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## Question 58: What are you using for velocity medium in coker heaters? Are you using boiler feed water?

**Jack Buckley** (Foster Wheeler USA Corporation)

Foster Wheeler has used BFW as velocity media. Our order of preference for Velocity media is:

- 1.Steam
- 2.Condensate
- 3.BFW

If Condensate or BFW is used as velocity media or to clear the heater tubes during a heater trip, precautions must be taken as excess free water has the potential to overpressure the heater during a shut-in condition. The injection must also be stopped after a period of time after the heater trips because water will flow to the coke drums or back to the fractionator (coke drum by-passed) if the injection is continued too long.

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Year

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