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REHAU advance installation with automated production of RAUMAT prefabricated mats

REHAU North America announces a major advancement in radiant heating and cooling technology with the introduction of automated manufacturing for RAUMAT™. This next evolution in prefabrication delivers enhanced consistency, precision, and speed, bringing new levels of efficiency to hydronic radiant installations.



KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. [RAUMAT](#) is a pre-assembled radiant mat system engineered for large-scale commercial, industrial, and institutional projects. Each mat is factory-built using RAUPEX® O2 barrier pipe and delivered to the jobsite in a ready-to-install roll format, significantly reducing on-site labor and installation time. With the integration of advanced automation technology, RAUMAT production now achieves uniform pipe spacing, ensuring every mat meets exact project specifications with repeatable quality.

RAUMAT is delivered as a ready-to-install roll of RAUPEX O₂ barrier pipe in 1/2- 5/8-, or 3/4- diameters and is available in configurations of up to five circuits per mat. Each mat can be manufactured in lengths of up to 250 feet (76 meters) and is produced with a standardized width of 6 feet (1.83 meters). Every RAUMAT assembly is custom configured to support seamless integration into radiant floor heating and cooling systems, as well as snow and ice melting and turf conditioning applications.



RAUMAT automated prefabricated mats install up to 85% faster while reducing labor by up to 75%.
© REHAU

“The move to automated production represents a significant step forward in how we deliver value to our customers,” said Jonathan Bittenbender, Director of Engineering at REHAU Water Technologies

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North America. “By combining precision manufacturing with prefabrication, RAUMAT not only improves installation speed, but also ensures a higher level of consistency and performance across every project.”

The transition to automated production delivers performance and installation benefits. Precision manufacturing at scale ensures consistent pipe spacing and secure fastening, reducing variability while enhancing overall system performance.

Delivered as a prefabricated roll, RAUMAT accelerates installation by eliminating the need for on-site layout, tying, or spacing, saving days and even weeks on large projects. Jobsite efficiency is further improved through simplified handling and clear circuit identification, which streamlines workflows, reduces labor requirements, and minimizes installation errors. Factory-controlled assembly enhances system reliability by improving product integrity and ensuring long-term, dependable hydronic performance.

Designed with scalability in mind, RAUMAT is ideally suited for large-format applications such as warehouses, distribution centers, manufacturing facilities, parking lots, and stadiums, to mention some, where speed, uniformity, and performance are critical. Additionally, the standardized 6-foot mat width simplifies planning, supports faster layout, and improves coordination across project teams.

By combining REHAU's proven **RAUPEX PEXa piping** technology with state-of-the-art automation, **RAUMAT** sets a new benchmark for prefabricated radiant systems, delivering a smarter, faster, and more reliable solution for engineers, contractors, and building owners alike.

Contact: REHAU North America, <https://www.rehau.com/ca-en>

GF strengthens its role as a complete partner for building water systems

By combining water supply and drainage solutions within one portfolio, GF enables engineers, developers, and installers to design safer, quieter and more reliable buildings with the support of a single technology partner.

+GF+ KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. In modern buildings, hydraulic systems operate as a complex ecosystem that must perform reliably, safely and quietly for decades. While often invisible to occupants, drainage systems play a critical role in overall building performance, influencing acoustic comfort, long-term maintenance requirements, and regulatory compliance. With its portfolio of water supply and drainage solutions, GF – with Uponor as its product brand – reinforces its position as a partner capable of covering a broad range of building installations, offering engineers, developers, and installers an integrated approach supported by the expertise and technical support of a single manufacturer.

For engineers responsible for designing building systems, selecting a drainage solution goes far beyond simply conveying wastewater. Key considerations include acoustic performance, fire safety, chemical resistance, and the material's behavior under elevated temperatures. European standards such as EN 1451 for drainage systems and EN 14366-1 for acoustic testing, along with DIN 4109 and VDI 4100 for acoustic performance in buildings, set strict requirements that installations must meet, particularly in residential buildings where acoustic comfort has become a defining quality factor.

