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PRESS RELEASE

LOCAL HOME BUILDER CELEBRATES 80 YEARS IN BUSINESS

Dewhurst & Associates Looks Forward to 2009

SAN DIEGO, December 2, 2008 – Dewhurst & Associates, a custom home building and remodeling company based in La Jolla, is proud to announce that 2009 marks their 80th year in business.

“We are very excited to celebrate 80 years in business and feel confident that we have upheld my great-grandfather and grandfather’s intentions of keeping Dewhurst & Associates a family-based business,” said president, Doug Dewhurst. “We have been honored to serve the greater San Diego area for 80 successful years and look forward to many more.”

The History

Dewhurst & Associates was established in 1929 by Ernest W. Dewhurst. Ernest left England where he owned a construction company and upon his arrival in the United States, he was looking for an area that reminded him of home. He settled in the seaside community of La Jolla and established what is known today as the areas oldest and largest building and design firm. This was the perfect place and the perfect time for a determined general contractor.

Ernest worked with his son, Walter Dewhurst who took over the company in the 50’s. Their intention was to keep their business family-based and personal. Walter became a very influential member of the San Diego Planning Commission and it was during this era that the Dewhurst Company erected one of the most visible landmarks in all of San Diego - the cross atop Mount Soledad at no cost to the city.

Dewhurst & Associates Today

Today, Dewhurst & Associates has grown to more than 30 employees, but retains the intimacy of a family owned business. Walter’s son, Don Dewhurst took over the business and is currently active today. His sons, Doug and Dave, who have both been with the company for more than 25 years, have taken on the roles of President and Chief Executive Officer and his daughter, Donna is an administrator for the business.

In fact, most of Dewhurst & Associates’ employees have devoted several years of service to Dewhurst & Associates, and the company is proud to have retained so many of their employees through the years – many of them dedicating over 20 years to the family-owned business.

Innovative Design: The Design/Build Concept

Dan Sehlhorst, principal architect and an establishing member of the Dewhurst design department, recognized the potential of the design / build concept for project delivery. The Design / Build concept ventures away from the traditional configuration of the architect and contractor as two separate entities and combines the professions into one team. This integration resolves the potential for conflicting perception in the scope of work which, can arise from the conventional approach to project delivery. It

creates a bridge unifying the design and the construction processes, allowing a seamless progression for the project as well as a single point of responsibility.

Additionally, this model allows for the role that a homeowner plays on the team to be the project decision-maker rather than the mediator between the separate participating professions. This team approach ensures all members work toward reducing total project delivery time, mitigating change orders and lowering total project costs while insuring quality. In his nearly 20 years with Dewhurst & Associates, Sehlhorst has facilitated the design and construction of approximately 75 residential projects in La Jolla, Rancho Santa Fe and Point Loma.

Giving Back to the Community

Dewhurst & Associates is now a cornerstone of the San Diego community and their name has become synonymous with quality craftsmanship. What puts them above the rest in the home development industry is their commitment to excellence and community service. This commitment started with the erection of the cross atop Mt. Soledad at no cost to the city and has continued ever since.

They are currently involved with The Rotary Club of La Jolla, La Jolla YMCA, La Jolla Real Estate Brokers Association, La Jolla Historical Society, La Jolla High School Foundation and the USD Family Business Forum. Other organizations they have volunteered for include The Red Cross, Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Diego, and the TERI Organization supporting autism. They have donated construction services to schools in La Jolla, homeless shelters and fire stations. Dewhurst & Associates is also a member of the Greater San Diego Chamber of Commerce, the Better Business Bureau, the La Jolla Town Council, and Vistage International.

Awards & Recognition

Ernest Dewhurst set the tone for excellence that has been carried on since he began the company. They have been recognized as among the top 50 remodeling companies in America by both Remodeling and Qualified Remodeler Magazines, and in 2003 they were honored by San Diego Magazine as Home-of-the-Year Winner in the Builder/Contractor Division. They have also been recognized in the La Jolla Light as The Best Contractor in 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008. In addition, the company received Union Bank of California's Family-Owned Business Longevity Award. The Better Business Bureau recognized Dewhurst & Associates nomination in the 2007 Torch Awards, which distinguishes businesses that conduct business in an ethical manner. Finally, Dewhurst & Associates also just recently was a 2008 nominee finalist for the family owned business award, which is sponsored by the San Diego Business Journal.

Designing and building quality, custom homes in the La Jolla area has been Dewhurst & Associates' specialty since 1929. La Jolla's largest and oldest construction company, Dewhurst & Associates is a family-owned and operated design/build firm serving the greater San Diego area and surrounding communities. Today, 80 years after Ernest Dewhurst came to La Jolla, his grandson, Don, and great-grandchildren, Dave, Donna and Doug, continue to maintain the integrity, quality of service and workmanship that he established in the construction of custom homes. For more information about Dewhurst & Associates, visit their website at www.dewhurst.com.

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