

## Is the MBS A Dehumidifier Alternative?

-or-

*Should I Still Keep My Dehumidifier?*

The MBS (Musty Basement Solution ventilation system) is a dehumidifier alternative. 90%+ of our customers never use a dehumidifier again, and thus avoid the hot stuffy basements, high electric costs, and need of emptying the pans, and are now enjoying a constantly refreshed flow of air thru their basements. Our technology is simple. To illustrate how a MBS helps the basement, think about your first floor living area during a hot, humid, spell. You feel uncomfortable, and the chairs, carpets, and your clothing feel “clammy”. How many people use a dehumidifier upstairs? If you did, you would also have to close your windows, because it would be like shoveling out the ocean with a teaspoon. So people say, “It sure is humid!”, and they either live with it or invest in air conditioning. Or they wait for the next dry day, open the windows, and the moisture disappears because of the air circulation. But there is no ventilation in the basement and the moisture stays and builds up. MBS works because it pulls all the now drier air down, just like the drain in the bottom of your tub empties the bathwater out, but your bathtub drain would not work if it was in the side of the tub. MBS pulls out the heavy moist air at its lowest point in the house.



Dehumidifiers will still be needed occasionally in about 10% of environments. If you want a “bone dry” basement 365 days a year, use a dehumidifier. With it you will get a hotter basement, the old stuffy air that has been there for who knows how long, a high electric bill, and the need to empty it. For a basement with a full library in it (lots of books), lots of cardboard boxes, tile or painted floors, museum quality items, electronic offices with paper in copy machines, an electrically heated house with cold concrete basement walls and floors due to lack of a heat source in the basement, baby grand pianos, antique car collections, a dehumidifier, or air conditioner, plus a MBS to change the air is the best choice. People with just a dehumidifier, or air conditioner, find the addition of a MBS a fine finishing touch to remove the moisture the AC doesn’t, or provide the ventilation a dehumidifier will never accomplish. A finished basement with just a dehumidifier will get so hot and stuffy that people get in an endless cycle of turning it on and off. Air conditioning’s main goal is to drop the temperature, and cycles off too soon to remove the humidity, or the intake is too high to catch the stratified humidity near the floor.



Then there are our customers that just use a MBS and never need a dehumidifier, or central AC. This accounts for better than 90% of situations. They realize that the MBS gives them the same environment as the first floor, since it removes all the basement air, and replaces it with the air on the upper level of the house. Some astute customers have asked, “If your unit pulls air from upstairs, and it is muggy outside, won’t that humid air be pulled into the basement?” However, on the next dry day, all the drier air from upstairs is pulled into the basement in an hour or two. The answer is yes, so to see the full benefits of a unit installed in the summer

months you will need a full year cycle to properly acclimate the house and pull out the built up moisture in all of the absorbent material in the basement.

### **A law of physics we cannot change.**

That law is the “dew point” which you hear weathermen mention, especially during high humidity summer months. The dew point is the temperature at which dew starts to form or water vapor will condense into liquid. This is what causes cold water pipes to sweat. Wrapping all cold water pipes with foam insulation, available at the hardware store, solves the problem of sweating pipes. Since the MBS is pulling more air through the basement, basements with cold cement surfaces, tiled or painted floors, will experience this phenomenon. Usually, these homes will need a dehumidifier as a back up during the “dog days” of summer. Electrically heated houses, or ones shut down over the winter, with no heat source originating in the basement, have colder walls and floors. For the best protection to your basement, during the winter months keep some heat in the basement all winter, and keep the MBS running. When you experience the dew point in your basement, just adding a heater to the basement for a while will raise the temperature of surfaces beyond the dew point and eliminate the problem, or in 10% of the cases, a dehumidifier is needed as a back-up. (Notice how much heat a dehumidifier puts out!). Also putting the MBS on the slow speed override button will help.

### **What About Mold?**

MBS makes no claims about mold. Mold is ubiquitous (it’s everywhere), and you never totally eliminate mold. As of this present date, it might be compared to Bin Ladin... They say they believe he is dead, but we keep hearing reports about him. Most mold remediation companies also have a disclaimer in their contract that you can have mold reappear within 72 hours of completion of their work, since mold is ubiquitous. If you have cardboard boxes, particle board furniture or shelves, leather items, newspaper, books, magazines, (mold feeds on cellulose), highly absorbent materials, regular or flat paint on basement surfaces, canvas athletic bags, or an unfixed leak in your basement, you have mold, and will have to continue to keep it at bay. Just think of how much mold you picked up walking across grass, or dragging your athletic bag across the dirt in the playing field!

### **Conclusion**

MBS is very rapidly growing in popularity since it reduces the cost of constant use of a dehumidifier, changes the air in musty basements constantly, and is a set it and forget it device. Houses that are closed up for the winter months also smell better when the owners come back. Many of our new customers are friends and neighbors of people who have had a MBS for a year or more. Our older customers know there is no perfect “one size fits all” device to create a perfect indoor atmosphere, and we do not market MBS as a cure all for all of your problems. Our happy customers have found that the MBS is truly a **MUSTY BASEMENT SOLUTION**. When can we put one in your basement?