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CONTACT: MARY A. EDMONDSON
800/279-4123

RIMA International Announced Winners of 2010 “It’s About Saving Energy” Building Awards

The Reflective Insulation Manufacturers Association International (RIMA-I) began this annual building award contest in 2008 to recognize building projects that utilized reflective products in an exceptional way. The 2010 “It’s About Saving Energy” Building Award contest entries received fell into two of the four available categories - Residential and Frame Building. Three judges took on the very difficult task of reviewing all the entries and selecting the winners. Plaques for the winning member companies and, if applicable, the installer for the project, will be presented at the upcoming RIMA-I meetings in San Antonio, Texas. The winners are as follows:

In the Residential Building Category, the winner is LP Building Products in Nashville, Tennessee

inERGY Homes, LLC in Medford, Oregon installed its Continuous EPS Rigid Exterior Insulation, an alternative to conventional insulation used in stick-built homes, in a 1,550 square foot residence on Brookdale Avenue in Medford, Oregon, in September 2009. InERGY Homes’ Continuous EPS Rigid Exterior Insulation system uses steel framing, a 15/32-inch panel of LP TechShield Radiant Barrier Sheathing, and other materials to insulate all the home’s exterior walls and roof.

During the winter, many Oregon homes experience visible frost melt on the roof and walls. This means there is significant heat loss. That’s because conventional insulation is measured in R-value, aimed at slowing heat transfer but not blocking it. But LP TechShield Radiant Barrier Sheathing effectively blocks 97% of heat transfer – keeping solar heat out in the summer and blocking heated air from escaping in the winter. In a blower door test- one of today’s most effective ways of measuring energy efficiency – the inERGY home on Medford Avenue achieved 2.7 ACH50 or 259% higher efficiency than what’s needed for ENERGY STAR® certification. The home is all electric, and the utility bill for the chilly month of November, 2009 was just \$74.

inERGY has installed more than 600 homes using steel framing and LP TechShield Radiant Barrier Sheathing. These homes have not experienced any of the problems typically associated with conventional insulation: sagging, deterioration, or escaped moisture that can cause mold or fungus. In further testing, inERGY Homes using steel frame/radiant barrier technology demonstrated significant energy savings compared to conventional insulation in stick-built homes.

(www.lpcorp.com)

In the Frame Building Category, the winner is Prodex in San Jose, Costa Rica

In November 2009 Prodex developed, produced and installed reflective curtains and roof insulation in a 3,000 square foot poultry farm in Alajuela, Costa Rica. The first two weeks of a chick are fundamental. It grows best in a stable temperature between 90 F and 100 F. Outside temperatures in Costa Rica are between 58 F and 105 F. It gets cold at night and without insulation all heat gets lost and great amounts of gas have to be spent to heat the space. Big temperature fluctuation and extreme temperatures stress out the chick and will slow down the growing process. For the client, the only thing that counts is the rate between the size of the chicken after six weeks and the amount of food and energy used. The perfect environment has to be created to achieve the best rate. The chicks as well as the heaters are huge radiation sources. While the client asked for insulating the roof, Prodex went beyond and realized there were great radiation heat losses through the existing wall system. Prodex developed lateral and cross sectional curtains named PADP 5 – a material specially developed for animal production barns. It is resistant to the harmful ammonia gases. It has great mechanical resistance so it can be manipulated as is the cases with the curtains. It can be washed under high pressure and will not deteriorate over time. The washing of the curtains is four times faster than conventional curtains because of its finish and rigidity. This results in huge water and chemical cleaning savings as well as labor costs. The lateral curtains avoid heat loss to the outside. They can be lifted and pulled down with a simple swing of a crank to cool the barn in case of extreme temperatures. The cross sectional curtains divide the space and assure that the chick does not use more space than necessary when it is small. During the growing process the curtains open and the barn gets bigger. This avoids excessive use of heaters. Prodex measured a reduction of 40% of gas, an increase of 20% of light compared to the case without curtains. The fluctuation in temperature decreased drastically. Those factors decrease the mortality rate and improve the profitability significantly. The whole project was done within four weeks and with great satisfaction of the client.

(www.prodexcr.com)

The following entries received Honorable Mention:

Kdb Isolation for their residential building entry of the eco-refurbishment of a Victorian Terrace in Camden, London.

Foil Barrier Insulation for their frame building entry for Munson-Cox Studio-Photography located in Arlington, Texas.

Foil Barrier Insulation for their residential building entry in Arlington, Texas.

More photos and details on these entries can be found on www.rimainternational.org.

(The Reflective Insulation Manufacturer's Association International is a group of dedicated people working together to propagate the knowledge and use of reflective insulations and radiant barriers. RIMA-I has been the major force in establishing fair ASTM standards for testing and installation procedures. RIMA-I welcomes all who are interested in promoting and directing the growth of the industry. For more information about membership or the industry, please contact Executive Director Mary Edmondson at 800/279-4123 or visit us on our website at www.rimainternational.org.)