



AURORA CUSTOM HOMES SEES INCREASE IN SMART DESIGN TRENDS AND PRODUCTS

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Florida – Today’s homeowners and new homebuyers are more aware than ever of their impact on the environment. As a result, custom home builders like Aurora Custom Homes in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., have seen an increase in demand for smart design trends and products that reduce the impact on the environment and result in less energy consumption by homeowners.

“Consumers want to regulate their demand on electricity from devices used in everyday living,” said Michael Lenahen, president of Aurora Custom Homes, a builder that implements green building practices and smart products into its high-end custom homes. “This heightened awareness has resulted in a greater demand for smart products that increase air and water quality in homes.”

Some of the most popular smart products Lenahen uses for improved air quality include:

- Programmable thermostats with multiple zones that control individual room temperatures, lessening the demand to condition rooms with minimal use.
- Energy recovery ventilators that bring fresh air into the home while exhausting stale air to the outside.
- Motion sensors with timers on bath exhaust fans, which remove humidity from the home.

“The quality of air within a home greatly affects the homeowners, particularly those with health and allergy concerns,” Lenahen said. “By improving the air quality within a home, we are reducing energy costs while bettering the health of residents who occupy the home.”

Lenahen has also seen an increase in demand for products that improve water quality within a home. These products include:

- Tankless on-demand gas water heaters that eliminate the need to keep a standard water tank heated.
- Programmable recirculating systems for water heaters that shorten the wait for hot water while eliminating the waste of cold water down the drain.

- Flow-regulated toilets and shower heads to reduce the amount of water wasted by users.

Lenahen said that all smart products installed in a home will lessen the home's direct impact on the environment and save homeowners money in the long term.

Lenahen and his team at Aurora Custom Homes are designated Certified Green Professionals from the National Association of Home Builders. This designation allows them to educate homeowners about lower maintenance costs, improved indoor air quality and better choices for recycled and/or renewable building materials with longer life cycles. In addition, the team is able to design green building sites, use resource-efficient materials for sustainable living, implement green building practices into new construction and remodeling projects, and educate homeowners in effective operation and maintenance of a green home.