

Get Comfort the Year Round!

Whether you're getting ready to build a new home or remodel or redo an area of your current home, you want to be assured that the heating system is carefully considered. After all, you can remember, on a cold winter day, stepping out of a warm shower onto an ice-cold floor. You also remember your wife and kids avoiding the kitchen during the winter months because they didn't want to come in contact with its chilling hard surfaces.

Now's the time to do something about that half of the year that makes the family shiver just thinking about it. When even your furry house pets demand knitted booties and sweaters and a warm place under the covers. When teeth chatter even though the furnace is on full blast, and dinner guests prematurely decide it's time to head home.

In contrast, consider this scene: *You and your family watching movies in the basement family room, the cat purring and asleep on the warm tile floor - your wife and kids barefoot and smiling.*

You're smiling, too, because, even with a winter storm raging outside, you know that your driveway and sidewalks are being automatically thawed and cleared of snow and the eaves freed of roof-damaging icicles and ice dams - even before they can form. "But, how can this be?" you might ask.

"Because," offers Mike Bench, managing member of Warmquest, "radiant heating systems are a more efficient, uniform heat that is distributed evenly, because the heat radiates from the floor." And that's why the above family is so happy.

Bench says that snowmelt and interior floor heating systems have been around for many years and are becoming more popular in and outside of Utah. Warmquest, which has been in business for ten years, markets and installs a complete line of low-voltage radiant heating products designed to snowmelt driveways and warm toes on winter mornings.

So, you don't have to pile on the blankets and suffer with cold feet.

Radiant heat systems offer a handful of other one-uppers to the traditional heating systems - one being that radiant heat is more efficient than forced air systems (the kind that most Utahns currently use to suffer through most cold weather.)

For Art Vanderlinden, installing a Floorizwarm radiant heat system in a new basement bathroom was a no-brainer. Finally deciding to complete the basement in his Taylorsville home of 18 years, he wanted to create a space where his wife felt comfortable because, "she never went in the basement in the winter, even though we had forced air," he says.

"We put a small system in that room and liked it so much that it wasn't too long before we installed it in a craft room as well. It's funny, but from there, we put one under the carpet in the family room," he says. Calling the entire experience "a plus", he says that their radiant heat system is the one upgrade they've installed and never regretted - other than his failure to install the three simultaneously.

"It's a different kind of heat," Vanderlinden says. "You walk in and the entire room is warm, not just the floor. It warms your shoulders and your back. It's really nice and comfortable," he says.

It's never too late to install a floor warming system, according to Bench. "The retrofit ability of

a Heatizon radiant heat system has increased greatly. It doesn't matter how new or old a person's home is, you can always add one of our systems," he says.

Warmquest's Heatizon Systems radiant heat products use one of two products. Tuff Cable or ZMesh. Either of these can be installed in new construction or retrofitted to existing applications.

For interior applications, as well as under-shingle roof systems, Warmquest uses ZMesh, a bronze wire mesh that's no thicker than the fabric in a screen door. It's placed over an existing concrete floor or on top of the wood sub floor and can be covered with tile, carpet or wood flooring. In roofing systems, the mesh is installed underneath the non-conductive roof-covering material, making it virtually invisible.

Exterior applications, such as melting snow on driveways or sidewalks, require the copper Tuff Cable. In an existing driveway or walkway, technicians cut thin, inch-deep channels that are inches apart into the pavement, which is where the cable is laid and then closed with a sealant. In new construction, the cable is installed just before the concrete is poured. The Tuff Cable is also used under metal roofing material for invisible ice dam protection from snow and ice on the roof.

In what is probably the most recognizable local project involving Heatizon Systems products, TRAX had the Tuff Cable snow-melting system installed on all passenger-access ramps to keep the areas free of snow. One of their largest projects includes installing cables

under nearly 20,000 square feet of sidewalks and stairs at the LDS Conference Center.

As far as snowmelt is concerned, Heatizon Systems products are "absolutely the best value on the planet," according to Bench. "It's far less expensive to operate and maintain than hydronic systems," he says. Also, Heatizon's products are solid-state and are not comprised of moving parts. Paired with its unique and lengthy 25-year warranty and ETL Listing to UL Standards, Heatizon Systems products are arguably the most reliable in the industry.

On the rare chance that Tuff Cable or ZMesh is damaged, problem-solving is easy. "Our products are easy to repair," says Bench. "Both the Tuff Cable and the ZMesh can be soldered with a relatively simple process." Heatizon Systems also feature a self-diagnosing control unit that will essentially "tell you what's wrong with it," according to Bench. "They require very little, if any, annual maintenance and they last for years," he says.

Heatizon's technology is unique because it uses low-voltage electricity, ranging from 8 to 30 volts AC with ZMesh and 8 to 62 volts AC with Tuff Cable. This not only eliminates many safety concerns, it also allows you to reduce your heating bill. Unlike forced air, radiant heat doesn't need to cycle constantly, making it more cost-effective. Homeowners can program the system as they see fit.

And when it comes to a friend of the environment, radiant heat is the kindlier option because no pollen, dust or other particles are circulated. This also makes the system more comfortable for those with allergies or asthma.

For more information on *Warmquest's* products, call (801) 293-0137 or visit www.warmquest.com or www.heatizon.com.

- Radiant Snow Melting
- Radiant Floor Warming
- Radiant Roof-Deicing
- Radiant Space Heating