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## **PATH Concept Home Project Managers Choose Vinyl Siding**

*Omaha, Neb., Home Built Specifically to Meet Sustainability Requirements*

**December, 2007 – Washington, D.C.** – When it was time for the [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's \(HUD\) Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing \(PATH\) Concept Home](#) project managers to choose the home's exterior cladding, they knew the material had to exhibit certain characteristics. Efficiency and flexibility were key factors, as was sustainability. Their choice? [Vinyl siding](#). Clearly they agree with the majority of America's builders, remodelers and homeowners, who have chosen vinyl siding for decades for its attractive appearance, durability, low maintenance, energy efficiency, environmental performance and affordability.<sup>1</sup>

Emerging evidence from the [U.S. Green Building Council \(USGBC\)](#) and its [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design \(LEED®\) for Home Program Pilot Rating System](#) proves vinyl siding is among the most sustainable choices in exterior cladding – taking into account the impacts of resource efficiency, manufacturing process, transportation and life cycle. The selection of insulated vinyl siding for this PATH Concept Home validates vinyl siding's sustainable features of durability; ease of installation; no need for paint, adhesives or sealants; long useful life; energy efficiency and recyclability.

“Leading experts with knowledge of innovative building products and processes were given the task of developing a home which met very specific criteria, and of the many exterior siding products available in the market, they chose a vinyl siding that is certified through the [VSI Vinyl Siding Product Certification Program](#) for this home's exterior.” said Jerry Y. Huntley, president of the Vinyl Siding Institute. “Having certified vinyl siding selected and installed on this local USGBC award-winning<sup>3</sup> home that complies with NAHB Green Building Guidelines and Environments for

- more -

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Living<sup>®4</sup>, meets Energy Star<sup>®5</sup> requirements, and is being LEED for Homes certified, further substantiates that vinyl siding is a sustainable product.”

Acceptable PATH Concept Home building products must provide a homeowner with a first-rate, long-lasting home that saves energy, is friendly to its natural surroundings and has upfront affordability. Other objectives for this Omaha-based home included a 150-year lifespan, enhanced flexibility, leaving a very small environmental footprint and improved construction and maintenance efficiencies.

According to the home’s builder, Fernando Pages Ruiz of Brighton Construction, “[Building] codes now require a layer of insulated sheathing that can complicate the construction process. The contoured, R-3 insulated [vinyl siding] installed on the PATH Concept Home allowed us to achieve our energy objectives while sheathing the entire house in structural panel, allowing us to achieve greater strength, beauty and efficiency without complicating the construction process.

“The color chosen for this home features BASF’s Luran<sup>®</sup> S ASA<sup>6</sup> polymers, providing fade resistance. With its expanded polystyrene backing, the rich red vinyl siding adds insulation and protection against impact and extreme weather,” Ruiz added. “It makes the panels more rigid and creates a quieter, more comfortable home. This siding system can reduce energy bills by as much as 20 percent and provides additional impact resistance. When installed, it can help meet Energy Star performance guidelines for new homes.”

For additional information on the Omaha, Neb., PATH Concept Home, visit [www.pathnet.org](http://www.pathnet.org).

### **About PATH**

“PATH is a voluntary partnership between leaders of the homebuilding, product manufacturing, insurance, and financial industries and representatives of Federal agencies concerned with housing. Working together, PATH partners improve new and existing homes and strengthen the technology infrastructure of the United States.”<sup>5</sup>

There are six guiding principles for a PATH Concept Home:<sup>7</sup>

- Flexible Floor Plans;
- Organized and Accessible Systems;
- Improved Production Processes;
- Alternative Basic Materials;
- Standardization of Measurements and Component Interfaces; and
- Integrated Functions.

### About the Vinyl Siding Institute

The Vinyl Siding Institute, Inc., located in Washington, D.C., represents manufacturers of vinyl and other polymeric siding and suppliers to the industry. VSI is the sponsor of the *VSI Vinyl Siding Product Certification Program* and the *VSI Certified Installer Program*. [www.vinylsiding.org](http://www.vinylsiding.org)

<sup>1,5</sup>About PATH, [http://www.pathnet.org/sp.asp?mc=about\\_path](http://www.pathnet.org/sp.asp?mc=about_path)

<sup>2</sup>LEED is a registered trademark of the USGBC

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) Flatwater Chapter

<sup>4</sup>Environments for Living is a registered trademark of Masco Contractor Services, Inc.

<sup>5</sup>Energy Star is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy, <http://www.energystar.gov/>

<sup>6</sup>Luran is a registered trademark of BASF Corporation

<sup>7</sup>PATH Concept Home Principles, <http://www.pathnet.org/sp.asp?id=16605>

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