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RADIANT & HYDRONICS E - NEWS

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Radiant & Hydronics e-News week ending October 6, 2006

*** Special Edition ***
2006 ISH North America: Day Two

Going Home Happy

The show is over. And as the **ISH North America** attendees head home, we hope they took advantage of both the face-to-face time with peers and vendors, as well as the learning opportunities from the variety of speakers. (We also hope the night-time events didn't take too much of a toll!)

Radiant & Hydronics e-News was impressed with each of the booths it visited and seminars it sat in on. Some of our random musings from the show are featured below. One thing's for sure, for those who did not attend ISH, get ready for some interesting times in the radiant and hydronics industries. For not only will new product improvements be made on a yearly (if not *monthly*) basis, focus on your segment of the systems-building business will only broaden and be more pronounced due to increased environmental awareness.

Thank you to all who visited the BNP Media booth and had your "covershot" taken. Hope to see more of you in the future!

Also in this issue of **Radiant & Hydronics e-News** ...

- RPA System Showcase winners
- A colorful new way to prepare copper pipe
- News from the ISH floor.

Still want to view *On Site*, the ISH North America Dailies? The links are below:
Wednesday Sept. 27 / Thursday Sept. 28, 2006
http://www.pmmag.com/digitalmagazine/index.html?pub=ISH_NASD&iss=2006_Day_01

Friday Sept. 29 / Saturday Sept. 30, 2006
http://www.pmmag.com/digitalmagazine/index.html?pub=ISH_NASD&iss=2006_Day_02

Viewing these two ISH NA Onsite Show Dailies requires Flash 7 or higher. To download your FREE copy of Flash 9, [Click Here](#).



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Calendar Of Events

- Oct. 12
[Siegenthaler/DAHL: State-Of-The-Art Hydronics](#)
Golden, CO
- Oct. 12
[HeatLink Group: Installation & Design Fundamentals](#)
Mississauga, Ontario
- Oct. 12-13
[HeatLink Group: Advanced Radiant Heating](#)
Calgary, Alberta
- Oct 13
[Siegenthaler/McCoy Sales: Benefits Of Cast-Iron](#)
Littleton, CO
- Oct. 16-17
[Viessmann Academy Commercial Hydronic Technology](#)
Warwick, RI
- Oct. 16-18

Seen At The Show ...



ISH show producer, Messe Frankfurt, and the BDH (a German energy and environmental technology association) offered a **Renewable Energies Feature Area** for attendees to explore advanced energy alternatives. Many of the exhibitors on the show floor reflected this movement toward incorporating renewable energies into their products. Offerings such as solar options, wood/pellet stoves, recycled materials, or a "green" angle, etc., could be found at almost every booth. This pavilion showcased the industry's responsibility for the environment, and its efficient use of fossil fuels. Some of the other focal points of this area were solar, thermal, wood stoves, heat pumps, ventilation systems with heat recovery, and hydrogen fuel cells.

RPA System Showcase Winners

At its Annual System Showcase Awards Banquet on Friday, the [Radiant Panel Association](#) honored the top projects from this year's member competition. Submissions were scored on Presentation, Technical Merit and Impression by the following impartial, industry-knowledgeable judges: **John Abularrage**, Advanced Radiant Design Inc.; **John Siegenthaler**, Appropriate Designs; **Tom Simensen**, Radiant Specialties Inc.; and **David Yates**, F.W. Behler Inc. The eight categories include both hydronic and electric designs, and the winners were awarded impressive gold-star trophies and plaques, plus bragging rights for the next year!



Congratulations to all the winners ...

