

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **A. O. Smith's NEXT Hybrid® Makes the Hot 50 Products List**

*Water Heater Manufacturer Honored by GreenBuilder Magazine*

**ASHLAND CITY, Tenn. (March 17, 2011)** – A. O. Smith's NEXT Hybrid® High Efficiency Gas Water Heater ([www.hotwater.com](http://www.hotwater.com)) has been chosen by *GreenBuilder* magazine as one of the Hot 50 Products of 2011.

The NEXT Hybrid was ranked by the *GreenBuilder* editorial team as one of the top “green machines.” These are high efficiency appliances that incorporate smart sensor technology to better match human behavior. The Hot 50 Products of 2011 appeared in the February edition of *GreenBuilder*.

The NEXT Hybrid is the only true hybrid water heater currently on the market. This unit combines a tankless engine and a small buffer tank, delivering the benefits of both tankless and conventional technologies. The NEXT Hybrid performs like a tankless model, but installs similar to conventional models. Its buffer tank puts an end to problems such as minimum flow rates and cold water “sandwiches,” allowing the NEXT Hybrid to perform during peak periods when water is needed by more than one appliance.

For maximum energy efficiency, the NEXT Hybrid water heater uses exhaust gas from the tankless engine to transfer additional heat into the water stored in the buffer tank. This design allows the unit to operate at 90 percent thermal efficiency, well ahead of a conventional tank model's 78 percent or a standard tankless unit at 82 percent thermal efficiency. That translates into environmentally-friendly performance in the form of lower monthly energy costs for the homeowner.

“We are honored that *GreenBuilder* has recognized the NEXT Hybrid Gas Water Heater for its advanced technology and energy efficiency,” said David Chisolm, brand manager of A. O. Smith Water Products Company. “It's built for the way people actually live and use hot water. It captures everything a homeowner wants from both a tankless and traditional water heating system in one simple, energy-saving appliance.”

The NEXT Hybrid is federal tax credit eligible, and many state and local utility companies offer rebates for the model. To learn more about the A. O. Smith NEXT Hybrid and other energy-efficient water heaters, please visit [www.hotwater.com](http://www.hotwater.com).

**About A. O. Smith Water Products Company:**

Headquartered in Ashland City, Tenn., A. O. Smith Water Products Company is a leading manufacturer and marketer of residential and commercial water heaters and boilers. A. O. Smith offers contractors an additional competitive advantage in that the company designs, builds, distributes and field supports the world's broadest and deepest line of residential and commercial water heaters, as well as commercial boilers. This single-source concept simplifies ordering, installation and service and is backed by more than 70 years of research and innovation. For more information, visit [www.hotwater.com](http://www.hotwater.com).

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