

**EnergyValue Housing Award** (EVHA) is a judged competition recognizing builders who successfully integrate energy efficiency into all aspects of new home production.

Now in its fourteenth year, this prestigious award has been recognized for its educational programs and awareness campaigns promoting the value of energy efficiency among home builders, homebuyers, and others within the new-home market. Through its website promotions, events, and marketing, it has garnered national media coverage.

Administered by the NAHB Research Center in partnership with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), the U.S. Department of Energy's Building America program, and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), the EVHA receives primary funding from the Department of Energy, with additional sponsorship from the private sector.

The first 22 EVHA winners, selected from just 54 entries, were honored in 1996. Since then, more than 500 entries have been received from 41 states and the District of Columbia. These entries represent builders who have reported the construction of nearly 67,000 homes during that time period. EVHA finalists have ranged from nationally-recognized production companies that build thousands of homes to builders of one or two homes per year.

Most builders who enter the competition are members of NAHB, or become members after attending the awards ceremony at IBS, although NAHB membership is not a requirement for eligibility. Many become repeat winners and develop active roles in the promotion of energy efficiency and green building through local and national presentations at trade shows, educational seminars, and community events. This year's EVHA educational session at IBS is an excellent example of that participation. Scheduled for Wednesday, January 21, the session will feature a panel of gold- and silver-award winners who will present " [HYPERLINK "http://ibs09.mapyourshow.com/IBS09/sessions/session.cfm?ScheduledSessionID=416"](http://ibs09.mapyourshow.com/IBS09/sessions/session.cfm?ScheduledSessionID=416) Energy Efficiency Sells: Hear from EVHA Winners."

The EVHA competition is comprised of five categories (Custom, Production, Affordable, Multifamily, and Factory-Built) in three climate regions (Cold, Moderate, and Hot). Entries for the 2009 awards came from all climate regions in the Custom, Production, and Affordable categories. Production costs for the winning homes ranged from \$36 to \$169 per square foot, with HERS indexes between 48 and 68. The home with the lowest cost per square foot had a HERS index of 59 without photovoltaic.

Throughout its history, the judging criteria for the EVHA program has focused on achieving higher levels of residential energy performance by integrating a better understanding of building science, new technologies and construction methods, and approaches to green building. As it enters the 2010 award cycle, the EVHA application will include the Department of Energy's Builders Challenge criteria, which will enable builders to learn more about the Builders Challenge in addition to having their entries evaluated for the EnergySmart Home Scale. The 2010 applications must also include Manual D duct design, sizing, and layout and Manual J (or equivalent) heat loss calculations, in addition to the HERS Index.

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