

Injection Molding Plastic Leak Detection: 8 Best Practices

By this point, you probably know that [AIRTECT plastic leak alarm systems](#) will detect your nozzle and hot runner leaks early, from sensors attached to your molding machine and hot runner [manifold](#). Doing so results in the following benefits:

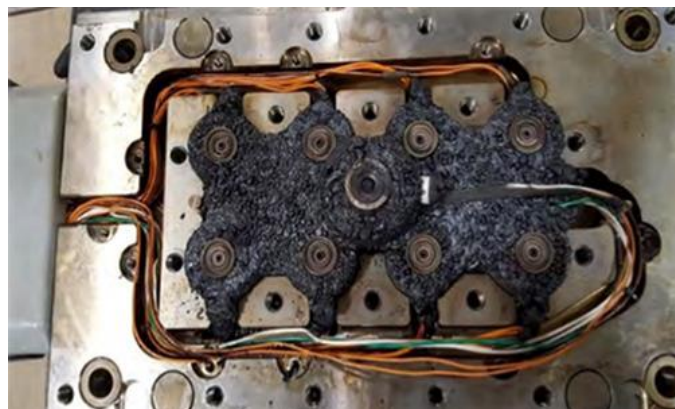
- Safer operation
- Nozzle and barrel protection
- Reduced maintenance spending
- Reduced downtime
- Peace of mind for unattended machines



Best Practices

How can you ensure that you achieve these benefits? Below are eight best practices when installing AIRTECT leak alarm systems:

1. Verify that the DC power source is interference free, avoiding electromagnetic interference (EMI) caused by solenoids, servomotors, etc.
2. Ensure that the internal interlock relay contacts have a capacity to switch loads of 24Vdc at a maximum current of 0.5A.
3. Establish neat workmanship by running the wiring and plastic tubing within the machine enclosure where possible.
4. Ensure that both ends of all sensor tubes are cut neatly to provide a clear inner sensor tube diameter of 0.8mm (for 1.6mm tube) and 1mm (for 2mm tube)
5. When using expansion manifolds, such as the LA504, LA508, etc., ensure that the LA500 or LM2050 has been programmed to accept the manifold(s) and that they are connected. Otherwise, a communication alarm will be displayed.
6. Be sure that the electrical power is switched on **AFTER** the sensor tube installation is complete and the air supply is energized, to allow the 'self-teaching' function to operate correctly.
7. When using Modular Systems, ensure that the AIRTECT manifold(s) are mounted on the AIRTECT manifold base before applying electrical power, as all mold leak sensor installations will be somewhat different.
8. Work with an experienced partner, such as Plastixs, to ensure all of the above.



Get Started Today

Whether you have new molds, problematic existing ones, faulty injection nozzles, or need to manage many changeovers, the AIRTECT leak alarm system helps you maintain online production without costly leaks. [Contact us](#) and we'll work closely with you to determine the right size and setup of the AIRTECT system to meet your needs.

[Contact us to learn more about detecting leaks early with AIRTECT](#)