



AURORA CUSTOM HOMES AND REMODELING EXECUTIVES MICHAEL LENAHEN, JEFF BRECKO RECEIVE CAPS DESIGNATION

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (Feb. 15, 2011) – Michael Lenahen, president of Aurora Custom Homes, and Jeff Brecko, vice president of Aurora Custom Remodeling, recently received their Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) designation from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB).

The CAPS program teaches the technical, business management and customer service skills needed to satisfy the home remodeling needs of the aging-in-place market, the fastest growing segment of the residential remodeling industry. The program was developed by the NAHB Remodelers Council, in collaboration with AARP, NAHB Research Center and the NAHB Seniors Housing Council, to educate companies on the needs of older and maturing adults who want to remodel so they can age-in-place and remain safely, independently and comfortably in their homes.

“There is a tremendous need in the homebuilding and remodeling market to understand the aging-in-place demographic and to help create a living environment that allows them to stay in the comfort of their home as they age,” Lenahen said. “It is our job as remodelers and homebuilders to discover the needs of our customers and create a home that is designed specifically for their lifestyle. We are much better suited to accomplish that with the aging-in-place market after receiving our CAPS designation.”

To receive the designation, Lenahen and Brecko completed the three-day CAPS program, which teaches the strategies and techniques for marketing, designing and building aesthetically enriching, barrier-free living environments for older adults. The program provided a background on the aging-in-place demographic, communication techniques, common remodeling projects, codes and standards, common barriers and solutions, product ideas, case studies and interactive exercises.

“There are many aspects to consider when remodeling or creating a space for older adults, such as low thresholds and minimal steps for easy accessibility, appropriate bathroom fixtures, wide doorways and halls, kitchen counters and cabinets at more convenient heights and user-friendly features throughout the homes,” Brecko said. “By understanding the issues that older adults face in their homes, we are better able to help them design a comfortable environment that will allow them to remain in their home for many more years than otherwise would have been possible.”

More information about the CAPS program is available online at www.nahb.org. To learn more about Aurora Custom Homes and Remodeling's aging-in-place services, visit www.AuroraBuilders.com or call (904) 246-5400.