

the NEWS

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Winners Round Out Efficiency Offerings

By Angela D. Harris
Of *The NEWS* Staff

It's the miscellaneous items in a contractor's arsenal that make all the difference in a job. Whether a filter cover, an efficiency panel, or a hybrid system component, it's the latest and greatest in HVAC technology accessories that are mandatory for contractors looking to meet the comfort and efficiency expectations of their customers.

Gold Winner

Build Right Products LLC's FilterLOCK is a flexible cover made from durable and flexible high-strength film designed to seal common 1-inch furnace filter slots virtually airtight. The overlapping two-piece design accommodates filter slot sizes up to 25 inches wide. Integral magnetic fasteners hold the device securely in place as it effectively covers filter slots located at the top or on the side of metal return air ducts. The length can be trimmed to accommodate various sizes of filter slots as needed and it takes approximately one minute to install this cover.

According to the manufacturer, Energy Star® and the U.S. Department of Energy identified an open filter slot as one of four common problems with HVAC duct systems. FilterLOCK economically and effectively solves this problem, said the company. Before FilterLOCK, there were basically three methods used to cover filter slots — metal covers, magnetic sheets, and duct tape. The metal covers require screws and tape making air filter replacement difficult for homeowners. Magnetic sheets can fail to seal all aspects of the filter slots correctly. FilterLOCK's flexible design accommodates filter slots with protruding filters. The patent pending design folds over both ends of the return air duct/plenum to seal corners virtually airtight. Negative pressure generated by return air actually pulls FilterLOCK tighter to the filter slot opening.

"This looks like it should become a popular product for sealing 1-inch furnace filter slots — very easy to use," said one of the contractor judges. "This is a good idea." ■



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MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS

Gold Winner

Build Right Products LLC

www.filterlock.net ■ FilterLOCK

GOLD WINNER: Build Right Products LLC's FilterLOCK has an overlapping two-piece design that accommodates filter slot sizes up to 25 inches wide.