

CONTRACTOR[®]

THE NEWSMAGAZINE OF MECHANICAL CONTRACTING

PLUMBING | PIPING | HYDRONICS | RADIANT | BATH/KITCHEN | TECHNOLOGY | TOOLS | TRUCKS | GREEN | MANAGEMENT

2012 Book of Giants

Glimmers

The nation's largest mechanical contractors are seeing glimmers of hope, with 2012 revenues expected to return to 2010 levels after a disappointing 2011. Auto, steel, chemical and glass plants are reviving in the Midwest, universities are building dorms and labs, hospitals are expanding and data centers are going up. Some private financing has even returned to the market. Our complete Book of Giants coverage begins on page 14.



Adoptions of IAPMO green code continue growing

BY ROBERT P. MADER OF CONTRACTOR'S STAFF

ROSEMONT, ILL. — The Green Plumbing & Mechanical Code Supplement produced by the Intl. Association of Plumbing & Mechanical Officials is well on its way to becoming a mature code. Although the GPMS, designed as an overlay or reach code for the Uniform Plumbing Code and Uniform Mechanical Code is just in its second edition, it is increasingly being adopted, cited or allowed as a parallel path to compliance.

In his acceptance speech after winning the Mechanical Contractors Association of America's highest award this past March, Bill

Erickson, chairman of C.J. Erickson Plumbing Co., Alsip, Ill., and chairman of the IAPMO Green Technical Committee, said he realized that when the GPMS was first published in 2010 that the work was just beginning, not ending.

That was in evidence when the GTC met in suburban Chicago this past April with an agenda covering products such as water softeners, kitchen exhaust hoods and alternative water sources. The committee plans to address bottle filling stations, an increasingly popular adjunct to water coolers, especially

➤ Turn to IAPMO, page 42

Technology makes ecosmart house one of a kind

BY CANDACE ROULO OF CONTRACTOR'S STAFF

BOZEMAN, MONT. — Bozeman, home to Montana State University (MSU), known for its location in the Rocky Mountains, attracts outdoor enthusiasts, artists, educators and entrepreneurs, many deciding to stay in Bozeman due to its beauty and educational and business opportunities. Now the city will also be known as the home of REHAU's and the MSU Creative Research Lab's (CR-Lab) ecosmart house, a residential modeling and construction project exhibiting the possibilities of maximized energy efficiency and occupant comfort through a combination of the latest sustainable building products and systems.

The idea of the project began with Bill Hoy, director of strategic building development at REHAU and MSU alumni, who bought property in Bozeman before he started work-

The house employs the latest sustainable products.



ing for REHAU. When Hoy came up with the concept of the ecosmart house, he went to Terry Beaubois, director of the CRLab, about the idea in 2008, and Beaubois was immediately interested. He became the project manager and the next step was to find a corporate sponsor, so they both met with Kitty Saylor, CEO of REHAU North America

➤ Turn to Ecosmart, page 4

Most Profitable Giants

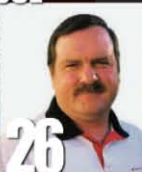
Our complete Giants coverage begins on page 14.

Rank	COMPANY	Location	Top Executive	Net Income
100	IMCOR Interstate Mechanical	Phoenix	Bill Mason, President	7.2%
139	DiGesare Mechanical Inc.	Schenectady, N.Y.	David DiGesare, President	7%
46	Coastal Mechanical Services Group	Melbourne, Fla.	H.W. "Skip" Hauser, Chairman	6.7%
146	Midlands Mechanical Inc.	Omaha, Neb.	Bill Killmer, President	6%
3	Comfort Systems	Houston	Brian E. Lane, President/CEO	5.7%
138	Hill York	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.	Robert "Chip" Lafferty, CEO	5%
151	R.T. Moore Co. Inc.	Indianapolis	Douglas R. Moore, President	4.25%
30	Durr Mechanical	New York	Kenneth Durr, President	4.23%
70	Hussung Mechanical Corp.	Louisville, Ky.	David C. Hussung, CEO	4%
134	Berger Engineering Co.	Dallas	Richard Berger, President	4%
142	G.E.M. Industrial	Walbridge, Ohio	Hussein Shousher, President	4%
145	A&R Mechanical Contractors	Urbana, Ill.	Jon Reichard, President	4%

