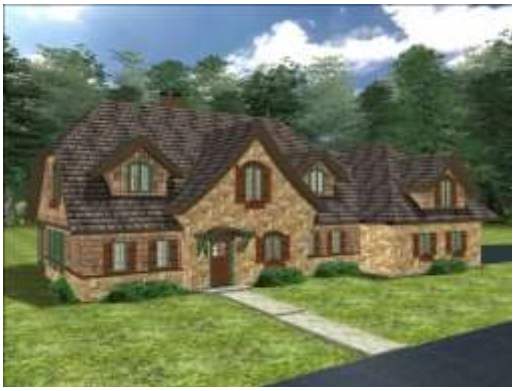


SAGE HOMEBUILDERS BUILDS NEAR-ZERO ENERGY HOME!

THE HOME WILL SHOWCASE THE LATEST IN GREEN METHODS AND MATERIALS AND WILL SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE FOR THE NEW WAY OF BUILDING THAT IS TAKING THE NATION BY STORM.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press contact: Carlton | Werremeyer
Susan Werremeyer, 314-283-2463
susan@carltonwerremeyer.com

St. Louis, MO – February 2007 – Sage Homebuilders (Sage) is building a showcase home that will help demonstrate the variety of "green" building practices and materials that are revolutionizing the home building industry.

The ***Sage Near-Zero Energy Home, which is sponsored by Owens Corning,*** is currently under construction in Creve Coeur, MO at 29 Beacon Hill Lane, and will be completed in late Spring 2007. The 3,700 sq. ft. house will be a near-zero energy home (NZEH), meaning that it will produce a majority of the energy it uses via solar power. The use of renewable energy, such as solar power is one of many green features to be showcased; others include ICF construction (Insulated Concrete Forms) for the walls, geothermal heating and cooling, PEX plumbing, radiant heat blocking house wrap, and various green construction techniques. The interior finishes will showcase some of the many high quality and fashionable green options that are now on the market, including bamboo and cork floors, countertops made from recycled glass, plumbing fixtures that conserve water, non-off-gassing paint and adhesives, low-energy use light fixtures, and many others.

The idea of the home is to help educate those in the homebuilding industry, as well as homebuyers and the general public, *in a tangible way*, about the various green building options and their benefits. The home is projected to be awarded the difficult to achieve green certification under both the Home Builder's Association GBI program and the USGBC's LEED-H program.

Market research has indicated that a paradigm shift is taking place in the building industry, a shift towards a new, greener way of building homes. McGraw Hill's recent report - the *Residential Green Building SmartMarket Report* – predicts that 2007 will be the "tipping point" for green building, and that by 2010 a majority of homebuilders will be building green. The change is already starting to occur, with a 20 percent increase in the number of green homes in 2005, and a projected 30 percent in 2006.

Rick Hunter, Managing Partner of Sage, states, "this paradigm shift is fueled by consumers who are demanding a house that "works" for them, a home which helps them cope with rising energy costs, a home that works to reduce effects of allergies, asthma, and other air related health issues, a home that is designed to require less maintenance and last longer, and a home which seriously addresses the impact that homes have on climate change."

The Showcase home will be a highlight of the green building tour for the *National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) National Green Building Conference* which is being held in St. Louis March 25-27, 2007. The Conference will bring over 1,400 builders and dozens of national and local media representatives. The home will also be a cornerstone in the *Parade of Green Homes*, an event being planned by local green homebuilders for late spring. This event is a local event, aimed at the general public, which showcases green homes that are available for sale or coming to the market.

At completion, the house will be held open for various group events, tours, and other educational opportunities, before being sold. Those with an interest in seeing the house or scheduling an event there can get more information at the Sage Homebuilders website: www.sagestl.com. The home will be for sale in May 2007.

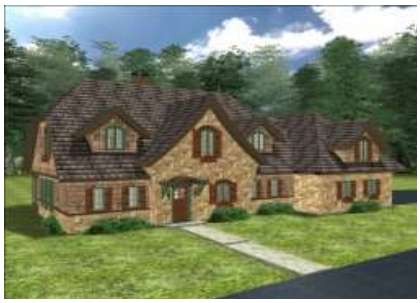
A leader in the St. Louis green building movement, Sage Homebuilders designs and builds custom homes that combine the High Performance of green building and the desirable aesthetics and functionality of High Design. Sage's approach to building results in beautiful homes with lower utility bills, healthier and more comfortable indoor air, less maintenance, and an eco-friendly contribution to our environment. Sage is meeting a growing demand for a healthier and more conscientious lifestyle that is catered to by an intelligently designed home.

