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RADIANT & HYDRONICS
E - N E W S

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Radiant & Hydronics e-News week ending December 1, 2006

Plumbers Busiest In December

There's nothing like the Holiday Season -- and the sudden influx of extended family into homes nationwide -- to make the months of November and December the busiest months for plumbing and heating professionals. YellowPages.com recently reported that more people search for plumbing businesses and services in those months than in any other during the year. December alone represented 19 percent of the year's total searches.

So as the holiday rush approaches, enjoy! But remember to take some time for yourselves and hardworking employees to celebrate the season, too.

In this issue of **Radiant & Hydronics e-News** ...

- [November's Glitch & The Fix from John Siegenthaler](#)
- [IAPMO releases 2006 Uniform Solar Energy Codes](#)
- [Editor's Picks for new industry products](#)

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Industry News

Grainger Offers Winter Storm Preparedness Guide

[Grainger](#) is helping businesses prepare for the upcoming winter storm season with a new 12-page Winter Storm Preparedness Guide and website (www.grainger.com/winter). The program is designed to educate customers about the potential dangers caused by winter storms and help them prepare in advance. For a free copy of the guide, e-mail [Robb Kristopher](mailto:Robb.Kristopher) or call 847/535-0879.

NEFI CEO Retires

Jack Sullivan, executive vice president and CEO of the New England Fuel Institute ([NEFI](#)), recently announced his retirement, effective March 31, 2007. Sullivan assumed his role at NEFI in 1995. He represented the oilheat interests of New England in testimony before Senate and House Committees on energy, transportation and small-business issues. He helped create the National Oilheat Research Alliance, and has served as its secretary since its inception.



IAPMO Releases Solar Energy Codes

The [International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials](#) released the 2006 edition of the Uniform Solar Energy Code, a guide to safe solar system requirements. Given the rising popularity of solar energy, this latest edition has all current information, and helps encourage the installation and maintenance of safe and functional solar energy systems while adhering to minimum safety requirements.

RIMA Goes Worldwide

The Reflective Insulation Manufacturers Association ([RIMA](#)) discussed the

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Calendar Of Events

Nov. 29
[RPACampus.com: Radiant Basics Tubing Components & Installation Methods](#)
8 pm EST

Dec. 4
[Danfoss 2006 EnVisioneering Symposium](#)
Washington, D.C.

Dec. 6
[RPACampus.com: Radiant Basics Pumps, Distribution, Piping & Controls](#)
8 pm EST

Dec. 12
[RPACampus.com](#)

development of an international reflective insulation association (I-RIMA) with several different international companies. RIMA will be working with many manufacturers, as well as the other industry associations in France, the United Kingdom and Australia, to develop the new organization.

More Contractor Productivity Survey Results

In FMI Corp.'s recently published "2007 Contractor Productivity Survey Results," the companies surveyed in 2006 made an average investment of only \$54,270 in various initiatives to improve productivity compared to their average investment of \$70,035 for safety improvement. FMI speculates that while contractors continue to accept significant labor overruns on their projects, they do not appear to be making the necessary investments in people and processes to improve productivity. For more information about this survey, [click here](#).



OBITUARY: Gerald "Jerry" Jubinville Owner, Jubinville Plumbing & Heating

Gerald "Jerry" Jubinville, 71, owner and operator of Jubinville Plumbing & Heating (Buckland, Mass.), died in his home Nov. 2. Well known among his peers in the hydronic and oil heat trades, he was a quintessential "old school" contractor. Jubinville had a passion for knowledge of his industry, most recently attending the Oil Heat Retreat in Lancaster, Pa., in September, even though his health was failing. He served as plumbing inspector for several nearby towns. He was also past president of the MA State Plumbing Association, a member of the Greenfield Elks lodge, as well as a member of the Mountain Lodge Masons in Shelburne Falls. He is survived by his wife **Ruth**, his children and stepchildren. Donations can be made to Hospice of Franklin County, 329 Conway St., Greenfield, MA 01301. ([For a proper send-off, courtesy of John Hall, click here.](#))

[Snowmelting - Robert Bean](#)

12 and 8 pm EST

Dec. 13

[FREE Electric Floor Warming Webinar](#)

Dec. 13

[RPACampus.com: Radiant Basics
Hydronic Heat Sources](#)

8 pm EST

Dec. 20

[RPACampus.com: Radiant Basics
Example Radiant Systems](#)

8 pm EST

Jan. 16

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

Jan. 17

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

Jan. 24

[RPACampus.com: Radiant Basics
Heat Load & Design Procedures](#)

