

# News Release

## Home Energy Efficiency Maximized again through 2018 RESNET Cross Border Builder Challenge

### For Immediate Release

Oceanside, CA 3.01.18

The award winners of the 2018 RESNET Cross Border Home Builder Challenge, which helps promote the utilization of the HERS (Home Energy Rating System) Index have been announced by Steve Baden, Executive Director of RESNET, and John Godden, President of the Canadian counterpart CRESNET at the RESNET annual conference in Orlando Florida.

"With over 2 million homes rated in the US, the Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Index is the industry standard by which a home's energy efficiency is now being measured in the US and Canada. It's also the nationally recognized system for inspecting and calculating a home's energy performance" noted Steve Baden.

"The Index is based on an assessment by a certified Home Energy Rater who evaluates the energy efficiency of a home and assigning it a relative performance score. The lower the number, the more energy efficient the home. The energy efficiency score is based on variables such as exterior walls (both above and below grade), floors over unconditioned spaces, ceilings and roofs, windows and doors, vents and ductwork, HVAC systems, water heating system, and your thermostat, among other elements, commented" Steve Baden.

"The RESNET Cross Border Challenge is a friendly competition between American and Canadian Home Builders to determine just how energy efficient builders can build," noted John Godden. There were a total of ten builder awards presented for this year's competition; five were based on having the lowest HERS score for their specific category, sponsored by Power-Pipe® , two were special President's awards based on a fleet of HERS new home ratings, sponsored by Icynene and two were Net Zero awards including PV Solar applications sponsored by Dow. New this year is the Enbridge Innovation Award sponsored by Enbridge Gas Distribution. This international award went to the builder in the US or Canada that HERS rated a home demonstrating energy / resource innovation in new home construction."

The awards available were as follows:

1. Net Zero American Builder (including PV)
2. Lowest HERS score American Custom Builder (< 10 homes HERS rated per year)
3. Lowest HERS score American Production Builder (> 50 homes HERS rated per year)
4. Lowest HERS score Canadian Production Builder (> 50 homes HERS rated per year)
5. Lowest HERS score Canadian Mid Production Builder (10 to 49 homes HERS rated per year)
6. Lowest HERS score Canadian Custom Builder (< 10 homes HERS rated per year)
7. Net Zero Canadian Builder (including PV)
8. RESNET President's Award for the American Production Builder with the highest percentage of homes rated under HERS score 54.

9. CRESNET President's Award for the Canadian Production Builder with the highest percentage of homes rated under HERS score 54.
10. Enbridge Innovation Award

The winners for 2018 are:

1. Net Zero American Builder is **Greenhill Contracting , New York** with a HERS 2 (3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row )
2. Lowest HERS score American Custom Builder is **Reding Homes, Nebraska** with a HERS 26
3. Lowest HERS score American Production Builder is **Lennar Minnesota** with a HERS 46
4. Lowest HERS score Canadian Production Builder is **Brookfield Residential, GTA** with a HERS 38
5. Lowest HERS score Canadian Mid Production Builder is **Geranium Homes, GTA** with a HERS 39
6. Lowest HERS score Canadian Custom Builder is **Castleform Construction, GTA** with a HERS 20
7. Net Zero Canadian Builder is **Empire Communities, Breslau** with a HERS 19
8. RESNET President's Award is **Lennar Minnesota** , 88 % of fleet under HERS 54
9. CRESNET President's Award is **Heathwood Homes, GTA** , 100 % of fleet under HERS 54
10. Enbridge Innovation Award is **Empire Communities, Breslau** for their Hybrid Home

Winners in all Lowest HERS score categories each won a free Power-Pipe® Drain Water Heat Recovery System from Renewability Energy Inc as part of their awards. The Power-Pipe® Drain Water Heat Recovery System is a leading technology for reducing water heating costs for homeowners, yet increasing the water heating capacity within the house. The Power-Pipe® can help builders reduce their HERS score between 1-3 points depending on climate zone and efficiency of unit selected.

#### **About RESNET**

The Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET) was founded in 1995 as an independent, non-profit organization committed to helping homeowners reduce the cost of their utility bills by making their homes more energy efficient.

