

# viega

## Dartmouth College Project Profile

**CUSTOMER:** Dartmouth College

**APPLICATION:** Life Sciences Building

**LOCATION:** Hanover, MA

**CONTRACTOR:** NPI Mechanical Contractors

## Ivy League school installs Viega ProPress®

*“Soft soldering is messy. If they want a cleaner system, they should use Viega ProPress for all of it. And it worked.”*

Founded in 1769, Dartmouth College of Hanover, MA is one of the oldest educational institutions in the United States. However, it is also one of the most recent universities to install Viega's ProPress system.

Construction of Dartmouth's new Life Sciences Building is currently underway. NPI Mechanical Contractors of Manchester, NH has installed approximately 40,000 feet of copper pipe using ProPress connections.

Graydon Braley, Project Manager for NPI Mechanical Contractors, said that the project will be finished on time thanks to the superiority of Viega ProPress.

“We are actually running ahead of schedule on the plumbing side because of Viega ProPress,” Braley said. “We still have some systems we have to braze but not using a torch for the rest is a huge advantage.”

According to Braley, Dartmouth had already been planning to allow Viega ProPress connections for part of the Life Sciences Building project.

“Viega ProPress was listed as an alternative in the specification for the water systems,” Braley said. “We had to have them buy off on using Viega ProPress for the compressed air and vacuum systems.”

Braley insisted that using Viega ProPress for the entire project would result in a much more professional looking installation.

“Soft soldering is messy,” Braley said. “We told them if they wanted a cleaner system, they should use Viega ProPress for all of it. And it worked.”

NPI Mechanical Contractors has installed Viega ProPress in the water systems as well as the compressed air and vacuum systems.

Braley and NPI Mechanical Contractors have been on site since May 2009. There are 30 NPI employees working on the Dartmouth project but they only have six or seven press tools between them. Even with only having six or seven press tools, the project is still ahead of schedule.

“It's worked out well,” Braley said. “We had one crew working on the hangers and another crew working on the mains. Pressure testing has been going well too. We haven't had any leaks.”

Braley attributes NPI Mechanical's fast work to the reliability and design of Viega ProPress.

“I bet we're 20-to-25 percent further ahead because of the man hours we've saved using ProPress,” Braley said. “You can't match the time savings.”





Viega ProPress is the original press pipe joining system. Since it was introduced to the industry in 1989, Viega ProPress has revolutionized pipe joining around the world. Now, over one million Viega press fittings are installed every day worldwide.

Viega ProPress provides installers with a level of reliability that is unmatched in the industry. Only genuine Viega fittings offer the Smart Connect® feature, a patented innovation that helps installers ensure that they have pressed all connections.

Because of Viega's Smart Connect feature and Viega's revolutionary press technology which allows installers to make secure connections in less than seven seconds, installers can finish their projects on time consistently. That means more jobs can be completed in less time than with a traditional pipe joining system. And with significantly reduced chances for leaks and fewer callbacks, Viega ProPress is a winning solution for both installer and end user.

Viega was the first manufacturer to offer the Smart Connect feature on our fittings. We were the first to offer the Smart Connect feature on all our press fitting systems, Viega ProPress, Viega ProPress for stainless, Viega ProPress for marine and Viega ProPress Zero Lead. And the Viega Smart

Connect feature isn't just available on our fittings; it is also available on our valves too.

Viega is a total systems solution provider and offers Viega ProPress fittings for installations from the water meter to the faucet. With three different sealing elements, Viega's copper ProPress system is perfect for multiple applications such as potable water, hot water circulation, heating systems, gas, low-pressure steam and even fire protection systems.

Viega ProPress is available for stainless steel applications as well. But even though the material may be different,

Viega quality is still the same. Viega ProPress for stainless systems is just as reliable and just as versatile as our copper systems. And Viega even provides stainless pipe as well as fittings and valves.

Real quality comes from true innovation, not imitation. And when it comes to quality, no other manufacturer can duplicate Viega's PEX tubing systems or Viega's ProPress pipe joining systems. And not only can Viega provide the highest level of quality possible, but our service, logistics and technical support are unmatched.

The total cost of the Dartmouth Life Sciences Building project is estimated around \$93 million. Braley, however, is most impressed with how much money Viega ProPress saved them in man hours.

"I can't even begin to estimate how much money we've saved by using Viega ProPress on this project," he said. "It really pays."

The new Life Sciences Center, sponsored by Dartmouth Class of 1978, began construction in January 2009 and is scheduled for complete enclosure in December of 2010. The entire project should be completed by September 2011.