Exhibitors say interest in sustainable construction still strong despite low turnout at trade show.

By Bob Miodonski  |  miodonskib@bnpmedia.com

Exhibitors at the 2014 Greenbuild attributed the frequently light traffic on the show floor Oct. 22-23 to a number of factors: educational workshops being conducted during trade show hours; declining attendance at trade shows in general; and the location of the event in New Orleans. Exhibitors did not, however, equate the turnout to a waning interest in green buildings. They say interest in sustainable construction among industry professionals remains as strong as ever.

Numbers released by the show’s producers state that 17,507 people attended Greenbuild this year. Exhibiting companies numbered 552 with their booths covering 142,000 sq. ft. of exhibit space.

Several exhibitors say attendance should pick up next November when Greenbuild shifts to Washington, D.C. The federal government’s emphasis on green buildings and the number of universities in the area should bring more people to the show.

The number of new products introduced at Greenbuild was limited. Companies that exhibit at Greenbuild do so more for branding purposes and to show their support to the committed green building professionals who attend the show, according to one exhibitor. The plumbing-and-heating manufacturers exhibiting at the show include: Aquatherm, Armstrong Fluid Technology, Kohler Co., Mitsubishi Electric, Navien, Niagara, Owens-Corning, Sloan Valve, TOTO, Uponor and Zurn.

Plumbing products


“Rada faucets and showers are capable of delivering precise temperature and flow while managing Legionella risk, reducing the risk of scalding and using less water,” says Eoin McQuone, business director at Rada.

Kohler’s booth also featured two of its sustainable systems that are being used in India and France.

In its booth, Sloan displayed its BASYS faucet platform that can be used in health-care applications as well. One of its features is a line purge that automatically activates the faucet after a long period of non-use to eliminate stagnant water. The company also was soliciting feedback from Greenbuild attendees on a hybrid urinal on a hybrid urinal that uses just 1 gal. a week, or 52 gal. a year, to flush the drain line.

TOTO unveiled its MyGreenPayback app for mobile devices, computers and smartphones. It enables consumers and construction professionals to calculate in real time their financial return on their investment and the planet’s return on the environment when they purchase one of the company’s plumbing products.

“We wanted to make the sustainable purchasing process easier by demonstrating our high-efficiency products’ water and energy savings across their lifecycle in a format that is easy to understand,” President of Operations for the Americas Bill Strang said.

Niagara Conservation showed its Hot Start Showerhead, which will be available in January 2015. The showerhead will allow users to turn on the shower at full flow while they
wait for the water to heat up. Once the water reaches 95° F, the flow reduces to a trickle, which saves water, energy and money. Users will get visual confirmation when the water is hot and can press the “resume” button on the showerhead to bring the hot water back on at a flow rate of 2.0 gpm.

Heating and cooling products

Used in both plumbing and HVAC applications, Aquatherm’s polypropylene-random piping systems now feature a threadless transition from PP-R pipe to copper sweated connections, for use particularly in commercial and industrial plumbing applications. Aquatherm collaborated with Sioux Chief Manufacturing, which makes the copper portion of the stub-outs that come in 1/2-in., 3/4-in., and 1-in. diameters and are 11-in., 11-in., 18-in. long respectively.

Armstrong Fluid Technology announced its single-phase motors are available on its IVS102 variable-speed controller and Design Envelope pumps up to 7.5 hp to optimize energy savings in light commercial, residential and industrial applications. The company also showed a Chiller Plant Automation System targeted at optimizing the performance of air-cooled chiller plants. The IPC 9511 streamlines plant operations and can lower operating costs, in part, by incorporating Sensorless pump speed control technology. In addition, the company released an app for iPads and other mobile devices for its ADEPT software for industry professionals to select energy-efficient pumps.

Navien’s Heating Boiler, rated at 95% AFUE, was on display. It is offered in four sizes: NHB-55, NHB-80, NHB-110 and NHB-150 with turndown ratios of 7:1, 10:1, 11:1 and 15:1, respectively. Also shown was Navien’s NPE-S series of condensing tankless water heaters. They supply maximum inputs from 150,000 to 199,900 Btu/hr. and efficient outputs from 148,500 to 197,900 Btu/hr. Maximum flow rates are from 8.4 to 11.1 gpm. Other features include: 1/2-in. gas pipe capability up to 24 ft.; 2-in. PVC venting up to 60 ft.; dual stainless-steel heat exchangers; field gas convertibility; and capability to cascade up to 16 units without an external control box.

