

NEWS RELEASE

Winners Announced in the CIPHEX WEST 2004 *Gallery of New Products Competition*

Toronto, Ontario, November 16, 2004 . . . More than 3500 industry delegates attended *CIPHEX West 2004* when the trade show and conference took place in Calgary earlier this month. Visitor attendance was up by a dramatic 38 percent over the last event, held in Calgary in 2002. CIPHEX West attracted those involved in the sale of plumbing, heating, hydronic (hot water) heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration equipment, electrical equipment, water treatment systems, tools, and kitchen and bath fixtures. They came from across western Canada to see all that's new in the industry and meet and do business with close to 200 exhibiting companies.

In the *Gallery Of New Products*, show visitors saw a large selection of exciting and innovative products destined to become best sellers. A panel of industry experts chose the best new products and the winners were announced at CIPHEX West. The winners were:

The IPEX XFR Pipe and Fitting System

The IPEX System XFR is a revolutionary new system of coated pipe and fittings with exceptional fire and smoke retardant capabilities. It is ideal for use in high-rises and high-risk buildings where tighter fire and smoke regulations have previously limited the use of thermoplastics. It is the only thermoplastic pipe system in the world with a flame spread rating of "0" and the only PVC pipe system allowed in high-rise buildings and air plenum spaces.

The Uponor Wirsbo Aquasafe System

The Uponor Wirsbo Aquasafe System is a multi-purpose plumbing and fire sprinkler system that affordably protects a home and its contents from fire. The system combines the sprinkler system and the domestic cold water system, eliminating stagnant water and the need for backflow prevention. It also comes with a 25-year limited warranty.

The Imperial Manufacturing Group Bypass HEPA Filter

The Bypass HEPA Filter is a whole-house filtration system that can be installed in the forced air system or as a stand-alone unit. It is sealed to avoid leakage and fully insulated, and the motor is surrounded by the filter for quiet operation.

The MAAX Corporation's Urban 7242F

The Urban series from MAAX Collection is a trend-setting bathtub in an urban, minimalist style based on pure lines and simple forms. The Urban 7242F offers an innovative, ingenious and comfortable design that calms the senses as much as it pleases the eye. Graced with little extras like a cascading waterfall, a revolutionary new filling method and two mood lights, the Urban 7242F turns bath time into a sublime ritual. The deep freestanding bathtub with has two symmetrical inclined backrests.

Information on CIPHEX is on the website at: www.ciphexwest.ca.

CIPHEX West is owned and produced by the Canadian Institute of Plumbing & Heating (CIPH). The CIPH is a not for profit trade association. Founded in 1933, the Institute is a vibrant organization committed to providing members with the tools for success in today's competitive environment. More than 250 companies are members of this influential Canadian industry association. They are the manufacturers, wholesaler distributors, master distributors, manufacturers' agents and allied companies who manufacture and distribute plumbing, hydronic heating, industrial, waterworks and other mechanical products. CIPH wholesalers operate more than 600 warehouses and showrooms across Canada. CIPH members employ more than 10,000 Canadians and are an integral part of the Canadian economy. Total industry sales exceed \$3 billion annually.

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