestions to stabilize equipment following a water contamination incident:

- ⚡ Disconnect the electricity supply to equipment, including UPS systems/backup battery supplies.
- ⚡ Remove excess water by mopping or wiping. 'Wet-type' vacuum cleaners can be used for removing large quantities of water from widespread areas. Do not forget to remove water under raised floors and in electrical ducts.
- ⚡ Remove wet objects, such as packaging materials, etc. from the affected areas.
- ⚡ Have qualified personnel open equipment and remove surface water where visible. For example, open equipment covers and remove all water from inside the equipment.
- ⚡ Install dehumidifiers in the areas where the affected equipment is located, and reduce the humidity to around 45% - 55% RH. If dehumidifiers are not available, use fans to circulate air through the affected areas.
- ⚡ Apply a metal preserving compound (e.g. oil, grease or WD-40) to unprotected metallic surfaces on machinery to stop, or slow down, corrosion.

To contact an **AREPA** restoration specialist, please contact us at +1 855 483-5776 or visit our website www.arepa.com.