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New Boilers Heat Up Market

Manufacturers Include Technologies that Increase Efficiency and Ease of Use

By Joanna R. Turpin Of The NEWS Staff

echnologies used in commercial hot water boilers are evolving rapidly, resulting in new equipment that is more efficient and easier to operate than ever before. Modulating burners, variable-speed drives, and advanced controls can now be found on many newer boilers, which, when installed and maintained properly, can keep building occupants comfortable for many years.

However, installing and servicing these sophisticated systems can be more of a challenge for contractors, as they need to have a thorough understanding of hydronics, electrical systems, and electronics. Keeping current on these high-tech boilers usually requires ongoing training and support, which, fortunately, most manufacturers are happy to provide.

Better Modulation, Control

The modulating burner has become very popular on commercial boilers because it can lower the firing rate as the building load decreases, allowing the burner to keep running instead of shutting off, said Jeff Vallett II, boiler product manager, Lochinvar LLC.

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An ACA Denver Boiler technician completes connections for a Laars Pennant boiler/volume water heater in an apartment building in downtown Denver.