

Spring Creek Mountain Village

Radiant heating and geothermal lead the charge for energy-efficient amenities and alternative energy sources in this mountain community. **na.rehau.com/projects**



Radiant heating system warms residents of eco-minded mountain community

Nestled among the Canadian Rockies, the 70-acre Spring Creek Mountain Village is an innovative residential community gently integrated to preserve and enhance the area's natural waterways, forestry and mountain views.

With his longstanding experience developing mountain communities throughout Alberta and British Columbia, developer Frank Kernick, the latest in a three-generation lineage of the original property's owners, brought personal interest to the project, as well as a concern for its high level of environmental responsibility. "Spring Creek has special meaning, both as the original site where my family and I grew up, and as the first sustainable community to be developed in the valley," said Kernick.

"Both the scope of this project and its strong emphasis on alternative energy sourcing has made it very exciting, while also challenging us to identify and work with the ideal product partners," said Ralph Salm, president of Geo Furnace Technologies in Canmore, Alberta, designated heating contractor for the Spring Creek project.

"Working with Frank and the development team, it is our goal to design each of the buildings with as little outside energy dependency as possible," explained Salm. "This means not only identifying the ideal alternative energy source, but also a heating distribution system, like REHAU's RAUPEX radiant heating system, that works as a complement to that energy source."

"With the frequent temperature changes, kinks can be quite common in this area, and a job as big as Spring Creek Mountain Village can be significantly slowed without this kind of capability," Salm said. "When kinks occur, we really liked the ability to reheat the RAUPEX pipe and have it 'heal' back to its original state."

Approximately 550,000 ft (167,640 m) of RAUPEX O₂ Barrier crosslinked polyethylene (PEXa) pipe has been installed in three completed buildings so far. The radiant heating systems have contributed to Built Green[™] ratings for all three buildings, which achieved respective Silver, Gold and Platinum status upon their completion.

In total, the project is expected to include several million feet of RAUPEX. "It's pretty phenomenal if you think about it," Salm said, "and we're expecting to hit the 'one million feet' mark in just the next two years."



"Spring Creek continues to be one of the most rewarding projects I've worked on to date, and I still get excited when I see the pleasantly surprised reaction of new residents to the quiet, comfortable and environmentally responsible way their home is heated. I look forward to our further efforts in moving the Spring Creek project to completion, and to working in partnership with REHAU every step of the way."

Project: Spring Creek Mountain Village, Canmore, AB Construction type: Residential Community Project scope: 550,000 ft (167.640 m) of pipe Contractor: Geo Furnace Technologies Developer: Frank Kernick REHAU systems used: Radiant heating (RAUPEX® pipe, PRO-BALANCE® manifolds)

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