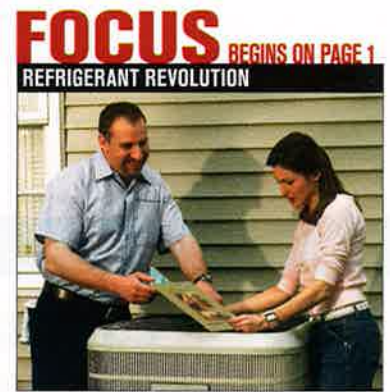


the NEWS

THE HVACR CONTRACTOR'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE SINCE 1926



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fyi INDUSTRY BRIEFS

Contractors

■ W.L. Gary Co. (Washington) became a member of The Unified Group (Broadview, Ill.).

Manufacturers

■ Carrier Enterprise (Orlando, Fla.) launched a new corporate Website at www.carrierenterprise.com.

■ DENT Instruments (Bend, Ore.) was granted Patent No. 7,612,552 by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for its PhaseChek Electrical Metering Circuitry.

■ Invensys Controls (Carol Stream, Ill.) named Tim Koeneman as vice president, Mark Thurston as national sales manager, and Ferron Stokes as strategic manager of its HVACR aftermarket team.

■ Emerson Climate Technologies (St. Louis) appointed Mark Dunson to the position of president, Emerson Climate Technologies, Retail Solutions Division.



He comes from Emerson Climate Technologies Asia, where he most recently served as vice president Air Conditioning marketing and sales and sales and general manager India.

■ Heat Pipe Technology Inc. (Gainesville, Fla.) was acquired by MiTek Inc. (Ches-terfield, Mo.).

■ Enertech Manufacturing (Greenville, Ill.) unveiled its new Compass™ by Geo-Comfort® and Revolution™ by Hydron Module® heat pumps at its annual distributor meeting in St. Louis.

Organizations

■ The Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA) released Manual B, a training manual and field reference for testing and balancing residential and commercial HVAC systems.

— compiled by Angela D. Harris



The refrigerant issue can become less shaky with better service and maintenance efforts. (Photo courtesy of Nardyne.)

A Confusing 11th Hour for Refrigerants

By Peter Powell
Of The NEWS Staff

It is truly the 11th hour for most all things related to refrigerants. The year 2009 was a pivotal year leading up to dramatic changes in 2010 in terms of refrigerants used and refrigerant supplies. But much remains undone and much uncertainty surrounds what will happen when things get done.

Tentative legislative actions that could affect HFCs have yet to become law; proposed Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations governing HCFC allocations and sale of R-22 equipment have yet to be finalized; the final changeover of OEM air conditioning equipment from R-22 to R-410A is nearly done but going down to the wire; alternative refrigerants to replace R-22 in existing systems are available but in a wide variety, each with a fairly narrow range of applications; alternatives

■ See **CONFUSING 11TH HOUR** page 17

Industry Shipments Send Mixed Signals

Mixed signals continue to be sent out regarding shipment data for heating and cooling equipment. The most recent statistics from September showed U.S. factory shipments of residential gas water heaters up 7.4 percent at 319,796 compared with September 2008, according to information released in late November by the Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI).

Shipments of oil-fired, warm-air furnaces were 7,567, up 4 percent for the month

compared with September 2008.

Combined U.S. factory shipments of central air conditioners and air-source heat pumps was 419,025 in September 2009, a zero percent change from the same month the year before.

Shipments of gas-fired, warm-air furnaces fell 2.5 percent in September to 243,190 versus the same month a year ago; residential electric water heaters fell 3.8 percent to 320,224; commercial electric water heaters, down 4.2 percent to 4,948; heat pump shipments were down 6.3 per-

cent at 128,684; commercial gas water heaters were down 8.9 percent at 6,199.

Year-to-date numbers also show decreases when compared to the same period in 2008. Some of the percentages were 12.5 percent down for oil-fired, warm-air furnace shipments that totaled 1,471,644; oil furnaces, down 11.5 percent at 33,707 units; residential gas water heaters, down 10.3 percent at 2,778,644 units; electric storage water heaters, 13.4 percent drop at 2,814,035; commercial gas heaters shipped 57,500,

■ See **MIXED SIGNALS** page 19

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NEWS PAPER



#BXNPPGR *****AU10**S-DIGIT 53202
#AC8662285# SAMP EG #C8662285# SAMP EG
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the **NEWS**

Project Files:

SCHOOLS

COMPANY:

Johnson Controls Inc.

INSTALLATION:

Johnson Controls Metasys®
building management system

COMPLETION:

Completed

“The benefit of these upgrades goes beyond the savings to one of the key drivers behind this project.”

— Phillip Folts, board of education,
Houghton-Portage Township Schools



CUSTOMER: Houghton-Portage Township School District, Houghton, Mich.

OBJECTIVE: Ensure the proper learning environment by addressing facility improvements.

DESCRIPTION: After conducting an energy audit, Johnson Controls revealed numerous ways the district could improve energy efficiency. Some made included replacement of select boilers and thermostats, installation of variable-frequency drives, occupancy and CO₂ sensors, and other HVAC equipment. All the lighting and HVAC equipment and controls are monitored by a Johnson Controls Metasys® building management system.

The energy-efficiency upgrades are expected to bring the district savings of 30 percent; nearly \$110,000 annually over the 20-year contract. Under a five-year planned service agreement, Johnson Controls maintains the Metasys system and HVAC equipment and provides measurement and verification services to ensure savings are realized.

PROJECT FILES