Mitsubishi Electric introduced its Hyper-Heating INVERTER MXZ multi-zone outdoor unit for residential applications. A single outdoor unit is capable of connecting up to eight indoor units, providing a solution for whole-home cooling and heating in cold-weather climates. The technology offers improved efficiency, quiet operation and decreased installation time, the company said.
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Baths

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P40 — Plastic
S20 — Sauna
S40 — Sitz
W40 — Whirlpool
Amerec Steam — S20
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American Standard Walk-in Baths — H80,W40
Aqua Glass Corp. — W40
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Omni Brass — W40
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Sterling — W40
Whitehall Mfg. — W40

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C20 — Cast Iron
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S80 — Steel
W40 — Whirlpool
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American Standard Walk-in Baths — A20,F40,W40
Aqua Bath Co. — A20
Aqua Glass Corp. — A20,W40
Azar — A20,M20
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I60 — Institutional
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K40 — Kitchen/Swing Spout
L20 — Laboratory
L30 — Laundry Trays
L40 — Lavatory
L50 — Lead-Free
M40 — Mixing
P80 — Push Button
R20 — Residential
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S40 — Sill
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W20 — Wall
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W40,W50

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R20,S20,S60,W20,W50

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Fluidmaster — V20  
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**Manifolds & Headers**  
P40 — Plumbing  
P60 — Prefabricated  
P70 — Valves & Fittings  
American Granby — P40  
Aquatherm — P40  
Azel Technologies — P40,P60,P70  
Caleffi North America — P60,P70  
ComfortPro Systems — P40,P60,P70  
HeatLink Group — P40  
Hydro-PEX Systems — P40,P60,P70  
Hydronic Alternatives — P70  
IPEX USA — P40,P60,P70

**Laboratories, Factory**  
Ametekco Industries  
Bradley Corp.  
Sloan Valve Co.  
Willoughby Industries  
Zurn Industries

**Laboratories, Industrial**  
Aero Mfg. Co.  
American Standard  
Ametekco Industries  
Bradley Corp.  
Sloan Valve Co.  
Willoughby Industries  
Zurn Industries

**Laboratories, Pedestal**  
American Standard  
Danze  
Gerber Plumbing Fixtures  
Kohler Co.  
ROHL  
Sterling

**Laboratories, Pedestal**  
American Standard  
Danze  
Gerber Plumbing Fixtures  
Kohler Co.  
ROHL  
Sterling

**Laboratories, Testing**  
Potter Electric Signal Co.

**Lavatories, Decorative**  
Alsons Corp.  
American Standard  
Danze  
Elkay Mfg. Co.

**Lavatories, Factory**  
Ametekco Industries  
Bradley Corp.  
Sloan Valve Co.  
Willoughby Industries  
Zurn Industries

**Lavatories, Hospital**  
Aero Mfg. Co.  
American Standard  
Ametekco Industries  
Bradley Corp.  
Elkay Mfg. Co.  
Sloan Valve Co.  
Willoughby Industries  
Zurn Industries

**Lavatories, Pedestal**  
American Standard  
Danze  
Gerber Plumbing Fixtures  
Kohler Co.  
ROHL  
Sterling
Thread Sealant Applicator
Black Swan Mfg. Co.
Hercules Chemical Co.
J.C. Whitlam Mfg. Co.
S.O.S. Products Co.

Thread Seals
American Granby
Anti-Seize Technology
Black Swan Mfg. Co.
Hercules Chemical Co.
J.C. Whitlam Mfg. Co.
Jomar Group
Jones Stephens
The Mill-Rose Co.
Oatey SCS

RectorSeal
S.O.S. Products Co.
Spear Mfg. Co.
Utility Mfg. Co.
Wolverine Brass

Threaders
Reed Manufacturing Co.
RIDGID
ROTHENBERGER USA
Wheeler-Rex

Timers, Electric
AquaMotion
Arrowhead Brass & Plumbing
Tekmar Control Systems
Watts Radiant

Timers, Mechanical
AquaMotion

Toilet Accessories
Jones Stephens
Niagara Conservation
Oatey SCS
Wolverine Brass
Zurn Industries

Toilet Base Plates
Oatey SCS

Toilet Flushing Systems
P60 — Pressure-Assisted
American Standard — P60
Flusmate — P60
Gerber Plumbing Fixtures — P60
Zurn Industries — P60

Toilet Seats
A50 — Anti-Microbial
C50 — Commercial
H20 — Handicapped
I50 — Institutional
R30 — Residential
American Standard — A50,C50,H20,I50,R30
Bemis Mfg. Co. — C50,H20,150,R30
Culnata — H20,150,R30

J.C. Whitlam Mfg. Co. — H20
Wolverine Brass — C50,150,R30
Zurn Industries — C50,150,

Toilets
American Granby
American Standard
Artisan Mfg. Corp.
Culnata
Danze
Flushmate
Gerber Plumbing Fixtures
Jones Stephens
La-Co Industries
P60 — Pressure/Accessories
RectorSeal
S.O.S. Products Co.
Spears Mfg. Co.
Utility Mfg. Co.
Wolverine Brass

Toilets, Vacuum
Briggs Plumbing Products
Willoughby Industries
Wolverine Brass
Zurn Industries

Tool Boxes
The Mill-Rose Co.