Durability is another essential consideration: Drainage stacks for instance typically run through multiple apartments and remain embedded within the building structure, making future interventions complex and costly. As a result, engineers increasingly prioritize systems capable of delivering long service life, high impact resistance, chemical resistance across a wide pH range, and strong thermal stability, helping reduce the risk of failures and costly maintenance throughout the building lifecycle.



Flush out the noise: GF's drainage portfolio featuring GF Silenta Premium, GF Silenta 3A, and GF HT-PP offers a wide range of systems for reliably and efficiently moving wastewater while providing acoustic comfort and long-time performance. © GF

Broader portfolio with drainage solutions: GF's drainage portfolio, including systems such as Silenta Premium, Silenta 3A and HT-PP, addresses these challenges with pipes and fittings manufactured from high-performance PP. This material combines lightweight handling with robustness and resistance to demanding operating conditions, while enabling secure connections and efficient installation, features valued by engineers and installers alike in both residential and commercial projects.

By integrating drainage solutions, GF is expanding its overall portfolio in building technology, which also includes water supply and plumbing systems. By doing so, GF enables professionals to work with fully compatible and coherent solutions under one technological umbrella. This integrated approach simplifies system design, reduces the risk of incompatibility between components and streamlines project planning and installation.

With the global expertise of GF and the specialist know-how of Uponor, professionals benefit from dedicated technical support across every phase of the project – from design and specification to on-site installation. Together, these capabilities position GF as a trusted partner for managing the complete flow of water within buildings, from supply to drainage.

Contact: Georg Fischer AG, Switzerland, www.georgfischer.com / GF Building Flow Solutions (GF BFS), www.uponor.com/en-en

NIBCO: Patent pending groove design for high pressure HVACR systems

NIBCO® PressACR® fittings and tools are a unique copper press connection system designed to meet the demands of air conditioning and refrigeration applications. Our patent pending groove design and crimp pattern supports the higher pressure requirements of an HVACR system.

NIBCO® KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. [PressACR](#) fittings have a gray HNBR sealing element providing permanent leak-proof connections in 1/4" through 2-1/8" OD diameters and are backed by the NIBCO 15-year warranty.

PressACR fittings are approved for use with K, L & M hard copper tubing and soft copper tubing in 1/4" through 7/8" OD diameters. In sizes 1 1/8" and above, PressACR is only approved for use with K, L & M hard copper tubing. All tubing must comply with ASTM B280 ACR tube or B88 standards.

PressACR fittings are approved for air conditioning and refrigeration applications using A class refrigerants.

Contact: NIBCO Inc., USA, www.nibco.com

PressACR®



AALBERTS IPS: New stainless steel ball valve for corrosive & high-purity applications

Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems (IPS) has introduced the new Apollo 76F-HCA stainless steel ball valve with hose cap and retaining chain. Designed for corrosive, high-purity and washdown-intensive environments, the valve delivers enhanced durability, corrosion resistance and protection for hose outlet connections across a wide range of industrial applications.



KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. Developed from an established bronze valve platform and redesigned in stainless steel, the [Apollo 76F-HCA](#) is engineered to meet the requirements of applications where cleanliness, corrosion resistance and long-term reliability are essential. The product was developed in response to customer needs from data center infrastructure projects.

Protected hose connections: The valve features a stainless steel hose cap that protects outlet threads from contamination, debris and physical damage when not in use. An integrated retaining chain keeps the cap securely attached during maintenance and inspections, helping prevent lost components.

Optimized for high-purity water systems: The stainless steel construction makes the valve particularly suitable for de-ionized (DI) water systems, where conventional bronze or brass components may be susceptible to corrosion. This helps maintain system integrity and supports the reliability of critical cooling infrastructure.

Broad industrial applications: The Apollo 76F-HCA is designed for use in data centers, food and beverage processing, pharmaceutical manufacturing, industrial facilities, marine infrastructure, water and wastewater treatment, aquarium systems and fire protection support installations. Key benefits include high corrosion resistance, compatibility with high-purity water systems and reduced maintenance requirements over the product lifecycle.

Contact: Aalberts integrated piping systems (IPS), USA, <https://aalberts-ips.us>



NIBCO: New Webstone water heater installation solutions now available

NIBCO announces an expanded selection of Webstone water heater installation solutions, providing contractors with greater flexibility, space savings, and ease of service.

