

Hot Trends in ICFs to watch for in 2008



Speed Thrills

One advantage of ICF construction is the potential to get a structure up in a hurry. Fans of ABC-TV's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* got an eye-opening example of that last December, when a team of builders constructed a 3,000 square foot ENERGY STAR rated home in a single week. For that to happen, the exterior walls had to go up within a day.

The project used ICFs from Oklahoma based manufacturer BuildBlock Building Systems. "As far as we know this was the fastest ICF installation ever," said BuildBlock's Jason Fisher, who served as a technical advisor on the project. "We started stacking forms just after nightfall and completed pouring the concrete within the wall shortly after sunrise. This is far less than the usual installation time frame, but we accomplished it!"

Among the other green features included in the home are low-e windows, low-flow toilets, sinks, and showers, and certified hardwood floors. The house was positioned to take advantage of southern exposure to provide passive-solar heating and solar hot water.

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www.buildblock.com • 405-840-3386

A Tip of the Cap...

JAMB-it-ALL is a 20-gauge galvanized steel cap system designed to quickly seal off ICF window or door cutouts while pouring, or to cap off top sections of ICF walls. The system is designed to permanently integrate into the structure itself. Made of recycled materials, the products help builders save time and eliminate many common novice mistakes.

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