

Bubble problems can be caused by a couple of things.

1. Make certain your outlet nozzle is angled up toward the surface at a 45deg angle, also that you do not have any pumps or other devices blowing current directly across the return water flow.
2. Check the settings on the unit. If the water passing through the unit is too fast, abnormal bubble carry through will occur. The water rate can be slowed by slightly closing the outlet nozzle. Compare the water level in your unit to the level shown in the manual for reference.
3. Check to see what water additives are being used. Any products like Stress Coat, Novaqua, etc. ,that have a slime protectant to them, also some algae control products can cause problems. This is true for ANY skimmer. These products change the surfaces tension of the water causing the skimmers to produce a very fine “mist” of bubbles. This fine mist will tend to carry through any skimmer. Be thinking about if you use these in your tank including in top off water. If so consider looking for different products to handle de-chlorination etc. Often you can test by feeling the product between your fingers. If it feels slippery it may cause a “mist” problem.

Lastly please understand that in the case of “ANY” hang on skimmer there are going to be some bubbles that get back into the tank. The question is only how much. I personally have been keeping tanks, and been in the trade for 22 years. I have seen manufactures including current ones claim hang on’s that return “0” bubbles, I have yet to see one that could live up to that. The problem is the nature of what a skimmer has to do, they are in direct conflict. In order for a skimmer to work well, it “MUST” create fine bubbles. The only way to get the bubbles out is to have them rise to the surface. If the bubbles are very fine (meeting the goals of function) they are also less buoyant and don’t rise to the surface as easy. With fine bubbles we get nice foam but some of the bubbles are not buoyant enough to fight the water flow and flow back to the tank. However if we make “large” bubbles that rise to the surface easily, not passing “ANY” back to the tank, we will not get good foam. You can see the difficulty. So when a manufacture produces a hang on skimmer there have to be concessions. A hang-on skimmer is far less expensive than setting up a sump and using a large under tank system. However for the cost savings, you give up the fact that you have components hanging in the tank, and you will have some bubbles. The best we can do as a manufacture is to be certain that the best balance between function, aesthetics, and cost are found. The Typhoon skimmer has been in the market for a while now and given very good ratings on this level.

The problem in the market has been that there are many hang-on skimmers out there that just plain don’t work!! We will not name brands of skimmers, but we can tell you that we get many phone calls about other hang-ons. People tell us that they do not pull anything out of their tanks. Generally when they move to a Typhoon we get good feed back from them. They tell us they are getting excellent foam production. Remember this is the primary goal, TO get the organics OUT. Again that will mean balancing the fine bubble problem.

we hope all of this information helps to explain both the things to check, to make certain we are not seeing an “abnormal” situation, as well as an understanding of the “normal”.