NIBCO® KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. A new range of Water Heater Service Valve kits is now available. These kits offer a choice of union or valve for the hot water outlet, with brass or dielectric connection options. On the cold side, the Water Heater Supply Valve (WHSV) has been updated with shorter fittings to reduce installation footprint.

The valve supports expansion tanks up to five gallons and features a full assortment of ports and integrated valves to streamline installation and maintenance. For applications that do not require an expansion tank at the water heater, Webstone also introduces new T-Valve™ and ball valve kits as a compact, efficient solution. All kits are available with brass or dielectric water heater connections.

For other installations with more specific requirements, Webstone has introduced new fittings, including G-Series dielectric unions, FIP x FIP unions, and press x FIP unions. When installed in pairs, the FIP unions are also ideal for recirculation pumps. All products are suitable for plumbing and heating applications.

Contact: NIBCO Inc., USA, www.nibco.com / [Storage Tank Water Heater Solutions](#)



WATTS released new sanitary valves with Tri Clamp Connections

Designed for mission-critical data centers, Watts® Sanitary Valves with Tri Clamp Connections deliver 3-A compliant, high-reliability flow control where uptime, cleanliness, and serviceability are essential.



KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026.
[Tri Clamp connections](#) enable

fast, tool-free installation and removal, reducing maintenance time and supporting rapid system modifications in dynamic cooling environments.

Constructed from 316L stainless steel with high-polished internal surfaces, these components promote smooth flow, resist corrosion, and help minimize particulate buildup, supporting optimal performance in closed-loop cooling systems.

Contact: Watts Water Technologies, Inc., USA, www.wattswater.com



Sanitary valves with Tri Clamp Connections engineered for flow in Data Center Cooling
 © WATTS

RWC announces next stage of ongoing manufacturing footprint rationalisation

Melbourne metals closure: Reliance Worldwide Corporation Limited has announced its intention to close its brass casting, forging and machining operations in Moorabbin and Braeside, Melbourne (Australia), along with additional smaller sites, as part of its ongoing optimisation of its global manufacturing operations.



KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. These closures follow a sustained reduction in brass production volumes at the Melbourne facilities over recent years, such that it is no longer economically viable to continue these operations. The changes are expected to deliver net financial benefits to RWC's consolidated results from FY27.

Drivers of reduced brass volumes in Australia – The decline in brass volumes reflects:

- This has enabled production to be undertaken closer to end markets in North America, resulting in a significant reduction in volumes sourced from Australia. The design of SharkBite Max enables a 20% reduction in the amount of brass per fitting; and
- The transition in 2025 from manufacturing brass SharkBite PTC components in Melbourne for the APAC region to sourcing from third party vendors in Asia.

Looking ahead, RWC expects its overall brass requirements to decline further as it progresses its strategy to replace brass with stainless steel across key product ranges.

Contact: Reliance Worldwide Corporation Ltd. (RWC), www.rwc.com / [Full press release](#)

DAIKIN APPLIED invests \$30 million in next-generation HVAC training center

Daikin Applied has started construction of a new \$30 million Solutions & Technical Institute in Plymouth, Minnesota. Scheduled to open in 2027, the facility will provide hands-on training for technicians, engineers, sales teams and customers, helping address the growing skills shortage in the HVAC industry while supporting increasingly complex commercial applications.



KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. Daikin Applied, a member of Daikin Industries, Ltd., designs and manufactures advanced commercial and industrial HVAC systems for customers around the world. The company's technology and services play a vital role in creating comfortable, efficient and sustainable spaces to work and live.

Building skills for the future: As HVAC systems continue to evolve, demand for highly qualified professionals is increasing. The new institute is designed to strengthen technical expertise and prepare the next generation of HVAC talent through practical, application-focused training.

Hands-on learning at scale: The 64,000-square-foot facility will feature more than 50 fully operational HVAC units, up to 120 specialized training programs, modern digital learning capabilities, and dedicated classrooms for technical, engineering, sales and leadership development.

Supporting innovation and customers: The institute complements Daikin Applied's new R&D test laboratory currently under construction in Plymouth. Together, the investments aim to accelerate workforce development, enhance customer support, and advance innovative HVAC solutions for commercial buildings, healthcare, education, manufacturing and data center applications.

