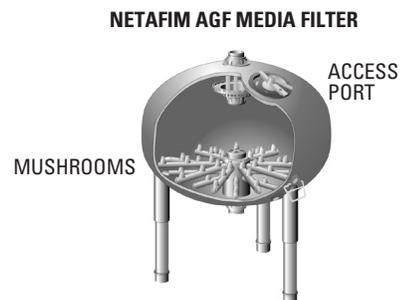


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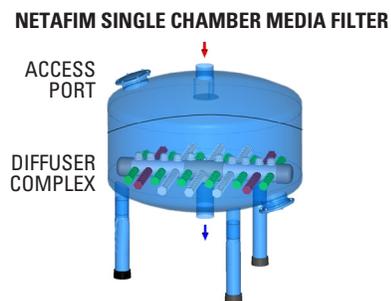
Welcome to the first Netafim TechTALK, a monthly e-mail communication addressing common technical questions about Netafim products. If you have a suggestion for a future topic, we'd love to hear from you. Please e-mail your idea to [communications@netafimusa.com](mailto:communications@netafimusa.com).

Our first TechTALK focuses on the recommended guidelines for adding media to sand media filter tanks. Whether you're installing a brand new set of sand media filters or replacing media in an existing system, Netafim recommends following these guidelines:

- Inspect the filters for damage **BEFORE** adding media...  
It is unfortunate, but damage can occur during product shipment or with misuse and there is no better time to check for damage than when the filter is empty. Carefully inspect the mushrooms for damage and ensure that the diffuser complex (filter arm) is secured to the underdrain. In the Netafim AGF Sand Media Filters, the arms are secured with a pin and in the Netafim Single Chamber Epoxy Coated Steel Sand Media Filters, they are secured via a threaded connection. Check all connections, including mushrooms, as components can loosen during shipping.



- Fill the tanks with water **BEFORE** adding media...  
Of course this requires you to install and close an isolation valve directly downstream from the filters, but filling the tanks with water before adding media is a great way to check for leaks - especially if you have to drain the tank to repair a leak. It's a lot easier to drain water than sand. The water also cuts down on the amount of dust coming back out of the access port (usually directed at your face) while filling. It also helps to slow down the media before it comes in contact with the diffuser complex.



**NOTE:** In the event that water is not available, pour and spread the media evenly by hand across the underdrain to ensure even pressure distribution across the underdrain. Pouring all the media in a central location without distributing it evenly can cause damage to the underdrain.

- Sticks and stones may **BREAK** my filter, but ...  
No buts about it, many of us reach for boards, shovels, or other tools to help evenly distribute the media around the inside of a filter. Be careful. Too much force in the wrong place may inadvertently damage the mushrooms or diffuser complex and that means pulling the media out and replacing the damaged component. Pouring stone or gravel haphazardly into the filter tank is another way to damage the internal components.

Always refer to the manufacturer's guidelines for appropriate types and sizes of filtration media. For all Netafim products, please refer to the specific filter's Operation, Installation and Maintenance Guide or contact a Netafim representative for assistance.

Thank you.