

## Leaders in Green home building honoured at 2008 EnerQuality Awards of Excellence

*Commitment to sustainable, energy efficient building celebrated at luncheon ceremony*

(Toronto, Jan.14, 2009) Building professionals from across Ontario gathered to honour the best in sustainable and energy efficient homebuilding at the EnerQuality Corporation 2008 Awards of Excellence presentations.

”We witnessed tremendous growth and participation in green building in 2008 and the strong nominations reflect the tremendous leadership we have seen in this industry, offered Corey McBurney, President of EnerQuality. “Despite entering challenging business conditions, builders continue to focus on innovation in energy efficiency, and leadership in creating sustainable housing. These builders, together with more knowledgeable consumers who recognize the value of energy efficiency and quality construction, are transforming the market in exciting ways.”

Commitment, leadership, advocacy and innovation were all recognized in award categories that included the introduction of EnerQuality’s Green Builder of the Year award, and continued with Best Green Sales Team, Industry Partner of the Year, Leader of the Year(s) and EnerQuality’s Builder of the Year for building programs including ENERGY STAR® for New Homes, EnerGuide Rating Service, R-2000.

Among the recipients were Enbridge Gas Distribution, for their outstanding commitment to supporting builders as they strive to build more energy efficient and greener homes, and **Reid’s Heritage Homes** took home a trophy for demonstrating a superior mix of sales performance with consumer education and awareness. “These awards give us the opportunity to recognize our broad spectrum of stakeholders that include builders and industry partners. Every participant in these programs make a difference, for example, **Enbridge Gas Distribution** has an amazing team that works very closely to support builders in building better homes while promoting energy conservation to homeowners; and on the builder side new home shoppers leave Reid’s Heritages sales offices very informed and inspired to buy an energy efficient home and it has made a real impact” said Michelle Cote of EnerQuality.

Oshawa’s **Durham Custom Homes** won the first ever GreenHouse Builder of the Year in recognition of their organizational commitment to building sustainable new homes, and their advocacy and awareness work for the new house certification program launched by EnerQuality in September.

The Green Builder of the Year went to **Empire Communities** in the GTA, recognizing their outstanding commitment that included ENERGY STAR for New Homes, LEED for Homes and the Archetype Sustainable Houses project with BILD at the Kortright Centre in 2008. The award salutes a builder who demonstrates innovation and excellence through labeling, marketing and sales, and engages in advocacy through various certification initiatives.

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ENERGY STAR for New Homes saw huge labeling numbers in 2008, which exceeded 4800 homes in Ontario alone. EnerQuality's ENERGY STAR for New Homes Builder of the Year award went to three builders based on production size: Mattamy Homes, Reid's Heritage Homes, and Durham Custom Homes in recognition of their tremendous work in raising awareness and their commitment to labeling homes.

“These winners – and all the finalists and nominees, represent Ontario's best and brightest in sustainable building,” remarked McBurney. “Exciting things are happening in this industry, and these people should be very proud of their role and contribution. They're true innovators and leaders.”

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**A full list of the 2008 EnerQuality Award winners and categories is available by clicking on Download Original Release.**

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<b>AWARDS</b>	<b>RECIPIENT</b>	<b>SPONSORED BY</b>
Best Green Marketing Program	Mason Homes	Jeld-wen Windows and Doors
Best Green Sales Team	Reid's Heritage Homes	RenewAbility/Power Pipe
Building Innovation & Excellence Award	K. James Construction	DuPont Tyvek
Evaluator of the Year	Dara Bowser, Bowser Tech	Ontario Home Builders Association
Industry Partner of the Year	Enbridge Gas Distribution	BILD-GTA
Leader of the Year	Victor Fiume, Durham Custom Homes	CMHC
Leader of the Year	Al Schmidt	Power Watch
Hall of Fame	Michael Lio	Power Watch
EnerQuality's R-2000 Builder of the Year	Urbandale Construction	Canadian Home Builders Association
EnerQuality's EnerGuide Rating Service Builder of the Year	Mountainview Homes Ltd.	Icynene
EnerQuality's ENERGY STAR for New Homes Builder of the Year - small volume	Durham Custom Homes	Ontario Power Authority
EnerQuality's ENERGY STAR for New Homes Builder of the Year - mid size	Reid's Heritage Homes	Union Gas
EnerQuality's ENERGY STAR for New Homes Builder of the Year - large volume	Mattamy Homes Ltd	Enbridge Gas Distribution
GreenHouse Builder of the Year	Durham Custom Homes	Reliance Home Comfort
Green Builder of the Year	Empire Communities	Owens Corning Canada

*EnerQuality Corporation is committed to helping builders build more energy efficient and sustainable homes. Founded in 1998 and supported by their A-list of partners, EnerQuality is a licensed Service Organization delivering ENERGY STAR for New Homes, R-2000, EnerGuide Rating Service, LEED Canada for Homes and EnerQuality's new GreenHouse™ Certified Construction initiative. EnerQuality's initiatives are all voluntary and supported by extensive training and marketing that offer builders options to meet their individual needs.*

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