Cooling

Talbott Solar Radiant Homes, *Bonk Residence*

Commercial

Climate Control Co. of Glenwood Spring, *Cheryl & Sam Wyly Animal Shelter*

Innovation

Synergy Inc., *RRR*

Retrofit

Radiant Heat Products, *Cobblestone Winery*

Simplicity

Arndt & Son Plumbing And Heating LLC, *Nichols Addition*

Snow/Ice Melting

Thornton Plumbing & Heating, *Stirlingwood*

1-5 Radiant Zones

In Hot Water Heat & Power Inc., *Sawrey Residence*

6-15 Radiant Zones

D&D Plumbing Inc., *Duffy Residence*

Judges Choice

Thornton Plumbing & Heating, *Stirlingwood*

[Grandy & Associates Basic Business Boot Camp](#)

Reno, NV

Oct. 16

[Dan Holohan's *The Way We Were* Night School](#)

Elmsford, NY

Oct. 17

[Dan Holohan's *The Way We Were* Night School](#)

Rockville Centre, NY

Oct. 19

[WILO Pump Schools Heating Pump Basics, VFD Systems](#)

Calgary, Alberta

Oct. 20

[WILO Pump Schools Heating Hot Stove Session](#)

Calgary, Alberta

Oct. 20

[Viessmann Academy Practical](#)

[Service/Maintenance: Vitodens 200](#)

Warwick, RI

Oct. 25-26

[Viega Training Program: Controls/Radiant Piping](#)

Bedford, MA

Oct. 26

[WILO Pump Schools Heating](#)

[Pump Basics, VFD Systems](#)

Chicago, IL

Oct. 27

[WILO Pump Schools Heating Hot Stove Session](#)

Chicago, IL

Oct. 30-Nov. 1

[Grandy & Associates Basic Business Boot Camp](#)

Boston, MA

Oct. 31

[Viega Training Program: Snowmelt](#)

Bedford, MA

Nov. 9

[HeatLink Group: Installation & Design Fundamentals](#)

Mississauga, Ontario

Nov. 9-10

[HeatLink Group: Advanced Radiant Heating](#)

Calgary, Alberta

Nov. 13-14

[Grandy & Associates Service Manager's University](#)

Owensboro, KY

Random ISH Musings

In this section of Day Two's e-newsletter, we'll discuss -- and show -- some new products we discovered among the aisles of the exhibition hall, as well as a few of the radiant-focused seminars we attended.

One of the exhibiting companies that impressed us was [Bennette Design Group Inc.](#), which produces the Plumber's Pad. This product eases the daily wear-and-tear plumbers experience in their necks, backs and knees. Company owners and safe-plumbing advocates **Rob** and **Randy Bennette** were at the show with three new products: The **Knee N' Back Pad** (below), the **Ergo-Ramp** neck incline pad, and the **Surface Defense Mat**. We spoke with Rob Bennette about the importance of taking care of your body on the job: "Studies show the biggest injuries or chronic pains plumbers have are in their knees and backs," Bennette said. "I believe there's a culture change occurring in this business, where plumbers are saying it's OK to take care of themselves on the job; there's no need to neglect their bodies for some macho image." In fact, Bennette Design Group strongly advocates for the younger generation to use these types of products from the start, to help them stay in the profession as long as possible. The company even donated a Knee N' Back Pad to each of this year's PHCC Apprenticeship Contestants, and they were glad to see many of them using the pads while working in their stations. Kudos to the entire Bennette team for reminding us all about long-term care.



We visited with **Charlie Krupka**, president of [The FlorHeat Co.](#), and the EasyFloor™ System, which includes a proprietary plastic radiant panel grid tubing base module, reflective foil and heat transfer plates. The company provides a grid layout and heat analysis for its clients, and the entire project can be shipped to the jobsite. Contact the company for complete details. www.easyfloor.com



Engineers And Specifiers! Here's your chance to sign up for your own e-newsletter ... *PM Engineer* magazine offers a free twice-monthly newsletter that includes industry-specific news, events and product offerings. Click on the link below to access the sign-up form and stay in-the-know.

