

MAKING SMART ENERGY CHOICES

The top two energy users in your home are heating and hot water. While there are many energy-efficient products available, not all of them will be right for you. Parex believes that by matching their energy-efficient heating solutions to your lifestyle it will not only save you money, it will create a cosy environment suited to your needs while respecting the planet's resources.

With energy costs soaring and the cold months well and truly upon us, it's time to reconsider the way you heat your home to ensure you are not only saving money and doing the right thing for the planet, but also creating a healthy, comfortable environment ideally suited to the needs of you and your family. One company dedicated to innovate energy-efficient heating solutions is New Zealand company Parex, which has a unique approach to meeting your heating needs. "Our vision is to provide innovative solutions for a brighter future," says general manager Andrew Higgs. "We don't believe in accepting the obvious solution and we don't believe in a one-size-fits-all approach to heating. We believe in tailoring solutions to your lifestyle, requirements and budgets. And we recognise that people's lifestyles can and do change," he adds. Higgs says the first place to start when making your heating choices is by examining your lifestyle. Everything from the number of people you have living in your home, to how often you are at home and even the size of your house need to be considered in order to determine the correct solution.

INTELLIGENT HEATING

"New Zealanders are getting the message about well-insulated and efficiently designed homes," says Higgs. The next step is in making sure they select the most suitable source of heat. "If you have a thermal mass like a concrete floor in your home, consider heat pump underfloor heating. This involves reticulating hot water through the slab to warm it during winter. You are not heating the air directly but heating water that heats the slab that then heats the house, creating a better quality, more long-lasting heat," he says. Heat pump under-floor heating also has five times the efficiency of electric under-floor heating. "It is an upfront investment," says Higgs, "but can mean the difference in running cost of \$1000 a month for electric as opposed to \$200 a month for the heat pump version." For homes without a thermal mass, Higgs suggests low-consumption radiators. "These hold the heat and create a high-quality heat that doesn't dry the air out, making it a healthier environment for the whole family." The high-precision thermostats offer controlled heat and you can adjust room by room so you can tailor the heat to your needs.

TAILORED HOT WATER

Higgs says the dominant technology in the New Zealand market is still 1920s-style hot water cylinders, which are incredibly inefficient. In this respect the New Zealand market is falling behind in terms of the uptake of energy-efficient technology. Higgs says Parex offers three innovative solutions to your water heating needs. The first is the heat pump hot water system, designed for high users of hot water. "The more you use, the more you save, making it guilt-free hot water and ideal for families," says Higgs. "For every unit of hot water you use, it will save you a third of the running cost of your legacy hot water system," he adds. For people with a second home, or for those who travel often, the instant hot water system is perfect. Designed to only heat up the water as you use it, it means you only pay for what you use. Finally, for large homes where the kitchen tap is located a long way from your main hot water source, Higgs recommends the point-of-use water heater. "This product not only saves water, it also saves energy because of the reduced heat loss in the pipes. Plus it's instant so you don't have to wait for the water to heat up," he says.



POINT-OF-USE WATER HEATERS

Ideal for kitchens in larger homes where the main water source is far away. The hot water tank so close reduces heat loss in the pipes, saving energy.



INSTANT WATER HEATERS

Perfect for people with second homes or those who travel, this product heats water as you need it and avoids heat loss. You only pay for what you use.



RADIATORS

Low-consumption radiators gently warm the air but don't dry it out. The high-precision thermostats make it easy to achieve the right temperature in each room.



HEAT PUMP UNDER-FLOOR HEATING

Perfect for new homes with a concrete floor, this heating uses reticulated hot water to warm the slab and is five times more efficient than electric.



HEAT PUMP WATER HEATERS

A great solution for high users of hot water such as large families. Heat pump water heaters offer a third of the running cost of your legacy hot water system.