



Builders Challenge

Recognizing Energy Leadership in Homebuilding

For Immediate Release

10-05-09

Better Way Builders of Central Illinois, Inc. joins U.S. Department of Energy as partner in new Builders Challenge National building performance program to featuring the new E-Scale

Better Way Builders of Central Illinois, Inc. (Better Way Builders) joined today with U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman as part of a new national energy-saving initiative—the U.S. Department of Energy’s Builders Challenge. Through this commitment Better Way Builders has certified the very first home in Illinois to achieve such recognition.

“For Better Way Builders, building high-performance homes is the only business model we embrace,” said Troy Libbra, partner of Better Way Builders. “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, serves 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.

“Better Way Builders 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 Troy Libbra. “We achieve these efficiencies by designing and building with tried and true building technologies and techniques that we know will stand the test. These systems 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 Builders Challenge 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.

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U.S. Department of Energy EnergySmart Home ScaleSM



Estimated annual energy usage:
 Electric (kWh) 15304

Estimated yearly energy costs: \$2010

32950 Delhi Road, Jerseyville, IL 62052
 Rated by Chapala Consulting, Inc.
 Rating conducted June 6th, 2009

Conditioned floor area (sq. ft.): 3488

www.buildingamerica.gov/challenge

Meets The Builders Challenge
 Recognizing the best energy performance, quality, comfort, health, and safety in the market.



BETTER WAY BUILDERS
Because You Deserve a Better Home

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About Better Way Builders of Central Illinois, Inc.

Better Way Builders of Central Illinois is a progressive green home builder and remodeling company located in Brighton, Illinois that focuses on building high quality, energy efficient homes. Green homes are not only safer for the environment, but they can also result in savings of up to 50% or more on new home energy costs. To achieve our goal of building environmentally responsible energy-conscious homes, we incorporate an integrated design and building approach to construction. Through this approach, we can design your home so that all systems – your home’s orientation, its envelope, heating, ventilation, materials and many other factors work together as one harmonious whole.

Better Way Builders of Central Illinois, Inc. is committed to improving our overall impact on the environment and greening the building industry. Depending upon your objectives, we can incorporate strategies to improve upon your impact as well.

Learn more at: www.betterwaybuilders.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