Contact: Daikin Applied, USA, www.daikinapplied.com / [Full press release](#)

BRUGG Pipes: 35 years of growing together – connected together

For 35 years, BRUGG Pipes has been connecting people, buildings, and entire regions in Switzerland. What began in 1991 is now an integral part of Switzerland's energy infrastructure – built on trust, partnership, and genuine Swiss quality.



KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. Our piping systems lie beneath streets, run through neighborhoods, and supply industry, municipalities, and district heating networks – often invisible, yet indispensable. Behind every project are people: planners, energy providers, installers, municipalities, and operators who rely on our solutions day in and day out. It is precisely this trust that has made BRUGG Pipes one of the leading providers in the Swiss market today. Swiss quality with a sense of responsibility.

With our local production and expertise, we stand for: uncompromising quality, durable and safe systems, collaborative partnerships on equal footing, and reliability that lasts for decades.

In a time of change – marked by the energy transition, sustainability, and new challenges – we do not take our market position for granted, but view it as a responsibility. We want to continue creating solutions that sustainably secure Switzerland's energy future.

Contact: BRUGG Pipes, Switzerland, www.bruggpipes.com

WATTS launches "Your PDH Pipeline" training campaign

Watts has announced the launch of its "Your PDH Pipeline" continuing education initiative designed to help engineers, architects, designers, facility professionals, and other water industry specialists stay on track with their professional development goals ahead of year-end deadlines.



Watts Water Technologies, Inc.

KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. The campaign will run from July 1 through August 9 and provides participants with access to a library of free, on-demand accredited courses.

Users can choose from more than 30 continuing education courses across industry topics like water safety and backflow prevention, commercial leak detection systems, data center cooling and system efficiency, rainwater harvesting and sustainable design, smart building technologies, and broader industry trends and best practices.

LEARN. EARN. STAY AHEAD!

Free online training, continuing education opportunities, and rewards designed for today's water industry pros

WATTS
training.watts.com



All courses are accredited through ASPE and/or AIA with certificates issued within 72 hours of completion. Users who complete five or more courses during the campaign period will receive a Fresh Goods® 40 oz. Intrepid Stainless-Steel Tumbler.

To participate, log in or sign up for a free [Watts Works Online account](#).

Contact: Watts Water Technologies, Inc., USA, www.wattswater.com

ORBIA provides the infrastructure making it possible – Data centers are booming

This article is part of Orbia's Megatrendsetters blog series, which explores how Orbia's solutions are driving the transformative forces, or "megatrends" that are advancing our society, from decarbonization and the circular economy to shifting supply chains and agribusiness to global water and digitalization.



KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. The rapid expansion of AI and digital services is driving unprecedented investment in data centers. However, meeting future demand requires more than new facilities – it depends on reliable infrastructure, advanced materials and scalable connectivity. Orbia supports this development with solutions that improve cable safety, network performance and long-term infrastructure resilience.

Advanced materials for safer data centers: Inside modern data centers, increasing cable density and higher power demands require materials that combine performance with fire safety. Orbia Polymer Solutions (Alphagary) develops specialized compounds for cable jackets that comply with both US and European fire safety standards.

Working closely with cable manufacturers, the company continuously adapts and develops material solutions to support thinner cable designs, higher fiber density and evolving performance requirements while maintaining strict safety standards.

Building the connectivity backbone: Outside the data center, reliable fiber infrastructure is essential. Orbia Connectivity Solutions (Dura-Line) provides HDPE conduit systems that connect hyperscale facilities across long-distance, metro and campus networks.

Its conduit solutions are designed to simplify future expansion, support efficient installation and enable scalable network growth as global data center capacity continues to increase.

Innovation with sustainability in mind: Alongside performance, sustainability plays an increasingly important role. Trenchless installation methods, recycled HDPE materials and reusable cable reels help reduce environmental impact while supporting customers' sustainability targets throughout infrastructure projects.

Supporting customers beyond products: Beyond supplying materials and conduit systems, Orbia works closely with customers on system design, application engineering and technical training. This collaborative approach helps ensure reliable installations and prepares network teams for the growing complexity of modern fiber infrastructure.

