The Ameri-Dome Tune Up Sheet

Congratulations! You now have your Ameri-Dome Pool Enclosure installed and it's time for the "Tune Up" process to ensure your unit is operating at peak efficiency to help it last many years to come. Achieving and maintaining the proper air pressure in the dome is essential to its safety performance and longevity.

Once the dome has been up for at least 2-3 days, the vinyl air flap on the pool deck will have had a chance to conform to the shape of the pool deck and the sealing process will have begun. As the sun heats the interior of the dome, the vinyl will lay out more evenly and the sealing effect will increase.

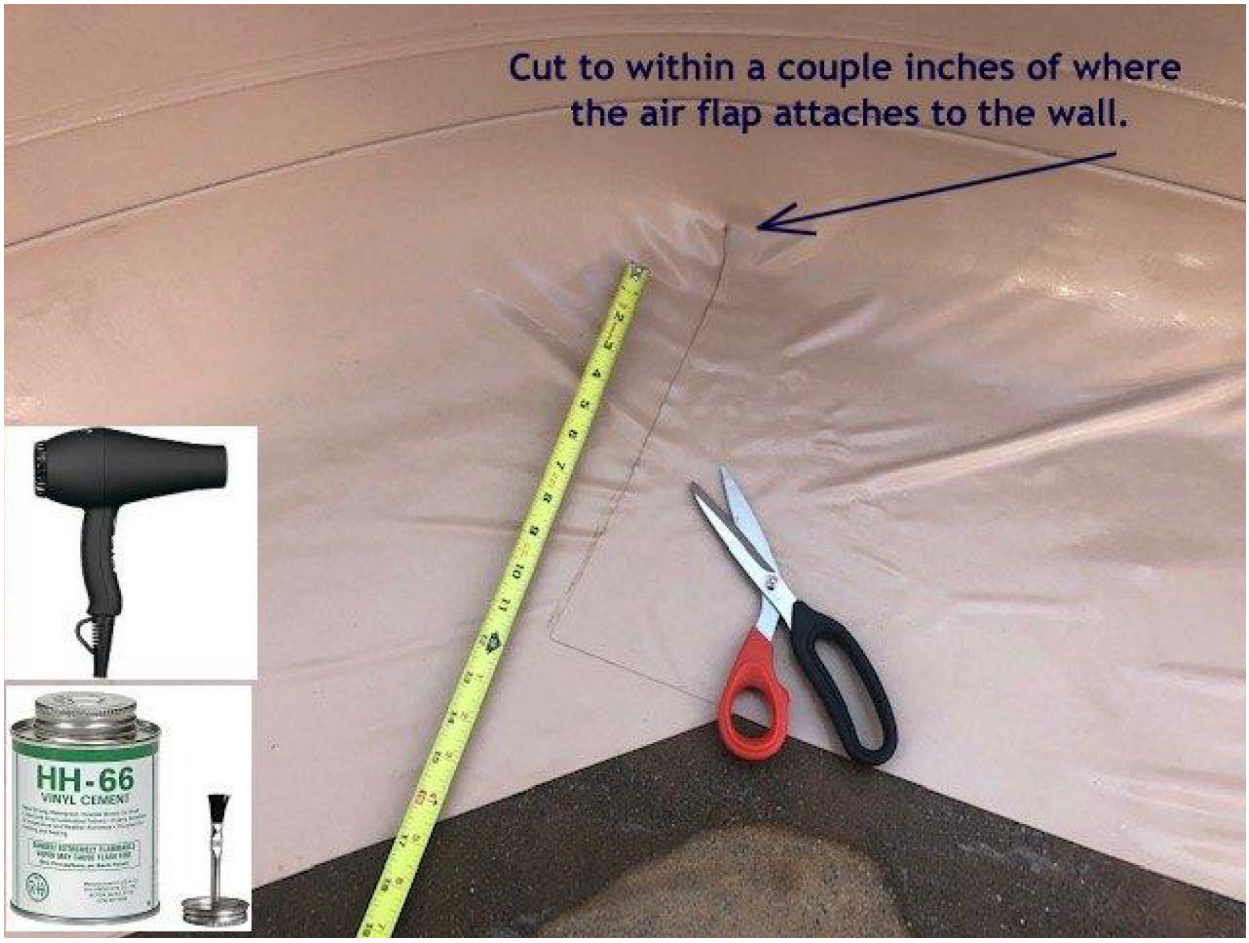
The "dragster" effect:
When a dragster driver gets the "Green Light" they punch the throttle and the race is on. The hot rod's tires sit there and spin until there is enough traction between the tires and the track to make the car move forward. Once the appropriate amount of traction is achieved, the vehicle lurches forward and it shoots down the track.

We achieve optimum "Traction" on a pool dome seal when the vinyl has sufficiently flattened out, excessive air leakage has been controlled, and the air that does escape between the flap and the pool deck contains enough humidity (from the heating of the pool water) to help seal the dome to the deck. This "Traction" does not occur right away. It starts slowly and builds. As the pressure builds in the dome the flap is compressed tighter onto the deck. This allows more pressure to build which in turn presses the flap even harder onto the deck allowing even more pressure to build … (you get the picture).