8 pm EST

Jan. 26-27

[Nexstar's Money Masters®](#)
Columbia, SC

Jan. 29-31

[AHR Expo](#)
Dallas, TX

Feb. 7-10

[NAHB International Builders Show](#)
Orlando, FL

March 24

[Dan Holohan: Classic Hydronics](#)
Piscataway, NJ

March 28-30

[HVACR & Plumbing Instructor Workshop](#)
Landsdowne, VA

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Company News

Victaulic Acquires Full Ownership Of Nvent

[Victaulic Co.](#) recently acquired full ownership of NVent LLC, a joint venture of the two companies located in Allentown, Pa. Under terms of the agreement, all manufacturing, sales, marketing and distribution efforts will now reside with Victaulic. [NIBCO](#) will continue to support the business by supplying component parts to NVent used in the manufacture of the PermaLynx product, a push-to-connect joining system for copper piping.

TAC Increases Prices

[TAC - Field Device Division](#) (formerly Invensys Building Systems), increased prices 3%-16% on Erie Valves, Actuators and Zone Valve Assemblies, effective Jan. 15, 2007.

Nuheat Support-based Spec Team Developed

[Nuheat](#) has created a specification division to help architects, builders and developers upgrade their condo, hotel and resort projects across North America by adding warmed floors with its Nuheat pre-built electric floor warming system. The spec team will work one-on-one with decision makers to offer customers the latest in "must-have" home luxuries.

Appointments & Announcements

- [Taco](#) added three senior managers: **Robert Coons**, a 15-year industry veteran with Burnham, is senior vice president of residential sales; **Michael McNamara**, formerly director of engineering at Pentair Pumps, becomes vice president, circulator engineering; **Nelson Rego** is the new vice president of quality services. He was quality assurance manager at Cowan Plastics.



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- **Brad Beckman** has joined [Uponor](#) as vice president of finance and member of the Senior Management Committee. He will oversee Uponor North America's finance and accounting activities.
- **Mark Evans** has joined [Viega](#) as director of sales-Canada. He was formerly western regional manager for WILO North America.
- [Viessmann Mfg. Co. Inc.](#) appointed **Kenneth Webster** as director, sales and marketing North America. He has more than 20 years' experience in the industry, and currently serves as chairman of the CIPH.



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Know someone who may be interested in receiving up-to-date Hydronic and Radiant news? Click on the image below and send **Radiant & Hydronics e-News** to a friend.



Online Now



Radiant On Display

Harris-Dudley Plumbing & Heating built its new headquarters with radiant in mind ... and the attention to detail has paid off.

Read how the Salt Lake City company uses its new radiant showroom to the best advantage in the market of high-end radiant residences.

Read the Complete Article @ [PMmag.com](#) (*Site Registration Required*)

The leaders in advanced hydronic systems that are easy to design, easy to install, and easy to live with.

www.taco-hvac.com

Did You Know . . .

Women most often control the thermostat setting.

[ServiceMagic.com](#) polled more than 1,500 of its consumer members across the U.S. Only 40% of the respondents said the man of the house had the final say in room temperature; 55% said it's the woman who has authority over the dial. (4% said their pets get the most consideration, while only 1% say their children control the temp.)

Digital Temperature Gauge

- ◆ Replace Mechanical Gauges
- ◆ More Accurate
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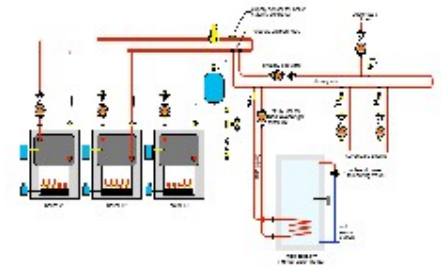
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The Glitch & The Fix: November

The Glitch: A client has asked for abundant DHW as well as space heating loads. The following system has been planned with three 200,000 Btu/hr. boilers with plenty of capacity supplying a primary loop that serves several secondary loops. Closely spaced tees have been used to separate the pressure dynamics of the various secondary circuits. [Click here for larger Glitch image](#)

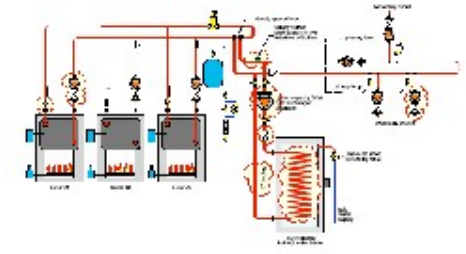
Question: There are at least 10 design errors present in this schematic. Can you spot at least five of them?



