

:: HUMIDITY IN THE HOME: HOW YOU CAN TAKE CONTROL

Most homeowners rate temperature control from their heating and air conditioning system a number one priority—but another factor can be just as important. The wrong humidity can also make a home uncomfortable and unhealthy. Now there are new and highly effective ways for homeowners to deal with high humidity levels in their homes.

"It's recommended the humidity level in a home remain between 30 and 50% to keep it from feeling too dry or too humid, reducing the ability for mold to grow and dust mites to thrive," said Tom Overs, Lennox Industries product marketing manager for indoor air quality. "Dust mites and mold can often trigger allergies and asthma in some people, making them ill. Proper humidity levels can reduce the potential for mold growth."

Controlling temperature and humidity

Higher humidity can make the home feel warmer, making it necessary to cool the rooms more. Removing humidity in the summer is important for consumers to feel cool and comfortable, but strictly cooling the home can result in high energy costs and will not necessarily keep homeowners comfortable. In the winter, dry air and low humidity create a cooler, drier feeling. Homeowners may try to add humidity to their home with whole home humidifiers, but they still will also have to increase the temperature to add humidity.

"Often, homeowners do not realize condensation on their windows can be caused by high humidity, compared to the outdoor temperature," said Overs. "Appropriate control of humidity by comparing indoor humidity and outdoor temperature can reduce the potential for condensation on windows."

While several products on the market remove or add humidity, few products control both humidity and temperature. One effective solution to make both the temperature and humidity levels in your home comfortable is the SignatureStat™ Home Comfort Controller from Lennox Industries. This innovative new control works with advanced heating and cooling systems and humidifiers to cool, heat, and add or remove humidity within the home for precise control and total home comfort.

The SignatureStat controls humidity without relying on the need for a temperature increase or decrease, creating a comfort level beyond today's products. Independent humidity control eliminates that warm, moist feeling in the spring when the temperature is at the correct setting, but the humidity levels are too high. The control operates the equipment to maintain the humidity and temperature set points. The SignatureStat provides precision comfort by increasing the degree of control the homeowner's control.

"Homeowners can now adjust the relative humidity and temperature in their homes according to their comfort needs any time of the year," said Overs. "In the winter when humidity is lower, SignatureStat works in place of a humidistat to control the humidifier, adding humidity when necessary and bringing the relative humidity down to prevent frosting and condensation on windows and walls. During hot, humid summer months, the SignatureStat Home Comfort Control enhances the performance of the central air conditioner for maximum dehumidification independent of temperature."

Homeowners can remove humidity with the SignatureStat beyond the performance of traditional dehumidification methods in HVAC systems. The SignatureStat can remove up to 75 gallons of water vapor per day, given the right conditions and HVAC equipment. Traditional methods of

By the way...

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See how 



controlling home comfort include non-variable and single-speed air conditioning units, which remove 12 pints of water vapor per hour. A variable speed furnace with a two-speed air conditioning unit removes 17 pints of water vapor per hour.

A worldwide leader in residential and commercial heating and air-conditioning systems, Lennox Industries Inc. is based near Dallas, Texas. Lennox Industries is a subsidiary of Lennox International Inc., a Fortune 500 company operating in over 70 countries and a global leader in the heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration markets. Lennox International stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "LII."