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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

First Ever LEED Home in Mexico Targeted for Completion

CASA ECOMAYA is targeted as the First LEED Home in Mexico

Husband-Wife Team Brings State-of-the-Art, Patented "Green" Technology to Mexican Construction Industry

Mérida, Mexico (September 5, 2014) – The multicultural, multi-lingual husband and wife team of David Patterson and Maria Jose Sansores didn't set out to be environmental construction pioneers, but years spent scouring Mexico for the technology to build a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-certified (LEED) house, forced them to adopt a "build it and they will come" strategy.

Located just outside of Mérida Mexico in the heart of the Mayan civilization and just minutes away from the important preclassic archeological sight of Dizibilchaltun the Patterson's home, Casa Ecomaya, is a 3,900 square-foot four bedroom, four-and-a-half bath in the Jack Nicklaus-designed Yucatan Country Club. It balances modern design and state-of-the-art amenities with an energy-efficiency unprecedented in Mexico in an area where temperatures routinely top 100 degrees Fahrenheit and the average annual daily high temperature is 93 degrees.

The project, registered in the LEED for homes program of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC), the leading non-profit coalition for advancing environmentally responsible construction methods, Casa Ecomaya will be open to the public for tours starting in September 2015.

"Maria and I have always focused on taking the best from each of our cultures and adopting them into our family life, which is exactly what we've done with Casa Ecomaya," says David Patterson, homeowner and Casa Ecomaya's general contractor, who moved to Yucatan in 1999 for a job managing a factory where he met, married and had two children with Maria. "This house is the first of its kind in Mexico, providing an example of a healthier, more sustainable way of living without sacrificing comfort or style. It shows our kids what's possible if you follow your dreams, while helping ensure the future of the planet so they can follow theirs."

In order to make their dream a reality, David and Maria extensively researched advanced building material products that could be made from indigenous materials and be fabricated locally. David and Maria found an insulated concrete block that effectively uses the structural stability and durability of standard concrete block but incorporates environmentally friendly Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) foam insulation within the block. The block system, known as Omni Block, is a cost-competitive energy efficient wall system and helped pave the way for David and Maria to build an environmentally friendly home in a country where construction technologies haven't changed much in 50 years. The Pattersons are so passionate about Omni Block that they teamed with its US-based patent holder to help make this product available in Mexico.

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In addition to green building technology wholly new to Mexico, Casa Ecomaya will also feature a home automation system, solar panels, eco-friendly zero VOC paint, as well as Energy Star windows, lighting, appliances, electronics, and cooling equipment. Once completed, Casa Ecomaya will be the only house of its kind not only in the Yucatan Peninsula, but in Mexico as a whole.

"David and Maria are breaking new ground in Mexico with Casa Ecomaya," said Carl Seville, and the co-author of Green Building, Principles and Practices in Residential Construction, the first college textbook on residential green building and the LEED for Homes Version 4 Reference Guide. "When completed, this home will be the first of its kind in Mexico and hopefully set new standards for Mexican home construction."

About Omni Block

Omni Block is a standard-sized structural cement block with a uniquely designed interior that includes off-set and constricted cross webs and the addition of middle lineal wall that create cells that are filled with expanded polystyrene inserts.

The design of the block creates a "thermal lag" or delay, disruption and redirection of heat flow. The insulation inserts stop heat. It is the combination of thermal mass, insulation, and air tightness that results in a thermally efficient wall system with an insulating R-value of 20. Construction of the home will cost the same as typical construction techniques, but will provide energy cost savings of over $300 per month while producing a more comfortable and quiet living environment.

About The Yucatan Country Club

The Yucatan Country Club is an exclusive gated community just outside Mérida, Mexico, located on an extension of 330 hectares. This residential development offers different residential models, built around a spectacular Jack Nicklaus Design golf course and clubhouse amenities beyond all expectations.

For more information including photos and eco-friendly building products, visit casaecomaya.com or call David Patterson at 521 999 947 8667.