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Three Reward Wall Systems Projects Earn National Recognition at World of Concrete

E² City Homes and Surrey Grand Crowne win awards for multi-family projects, while Seaside is named tops in the heavy commercial category.

Omaha, Neb., February 4, 2008– E² City Homes, a Minneapolis four-plex and the Surrey Grand Crowne Resort condominiums in Branson, Mo., were presented ICF Builder Awards as the best multi-family projects of 2007. Seaside, a condominium project built on the Oregon coast, also won an award in the heavy commercial category.

According to the ICF Builder magazine, “the awards are designed to showcase ‘milestone projects’ – projects that set new standards for the industry through their size, complexity and architecture.”

This is the first year multi-family projects have been a separate category in the competition. E² City Homes, receiving a First Runner Up distinction, developed by the Urban Project and designed by LHB, Inc. architects used Reward Wall Systems ICFs (insulating concrete forms) to contribute points toward earning LEED certification. Using ICFs allowed the construction of a sleek, urban habitat with all the benefits of energy efficient and green construction.

The Surrey Grand Crowne Resort in Branson was recognized as the Best Multifamily Project of 2007. Designed and built for CJ Perme by WCI Inc., the structure needed to meet combustion regulations in a highly wooded area of Missouri. The rise in steel prices and Reward Wall Systems’ comprehensive non-combustible national building code approval, led to its selection as the ICF provider for this project.

Finding HVAC units small enough to handle the energy efficiency of ICF construction was a challenge for the contractor. A three-quarter-ton unit was all that was needed in each residence instead of the one-and-a-half-ton unit originally specified.

Receiving First Runner Up in the Heavy Commercial category was the Seaside condominium project in Seaside, Ore. This project, designed by Ankron Moison Architecture, built by Swinerton Builders and engineered by Cary Kopczynski and company, used Reward Wall Systems ICFs to conquer a difficult building site. This \$100 million project takes advantage of ICF construction to reduce corrosive damage to the building from wind-driven rain and saltwater. The strength of ICF construction is highlighted in the building’s ability to react to seismic activity as well. The walls rack independently from the ceilings making the building more resistant to damage should an earthquake occur.

In addition, Seaside is highly energy efficient, with each living unit having a separate gas fireplace as the sole source of heating. At the time of construction, Seaside was the largest building in Oregon, and the last building of significant size to be built directly on the Oregon coast.

The Traditional Americana home was a finalist in the Small Residential category of homes under 5,000 square feet. This home, based on a 19th century East Coast design, is in Springfield, Mo. The 11-foot high ceilings and traditional trims are combined with modern amenities, environmentally friendly and energy efficient features. Reward Wall Systems' ICF construction allows the home to be historically and environmentally correct.

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Located in Omaha, Nebraska for the past 19 years, Reward Wall Systems, Inc. is the leading manufacturer and distributor of insulating concrete forms used in residential and commercial structures. Reward's customers include developers, architects, general contractors, residential contractors, and construction supply distributors. To learn more about Reward Wall Systems, Inc. go to www.rewardwalls.com.