NOTE: If you have a residential dome with a blower pressure switch, it will prevent the dome from over inflating. The # of times the blower turns on and off does not matter. Some days it will cycle on and off more or less frequently than other days. If it is turning on and off, we know it's doing its job as intended.

Commercial domes will not over-inflate and do not require pressure switches.

Tune-Up Tips:
Be sure your cable at the base of the dome is fully tightened before the dome is inflated. There should be no "loops" of the cable at the anchor locations. The Air-Flap seal attached to the base of the dome should be pulled towards the water to help get any wrinkles out of it. The areas where the seal is overlapping (at a corner or on a curve) should be trimmed and then sealed with the HH-66 adhesive that was shipped with your dome. Be sure to clean and dry the area that is to be glued. If the area is too wet, you can use a hair dryer to remove the excess moisture prior to glueing.



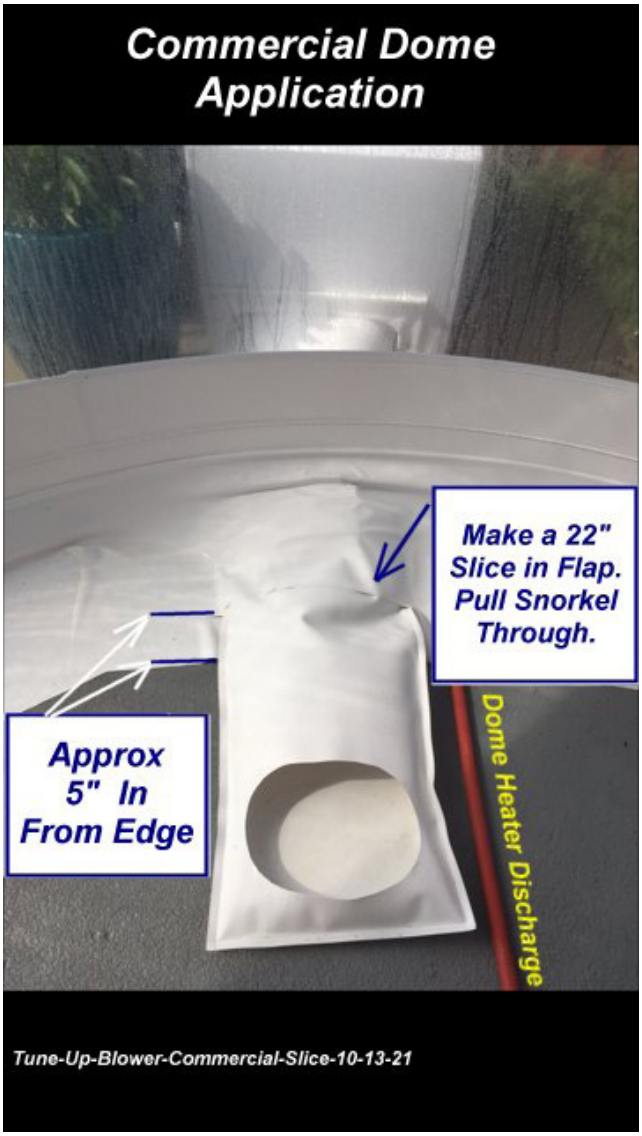
Common areas where there air leaks can occur:
If you have an excess # of large expansion joints in your deck where air is leaking out of the dome, these can be filled with a small ridge of wet sand. Pull up on the flap at the expansion joint location and place a liberal amount of sand into the crack allowing it to “heap” up above the deck level slightly. Put some pool water in a cup and sprinkle it onto the sand. Replace the flap and press it down into its normal position. This creates a very good seal. The sand will usually stay there all winter long and not get into the pool because all pool decks are sloped away from the water. When removing the dome at the end of the season, pull a garden hose into the dome (under the cable) and lift the flap while spraying the sand away from the pool.

Be sure to complete the “Tune-Up” of the dome in order to allow it to achieve and maintain the correct pressure. Most of the “Tune-Up” procedures will only need to be completed during the initial dome install of the first season as on subsequent installs the dome will be placed in the exact position. Completing the “Tune-Up” will allow your dome to stand up straight and will prevent the walls from sagging. The corners of the dome will take the correct shape and the Air-Lock shroud(s) (if applicable) will expand properly to the point where they are fully inflated and supported by the air pressure within the dome.

When looking at the inside of a freshly installed dome you will notice that the dome Air-Flap Seal will show a wrinkle here and there, a crease or 2 in another area, many folds in the corners of the dome etc.. Individually, each of these “vents” are not a problem. However, start adding the aggregate air loss from all of them together and the total air loss will most likely prevent your dome from properly inflating unless you perform the “Tune-Up”.

