Replacing On Slide Norcold Refrigerator with Residential Unit

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Replacement of Norcold 1200 LRIM refrigerator in a friend's 2004 Bounder 38N with a residential unit like. the one we installed in our 39L The problem on this coach is the available height on the slide was considerably less than the 39L. After measuring our unit and the available space in the Bounder, we knew the Whitlpool model WRT111SFDM03 apartment counter depth unit that would fit into the vacated spot

NOTE: The icemaker Whirlpool uses on this unit is the same as the unit in the old Norcold. It just sits on the side instead of the back.

REMOVAL OF OLD UNIT

The task of removing the Norcold is straight forward, but best done by 2 or more people.

1. Remove the lower refrigerator access cover on the outside of the slide
2. Turn off the propane and water, and disconnect them from the back of the unit..
3. Remove the screws holding the back of the unit to the floor..
4. Remove the caps on the upper and lower inside molding, then the Phillips head screws
5. Remove the side molding and keep all the molding pieces for further use.
6. Set a pre built pallet in front of the unit and pushing from the outside and pulling from the inside, remove the unit from the slide pulling it onto the pallet.

NOTE: If you plan to use the icemaker from the unit, remove the water solenoid valve, piping, and the electrical wires. Then remove the 2 screws that hold the icemaker in the freezer, Be careful to remove the water inlet piece that goes through the back of the freezer unit.

7. Remove the screws from inside the freezer and refrigerator that hold the cooling plates.
8. Remove the mounting screws from the outside of the cooling unit and all the wires from the control board.
9. Remove the cooling unit (weighs ~125 lbs.) and set it outside of the coach.
10. Remove the four doors and hinges from the unit, and set them outside the coach.
11. Remove the rest of the unit being careful to align it so it fits through the entry door. You may have We had to remove the door restraint to gain more width.
12. Cap the refrigerator propane line on the coach and secure it.

INSTALLING THE NEW REFRIGERATOR

NOTE: In this case we installed 3/4 inch board insulation throughout the open area to control outside noise and air entry. It it not necessary if you choose not to.

1. Remove the new doors and hinges from the unit.
2. Bring the new unit into the coach being careful to clear the entry door gaskets.

NOTE: This refrigerator is not heavy, so it can be easily lifted above the dash and captains chairs. Two people are recommended to eliminate damage to the unit or the coach.

3. Follow the unit instructions to prepare the unit for installation.
4. Set the unit into the opening in the slide and move it in ~ halfway positioning it where it will go and measure the distance between the side of the unit and the open wall, then remove it.

NOTE: We set the unit next to the stove wall which provided a place to build shelves if desired. The owner's wife decided to close the area at this time.

5. Build and install a frame to be installed into the measured area. We used 1x2 studs.

NOTE: We built the frame so shelving could be added at a later date if desired.
more storage. We used some cheap paneling to enclose this area, for future use.

6. Because the front leveling legs are offset on this unit, we added a piece of 1/2 inch plywood to the original floor so the front legs were supported.

INSTALLING THE ICE MAKER

. If you are going to install the icemaker, you have to drill out the insulation . Follow the markings in the freezer compartment left upper side. Use the piece you removed from the old unit to see the angle to drill. Drill 2 holes, one for the wires and one for the water. This will allow the water and electrical connections to be installed.
CAUTION: Don't hit the condenser in the back of the unit. Insert the water line guide into the drilled hole for the water. From the outside. We had to add some length to the guide on this unit Using a fish wire, pull the electrical wires from the icemaker through the hole for the wire from the inside of the freezer leaving some extra wire so you can plug the wires into the ice maker later. Install screws from the old unit into the existing holes in the side of the refrigerator. Remove the flat Remove the flat white panel from the icemaker, then holding the icemaker firmly plug in the wire plug. Carefully rotate the icemaker so water tube into the water collection tray at the end of the icemaker. Hang the icemaker on the screws in the wall, then tighten the screws. Install the water solenoid from the unit at a location that is easy to to get to, then hook up the existing coach waterline to the icemaker to get to, then hook up the existing coach waterline and the icemaker waterline..
waterline. Water flow, etc. adjustments can only be done after 24 hrs. of operation. Shelves were added to the freezer per request using shelving from the old unit..

7. Slide the unit all the way into the opening. On this unit the thick doors have to be set so they aren't in the opening (see Right Side of Refrigerator PIC).
8. At the back of the refrigerator locate a 2x4 across the back the unit, and screw it to the floor. this is to keep the unit from going back any further .

NOTE: You may have to place some leveling blocks under the back of the unit. See PIC for blocks and pieces of angle Aluminum attachments (see Water Valve & Leveling Block) PIC.

9. Hook up electrical, then install the shelves and doors ,etc. following installation manual instructions.

10. Because of potentially bad roads , a secondary brace running from the left front door hinge to the back of the opening, see PIC (Top Support)..

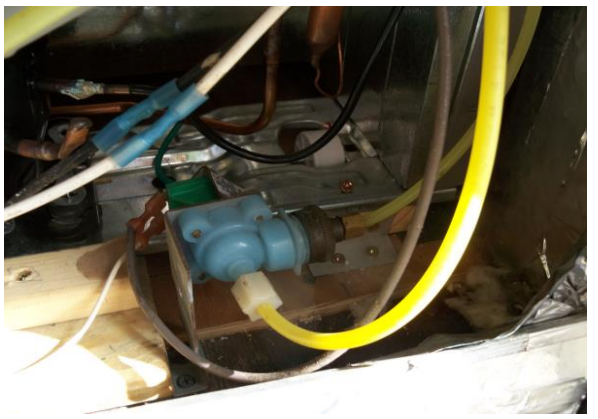
FINISHING THE OLD OPENING.

The old door panels from the Norcold were flat panels, so we cut to size, then used them to fill the extra space beside the new unit. interior. Once the panels were cut, and installed, we installed the original molding pieces. The right side molding covered the seam where the new panels butted up to the original wall.

Here's a tip for finishing the cut edges on the panels. We went to an auto parts store and purchased door edge guards, and placed them on the edges of the panels where they would contact the new refrigerator.

Another tip, we used AC reflective tape to seal the openings in the exterior covers. We left one on the top cover and the opening below the unit in the front to allow air flow behind the refrigerator.

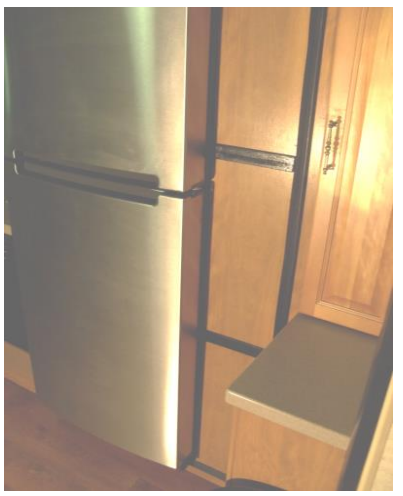
Back of Unit Blocking Assembly



Water Valve & Leveling Block

Top Support

Left Side of Refrigerator



Right Side of Refrigerator

Refrigerator Section

Freezer Section

Outside Covers