



Commercial Water



COMMERCIAL WATER CASE STUDY

Torin™ Commercial Air to Water Heat Pump Powers Sustainable Future



Torin™ delivers reliable performance despite Alaska's extreme conditions.

Below-zero temperatures. 100-plus inches of rainfall. Intense snowstorms. Cordova, Alaska, experiences them all.

Nestled in the Prince William Sound and surrounded by mountains and glaciers, the commercial fishing town of about 2,600 relies on the Cordova Electric Cooperative (CEC) to provide electricity for the community.

Unlike other co-ops, CEC generates much of their own power, using renewable energy to power Cordova. About 85% of electricity is generated by locally sourced hydropower. But its facilities have historically run on fossil fuel.

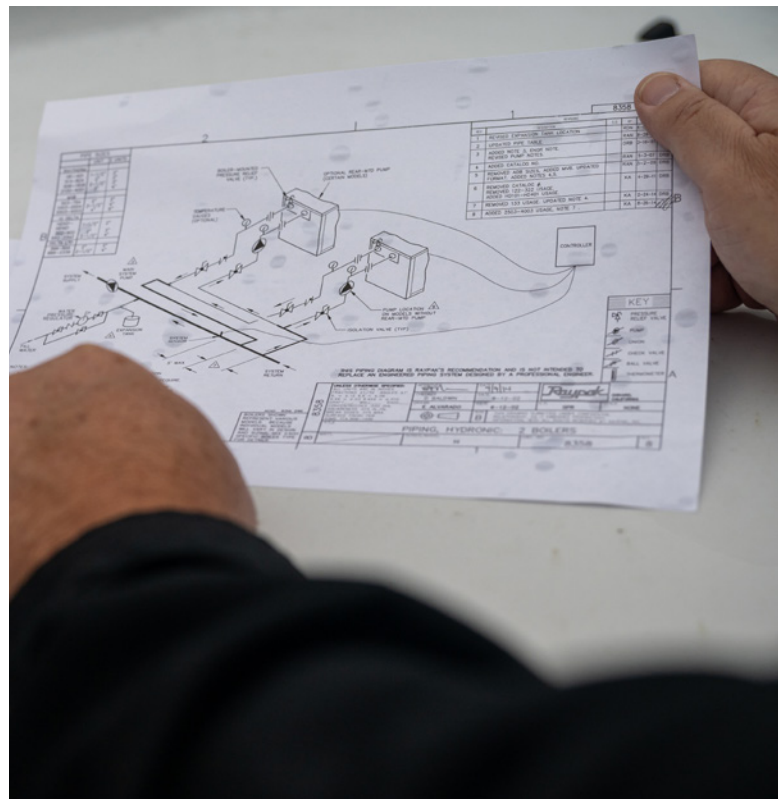
Relying on diesel means that costs in the community add up quickly. "About 60% of the household budget in Cordova goes toward heating homes, businesses and industry," says Clay Koplin, CEO of CEC. "It really is a huge economic impact."

In looking for a more sustainable solution for CEC's alignment facility, the co-op needed a commercial solution that not only survived but thrived during the harsh Alaskan winters.

Enter Torin™.



CORDOVA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE IN CORDOVA, AK



The Solution

Torin, Rheem's commercial air to water heat pump water heater, was engineered with extreme conditions in mind.

"For this heat pump, the innovation we were working toward was offering a technology that typically struggles in cold climates to actually be efficient and deliver a positive value to buildings," says Hillary Heyerdahl, senior manager of product management at Rheem. In Cordova, temperatures average between 15°F and 70°F. Torin operates at -13°F to 110°F.

Russ Goss, manager of generation at CEC, has been waiting for a technology like this. "This product has been needed and attempted for a couple of decades now. I truly feel like Rheem figured it out," he says.

"The Torin line can do hydronic heating, floor heating and radiant panel heating. It can also make domestic hot water for showers, in the kitchen, laundry and for the bathroom," says John Trauger, senior district training representative at Rheem.



Once Torin was installed, the impact was instant. "We immediately noticed substantial differences," Goss says. "For one, it's so compact. You barely need 9 square feet spot."

Torin's space-saving design also includes a simple setup that can be integrated into your existing heating system. "Unlike installing a boiler, the heat pump is a packaged unit, and the only thing penetrating into your building are two very small diameter pipes that connect to your existing hydronic system," he says.

The heat pump can be remotely monitored, whether you're down the street or across the world. Torin also eliminates common fuel-fired issues, and its simple user interface makes it easy to manage, increasing ease of use for building managers with reliability they can trust.

“Rheem has taken our 100 years of experience in making hot water and making air cold—all of that technology and knowledge has gone into these heat pumps.”

John Trauger,
Senior District Training
Representative, Rheem



The Result

Resilience is required to thrive in a place like Cordova, both from the people who live there and the systems powering homes and businesses. Since installation, Torin has delivered reliable performance while helping CEC meet its sustainability goals.

“Since deploying these heat pumps, we’ve seen them operate on our coldest days and our hottest days,” Goss says.

Together, Rheem and CEC are powering a sustainable future in Cordova, setting the stage for similar outcomes in communities across the US and world. “We knew Torin could take advantage of the abundant hydroelectricity and clean energy and help Cordova displace fossil fuel,” he says.

Koplin agrees. “Success in this day and age is all about partnerships,” Koplin says. “We don’t just partner with anyone. We develop long-lasting relationships, and that’s one thing that attracted us to Rheem. We’re fortunate to be in a small environment where we can see the positive impacts of what we do together.”



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