



Matthews University



Elder Davis

“Did You Know”™ Educational Series



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NOISE IN THE CREMATORY

Why is some cremation equipment louder and what can be done to quiet it?

Simply put: More horsepower. Silencers can be used to reduce noise.

Cremation equipment noise can generally be attributed to the combustion air fan that supplies air to various devices, depending on the features of the cremation equipment. The following are a few:

- Burners - Burners are the largest user of air in a cremation system. Burners mix air with fuel to produce flame and heat necessary for the cremation process and good combustion. Better quality burners require more air pressure, and, therefore, more horsepower.
- Induced Draft - This feature is found on only the most modern advanced cremation equipment designs. Utilizing an “air powered draft inducer,” we maintain a consistent suction on the cremation chambers to prevent “smoke back up” and “puffing out” around the front loading door of the cremation equipment. Older, more costly designs depend on “natural draft,” which today is most commonly used for home fireplaces. Often this system requires the addition of a “barometric damper” at the base of the stack, which drifts open exposing the room, operator and equipment to “red hot” exhaust (1600°F) which can be dangerous.
- Exhaust Cooling - This is another great feature for quality cremation equipment. This cooling system reduces crematory exhaust temperatures from approximately 1600°F to 800°F. This is important because high temperature exhaust (1600°F) can give a red glow from the top of the stack that is very noticeable at night to passers-by. In addition, high temperature exhaust can be harmful to persons working on the roof, trees close by and the building itself.
- Hearth Air - Hearth Air is an important feature for high efficiency cremation equipment. It utilizes jets of air (6 to 12 jets) strategically located, blowing horizontally across the hearth to stimulate combustion of the remains and especially the cremation containers. This will maximize combustion efficiency, reduce fuel consumption and quicken the cremation process.
- Less sophisticated systems try to put extra air in through the burner, which although cheaper is not effective and could actually increase pollution levels from the cremation equipment.

In summary, more features require more air, which requires more horsepower. As mentioned earlier, for noise sensitive installations, simple noise reduction devices are added.

For service, sales or assistance please call (800) 327-2831

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www.matthewscremation.com

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