

# Re: Relay problem

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.basics/2006-01/msg01410.html>

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- *From:* [capnfishytakethisout@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:capnfishytakethisout@xxxxxxxxxxx)
  - *Date:* Mon, 30 Jan 2006 21:50:04 +0000
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On Fri, 27 Jan 2006 21:46:43 +0000, [capnfishytakethisout@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:capnfishytakethisout@xxxxxxxxxxx) wrote:

>This could be OT, but I'm posting here to get replies with no  
>baggage....  
>I have a relay in my boiler which buzzes/arcs I'm trying to diagnose  
>the fault, probably in my wiring. What conditions (eg shorting) would  
>cause a relay to switch on & off very rapidly (leading to a buzzing  
>noise) & arc?  
>Many thanks  
>Jonathan

Graham & Art wrote,  
HVAC Technician time, would probably save you  
a bunch in the long run.  
Many possibles. Get a heating engineer in to look at it.

Thanks – I am somewhat impecunious at present & also trying to check  
whether my wiring is at fault or if the relay is defective from new –  
and therefore who should foot the bill. If I had the cash I would  
quite happily call an engineer. In fact, if I'd had several grand  
spare, I would have got a pro to install the whole CH system and save  
me a lot of time & effort. But I haven't.

Rich Grise wrote:  
I'd look at the physical condition of the relay, like dirt or some  
obstruction; and check all of the connections in the relay's coil  
circuit. It sounds like it's not pulling in fully.

It used to work, and this symptom appeared recently, right?

The boiler & all controls are brand new, so it SHOULDNT be u/s.  
No, the arcing was there at the start. I looked at Schrack's website  
at the spec, hoping the relay was plug-in rather than soldered in  
directly, but alas not. I can't see into the casing of the relay as  
it is too small & too crowded. I don't want to go opening stuff up  
until I know the fault is mine not the boiler manufacturers.

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- *Follow-Ups:*
  - ◆ **Re: Relay problem**
    - ◇ *From:* John Fields
  
- *References:*
  - ◆ **Relay problem**
    - ◇ *From:* capnfishytakethisout
  
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