Conclusion: As global data center capacity accelerates, demand for safe, reliable and future-ready infrastructure continues to grow. By combining advanced cable materials with scalable connectivity solutions, Orbia supports the next generation of digital infrastructure across the entire value chain.

Contact: Orbia, www.orbia.com / [Full article](#)

Right-sizing plumbing systems: Smarter design for better performance

Traditional plumbing pipe sizing methods are increasingly misaligned with today's water-efficient buildings. Based on modern water usage data, right-sized plumbing systems reduce construction costs, improve water quality, accelerate hot water delivery, and support sustainability goals. The article explains why it's time to move beyond the decades-old Hunter's Curve and adopt data-driven sizing methods for modern residential and multi-family buildings.

KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. The article, "[Designing Right-Sized Plumbing Systems for Housing Affordability, Water Efficiency, and Public Health](#) – Creating spaces that are safe, welcoming and healthy for all occupants", sponsored by IAPMO, was written by Andrew A. Hunt.

Why traditional sizing falls short: For decades, Hunter's Curve has been the industry standard for estimating peak water demand. However, it was developed in the 1940s – long before today's low-flow fixtures, WaterSense® products, and changing occupancy patterns. As a result, many plumbing systems are significantly oversized.

The cost of oversized systems: Oversized piping increases material and installation costs while creating operational challenges. Lower water velocities can lead to stagnation, longer hot water delivery times, higher energy consumption, and an increased risk of water quality issues, including the growth of waterborne pathogens.

A data-driven alternative: Modern design tools, such as the [IAPMO Water Demand Calculator®](#), use current water usage data to accurately predict demand. Right-sizing enables engineers to optimize system performance, reduce construction costs, improve water efficiency, and support healthier buildings without compromising reliability.

Key takeaway: As fixture efficiencies and building usage continue to evolve, plumbing design should be based on actual demand rather than outdated assumptions. Right-sized systems deliver economic, environmental, and public health benefits – making them a smarter choice for today's residential developments.



Christoph Lohr, Vice President of Technical Services and Research at IAPMO and a nationally recognized plumbing engineer and water systems advocate, is a frequent presenter on the benefits of using the IAPMO Water Demand Calculator® instead of the outdated Hunters Curve.
© IAPMO

To learn how modern right-sizing strategies are reshaping residential plumbing design, read the [full article](#).

Source: Continuing Education Center, <https://continuingeducation.bnppmedia.com>

Radiant heating & cooling + Geothermal: A smart path to building decarbonization

Radiant heating and cooling systems combined with geothermal ground source heat pumps (GSHPs) are becoming a key solution for energy-efficient, low-carbon buildings. By using water to transfer heating and cooling through a building's structure, these systems reduce energy consumption, improve occupant comfort, and support long-term sustainability goals.

KWD-globalpipe, 17.07.2026. The article, "[How Radiant Heating and Cooling Combined with Geothermal GSHPs Help Projects Achieve Decarbonization Goals](#)", was written by Hailey Mick (business development manager with Alliance Air Products, a member of DAIKIN group) and Kim Bliss (technical and marketing content manager at GF Building Flow Solutions) and published by ASPEPipeline on July 8, 2026.

High-efficiency heating and cooling: Radiant systems circulate heated or chilled water through PEX piping embedded in floors, walls, or ceilings. When paired with geothermal GSHPs, they deliver highly efficient heating and cooling while significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Lower energy use, greater sustainability: Geothermal heat pumps achieve high efficiency levels and operate with higher chilled water temperatures than conventional HVAC systems, helping lower electricity demand. Durable PEX piping also contributes to a reduced environmental footprint compared with traditional copper systems.

Comfort meets performance: Beyond energy savings, radiant systems provide even temperatures, quiet operation, flexible zoning, and improved indoor air quality by eliminating the need for forced-air distribution. Their long service life and low maintenance requirements further enhance lifecycle value.

In conclusion: Combining radiant and geothermal GSHP systems is an efficient, resilient solution for heating and cooling. Water is safe and easy to use, has a high thermal capacity and low viscosity, requires less monitoring, and is better for our environment.

Source: ASPEPipeline, USA, <https://aspe.org/pipeline> / [Full article](#)