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CLARUM COMMUNITIES WINS USGBC'S 2012 OUTSTANDING PRODUCTION BUILDER

Clarum's Cambridge Plaza in Palo Alto recognized by USGBC for achieving LEED Platinum rating

Palo Alto, Calif. – Dec 3, 2012 – Clarum Communities is pleased to announce that the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) has awarded our company as 2012's Outstanding Production Builder. This is part of USGBC's annual LEED for Homes Awards, which recognizes projects, developers, and homebuilders that have demonstrated leadership in the residential green building marketplace.

Clarum Communities' award was for the Cambridge Plaza project. Located in Palo Alto, Calif., Cambridge Plaza is a three-story townhome project that achieved a LEED Platinum rating thanks to sustainable building materials and a commitment to energy and water efficiency. Its smart design features include a photovoltaic system and a thermal solar hot water system using an 80 gallon pre-heat storage tank and a G.E. GeoSpring electric heat pump back up water heater.

In addition, Clarum blended cutting-edge technologies seamlessly into the homes' layout. This increases automation while lowering energy consumption. The homeowners have complete control over temperature, security, lighting, and energy monitoring through mobile devices and iPads. This technology is operable anywhere, any time – homeowners can monitor their system and safeguard their homes even while out of town.

"Platinum is the highest rung of the LEED system and we went beyond that," said John Suppes, Clarum Communities President. "We push way past what most consider green building to really get to the heart of the matter – extreme energy efficiency, comfort, and health. We are very proud of this recognition."

About LEED®

The LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System™ is a feature-oriented rating system that awards buildings points for specified green building criteria. The six major categories of review include: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy and Atmosphere, Materials and Resources, Indoor Environmental Quality and Innovation and Design. Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum levels of LEED green building certification are awarded based on the total number of points earned within each LEED category.

About Clarum Communities

Clarum Communities has been building exceptional new communities, custom homes, and apartments in Northern California since 1994. A dedication to sustainability and an early commitment to the green building movement quickly made Clarum Homes a leader in high-performance construction. Clarum is continually focused on energy efficiency, indoor air quality and health, water conservation methods, and the procurement of eco-friendly materials. www.ClarumCommunities.com

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