

A High Performance House in Old Greenwich

“Consumers equate energy-efficiency with high performance,” says Pete Fusaro, a verifier and high end Greenwich builder. Pete serves on the National Green Building Standards Committee, and he is chairman of the Connecticut Green Homes Council.

Pete is also the first builder in Connecticut to receive a Master Certified Green Professional designation. His company, Preferred Builders, is currently building a 2,800 s.f. **High Performance House** in Old Greenwich. Designed by Richard Granoff, Granoff Architects, the home will be NAHB Green and LEED certified, and it will be **EPA Water Sense** and indoor **airPlus** rated.

Why design and build with Indoor airPLUS?

EPA created Indoor airPLUS to help builders meet the growing consumer preference for homes with improved indoor air quality. By constructing homes that meet EPA’s stringent specifications, forward-thinking builders can distinguish themselves by being among the first to offer homes designed to deliver improved indoor air quality.

Construction on the home began in September, and Pete is using the latest in green building products and technologies, starting with the foundation.

We used an additive in the concrete footings that waterproofs and provides a capillary break between the footing and the foundation wall. This additive stops the moisture from wicking up into the foundation wall.

KIM® (Krystol Internal Membrane) is a cost-effective, permanent and reliable alternative to traditional membrane-based waterproofing systems. KIM® becomes an integral part of the concrete. It is added to the mix at the time of batching to waterproof the concrete from the inside out. KIM® is permanent and replaces the need for conventional membranes. It has the unique ability to self seal micro cracks that develop in the concrete.

It arrives at the site ready to pour, and by eliminating the need for a conventional membrane system, it saves labor, time and money.

The concrete for the Performance House is supplied by O&G Industries. Pozzotive Plus Concrete is manufactured using up to 30 percent post-consumer recycled glass as a Portland cement substitute and an average of 50 percent post-consumer recycled masonry aggregate from local sources in the Northeast.

Compared to conventional concrete, Pozzotive Plus requires less energy to produce, is stronger, and has greater moisture and chemical resistance, according to the company.

Sustainable Construction

Pozzotive not only has tremendous environmental benefits, but it also affords the opportunity for a conventional product like concrete to become an effective tool in sustainable construc-



Pouring the basement floor O&G concrete with recycled glass for added strength. Wire mesh and spray foam over the trap rock for insulation.



Concrete is being spread over radiant coils.



Performance House being framed.

tion, and instrumental in obtaining valuable NAHB Green and LEED points for a builder.

Pete has updated information on the *Performance House* on his website at www.preferredbuilders.biz, and there are great member resources for builders, remodelers and land developers on both the HBA website at www.hbact.org under **Build Green CT** and www.nahbgreen.org which explains how to implement a particular item in the scoring tool, to choosing certified approved products from the Research Center.