



In a world where throw-away culture has become the norm, it is rare to a say of piece of equipment lasts longer than a decade.

Keaton Leach, a Process and Project Engineer at an Ethanol production facility, can say this about two Hydro-Thermal K514 Hydroheaters at his facility. According to Leach, these units were installed to, “help sterilize and saccharify corn starch before the liquefaction process.”

The Hydroheater is a robust piece of equipment that is designed to work for decades, but to ensure it is working at optimal performance, it is important to have annual maintenance. On the topic of regular maintenance, Leach explains, “The maintenance of our equipment has been pretty straight forward. Yearly re-gasketing and inspections have been handled by the Hydro-Thermal technicians and our maintenance technicians can handle any repairs that are required between services.”

Keaton’s company recently had a visit from Hydro-Thermal’s service technicians. “Our most recent visit for the yearly repair kits and inspections went very smooth,” Leach said. “Both technicians were very knowledgeable about the equipment, and neither of them were the ‘pushy salesman’ that wants everything with a little wear immediately changed. We appreciated the honest opinions of what was worn and how much longer it may last before causing larger issues.”



To prevent unintended shutdowns or the potential for extended outages, Hydro-Thermal offers a range of preventive maintenance plans.

These plans can include:

- Stocking a spare heater and annual factory rebuilds
- Stocking spare internal and soft parts for your heater. In the case of the Hydroheater, recommended parts include the combining tube, stem plug, nozzle, CTA assembly, CT stud, and a rebuild kit.
- Service technician visits that include staff and operator training for heater maintenance, optimization, and best practices