

Heating Up



Here are some must-reads

I always regard *RSES Journal* as a work-in-progress, but I'm particularly proud of this issue of the magazine.

We start off with an overview of CO₂ supermarket refrigeration systems written by Don Gillis, an extremely knowledgeable long-time trainer for Emerson. "CO₂ has a much lower temperature at atmospheric pressure than HFCs, and has a higher saturation point, as well as higher operating and standstill pressures," Gillis writes in the article that begins on page 14 of this issue. "Understanding how these factors impact servicing requirements and system performance is essential."

We cover the codes, AHRI standards and operating requirements of Dedicated Outdoor Air Systems in an article that begins on page 18. As an example, the article cites the conversion of a low-occupancy medical office into a cigar store with a 50-person capacity smoking lounge.

Erik Knudsen, mechanical engineer at the consulting engineering firm, BC Engineers, Shawnee, Kan., specified a 6-ton, 1,400-CFM DX model DOAS. "Specifying DOAS added the needed volume of outdoor air, but also afforded the opportunity to provide a better 'quality' of air when the lounge was occupied," writes Mike Malone, P.E., one of the authors of the article. "Specifying the quality of outdoor air can be quite complex when specifying today's myriad of available component and control operation options."

HVAC contractor and trainer extraordinaire Bryan Orr details his brazing best practices starting on page 24. Orr writes that he's surprised at how many experienced technicians still don't know how to braze properly.

We know it's January and you're getting hit with plenty

of no-heat calls. Two service advisors from major HVACR wholesaler Gustave A. Larson have written a terrific checklist article for best practices when servicing gas furnaces. It's on page 28.

And, finally, Bryan Orr is back with the first of a two-part Last Word column on The Slow Death of the Honest Technician. Orr begins with a story about a friend of his who had a technician do a slipshod PM on his system, and then hit him up with a \$5,400 proposal for a new system. This mindset comes from the kind of "training" that new technicians get. They ride with an experienced tech that complains about his boss, dispatch, other techs, customers and politics but almost no actual training, Orr writes.

"When they arrive at the job there are two main objectives:

1. Get in and out quickly with as little work as possible.
2. Sell as much as possible during that short time. This can be hard start kits, capacitors and surge protectors some places, IAQ products others and for some it's always finding a way to push a new system. For many, it's all three."

The rookie tech becomes as jaded as his supposed trainer and realizes the best way to keep the boss off his back is to sell as much as possible with as few customer complaints as possible. Orr will have much more to say in Part 2 in our February issue. ☺

Bob Mader
Managing Editor

Andy Schoen, CM
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Jeffrey Smith, CMS
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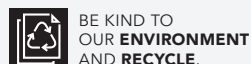
Robert D. Casey
Mobile: 847-722-0250
bobc@caseyreps.com

Theresa Clendening
theresac@caseyreps.com

Jennifer Drevline
jenniferd@caseyreps.com

Susan Sammons
susans@caseyreps.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE
For information,
call 847-297-6464
or fax 847-297-5038



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