

Castle & Cooke Hawaii earns Two Safety Awards from the National Association of Home Builders

Mililani, HI (Feb. 14, 2008) – Castle & Cooke earned the distinction of being named a 2007 Safety Award For Excellence (SAFE) winner by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB).

The company won in two categories: Greater than 100 but less that 1000 home starts per year, and Home Builder Safety Professional of the Year recognizing the work of Mary Silva, safety manager for Castle & Cooke. These honors, awarded by a panel of industry experts, recognized Castle & Cooke's leadership and commitment to improve construction safety in the home building industry.

"We are extremely proud to earn these awards for the hard work and effort we put into construction and workplace safety," said Castle & Cooke Hawaii President Harry Saunders. "We are fortunate to have the expertise and experience of Mary Silva in achieving this distinction. I am thrilled that her professionalism and commitment to safety is being honored by her peers."

Silva has been with Castle & Cooke since 2002 and is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of company occupational health and safety programs. She held similar positions with Verizon Hawaii, Fireman's Fund Insurance Company and BHP Hawaii. Silva, who earned a degree in chemical engineering and pre-medicine, graduated from the University of Okalahoma.

"I feel very honored. There are many members of NAHB who are outstanding professionals," said Silva. "To be named their Safety Professional of the Year is overwhelming – I am so happy that they recognize the hard work we put into our safety program."

Silva is especially proud of the teamwork she sees on the construction side of her company. Both the site engineering and vertical construction teams work together to make safety a priority. Her philosophy of "catching people doing something good" also contributes to reducing accidents and injury at job sites. Site superintendents and trade-contractor partners embrace safety protocols because of the positive feedback and recognition.

The goal of the NAHB awards program is to recognize the achievements of home builders and trade contractors who have developed and implemented high quality construction safety programs as well as honor other individuals and organizations who have made successful efforts to advance safety in the home building industry.

Honorees were recognized at the NAHB Safety Award For Excellence Awards Banquet on February 13, 2008. The awards were presented during the 2008 International Builder's Show in Orlando, Florida. Honorees received an engraved award as well as coverage in NAHB's Nation's Building News Online.

Doug Pearson, Castle & Cooke vice president of construction – Hawaii, attended the event on behalf of the company. He said it was a wonderful opportunity to interact and learn from other industry experts as well as a privilege to represent the company.

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