



Workers set the deck for the 2,000 sq. ft. home in Omaha, NE.



Omaha PATH Concept Home is an efficient, sustainable and affordable model for today's American families.

America's Inaugural PATH Concept Home Purchased by First-Time Home Owner

OMAHA, NE—The Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing (PATH) Concept Home is a glimpse into the future of America's housing. For first-time homebuyers Howard and Marcella Dial and their family, who received the keys to HUD's Concept Home Omaha, it means a brighter and more exciting future.

"This is a great day for the Dials and American housing," HUD Assistant Secretary Darlene F. Williams said. "By using advanced building techniques and applying cutting-edge technologies the PATH Concept Home demonstrates how innovative building can create affordable, energy-efficient homes."

The PATH Concept Home Omaha, a 2,000 sq. ft. craftsman-style house located in a dynamic urban neighborhood, combines dozens of innovative products and systems with traditional design elements to create a comfortable and affordable home. This was accomplished through the support of manufacturers like Masco Corp. and Georgia-Pacific and the generosity of the City of Omaha.

The Concept Home was designed for flexibility (easy to update and expand for different life stages, new owners or the latest technological innovations); efficiency (easy to build and easy to live in); and sustainability (featuring green, energy efficient products, systems and materials). The Concept Home meets Energy Star®, Environments For Living® and LEED for Homes criteria.

By using component framing, Fernando Pages, supervising builder of the home, and his team were able to set the entire foundation in half a day.

"With an old site like this, traditional site building would have been impractical but setting a modular home would have also presented too many challenges," notes Pages. "We found that component framing was the happy middle ground that helped us build the home quickly and to top-of-the-line standards," he added.

The entire home utilized all-engineered lumber. This ensured

that every corner and angle were to exact specifications.

"Every builder, like a master carpenter, dreams of framing the perfect structure. This was it," Pages boasts.

"I have gotten to know the Dial family very well and I am proud to join with HUD to present the keys to America's first PATH Concept Home to such a hard-working, deserving family," said Pages.

"PATH has built a quality home that offers the latest innovations in technology and will provide long term durability, low maintenance and manageable utility bills - all so important to families looking for affordability," he adds.

While the story of the first PATH Concept Home closes, the second one has already begun. To be built in South Carolina's low country, the HUD's Concept Home Charleston will continue to demonstrate construction efficiency, flexibility and sustainability while focusing on durability under hurricane winds, termites and a climate with year-round humidity that can lead to moisture and mold problems.

The Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing (PATH) is a public-private partnership of leading-edge home builders, manufacturers, researchers, professional groups and Federal agencies concerned with housing. By working together, PATH partners improve the quality and affordability of today's new and existing homes, strengthen the technology infrastructure of the United States and help create the next generation of housing for America's families. PATH is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Policy Development and Research.

For additional information on PATH, its Concept Home program and the recently completed first Concept Home circle Reader Service No. 84.

For narrated videos showing key technologies during construction of the Concept Home, an interactive audio tour, photographs and plans, please visit www.pathnet.org.