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..... **for immediate release**

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Focus on Energy Recognized as Leader in ENERGY STAR[®] Housing

*Focus on Energy, partnering consultants earn awards for protecting
the environment through energy efficiency*

MADISON, Wis. (July 08, 2010) – Focus on Energy, Wisconsin’s statewide program for energy efficiency and renewable energy, has again been recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with a 2010 ENERGY STAR Leadership in Housing Award. The award honors Focus on Energy’s efforts to promote energy-efficient new home construction and environmental stewardship through their sponsorship of the Wisconsin ENERGY STAR Homes Program. In addition, five of Focus on Energy’s partnering consultants earned the prestigious Century Club Award in recognition of their outstanding environmental contributions made through the completion of more than 100 Home Performance with ENERGY STAR projects in 2009.

What is the Wisconsin ENERGY STAR Homes Program?

The Wisconsin ENERGY STAR Homes Program and its participating builders work together based on the principles of applied building science and the recognition that a home is an integrated and interactive system. Homes built under the Wisconsin ENERGY STAR Homes Program are designed, built, and tested to meet specific program standards—and they are estimated to be 25 percent more energy efficient than homes built to Wisconsin’s Uniform Dwelling Code.

A few of the practices and technologies that contribute to a Wisconsin ENERGY STAR Home’s exceptional performance include tight construction, improved insulation details, combustion safety, tested ventilation, and energy-efficient heating and cooling equipment. The end result is a home that is not only more energy efficient, but also safer, more comfortable, and built to last.

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What is the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program?

Home Performance with ENERGY STAR, sponsored statewide by Focus on Energy, offers homeowners a comprehensive whole-house approach to improving energy efficiency and comfort, while saving money on utility bills and helping to protect the environment. Participating contractors and consultants receive specialized education and are equipped with diagnostic tools to thoroughly inspect homes, identify problems, and recommend solutions. Once the recommended improvements have been made, a follow-up evaluation is performed to ensure the work is complete and effective.

The 2010 Century Club Awards were given to the following contractors and consultants for the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program who are making a difference in Wisconsin by improving energy efficiency and helping to protect the environment.

- Duerst Insulation Technicians
- On-Site Performance Testing
- North Star Energy Consulting, LLC
- GDS Associates
- Alternative Resource Management, LLC

“Focus on Energy owes much of its success to the outstanding contributions of its partnering contractors and consultants, and we are thrilled to partner with some of the top home energy-efficiency companies in the nation,” said Carter Dedolph, program manager for Focus on Energy. “To have five partners recognized with a Century Club Award is a new record for Focus on Energy, and a very big accomplishment for those businesses.”

To find more information about the Wisconsin ENERGY STAR Homes Program or the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program, visit focusonenergy.com or call 800.762.7077.

About Focus on Energy

Focus on Energy works with eligible Wisconsin residents and businesses to install cost-effective energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Focus information, resources, and financial incentives help to implement projects that otherwise would not be completed, or to complete projects sooner than scheduled. Its efforts help Wisconsin residents and businesses manage rising energy costs, promote in-state economic development, protect our environment, and control the state's growing demand for electricity and natural gas. For more information, call 800.762.7077 or visit focusonenergy.com.