

Hydronic Heating Systems

By Craig Mandli

Condensing boiler provides savings with efficiency boost



Problem: Weighing over 1,000 pounds, an oversized, cast iron boiler once dominated the basement of a Pennsylvania residence. Dave Yates from F.W. Behler stepped in to redesign the customer's system to save them money and energy during the winter heating season.

Solution: With a 95 percent efficiency rating, a **NHB Series** condensing boiler from **Navien** was chosen as a replacement. This space-saving unit offers a 15-1 turndown ratio to reduce energy consumption, and was installed with a Navien preassembled primary manifold. While the original boiler took more than five people to remove, Navien's NHB Series weighs 80 pounds and can be hung on the wall by a single individual.

Result: The switch proved to be cost-effective not only for the homeowner, but also for the contractor using preassembled manifolds. "When you look at the value of the time saved versus what this costs, it's a net positive for us as contractors because we're able to move in and out and go onto the next job faster," says Yates. F.W. Behler compared seven months of energy-usage data to the previous year during the winter heating months, and calculated a 56 percent reduction on therm usage, totaling 1,230 fewer therms used. Their utility bill also decreased 56 percent, saving the customer over \$1,200 during the coldest time of the year. **800/519-8794; www.navien.com.**