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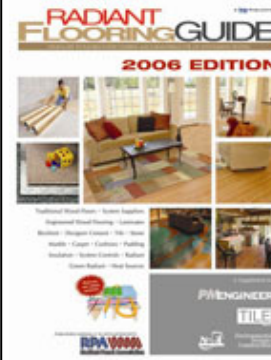


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Industry Links

- [Radiant Panel Association](#)
- [National Association Of Oil Heating Service Managers](#)
- [Canadian Hydronics Council](#)
- [Plastic Pipe & Fittings Association](#)
- [American Society of Plumbing Engineers](#)
- [GAMA](#)
- [HVACTV.com](#)
- [US Dept. of Energy](#)
- [ISH North America](#)
- [HeatingHelp.com](#)
- [HydronicPros.com](#)

Jeff Fergusson, president of [Pro-Grit Products](#), had an interesting story to tell behind his new heavy-duty (highly fluorescent) abrasive mesh for cleaning copper pipe before soldering or brazing. After a trip to the Orient where the avid cook developed a business selling cleavers, the Fergusson Supply employee helped a friend massage an idea for plumbers into what you see here: These colorful, 180-grit abrasive mesh rolls are ideal for use in low-light conditions, and are fun to boot. They come in orange, green, pink and yellow. And it really blew our minds to find out the most popular color at the show -- Pink! Contact the company directly for more information. www.pro-gritproducts.com



The 2006 Radiant Flooring Guide

The **2006 Radiant Flooring Guide** is the only annual publication that provides detailed articles on how to match various floor covering and subflooring materials with radiant heating systems. This important resource guide from

the Radiant Panel

Association is jam-packed with photographs, illustrations, charts and tables, and provides the insight and knowledge to create both a beautiful and comfortable floor. Includes an updated directory of radiant floor product manufacturers. Order your copy for \$15.00 today through the [Radiant Panel Association](#) or by contacting **Candace Roulo** at 248/244-1275, rouloc@bnpmmedia.com.



Other Products On Display:

[Roth's](#) five-layer PEX has a high evoh barrier that's protected with another laer of PEX. It's very flexible, and uses the same fittings as other systems. www.Roth-usa.com

The prefabricated Heating Box™ from [KD America](#) uses one heat source for two jobs: domestic hot water and heating/hydronic applications. The design utilizes "dry pumps," which doesn't "drag" electricity as traditional wet pumps do, and features significant labor savings. www.heatingbox.com

Pete Williams with [Unico Inc.](#), a mini-duct central heating and a/c company, told us that hi-velocity systems are becoming popular in applications such as home theaters andeven recording studios, which usuallyrequire very quiet mechanical systems. www.unicosystems.com

[Hydronic Alternatives](#) is offering a new heating pipe to the North American market: PEOC-Plus PE-RT (Dowlex 2388). It's the "un-PEX," the booth displayed at the show. The pliable, formable five-ply design is oxygen barrier protected, and can be fused with an electric plastic welding machine. www.hydrionalternatives.com

At ISH, Honeywell announced the largest single launch from the company for the hydronic controls industry in the past 15 years, according to vice president of Honeywell Water Solutions, **Andrew Hulse**. The Aquatrol AQ2000 series of controls is the flagship of the launch. It has been designed to simplify hydronic controls, and significantly reduce installation time. In addition to these advanced-performance controls, AQ2000 selection tools are user friendly and will be available both in print and online. "The AQ allows for advanced features at a basic level, and represents a large retrofit opportunity," Hulse told us. Contractors can ad these new features right out of the box, all without additional thermostat wiring. Call 1-800-328-5111.

There's a new compact model to the ROMAX Press Tool Line of [Rothenberger](#). The crimping tools provides leak-proof connections of 1/2", 3/4" and 1" copper tube. It also features two buttons -- front and back -- for versatile hold actuation.

www.rothenberger-usa.com



Interesting Discussions:

At RPA's conference on Friday, **Gary Hayden** (Premier Comfort Systems, Norfolk, VA) gave attendees a heads-up on how to think about and design their radiant and hydronic systems. Specifically, he said, "The use of low-temperature hydronic systems opens the door to sustainable energy sources." And he let them know he was a big fan of hybrid, augmented

high-temp systems and integrating design ideas. "The big introduction of high-efficiency, condensing boilers is really a turning point for all of us."