"We couldn't be more excited to be a sponsor of this home, and work with builders like Sage who are helping the market push the envelope on reducing the environmental footprint for today's homes," said Gale Tedhams, Owens Corning director of sustainability. "Our homes and buildings account for nearly 40 percent of US energy use, and it's initiatives like these that are going to help continue to change the conversation for our country and our future."

Sage Homebuilder's other projects include two single family homes at 1303 and 1309 Childress in Dogtown, four townhomes in the South Grand neighborhood at 3319-27 Gustine, and various custom projects for private clients. The Gustine and Dogtown homes will be the first certified green homes under the HBA GBI Program in the City of St. Louis. For more information, or to sign up for the Sage e-newsletter, visit www.sagestl.com.

Owens Corning (NYSE: OC) is a world leader in building materials systems and composite solutions. A Fortune 500 company for more than 50 years, Owens Corning people redefine what is possible each day to deliver high-quality products and services ranging from insulation, roofing, siding and manufactured stone veneer, to glass composite materials used in transportation, electronics, telecommunications and other high-performance applications. Since the company's founding in 1938, Owens Corning has become a market-leading innovator of glass fiber technology with sales of $6.3 billion in 2005 and 20,000 employees in 26 countries. Additional information is available at http://www.owenscorning.com/ .

# # #



LEAD SPONSOR

Sage Near-Zero Energy Home

Green Features & Sponsor List

Building Envelope

ICF (Insulated Concrete Forms) construction
Fold Form, by **Owens Corning**
www.owenscorning.com

Steel Bucking for ICF window & door openings
Jamb-it-All, by All-teriors,
www.all-teriorsystems.com

Blown-in fiberglass insulation - in non-ICF areas
Owens Corning Pink
www.owenscorning.com

Cultured Stone – Country Ledgestone
Owens Corning
www.owenscorning.com

Fiber Cement Siding – stained cedar shake style
Nichiha
www.nichiha.com

Radiant Roof Sheathing
Thermastrand Radiant Barrier Panels, by **Ainsworth**
www.ainsworth.ca

Roofing Shingle – cooler color, 50 year warranty
Owens Corning, *Oakridge Pro 50*
www.owenscorning.com

Aluminum clad windows & doors – low-e, argon
Kolbe, Inc. *Heritage line*
www.kolbe-kolbe.com

Solar reflective / venting skylights & Sun tunnels
Velux
www.veluxusa.com

Lead Sponsor

Systems

Geothermal HVAC **-** geothermal heat pump, forced air system,
with integral HEPA filtration, 4 zones, sealed ductwork
WaterFurnace
www.waterfurnace.com

Central air ventilation, with integrated ERV (Energy Recovery Ventilator)
Whisper Green fans, by **Panasonic**
www.panasonic.com

Plumbing with PEX & manifold water management system
Vanex tubing & Manabloc water distributor, by **Vanguard**
www.vanguardpipe.com

Geothermal heated water
WaterFurnace
www.waterfurnace.com

Green plumbing fixtures – low flow & motion activated faucets,
dual flush toilets, etc.
Kohler
www.Kohler.com

Wireless home automation of lighting, HVAC, & security
Design by **Home IQ**
www.home-iq.com

High efficiency light fixtures (Energy Star) - LED, fluorescent,
insulated can lights.
TBD

Renewable Energy Systems

Advanced Solar Package System Design & Installation
Solar Night
www.solarnightindustries.com

Energy Management Component - combined inverter, battery,
monitoring, automation
Gridpoint
www.gridpoint.com

Photovoltaics - Multi-Crystal Silicon PV
Sharp, NE- 165U1, 4 kw total output
www.sharpusa.com

Passive solar design – 24" overhangs, southern orientation, masonry
solar gain
Jeff Day & Associates
www.jeffdaydesign.com

Other Green Materials

Interior Sound Insulation
Quiet Zone Acoustic Batts
Owens Corning
www.owenscorning.com

Low water usage & Native plants
Monrovia
www.monrovia.com

Shelving with recycled content & low VOC
NewSpace
www.newspace.com

Energy Star Appliances – wall ovens, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer/dryer
Bosch
www.boschappliances.com

Caulks & Adhesives – Low VOC
OSI
www.osiproseries.com

Shutters – longer lasting, low maintenance fiberglass
TBD

Engineered Wood - Various

Kitchen Cabinets - FSC sourced wood, recycled content, low VOC finishes
TBD

Flooring – Cork, Bamboo, FSC sourced, Low VOC stained
TBD

Paint – Low VOC
TBD

Fireplace – sealed combustion
TBD

Lead Sponsor

Top 10 Benefits of a Green Home?

Sage Homebuilders, LLC

1. More Efficient & Economical
   A well sealed and insulated exterior building envelope and a highly efficient HVAC & hot water system yields substantial savings every month on utilities; savings that increases with time, as energy/fuel costs continue to rise.