The Fix:

[Click here for larger Fix image](#)

1. Heat Exchanger of indirect DHW tank should be "super-sized" to deliver full output of boilers to potable water.
2. Piping leading to DHW tank is sized to handle flow necessary to convey full output of all boilers to tank heat exchanger. A 3/4-inch tube will not convey several hundred thousand Btu/hr. with a nominal 20 F temperature drop across the tank heat exchanger.
3. Circulator leading to DHW tank is sized to handle flow necessary to convey full output of all boilers to tank heat exchanger. A 1/25 hp circulator will not produce the flow necessary to convey 600,000 Btu/hr. at normal operating conditions.
4. Heat exchanger in DHW tank is pipe for counter-flow (in at top/out at bottom).
5. If DHW tank is piped as a secondary circuit it should be the first secondary circuit on the primary loop so it receives the hottest water. Better yet, pipe the DHW tank as a parallel circuit to the primary loop (as shown on the fix schematic) and eliminate the need for the primary circulator to operate during the DHW mode.
6. All secondary circulators should pump into their respective secondary circuits to boost pressure in secondary while operating.
7. Sensor for boiler staging controller must be located downstream of closely spaced tees separating boilers from distribution system. This prevents situation of no flow past sensor when all boiler circulators are off. It also accounts for any mixing taking place at the closely spaced tees that could lower supply temperature to distribution system.
8. Better to place circulators with internal checks on vertical inlet of boilers allowing water to flood volute to dislodge air at start-up.
9. Unions to remove boiler must be between isolation valve and boiler.
10. Lack of a check valve in DHW circuit allows off-cycle heat migration to drain heat from tank.



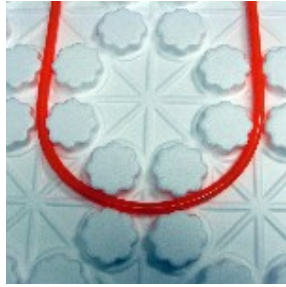
New Products



Electric Floor Warming: WarmlyYours has introduced its new line of Honeywell-brand floor warming systems targeted the home-builder market for electric floor warming. The Honeywell line will include four prepackaged, easy-to-install bathroom floor warming kits designed for bathrooms with open areas up to 40 sq. ft., along with a free 24-hour custom system design service. A complementing line of Honeywell floor warming system thermostats and controls is available.

www.warmlyyours.com

Foam Radiant Panels: Creatherm™ is a lightweight, closed-cell plastic resin, and the "Walk-It-In" Radiant Floor Panels can cut hydronic PEX tubing installation time by as much as 75%. The finished floor panel size is approx. 2-ft. by 4-ft. and features eight radial snap grids for optimal spacing. On-center points exist every 6 inches, and allow the installer to run tubing at 45-degree angles with ease. Great for slab-on-grade, snowmelt and retrofit installations. www.creatherm.com



Full Product Line Brochure: Taco Inc. has issued an updated version of its product line brochure, showing the full breadth of Taco equipment. "Commercial, Residential & Institutional Pumps, Tanks & Accessories" features all Taco product divisions and highlights all major product offerings. To obtain a copy of Taco's updated full line product brochure, ask for Taco Catalog # 300-3.5, or visit the company's website at www.taco-hvac.com.



Fittings Bag: The RIDGID® JobMax™ fittings bag from Ridge Tool Co. is designed for the storage of fittings for pressing applications. The bag has six interior pockets made of Neoprene® that are ideal for holding fittings and various tools. Three large exterior pockets provide additional storage of tools and pressing jaws. With thick double-wall construction, it is rated for all-weather use, and its interior is PVC-coated for water resistance. www.ridgid.com



Air Eliminators: Spirotherm manufactures air eliminators for vertical installation in light commercial and residential hydronic systems. A patented coalescing medium scrubs out 100% of the free air, 100% of the entrained air, and up to 99.6% of the dissolved air in the system, eliminating customer complaints and callbacks, and reducing the risk of corrosion. Easy to install into new or existing systems, the Spirovent® Vertical Junior offers a brass, maintenance-free design and 20-year warranty, and is available in 3/4-, 1- and 1 1/4-inch NPT female. www.spirotherm.com



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](#)

RADIANT FLOORING GUIDE 2006 EDITION



Award-Winning 2006 Radiant Flooring Guide Now In Digital Format

The Radiant Panel Association's award-winning **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.

> > > View the user-friendly Digital Version at the link below to access manufacturers' Web sites directly as you browse.

<http://www.bnppmedia.com/digitalmagazine/index.html?pub=RFG&iss=2006>

You can still purchase hardcopy versions of the 2006 Radiant Flooring Guide through the Radiant Panel Association's Web site: <http://www.radiantpanelassociation.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=246>



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U.S.A.

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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