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Mathews Brothers Welcomes Maine Governor

October 4, 2010
Companies

Belfast, Maine—Mathews Brothers Co. welcomed Maine Governor John Baldacci along with other government officials and customers to its plant here last week as it officially announced plans to add the Clara Starrett EnergyCore window to its product line. Designed to meet the requirements of the Department of Energy's R-5 window program, the new window is currently being supplied to a number of demo projects, with full production expected to begin early next year.

"We are proud to have a product that brings together state-of-the-art technology, as well as 150 years of history," stated Scott Hawthorne, Mathews Brothers president, pointing to fact that the company has been making windows in Maine since 1854. The new window, he said, not only prepares the company to meet the next round of more stringent energy requirements, it helps "set us on a path toward zero-energy homes," he added.

"I can't begin to state how impressed I am with your leadership and your family's history of leadership," Governor Baldacci said, following Hawthorne at the launch ceremony. Commenting on his tour of the facility, he noted, "This is one of the cleanest plants I've been through and certainly one of the friendliest plants I've been through."

When it comes energy, there's much discussion and disagreement about the potential and benefits of various alternatives, Baldacci continued. "There's no debate about energy efficiency, however. People know it costs a little more up front, but the long term benefits are well proven," he noted. Discussing the new line, he credited Mathews Brothers for its efforts to offer state-of-the-art technologies. "Thanks for being the gold standard," he added. "It's what Maine is all about."

Mathews Brothers' new window uses EnergyCore profiles, developed by Mikron Industries using a tri-extrusion process described as "breakthrough technology" by David Petratis, Quanex Building Products president, CEO and chairman, who was also on hand for the event. He credited Mathews Brothers for its significant investment in bringing the new window to market, as well as its long-term partnership with Quanex's Mikron Industries and Truseal Technologies' businesses.

The new window represents "a green product, in every sense of the word," Petratis stated. "We believe it is the most energy efficient vinyl window in the world," he continued, adding that the EnergyCore framing materials are also completely recyclable and even contain 20 percent post industrial recycled content.

"We are excited about this venture into a truly green product," Hawthorne also stated. "While our current product offering meets Energy Star performance requirements as they are defined until 2013, we believe we need to be prepared for the next round of performance requirements, whatever they may be."

The new Clara Starrett line, like the manufacturer's other products, is named after individuals who play key roles in the Maine company's long history. Clara Starrett Mathews, the wife of one of the original founding brothers, ran the company with her daughter-in-law and granddaughter following the death of the original founders.



Mathews Brothers' Scott Hawthorne, left, explains the benefits of triple glazing to Maine Governor John Baldacci, center.

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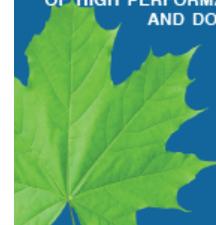


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