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Arizona Governor Jan Brewer Honors Salt River Materials Group for Energy Leadership

PHOENIX, AZ. – The Arizona Authority and the Arizona Association for Economic Development (AAED) acknowledged Salt River Materials Group (SRMG), headquartered in Scottsdale, Ariz., during the 2010 Governor’s Rural and Regional Development Conference held in Flagstaff, Arizona. At the Luncheon Awards Ceremony, Governor Jan Brewer presented



SRMG’s Scott Palmer (2nd from left) and Lew Dodendorf (2nd from right) with Arizona Governor Jan Brewer. Photo by Mark Butler.

SRMG *The Excellence in Economic Development and Energy Leadership Award* for their involvement in the construction and design of a Net-Zero Energy home for Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona.

The Excellence Awards honor partnerships, organizations, associations, service clubs, and companies, which have successfully created and implemented community and economic development strategies for their respective region/rural/tribal communities in the past year.

Salt River Materials Group (SRMG) is the commercial marketer for Phoenix Cement® brand Portland and masonry cements, Salt River Sand & Rock™ aggregates, fly ash and other pozzolans. With local ownership, regionally sourced materials and strategic distribution capabilities throughout the Southwest U.S., SRMG's two divisions are 100% American™ Companies and the suppliers of choice for American projects. SRMG is also an ENERGY STAR® Partner and has received energy efficiency label awards in 2007, 2008, and 2009 for the cement plant located in Clarkdale, AZ.

In 2009, Salt River Materials Group (SRMG) partnered with Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona to build the first Net-Zero Energy concrete framed affordable home. The goal for this project was to demonstrate to production homebuilders that air-tight, high-performance construction can be easily achieved with locally available materials and techniques in competitive first-cost environments.

The primary strategy for air-tight construction called for HercuWall®, an innovative panelized concrete forming system that could potentially transform the construction and design of residential dwellings throughout the U.S. During the initial energy modeling phase, provided by Environments For Living®, it was determined that a 1.5 ton mechanical system would be sufficient to cool the 1,320 square foot home. Since the HercuWall® system and spray foam insulation were utilized to create an air-tight building envelope, 'zero' leakage was detected during final testing as protocol for the ENERGY STAR® Thermal Bypass Checklist and scored a HERS Rating of 54, which is 46% more efficient than the 2006 Model Energy Code. Based on final test results, Environments For Living® provided their Certified Green status and the EFL Guarantee on heating and cooling costs. The projected average utility costs for this project is \$32/month which does not include the contribution from the 5.5kw Integrated Photovoltaic array.

This achievement meets the proposed 2014 performance standards currently set forth in the proposed Energy Bill legislation for homebuilders and has provided an example of probable

solutions for homebuilders as they strive to build high-performance affordable homes in the U.S.

The project team was also recognized by Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO and Founding Chairman of the U.S. Green Building Council for its LEED® for Homes Platinum achievement, at a special ceremony during the Greenbuild International Conference and Expo in Phoenix last fall.

For more information on the Net-Zero Energy Concrete Habitat Project, please visit www.netzerohabitat.com.

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