KATALOX LIGHT® START-UP & MAINTENANCE

Essential installation, valve programming, and operating guidelines

Use this addendum with the standard 7500-Rev4 manual when your system contains **Katalox Light filtration media**. This coated zeolite media removes iron, manganese, and hydrogen sulfide and requires the specific start-up steps and settings below.

IMPORTANT: TEMPORARY START-UP pH & HARDNESS INCREASE

Katalox Light contains up to **5% hydrated lime (calcium hydroxide)** as a manufacturing pH buffer. When first wetted, it can temporarily raise pH, frequently to **9.5-11.5 or higher**, and increase calcium and total hardness. New media can also release black manganese dust and zeolite fines.

Normal and temporary: The excess lime gradually dissolves and washes out during backwashing and household use, typically over **2-6 weeks**.

No bleach soak: Use clean, fresh water only. Do not add liquid bleach at start-up; its high alkalinity can prolong the elevated pH.

Real estate / compliance testing: Wait until the media has fully stabilized before collecting official water samples.

1. TANK ASSEMBLY & PRE-SOAK

Gravel underbed: Add enough gravel to cover the bottom basket screen before adding media.

Bed depth and freeboard: Provide a minimum **29.5-inch media bed** and **35%-40% freeboard** (empty space above the media) for expansion during backwash.

Fresh-water pre-soak: Fill the tank with media and fresh water. Allow a **4-12 hour soak, or overnight**, to hydrate the zeolite core and release trapped air.

2. INITIAL FLUSHING & START-UP

Fill slowly: Keep the bypass closed. Press **BACK/REGEN**, then slowly open the inlet bypass knob about **1/4 turn**. Let air escape without lifting media into the valve head.

Extended first backwash: After the tank fills, backwash for **30-45 minutes**, or run **3-4 consecutive backwash cycles**, until the drain water runs clear.

Initial fast rinse: Run a **10-15 minute** fast rinse to settle the media bed.

Downstream equipment: Keep softeners and cartridge filters bypassed until the filter effluent is completely clear.

3. MAINTENANCE

Backwash regularly to prevent clumping, channeling, and cementing of the bed. **Never leave Katalox Light idle without backwashing for more than 3-4 days.**

7500-REV4 VALVE SETTINGS

Hold **UP and DOWN** for **3 seconds** to unlock the keypad. Press **MENU** and enter these settings:

Parameter	Setting
Regen mode	A-07 (Meter Delayed or Calendar)
Max days for regen	Every 2-3 days; **maximum 4 days**
Regen time	2:00 AM, or a low-use time
Backwash time	10-15 minutes
Fast rinse time	8-10 minutes
Capacity	1,000-1,200 gallons
B.S.R. / B.R. time	0 minutes (not used)

DRAIN LINE FLOW CONTROL CHECK

Katalox Light requires **10-12 GPM per square foot** of bed area to lift and fluidize the media during backwash.

9-inch tank (1.0 CF): 5.0-6.6 GPM

10-inch tank (1.5 CF): 6.6-7.0 GPM

12-inch tank (2.0 CF): 8.0-10.0 GPM

Verify pump output: Your well pump must supply the required drain flow at **30 PSI**. Adequate backwash flow is essential for proper media cleaning.