

Saturday, 14 November 2009

## **WINNERS IN PREMIER NATIONAL BUILDING COMPETITION ANNOUNCED**

A "masterpiece" of a new home in Auckland's eastern suburbs and an innovative aquatic centre in Queenstown have taken out the supreme awards at the Registered Master Builders 2009 House of the Year and RMB Commercial Project Awards, in association with PlaceMakers.

The national winners in the country's premier building competition were announced tonight at a black tie gala dinner held at SKYCITY Convention Centre in Auckland.

Minister for Building and Construction Maurice Williamson was guest of honour at the event, and along with more than 600 builders and industry leaders celebrated the best of New Zealand's new homes, renovations, sustainable homes and commercial projects.

The 2009 House of the Year title went to PSL Construction of Auckland for a home in Glendowie, Auckland, which also won the New Homes over \$1 million and Gib Living Solutions® awards.

The three-storey house is on a stunning site with panoramic views across Karaka Bay to Browns Island and around to Music Point.

The home revolves around a pivotal atrium space, which extends the lounge space for large gatherings, and provides climate control for the whole house through large sensor-controlled panels that automatically open or close.

A limited range of premium materials have been used, with wood panelling in a variety of hues and colours contrasting with basalt-clad pillars to create a warm, homely feel.

National residential judge Guy Evans says the supreme award winner is an exceptionally designed and crafted home, "an absolute masterpiece".

"The degree of difficulty and detailing required of the builders was a real test of their skills and one that was delivered to the letter," Mr Evans says.

"This home is a deserving winner of the highest accolade in residential building and stood out in a field of exceptional work."

Naylor Love Limited (Central Otago Division) took out the supreme award for commercial projects for the Alpine Aqualand in Queenstown, a new public swimming pool and leisure centre owned by Queenstown Lakes District Council. It also won the Tourism and Leisure Project.

The centre is distinctive for its unique design, reflective of its backdrop of The Remarkables mountain range, and contains interior features which resemble the local landscape such as a winding "lazy" river and a mountain waterfall.

National commercial judge Simon Tonkin says the project was clearly not a conventional build, and would have required a vast degree of planning.

"Alpine Aqualand caught our eye for a number of reasons – not the least how well the building reflects its surrounding environment, and the high degree of design complexity which required an outstanding level of workmanship," Mr Tonkin says.

"The result is a unique and very attractive facility, and one which is a real asset to the local community."

Registered Master Builders Federation chief executive Warwick Quinn says the competition continues to set the benchmark for residential and commercial building in New Zealand.

"The quality of this year's finalists has yet again raised the bar and they clearly demonstrate the value of choosing to build with a Registered Master Builder," Mr Quinn says.

"The range of building work, from home renovations to large-scale commercial projects, shows that the professional approach and dedication of these builders to their craft is unsurpassed."

John Beveridge, chief executive of principal sponsor PlaceMakers, congratulated all the National Gold Reserve and category winners, and applauded them for their part in helping New Zealand out of the recession.

"All the finalists tonight are not only building outstanding homes and workplaces that will serve future generations, but are keeping people in jobs and are at the heart of the economic recovery today.

"At PlaceMakers, we believe a good builder is recession proof. We are proud to be associated with a competition that acknowledges and rewards the best of New Zealand's builders."

The 100 finalists – all National Gold Reserve winners – were selected from 548 entries in 20 regional competitions held throughout New Zealand during June, July and August.

The Registered Master Builders House of the Year and RMB Commercial Project Awards are made possible through the support of principal sponsor PlaceMakers, and supporting sponsors James Hardie, Gib Living Solutions<sup>®</sup>, Pink<sup>®</sup> Batts<sup>®</sup> Ultra<sup>®</sup> (Tasman Insulation), Housing New Zealand Corporation, Nulook, the Department of Building and Housing and Meridian, with event sponsors New*Build* Home Finance and BRANZ.

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**Registered Master Builders 2009 House of the Year  
and RMB Commercial Project Awards**  
*In association with PlaceMakers*

**NATIONAL WINNERS**

***PlaceMakers Supreme Award and Registered Master Builders 2009 House of the Year***

- PSL Construction Limited for a home in Glendowie, Auckland (also winner of New Homes over \$1 million and Gib Living Solutions® Award)

***RMB 2009 Commercial Project of the Year***

- Naylor Love Limited (Central Otago Division) for the Alpine Aqualand, Queenstown (also winner of the Tourism and Leisure Project)

