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MILLS TAKES THE PLATINUM IN GREEN BUILDING

Brooklyn, NY February 10, 2009 –As part of it's exhibit, Making it Work, which showcases buildings from around the world that have pushed the envelope in engineering, the American Institute of Architects is featuring 439 Metropolitan Green in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. The building, designed by Mark Helder of Helder Designs may be New York's first LEED Platinum building due in no small part to the efforts of Excel Builders & Renovators Inc.'s Martin Mills.

The five-story, three-unit condo building will feature two duplex residential units and one commercial suite. Its green features include radiant floor heating in conjunction with continuous filtered ventilation with heat recovery, which will bring air quality to near High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) standards, and private photovoltaic solar panel arrays for each unit. Since the building faces south, it also uses passive solar heating. An art gallery will occupy a portion of the ground floor, and a ground-floor office suite will include Helder Designs' architecture studio.

Mr. Mills, a project manager and estimator for Excel, first came into contact with the project when he was studying for his LEED AP certification and offered to assist Helder Designs as a LEED consultant. His role in the project included reviewing the building design and components, determining what LEED credits the project might be eligible for and submitting LEED credits on line.

“Just because a building is designed for LEED certification, it doesn't mean that it will qualify and receive credits for everything the designer intends”, Mr. Mills remarked. “You have to make sure the execution meets the original specifications and submit the data in such a way that the credits are approved. It's kind of like being a LEED lawyer but it requires a background in construction to be able to interpret the LEED requirements properly.”

The building, which is still under construction, is due to be completed in March of this year. It is currently LEED registered and anticipated to achieve Platinum certification once a certificate of occupancy is issued. Platinum certification requires a minimum of 52 of 69 possible points.

About Excel Builders

Excel Builders & Renovators Inc. is a Brooklyn based custom builder and boutique developer bringing modern and traditional elegance and the highest quality materials and construction methods to urban living. Since 1997 Excel has been creating total living environments that both aesthetically and ergonomically anticipate the homeowner's needs. An obsessive attention to detail in both what you can and cannot see makes Excel's work a thing of lasting beauty. For more information, visit www.excelbuilds.com or contact Matthew Goldfine at (646) 294-6475.

About USGBC

The U.S. Green Building Council is a nonprofit membership organization whose vision is a sustainable built environment within a generation. Its membership includes corporations, builders, universities, government agencies, and other nonprofit organizations. Since USGBC's founding in 1993, the Council has grown to more than 17,500 member companies and organizations, a comprehensive family of LEED® green building certification systems, an expansive educational offering, the industry's popular Greenbuild International Conference and Expo (www.greenbuildexpo.org), and a network of 79 local chapters, affiliates, and organizing groups. For more information, visit www.usgbc.org.

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