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SmartLite® technology in NuTone gas-driven products extends igniter life

DAYTON, Ohio, March 18, 2010 - Free standing pilot lights and earlier versions of hot surface ignition systems (HSI) technology improved the gas furnace industry when they hit the market. HSI uses an igniter which, when energized, rapidly generates an intense heat sufficient to ignite the fuel gas. However, operating at excessively high temperatures shortens HSI igniter life.

Since the introduction of HSI, SmartLite® ignition technology was developed by NORDYNE and is used in NuTone Heating and Cooling gas driven products to extend igniter life, said Frank Wood, a Noland Company technical service advisor. [Noland](#) locations and selected [Winair](#) and [Winnelson](#) companies exclusively distribute NuTone Heating and Cooling Products, which are manufactured by NORDYNE, the 91-year old company headquartered in O'Fallon, Mo., with manufacturing plants in Missouri and Tennessee.

The state-of-the-art SmartLite Control Board with microchip software has a program that varies the igniter heat-up time interval, Wood said. It learns the heat-up characteristics of the furnace igniter by searching for the threshold of ignition failure. This intelligence feature then adjusts the heat-up interval on the next ignition trial accordingly, which optimizes igniter "on time" and maximizes igniter life.

Here's how the SmartLite control board operates at initial start up or after a power interruption.

- At start-up the igniter is energized for 30 seconds.
- If ignition is successful the timing is reduced by three seconds on the next call for heat. If ignition is again successful, the timing is further reduced by three seconds.
- The process is repeated until ignition failure occurs.

Upon ignition failure SmartLite technology makes adjustments.

- The igniter time increases by three seconds until there is successful ignition.
- Once successful ignition is reached, the igniter time remains fixed.

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Wood explained that since ignition conditions can vary, after 250 consecutive successful ignitions, the SmartLite control is programmed to automatically decrease the heat-up interval by three seconds until failure. Then the program begins adding three seconds to the interval until successful ignition.

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About WinWholesale Inc.

WinWholesale Inc. (www.winwholesale.com) is a leading supplier of domestic and industrial supplies and materials headquartered in Dayton, Ohio. The privately-held company consists of more than 450 wholesaling corporations in which WinWholesale is an equity partner, and also Noland Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary. Noland is a wholesaler with more than 70 locations mainly in the Southeast. Collectively, WinWholesale is referred to as “The Win Group of Companies.” In the group are companies conducting business-to-business wholesale distribution of plumbing and heating supplies; industrial pipes, valves and fittings; heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration equipment; electrical equipment; industrial and commercial fastening hardware; waterworks and utility supplies; and domestic, commercial and industrial pumps.