Equipment Restoration FACT or FICTION?

All manufacturers condemn equipment if contaminated by water or smoke.

Replacing equipment damaged by water or smoke contamination can be extremely costly, and manufacturers understand that the loss of business-critical equipment can catastrophically impact operations and productivity. For decades, leading equipment manufacturers have performed and endorsed reputable, scientific equipment restoration techniques following water or smoke incidents. Today, equipment restoration companies provide warranties—supported by the OEMs—that back the cleanliness of the equipment, following the decontamination process.

Electronic circuit boards become damaged if contaminated by water.

Many electronic circuit boards are water-resistant with conformal coating. Moreover, using de-ionized water is an integral part in the manufacturing of electronic circuit boards, and expert equipment restoration specialists often utilize de-ionized water (called a wet-dry process) when removing other contaminants such as smoke or soot from circuit boards.

If electronics are not directly hit by water, they will dry as the structure is drying.

Electronics should not be allowed to dry in wet or warm environments. Following a water event, such as a flood, facility contractors typically place dehumidifiers, fans and even heaters in the building to dry the structure. The structure has most likely also been "opened" to allow for proper access to all areas, and contractors have applied an anti-microbial agent to prevent further damage by the humidity. The electronics have not been opened up or treated with any type of agent to prevent further damage, and dust and other particulates that may have entered the building during the drying process can further harm electronics. Following any type of water event, it is recommended that affected equipment be identified and properly stabilized to prevent the onset of damage such as corrosion.

Fires by property type

MEDICAL/HEALTHCARE

5,600 | **$45 million** | **Cause**

- U.S. fire departments responded to an average of **5,600 structure fires in healthcare facilities per year**, from 2009 to 2013
- These fires resulted in **$45 million** in direct property damage
- **Cooking** was the leading cause of fires in healthcare facilities, accounting for over **65%** of fires

EDUCATIONAL

4,900 | **$70 million** | **Cause**

- Between 2011 and 2015, U.S. fire departments responded to over **4,900 structure fires in educational properties per year**
- These fires resulted in **$70 million** in direct property damage
- **Cooking equipment** accounted for **38%** of fires

INDUSTRIAL/MANUFACTURING FACILITIES

37,000 | **$1 billion** | **Causes**

- U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of **37,000 fires at industrial or manufacturing properties** between 2009 and 2013
- These fires resulted in **$1 billion** (USD) in direct property damage
- **Heating equipment**, **shop tools** and **industrial equipment** were the leading causes of structure fires in industrial and manufacturing facilities