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NATIONALLY KNOWN GREEN BUILDER AND EDUCATOR TO SPEAK AT REGIONAL ENERGY CODES CONFERENCE

October 16-18 in Omaha

Lincoln, NE – Matt Belcher, a nationally known builder and developer of high performance "green" buildings, will speak at the Great Plains Energy Codes Conference in Omaha, NE October 16-18, 2012. Belcher serves as Co-Chair of the National Association of Home Builder's Green Building and Energy sub-committee and serves on the association's Construction Codes and Standards committees.

Belcher will advise how builders can take advantage of the rapidly growing market of "going green" in remodeling and retrofits of buildings, and how quality management, best practices and the "above code" process can expand markets in a recovering economy.

"Having the Co-Chair of the Green Building and Energy Sub Committee speak here is an excellent opportunity for area builders to learn about advancements in beyond code programs," said Mike Rogers of Rogers Homes in Omaha.

Belcher has been actively involved in the St. Louis area construction industry for three decades. His firm, Verdatek Solutions, specializes in managing the planning and building/retrofit of sustainable "green" homes, light commercial and agricultural building construction and low-impact development and neighborhood revitalization. Belcher is also an EPA Energy Star Partner and EPA Indoor Air PLUS partner, and has built and renovated homes to Net Zero and beyond that provide proven performance through review and testing.

"As a Nebraska Green Builder, I am looking forward to hearing Matt speak about advancements in beyond code programs and resources," said Mike Rezac of Rezac Construction in Lincoln. "I have heard him at other conferences and was genuinely inspired by his commitment to the Green Building industry.

Belcher is also Director of University of Missouri's High Performance Buildings Research Center and a Technical Partner with MU's Stormwater Education Center. He was appointed by the International Code Council to serve on the Energy and Water committee for the development of its new International Green Construction Code and was recently appointed to the new Residential Energy Committee.

Early bird registration of \$130 ends Friday, September 14. To register, and for additional information about the Great Plains Energy Codes Conference, visit http://www.neo.ne.gov/codesconf/.

The Nebraska Energy Office was created in 1977 to promote the efficient, economic and environmentally responsible use of energy in Nebraska. In 2008, the Energy Office became a stand-alone agency within state government with the Director serving as a member of the Governor's Cabinet.

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