2. More Healthy
   Superior ventilation, air purification, controlled humidity, and less use of materials with off-gassing chemicals yields better air quality, less allergies/asthma, and better overall health for you and your family.

3. More Comfortable
   A tight building envelope and a top-notch heating and cooling system yields more even temperatures and no draft. Fully zoned (more than 2 zones) HVAC means no rooms that are too hot or too cold.

4. More Eco-Friendly
   Less energy use & use of eco-friendly building practices and products mean you are doing your part to protect the environment. Our children stand to inherit an earth with serious climate related issues, if we don't get serious about energy use and carbon emissions.

5. More Sustainable
   Better quality building practices yields a more sustainable building – your home will last longer - and, indirectly, a more sustainable community.

6. More Technologically Advanced
   The use of wiring that will grow along with new technology will mean you can have an easier time staying "plugged in". Available home automation, even wireless controlled, yields improved efficiency and convenience.

7. More Enjoyable to Own
   Quality construction of the building envelope means less bugs, less noise from outside, and less maintenance work needed.

8. More Safe
   More substantial structure means less weather related concerns; better waterproofing of the basement and exterior walls means less likelihood of structural failure down the road.

9. More Solid Investment
   As more and more people demand a better, greener home, existing green homes will increase in value at a faster pace than other existing homes and are likely to sell more quickly.

10. More Financing Options
    More and more lenders, recognizing the better value of a green home and the savings on utilities, have begun to offer a green mortgage product. Sage can provide you with information on these loans and the special terms they offer.

How Does a Sage Home Compare?

Inside and Out a Sage Homebuilders Home is simply better built…

	SAGE	Other Builders
Green Certifications	Certified under Energy Star, LEED for Homes or the St. Louis HBA/GBI Green Verification Program	None
Lower utility bills	On average, 30 - 50 percent lower utility bills, compared to a typical home	Average
Windows	Wood with aluminum-clad exterior, energy efficient with low-e and Argon gas	Less durable vinyl windows
Doors	Solid core interior doors, high-end stained or clad wood; or energy efficient fiberglass exterior doors	Hollow core interior doors, cheaper steel exterior doors
Exterior wall construction	2x6 panelized, SIPS (Structural Insulate Panels Systems), ICF (Insulated Concrete Forms) or other advanced building systems	2x4, stick framed
Foundation Waterproofing	Triple protection: Polymer enhanced asphalt membrane, with insulating/exterior drainage board, and interior wall perimeter drainage system/sump pump	Unmodified Asphalt
Exterior Coverings	Fiber cement siding, brick, stone, and cultured stone	Less durable, more cheap looking vinyl
Insulation	Blown fiberglass or blown cellulose with caulking and foam details or whole-wall expanding foam	Fiberglass batts
Heating and Cooling	90+ efficiency furnaces, high SEER air conditioning, sealed duct-work, protected during construction, 4 or more zones. We have experience installing Goethermal systems.	80+ efficiency furnaces, minimum SEER ratings, no sealing, ducts full of work debris, only 1 or 2 zones
Plumbing System & Water heater	PEX - lower maintenance, more efficient, faster hot water; Tankless water heater - endless hot water, energy efficient	standard copper lines; standard tank water heater
Paints, adhesives, and caulks	No or Low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds)	Typical unhealthy "off-gassing"
Flooring	Wood (FSC certified or rapidly renewable species), higher end ceramic and porcelain tile, higher-end carpet (recycled content, wool, and non-offgassing)	Builder grade carpet ; vinyl flooring
Interior trim	Custom, quality wood or milled MDF with wider widths	Basic finger joint stock, narrow widths
Plumbing fixtures	Higher end fixtures, including some water efficient	Cheap "builder-grade" fixtures
Lighting fixtures & switches	Higher end lighting fixtures, including some Energy Star rated fixtures; Stylish Deco switches, multiple dimmers	Cheap looking fixtures, no Energy Star rated fixtures; plain toggle switches
Countertops	Silestone, Cambria (or other quartz stone) or upgrade to Paperstone, Icestone, or other green specialty products	Laminate
Appliances	Energy Star rated, stainless steel	Black
Solar	Solar ready or base solar PV system	None
Green Construction Techniques	We utilize dozens of green "best practices", practices involving every aspect of the home building process - and the result is a better built home	Typical construction techniques
Green Upgrades	Long list of upgrades offered, upgrades that can make your home even more energy efficient, more healthy, more comfortable, and with less maintenance	Few if any offered

We hope you will use this list to compare our home to that of other builders you are considering.

Learn more: www.sageSTL.com or 314-576-5550