[Pictured: Gary Hayden, far right, listens to RPA members' questions on alternative energies.]

In another RPA seminar, **Michael O'Rourke** (Radiant Advantage) impressed his listeners with hydronic radiant ceilings, particularly the low mass cooling projects. This editor recalls a time not so long ago that any talk of radiant cooling was met with disbelief and almost hostility. But here were some high-profile successful commercial designs, showing that as the systems evolve and controls catch up to applications, anything's possible. O'Rourke addressed the LEED impacts of radiant cooling, and also some findings of the Department of Energy.



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[Read Complete Show Coverage @ PMmag.com](http://www.pmmag.com) *(Site Registration Required)*



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www.taco-hvac.com

Did You Know . . .

The first man-made plastic was unveiled by Alexander Parkes at the 1862 Great International Exhibition in London. The material, dubbed "Parkesine," was an organic material derived from cellulose that once heated could be molded, but retained its shape when cooled.

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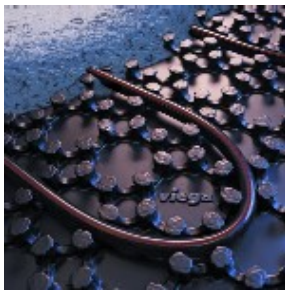
Caleffi's New Ice + Snow Control: [Caleffi North America](http://www.caleffi.com) will introduce its new, programmable ice and snow detector with microprocessor-based controller that activates a single-zone melting system at this year's ISH North America. The detector uses inputs from connected sensor(s) to provide automatic early detection of ice and snow

conditions. Matching sensors include slab sensors for detection on paved surfaces, or gutter sensors for detection on elevated surfaces such as rooftops, satellite dishes and gutters. www.caleffi.com



Multi-Layer Pipe: [Watts Radiant's](http://www.wattsradiant.com) RadiantPEX-AL is a multi-layer pipe consisting of an inner and outer layer of high temperature-resistant polyethylene with an aluminum core. The aluminum core prevents oxygen and gases from permeating into the pipe, making it a non-corrosive pipe. RadiantPEX-AL holds its shape, and is flexible enough to bend around obstacles without the use of fittings. www.wattsradiant.com

Snap Panel Grid Fastener: [Viega's](http://www.viega-na.com) Snap Panel System is a high-density polystyrene grid fastener system used in wet mass hydronic radiant applications. It securely holds 1/2-inch PEX during the concrete pour, and the interlocking Snap Panels also become a vapor barrier system. www.viega-na.com



High-Efficiency Operation: [Weil-McLain's](http://www.weil-mclain.com) Ultra Oil Boiler helps consumers save money through high-efficiency operation with venting options that can reduce installation costs. Ultra Oil uniquely combines a modern appearance, extreme quiet operation, and ease of maintenance with equipment features designed to maximize the comfort level of any home. www.weil-mclain.com



New Taco Brochure: [Taco Inc.](http://www.taco-hvac.com) has issued an updated version of its Twin Tee pipe fitting brochure. Twin Tee is designed for use in the company's single pipe LoadMatch® system, but can also be used in conventional primary-secondary two-pipe hydronic systems. The new brochure contains new product graphics, information on new sizes and complete metric information. www.taco-hvac.com



Electric Radiant Floor Heating: [Nuheat's](http://www.nuheat.com) mats warm floors with simple installation without free-running cables. No self-leveling products needed. No complicated measurements or calculations, and virtually no elevation in flooring once installed. Also, the company's Bath Kit is a one-stop-shop with all an installer needs in one box: mat, thermostat, fault indicator and step-by-step installation CD. www.nuheat.com



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Radiant & Hydronics e-News is a twice-monthly newsletter compiled by the editorial staff of *PM*, *Supply House Times* and *PMEngineer* magazines.

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