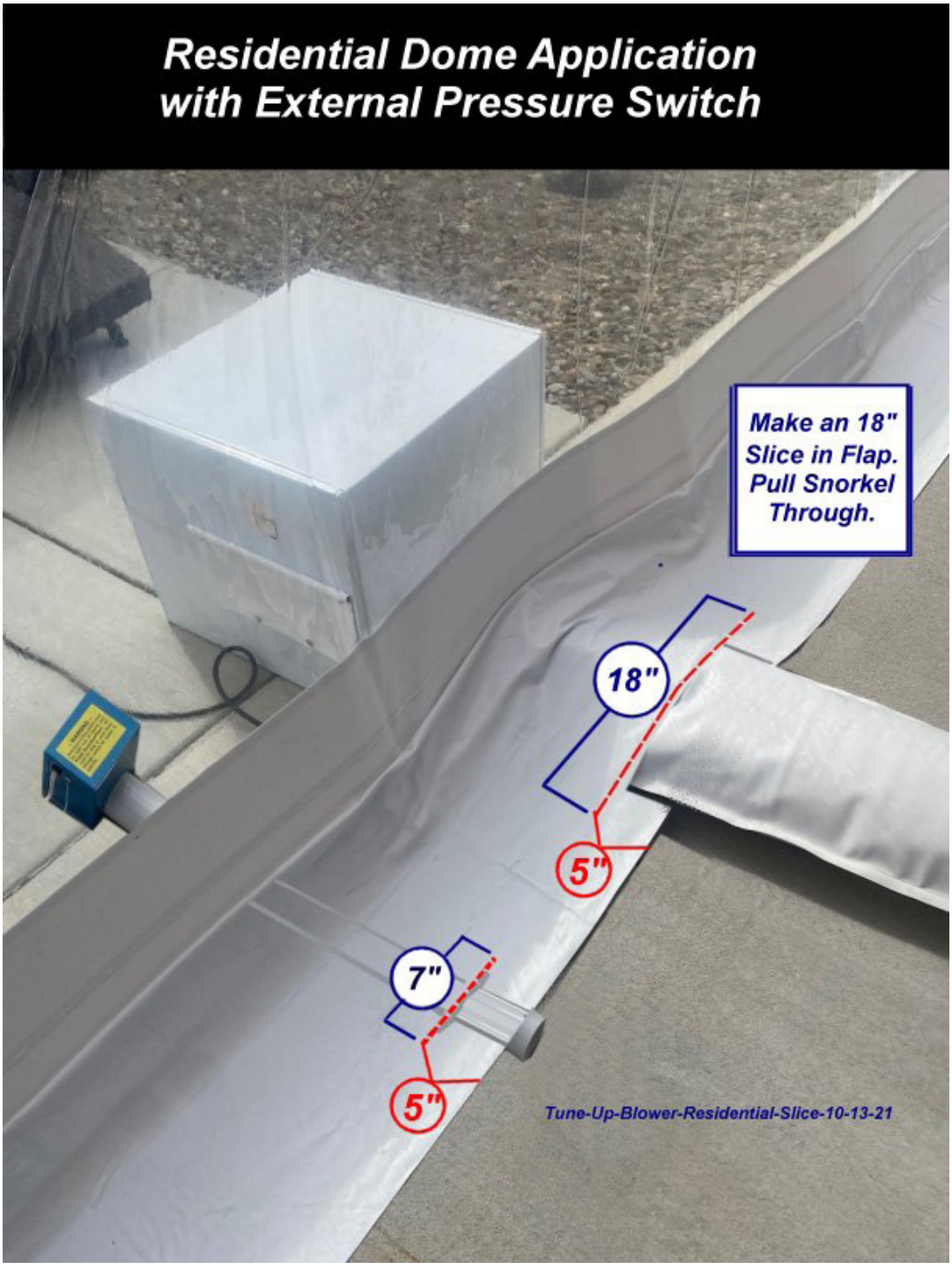
Tips on Solving Excessive Air Loss

Commercial Domes: **SEE Picture Right ▶**
The area around the blower(s) are another common place of excessive air leakage. For commercial dome applications, cut an incision into the air flap and pull the snorkel tube through as shown in the pictures (right and on page 4). Also be sure that the snorkel tube is aligned straight towards and into the dome so that **ALL** the air is allowed to enter directly from the blower without any obstruction whatsoever.



Residential Domes: SEE Picture Below

The areas around the blower(s) and the pressure-switch tube(s) are another common place of excessive air leakage. For residential dome applications, cut an incision into the air flap and pull the snorkel tube through as shown in the picture below. Also be sure that the snorkel tube is aligned straight towards and into the dome so that ALL the air is allowed to enter directly from the blower without any obstruction whatsoever.



Another couple of places to look for excessive air leakage are the drains located in the pool deck. If they are within the dome, you can remove the grates over the drain and place a rag into the drain hole. This will still allow proper drainage of water as the rag will wick it through and the air pressure in the dome will force the water through the rag. Another method is to remove the grate and spread a plastic grocery bag over the hole. Replace the grate and secure in place. Trim off the excess bag. Take a screwdriver and pierce a hole in the center of the bag that's covering the hole. This will prevent excess air leakage and still allow for proper deck drainage.

If you have an automatic pool cover that has the reel system built into a subsurface "well", check it for a drain. If it has one, the drain hole can be plugged with a wet rag.

If you're having trouble fully inflating your dome, send us some pictures of the install (both inside and out) and pictures of the blower installations (both inside and out).

Send to info@go-ab.com

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