Tool Cases
Irwin Industrial Tools

Tools
A80 — Auger
C20 — Cast Iron Pipe
C40 — Clamping
C50 — Conduit
D60 — Drilling & Tapping
F20 — Fastening
F40 — Flaring
G60 — Grooving
H20 — Hand
M20 — Machine
P20 — PEX
P30 — Pinch-Off
P40 — Cleaning
P50 — Pipe Handling
P60 — Power/Accessories
P70 — Pressure Testing
P80 — Plumbing
S50 — Soldering
S80 — Swaging
T20 — Hot/Wet
T30 — Torque
T80 — Tube Crimping
V20 — Valve Repair
W20 — Water Heater Sediment Removal
W30 — Water Well

Advaco Co. — P50,P70,P80,S50
American Granby — C40,H20,P20,P40,P80,W30
Anvil International — C600
Black Swan Mfg. Co. — A80,P40
Brenelle Enterprises — H20,P80,S50

ComfortPro Systems — P20
DeWalt

General Pipe Cleaners — A80,P40,P80
Goss — P80,S50
Greenlee — A80,H20,P40,P60
Hilmor
Hydro-PEX Systems — P20
IPEX USA — G60,P40,T80
Irwin Industrial Tools — A80,C20,C40,H20,P40,P80,S50
Jones Stephens — P20,P40,P80
LA-CO Industries — P40,P80
LSP Products Group — P70
Matika
M. K. Morse Co. — H20,M20,P60
Midland Metal — P20,P80,T80
The Mill-Rose Co. — H20,P40
Milwaukee Tool Corp. — D60,H20
Mr. PEX Systems — F20,P20
NIBCO — P20
Oatey SCS — P80,T50
Oetiker — C40
PowerMate / L P International — M20

Toilet Flushing Systems
A20 — Acetylene
L50 — L-P Gas
P60 — Propane
AMTROL — P60
Brenelle Enterprises — P60
Goss — A20,L50,P60
Irwin Industrial Tools — L50,P60
ROTHENBERGER USA — P60
Worthington Industries — A20,P60

Torches & Accessories

Goss

Torches, Brazing, Soldering, Welding
Brenelle Enterprises
VRF zoning systems
Mitsubishi Electric’s Hyper-Heating R2 series of variable-refrigerant flow zoning systems joins the Hyper-Heating Inverter (H2i) family of products. The flash-injection technology allows the series, available up to 16 tons, to simultaneously cool and heat down to -4°F. In addition to heating at 100% at 0°, the system can operate at 85% heating capacity down to -13°. One outdoor unit can connect to 24 indoor units and the heat pump is compatible with all City Multi indoor unit styles. The series features up to 150% connected capacity. Mitsubishi Electric U.S. Cooling & Heating Division. www.mitsubishipro.com

Temperature-controlled showerhead
Niagara Conservation will release its Hot Start showerhead, its latest Stealth System product offering, in January 2015. The Hot Start is a temperature-controlled, EPA- and WaterSense-certified solution that allows users to turn the shower on at full flow and wait for the shower water to heat up without being wasteful. When the water reaches 95°F, the showerhead reduces the flow to a trickle, saving the user water, energy and money. When the user is ready to get into the shower, he/she will have visual confirmation that the water is hot and can press the Resume button on the showerhead to bring the hot water back at a 2-gpm flow. Niagara Conservation. www.niagaracorp.com

Touchless flush toilet
Kohler adds its touchless flush technology to the company’s San Souci toilet line. The toilet has a sensor mounted on the inside of the tank that will set off the flush when a hand is over it. The San Souci is a one-piece design with a compact, but elongated bowl with a seat that is more comfortable and easy to use for most adults. Featuring a 1.28-gal. flush, the toilet is WaterSense-certified to provide savings up to 16,500 gal. per year. Kohler. www.kohler.com

Enhanced pumps
Armstrong Fluid Technology’s Design Envelope pumps now are available with single-phase motors to meet optimum efficiency and energy savings for all building loads. These pumps allow engineers to select the ideal pumping solution for the application’s needs. Design Envelope pumps include sensorless variable-speed control, integration of pump and controller, and are compliant with ASHRAE 90.1 guidelines. Armstrong Fluid Technology. www.armstrongfluidtechnology.com

Recycled water pipe
Aquatherm’s Lilac recycled/reclaimed water piping system is a durable and corrosion-resistant polypropylene material that is easy to design and install for applications such as toilet/drain water, rainwater collection, laundry/cleaning and irrigation. This fully recyclable environmentally-friendly alternative to plastic and metal piping also is installed without the use of any toxic materials, glues and resins, or open flames. Lilac uses a simple heat-fusion connection to create seamless connections. Available in pipe dimensions ranging from 3/8” to 12”. Aquatherm. www.aquathermpipe.com

For more information on these products, please visit the manufacturers’ websites.