***Residential Category Winners***

PlaceMakers Renovation under \$250,000

- Kuriger Builders Tauranga Limited for a renovation in Tauranga

PlaceMakers Renovation \$250,000 - \$500,000

- Gray Bros Residential Builders Limited for a renovation in Maori Hill, Dunedin

PlaceMakers Renovation over \$500,000 (also PlaceMakers Bathroom Excellence Award)

- Ezebuild for a renovation in Venture Cove, Nelson

New Homes under \$250,000 presented by Housing New Zealand Corporation

- Tasman Holdings Nelson Limited for a home in The Wood, Nelson

New Homes \$250,000 - \$350,000

- Penny Homes Limited for a home in Taupo

New Homes \$350,000 - \$450,000

- David Reid Homes (Southland) Limited for a home in Riversdale, Southland

New Homes \$450,000 - \$650,000 presented by NewBuild Home Finance

- Tissink Builders Limited for a home at Lake Tarawera, Rotorua

New Homes \$650,000 - \$1 million

- Simon Roche Limited for a home in Eastbourne, Lower Hutt

New Homes over \$1 million

- PSL Construction Limited for a home in Glendowie, Auckland

Nulook Builder's Own Home

- Metzger Builders Limited 'MBL' for a home in Harewood, Christchurch

James Hardie Show Home Award

- Harwood Homes NZ Limited for a show home in The Lakes, Tauranga

Department of Building and Housing Sustainable Homes under \$500,000

- Rod Percival Builders Limited for a sustainable home in Whitianga

Meridian Sustainable Homes \$500,000 - \$1 million (also Pink® Batts® Ultra® Energy Efficiency Award)

- D R Borman Limited for a sustainable home in Mt Holdsworth, Carterton

BRANZ Sustainable Homes over \$1 million

- John Creighton Builder Limited for a sustainable home in Fendalton, Christchurch

Gib Living Solutions® Award

- PSL Construction Limited for a new home in Glendowie, Auckland

Pink® Batts® Ultra® Energy Efficiency Award

- D R Borman Limited, for an energy efficient home in Mt Holdsworth, Carterton

PlaceMakers Bathroom Excellence Award

- Ezebuild for a renovation in Venture Cove, Nelson

PlaceMakers Heart of the Home Kitchen Award

- John S Macdonald Builders Limited for a home in Tamahere, Hamilton

Outdoor Living Award

- David Reid Homes (Central) Limited for a home in Clyde, Central Otago

### ***Commercial Category Winners***

Retail and Business Project

- Mainzeal Property and Construction Limited for 'Vogel Centre Stage 1a', Thorndon, Wellington

Health Project

- Naylor Love Limited for Mercy Hospital, Maori Hill, Dunedin

Education Project

- Mainzeal Property and Construction Limited for the Victoria University Coastal Ecology Laboratory, Island Bay, Wellington

Industrial and Infrastructure Project

- Armstrong Downes Limited, for the Paraparaumu Fire Station, Paraparaumu

Tourism and Leisure Project

- Naylor Love Limited (Central Otago Division) for the Alpine Aqualand, Queenstown

## **Notes to editors:**

### **About the Registered Master Builders 2009 House of the Year and RMB Commercial Project Awards, in association with PlaceMakers**

The competition is structured on two levels – regional and national. Gold, Silver and Bronze Award-winners are determined using a points-based system. These award-winners are announced at 20 regional events around New Zealand throughout June, July and August.

The top 100 local Gold Award winners become national finalists, announced in mid-August. These national finalists are then re-judged by a different panel of judges who determine the overall national winners. The national winners will be announced at a gala dinner on Saturday 14 November at the SKYCITY Convention Centre, Auckland.

### **About the Registered Master Builders Federation (RMBF)**

- The Registered Master Builders Federation (RMBF) represents New Zealand's premier building companies who pride themselves on delivering the highest quality houses and buildings to their clients
- RMBF members represent upwards of 65% of every dollar spent on construction each year; RMBF members are responsible for \$7.5 billion of the \$12 billion spent annually in New Zealand
- RMBF has been in existence for more than 100 years, providing industry leadership, training and services for its members
- RMBF has more than 1800 registered master builder member companies nationwide, who employ more than 15,000 employees and subcontractors
- There are 22 regional Registered Master Builders Associations throughout New Zealand
- Registered Master Builders are assessed on their building experience, trade or professional qualifications, practical experience, financial viability, client satisfaction and workmanship before membership is approved
- When engaging a Registered Master Builder for a new home, or residential alterations or additions (built under either full contract or a labour-only contract), clients will be offered a Master Build 7-Year Guarantee, which covers loss of deposit, non-completion of the work, defective workmanship and materials and structural defects (conditions apply).