



NEW PRODUCT RELEASE

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New Noritz NRC661 Condensing Tankless Water Heater Delivers High Performance and Lower Installation Costs

ENERGY STAR-qualified NRC661, with an Energy Factor of 0.91/0.93, will work with a half-inch gas connection, sharply cutting the cost of replacement applications

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CALIF. (APRIL 2, 2013) — The ENERGY STAR®-rated NRC661 makes choosing a high-efficiency, tankless water heater for the home more affordable than ever, especially when replacing a storage-tank-type unit.

Featuring the same energy-saving condensing technology as the rest of the **Noritz ecoTOUGH™ Series** of gas-fired residential tankless water heaters, the NRC661 has an Energy Factor of 0.91 for natural gas and 0.93 for LP. These ratings are nearly 10 points higher than that of a comparably sized, conventional tankless unit, and approximately 30 points higher than a standard, tank-type gas-fired water heater.

Half-inch gas connection: But the bigger news is that the market's smallest condensing tankless water heater can deliver 6.6 gallons per minute, with a maximum input of 120,000 BTU per hour (BTUh), using a half-inch gas line up to 120 feet in length. A new, more accurate interpretation of the National Fuel Gas Code permits the use of the smaller-diameter gas piping for inputs up to 174,000 BTUh, as long as the water column pressure at the inlet of the unit is a minimum eight inches.

“We expect the NRC661 to challenge the conventional thinking that switching from tank to tankless water heating is unavoidably difficult and expensive,” says Noritz marketing manager Jason Fleming. “The new unit will not only carry a lower price point than our other condensing models, but its ability to use a half-inch gas connection will eliminate the need to up-size to a 3/4-inch run in



The NRC661, which has a built-in display window (lower right) for easier troubleshooting, is designed to meet the needs of two-bathroom residences in warm-weather regions.

replacement situations. That, in turn, should cut installation labor in half, resulting in a reduced installed cost to the homeowner.”

Major enhancements: The new NRC661 also offers three other key features not previously available:

- **BUILT-IN DIGITAL DISPLAY:** The NRC661 is the first Noritz unit to offer an integral digital display on the front of the unit to permit basic servicing without the need for a remote device. Located at the lower-right of the front panel, the small readout assists in the troubleshooting by indicating flow rates, temperature and common error codes.
- **LOW MINIMUM INPUT:** The NCR661 offers a minimum gas input of only 15,000 BTU/h. This is perfect for warm weather climates because it allows the unit to receive incoming water that is already warm.
- **ACCESSIBLE TECHNICAL DATA SHEET:** To assist both installers and service technicians, Noritz has located the NRC661’s Technical Data Sheet, showing all the error codes and their respective solutions, right inside the unit’s front cover. “The trades person no longer needs to call Noritz,” comments Fleming. “The troubleshooting solutions are right at his fingertips.”

Installation flexibility: Designed for two-bath residences in the warm-weather climates of the South and West, the NRC661 offers temperature settings from 100°F to 140°F in both indoor and outdoor units. For the indoor direct-vent model, condensing technology permits venting with installer-friendly, three-inch PVC or CPVC pipe, which is less expensive than the Category III Stainless Steel venting required by conventional tankless units. The zero-clearance plastic piping enables longer vent runs – up to 62 linear feet – and therefore greater installation flexibility at a lower cost. (See adjacent box.)

Like other models in the ecoTOUGH Series, the NRC661 protects the environment by heating water strictly on demand, while offering a longer product life cycle than storage tank-type models. Carrying a 12-year warranty on the heat exchang-

How does “condensing” water heating technology work?

As with conventional tankless water heaters, condensing models save energy and protect the environment by heating water strictly on demand; i.e., only when the faucet, shower or appliance is turned on. These units require no standing pilot light and no storage, permitting substantial energy savings because there is no wasteful reheating of stored water, as with traditional storage-type heaters.

However, in addition to the primary heat exchanger to warm the flow moving through it, a condensing unit incorporates a secondary heat exchanger to extract even more heat from the by-products of the combustion process, as these gases enter the venting at the top of the flue. This secondary heat exchanger then preheats the incoming cold water on its way to the primary heat exchanger, increasing the unit’s efficiency.

The PVC advantage: By extracting so much additional heat from the flue gases, the condensing process cools them enough to permit venting with PVC or CPVC piping, instead of the more costly Category III Stainless Steel required by conventional tankless units. Many installers have never used Category III Stainless Steel, says Noritz Vice President of Sales & Marketing Jay Hassel.

“But virtually every plumber knows PVC inside and out,” he continues. “What’s more, the material requires zero clearance to combustibles. All of which is why, as more and more buyers opt for energy-saving tankless water heaters in their new homes, the path of least resistance for builders and their plumbing subs will be to go condensing tankless to vent with PVC.”

er and five years on all parts, the NRC661 promises lower emissions, reduced electrical consumption, smaller amounts of potentially hazardous construction materials, and easier recyclability of those materials and components once the product is removed from service.

The NRC661 is equipped with the advanced technology of the fully modulating, low-NOx Eco-Burner™ with a nitrogen-oxide emissions level of 20 parts per million that fully complies with the new South Coast Air Quality Management District regulations. The Eco-Burner delivers superior temperature control, eliminating the need for a buffer tank to stabilize the temperature. This, in turn, removes another potential source of standby heat loss, thus maintaining system efficiency.

For more information on the NRC661-DV and NRC661-OD condensing tankless water heaters, visit the new “Quality Meets Value” microsite at Noritz.com/nrc661.

NORITZ AMERICA CORPORATION, a subsidiary of Noritz Japan, has corporate offices in Fountain Valley, Calif., and Atlanta, offering a full line of tankless water heaters to meet the hot water demands of residential and commercial applications. Noritz supports its products with a national network of skilled representatives and employees who are committed to providing the finest products and services to our communities by helping consumers live in a more comfortable, efficient and healthy lifestyle. For more information on Noritz America and the entire line of Noritz’s ENERGY STAR® tankless water heaters, please call (877) 986-6748 or visit our website at www.Noritz.com

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Hi-res versions of photographs to accompany this release are available for immediate download in .tif format by using this link: <http://noritz.oreilly-depalma.com/2013/nrc661-tankless-water-heater.shtml>

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