

Marquis Construction & Development, Inc. Joins U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Bodman

Marquis Construction & Development, Inc. Joins U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Bodman to launch builders' challenge in Orlando, FL National building performance program to feature new E-Scale.

([PRWeb](#)) February 14, 2008 -- Marquis Construction & Development Inc., of Holiday, Florida, joined today with U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman to announce a new national energy-saving initiative--the U.S. Department of Energy's Builders Challenge. Marquis Const. & Dev. Inc., was at the Builders Challenge kick-off event held at the International Builders Show in Orlando, Florida.

"For Marquis Const. & Dev. Inc., building high-performance homes has been a core business model for the last 9 years," said Chris Kavala, Pres. "We welcome this voluntary initiative for builders, and look forward to working with DOE to build consumer awareness of the benefits for buying highly energy efficient homes."

The EnergySmart Home Scale, or E-Scale, will serve as a tool for marketing energy-efficient homes. Consumer interest has been increasing in the top energy-performing homes, and now there is a tool that clearly allows builders to differentiate their products in the marketplace.

"Marquis Const. & Dev. Inc. believes it is possible to build new homes that are more efficient than code by 30 percent or better at little or no net cost," continued Chris Kavala "Achieving these efficiencies does require sophisticated design and installation techniques that go beyond standard industry practice, but the competitive advantage of these homes with their high quality means faster sales. And, we believe this kind of high-performance building is the right thing for our nation, our natural environment, and our customers."

The challenge program encourages U.S. home builders to adopt the E-Scale on a voluntary basis, and also to utilize best practices for home design and construction. The initiative seeks to accelerate use of successful whole-house design and construction practices that have been developed and verified through DOE research in its Building America program.

About Marquis Const. & Dev. Inc.:

Marquis Construction & Development Inc. a Florida corporation starting business in 1988. The founder and president Chris Kavala has been contracting since 1979, starting in Pennsylvania and completing over 300 housing units and commercial projects.

Since relocating to Florida in 1984, Mr. Kavala became a licensed state certified building contractor in 1986. He has been involved in the construction of over 180 residential custom homes, villas, condominium projects, restaurants, child daycare centers, equipment buildings and various commercial rehab projects.

Since 1998 holds a state certified general contractor's license in the state of Louisiana completing various commercial and residential projects in that state.

Since 2000 the company has made a commitment to build exclusively with Steel Structural Insulated Panels (SIPS), becoming an authorized EPA "Energystar" builder. Building only structures that are "Green" and are in compliance with the "Energystar" certification program. The company has successfully completed over 70 SIPS commercial & residential structures.

2003 winner of the prestigious "Aurora" award for best energy efficient home

In addition to having active contactors licenses in Florida & Louisiana, we are active members with: Tampa Bay Builders Assoc., National Home Builders, Assoc., Florida's Home Builders Assoc., Structural Insulated Panel Assoc., The "Green" Building Coalition, EPA - "Energy Star" Partner, Build America Program, Progress Energy - Home Advantage Program and the Steel Framing Alliance.

Company's web site is www.southernsips.com

About the U.S. Department of Energy's Builders Challenge

The U.S. Department of Energy has posed a challenge to the homebuilding industry - to build 220,000 high performance homes by 2012. Homes that qualify for the Builders Challenge must achieve a 70 or better on the EnergySmart Home Scale (E-Scale), meaning that they will use at least 30% less energy than a typical new home built to code. The E-Scale allows homebuyers to understand - at a glance - how the energy performance of a particular home compares with others. Through the Builders Challenge, participating homebuilders will have an easy way to differentiate their best energy-performing homes from other products in the marketplace, and to make the benefits clear to buyers.

Through industry partnerships and existing programs, the Builders Challenge will promote the use of market-tested and cost-effective energy efficiency strategies. The Challenge will support, recognize, and reward builders for achieving higher levels of energy efficiency. DOE's goal is that, by 2030, new home buyers will have the option to buy a cost-effective Net-Zero Energy Home (NZEH) anywhere in the United States. Learn more at: www.buildingamerica.gov/challenge.

###

Contact Information**Chris Kavala**

Marquis Const

<http://www.southernsips.com>

727-937-2717

Online Web 2.0 VersionYou can read the online version of this press release [here](#).**PRWebPodcast Available**[Listen to Podcast MP3](#) [Listen to Podcast iTunes](#) [Listen to Podcast OGG](#)