IN THIS ISSUE



24 Yates on PLUMBING



26 Eatherton on HYDRONICS



30 Feldmans on TECHNOLOGY

NEWS

3 PHCC — National Assoc. lobbies Congress
Association focuses on building relationships on Capitol Hill.

8 LEED Platinum data center is first in Ky.
GE revitalizes existing building for new data center.

12 Regulatory burden hurts innovation
Industry needs to urge DOE to reconsider imposing rulings.

PRODUCTS

48 The 2012 GMC Sierra Hybrid



49

The Mach C4000 condensing boiler



green choice



THE 2012 SIERRA HYBRID is the only hybrid in the full-size pickup segment, delivering an estimated 23 MPG on the highway and 20 MPG in the city — a 23.5% improvement in overall fuel economy. It still boasts a 6,100-lb. trailering capacity. It is offered in the crew cab body style on both 2WD and 4WD models, with 3HA and 3HB trim levels. All models are equipped with StabiliTrak electronic stability control system, a locking rear axle and a trailering package.

GMC

CIRCLE 101 ON INQUIRY CARD



THE RIMLESS CASCADE TOILET stays cleaner longer by eliminating the primary place stains collect: under the rim. The jet positioning creates a swirling action to clear the bowl. Jet holes are clearly visible and easy to clean. The toilet operates on just 1.28 GPF.

Mansfield

CIRCLE 104 ON INQUIRY CARD



▲ HIGH EFFICIENCY TOILETS are included in the Allerton bathroom suite. The toilets are 1.25-gpf and are pending certification from the WaterSense program. The toilet delivers a powerful, bowl-clearing flush thanks to a 3" flush valve and dual-fed siphon jet and is ADA-compliant.

Gerber

CIRCLE 102 ON INQUIRY CARD



▲ THE ES38 DIRECT VENT WALL FURNACE features a new timer function that lets users pre-set the unit for two separate, timed heating events during a 24-hour period. The redesigned control panel offers a set back feature, which allows the minimum temperature to be pre-set and maintained between timed events.

Rinnai

CIRCLE 103 ON INQUIRY CARD



▲ THE SOMERTON SMART 270 1-PIECE TOILET features dual-flush action, with a 1.25 gal. flush for solids and a 0.8 gal. flush for liquids. The sleek, contemporary design includes a fully skirted bowl (16.5" floor to rim) for comfortable seating.

Caroma

CIRCLE 105 ON INQUIRY CARD



▲ THE 5 SERIES GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMP SYSTEM combines forced-air heating and air conditioning while generating a portion of the home's domestic hot water. It is offered in nine single-speed and six dual-capacity sizes from 1 to 6 tons. The variable-speed electronically commutated motor (ECM) further enhances system efficiency, running only at the speed required. It exceeds Energy Star requirements and qualifies for a 30% federal tax credit.

WaterFurnace

CIRCLE 106 ON INQUIRY CARD



▲ THE PRESTIGE SERIES CONDENSING TANKLESS WATER HEATER is able to deliver 94% thermal efficiency. The heater offers an industry-best minimum flow rate of .26 GPM and a minimum activation flow rate of .40 GPM. Units can be vented with stainless steel, polypropylene, or with PVC piping, making installation faster, easier and more cost-effective. The heater contributes towards LEED credits for residential buildings, and is Energy Star rated.

Rheem

CIRCLE 107 ON INQUIRY CARD

▼ THE SUPERIOR LO-FLOW TOILET features rounded corners, flat edges and a distinctive profile. Its skirted, compact, modern design is ideal for smaller, urban bathrooms. It uses a 1.6-gpf. with a powerful siphon jet to carry waste away. It utilizes a standard 12" rough-in.

Inax

CIRCLE 108 ON INQUIRY CARD



▼ THE ILIOS HIGH-EFFICIENCY WATER HEATER uses a heat pump that reclaims engine waste heat for a coefficient of performance from 1.2 to 1.8. It can produce 400,000 to 600,000 Btu/h of hot water.

Ilios

CIRCLE 109 ON INQUIRY CARD



▼ THE GEOSPRING HYBRID WATER HEATER provides the same hot water recovery as a traditional 50-gal. standard electric water heater with 65-gal. first hour rating. Because the unit draws heat from the surrounding air it requires 10' X 10' X 7' or more space.

GE

CIRCLE 110 ON INQUIRY CARD

