

Correct placement is critical: the diffuser should be placed in the deepest areas of the water body. You should know where you intend to place the diffuser before starting the installation process.

CAUTION: When in or around water always wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket and follow all water safety guidelines.

Materials to set up the AirStation™: The AirStation, Waterproof PVC glue **or** a screw driver and hose clamp, a utility knife, and enough rope to reach the lake bottom and back (10' depth = 20' rope).

Vertex AirStations are designed to be placed at the bottom of a water body and when supplied with compressed air will produce a wide column of air bubbles. The circulation of water induced by the rising bubbles aerates and destratifies the entire water column.

The AirStation consists of self-cleaning, 9" diameter, flexible membrane diffusers made of EPDM compound with 100% rebound memory, each producing millions of small 500 to 3,000 micron sized bubbles – the majority of which are 500 to 1,000 microns in diameter. Each power-coated stainless steel diffuser base (15.25"L x 13.875"W) is designed to sink easily and prevent settling into soft bottom sediments.

First Time and Spring Start-up Procedure

The purpose of the aeration system is to circulate the lake's entire water column. The aeration system will circulate poor quality, deep water that accumulates over time upward to the lake's surface introducing harmful gasses into the previously healthy upper regions of the water column. This movement of water can temporarily affect aquatic life and could result in a fish kill. **To prevent a fish kill, Vertex has established the following start-up procedures, this should take 8 days:**

1. Turn on system and operate for 15 minutes.
2. Turn off system for remainder of the day.
3. Restart the system the next day and operate for 30 minutes. Turn off system for the remainder of day.
4. Each day double the operating time from the previous day until the system is running continuously.

NOTE: These start-up procedures are a general guideline. If you should have any questions and/or concerns, contact Vertex Aquatic Solutions at 844-432-4303 for technical assistance.

Winter Operations for Vertex Aeration Systems

Vertex Aeration Systems are specially designed to operate year-round in cold climates with these important precautions:

1. Operating in freezing conditions on ice-covered lakes can cause large open water areas to remain at the boil sites **Warning: ice thickness around these open areas is thinner than the ice over the remainder of the lake. Injury or fatality may result from people, snowmobiles, etc. falling through the ice.** Vertex strongly recommends that the danger of thin ice around the boil area be clearly posted at frequent intervals. Owner assumes all responsibility for operating Vertex systems during winter months.
2. To prevent risk of freezing the entire water column, AirStations™ should be moved to a shallower portion of the waterway (typically one-half the depth of original placement) and operated there until warmer temperatures return, this will allow warmer water to remain in the lower regions of the waterway and prevent water column freezing.
3. The airline tubing on shore must be buried below the frost line and the compressor hose must be insulated between the cabinet and the ground. Also, the tubing must enter the water below the winter ice depth.



**Open water and thin ice
caused by aeration**

If you choose to turn off the system for the winter:

1. Unplug the system; no other equipment preparation is required.
2. In the spring, when the system is restarted, airlines may still contain ice inside the line. One cup of denatured alcohol added to each frozen line will melt the ice enough to allow the compressor to push air through the line until heat generated by the compressor melts the remaining ice. **Use first time and spring start-up procedures as listed above.**

Follow these simple steps to ensure that the AirStation™ does not invert during installation.



DO NOT USE TEFLON TAPE! Screw diffuser discs onto riser pipes, **do not cross thread**. **DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN DISK.**



Assemble all the materials you will need on the boat - see list on page 1. Pick up airstation by black base only.



Uncoil supply tubing along the shore, making sure tubing is not twisted or tangled. Leave 4' tubing on shore and **secure one end** of the tubing so that it doesn't follow you into the water.



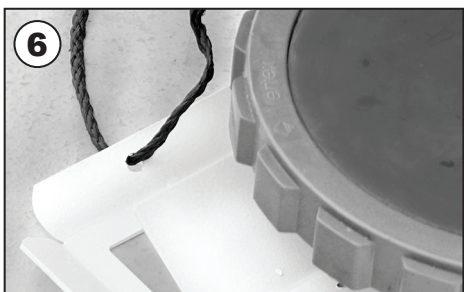
Head out with the other end of the tubing. **Make sure the propeller and tubing do not get tangled up.**



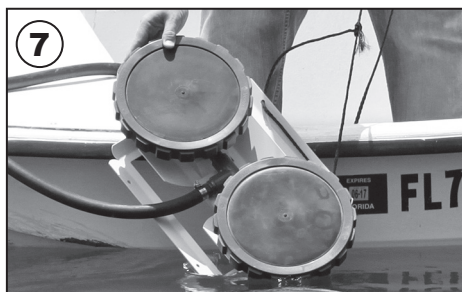
At the drop site, connect the tubing to the barbed fitting. Use PVC cement and let dry (recommended method), **or...**



Connect the tubing to the barbed fitting with a stainless steel hose clamp.



Thread rope through the two holes on the base until the rope is evenly distributed. If Airstation may be moved later on, tie one end of rope to the unit and, after it settles, tie the other end to a buoy or decoy on the surface of the water.



Holding both ends of the rope in your hand, lower the diffuser assembly into the water. Once unit is on lake bottom, release one end of the rope and pull rope into the boat.

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Follow the start-up procedure specified on the previous page.