RESNET is responsible for creating the national training and certification standards for HERS Raters and Home Energy Survey Professionals, both of which are recognized by federal government agencies such as the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. mortgage industry. For more information contact Steve Baden at [sbaden@natresnet.org](mailto:sbaden@natresnet.org) or visit [www.resnet.us](http://www.resnet.us).

#### **About CRESNET**

CRESNET is a Canadian national, non-profit corporation which was formed in March of 2007. An annual general meeting is held where members may nominate and vote for board members and help set the direction of the organization.

CRESNET was given the exclusive right in Canada to use and adapt all the standards of RESNET. CRESNET undertook to adapt the technical specifications of HERS to calibrate the 100 point to better suit Canadian Codes and practices. That work is now complete and the Canadianized version is termed the E-Scale. For more information contact John Godden at [info@cresnet.ca](mailto:info@cresnet.ca) or visit [www.cresnet.ca](http://www.cresnet.ca).

#### **About the HERS Index**

The HERS Index was created by RESNET in order to give homeowners and buyers a standard by which they could measure the efficiency of homes they currently own or want to purchase. To create a HERS

score a RESNET Certified HERS Rater does an energy audit on your home and compares the data against a reference designer-model home of the same size and shape of the actual home and develops a HERS score. The lower the score the more energy efficient the home. For more information on the HERS Index please visit [www.HERSindex.com](http://www.HERSindex.com) or contact Steve Baden at [sbaden@natresnet.org](mailto:sbaden@natresnet.org).

#### **About RenewABILITY Energy Inc.**

Founded in 2000, RenewABILITY Energy Inc. manufactures the Power-Pipe® Drain Water Heat Recovery system in Kitchener Ontario, Canada with American operations based in Hazelton PA. The patented and patent pending Power-Pipe systems are sold across Canada, the United States and Europe. For more contact Rod Buchalter at [Rod@Renewability.com](mailto:Rod@Renewability.com) 289-242-1407 or visit [www.Power-Pipe.com](http://www.Power-Pipe.com).

#### **About Icynene Corp.**

Established in 1986, Icynene helps to build energy efficiency into residential and commercial structures in over 31 countries worldwide. Our portfolio of industry leading light density open cell and medium density closed cell spray foam solutions are both insulation and air barrier materials for improved indoor air quality and reduced energy costs making Icynene the smart choice for builders, architects, building owners, and homeowners. For more information on Icynene contact Icynene Marketing Communications, [media@icynene.com](mailto:media@icynene.com) 800-758-7325, x 215 or visit [www.icynene.com](http://www.icynene.com).

#### **About Dow**

Dow (NYSE: DOW) combines the power of science and technology to passionately innovate what is essential to human progress. The Company is driving innovations that extract value from material, polymer, chemical and biological science to help address many of the world's most challenging problems, such as the need for fresh food, safer and more sustainable transportation, clean water, energy efficiency, more durable infrastructure, and increasing agricultural productivity. Dow's integrated, market-driven portfolio delivers a broad range of technology-based products and solutions to customers in 175 countries and in high-growth sectors such as packaging, infrastructure, transportation, consumer care, electronics, and agriculture. In 2016, Dow had annual sales of \$48 billion and employed approximately 56,000 people worldwide. The Company's more than 7,000 product families are manufactured at 189 sites in 34 countries across the globe. References to "Dow" or the "Company" mean The Dow Chemical Company and its consolidated subsidiaries unless otherwise expressly noted. More information about Dow can be found at [www.dow.com](http://www.dow.com).

#### **About Enbridge Gas Distribution**

Enbridge Gas Distribution Inc. has a more than 165-year history and is Canada's largest natural gas distribution company. It is owned by Enbridge Inc., a Canadian-based leader in energy transportation and distribution, and has ranked as one of the Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations for the past eight years. Enbridge Gas Distribution distributes natural gas to over two million customers in Ontario.

For more information, visit [enbridgegas.com](http://enbridgegas.com) or follow us on Twitter [@EnbridgeGas](https://twitter.com/EnbridgeGas).



# The 2018 Cross Border Builder Challenge

