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NEWS RELEASE

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ICC-ES Verifies Recycled Content in RCP Block and Brick

RCP Block and Brick concrete masonry units qualifies for credits under green rating systems, according to a new report issued by ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) under the Sustainable Attributes Verification and Evaluation (SAVE) Program. RCP's Verification of Attributes Report (VAR-1003) provides independent, third-party confirmation that RCP's concrete masonry units are manufactured with a minimum of 25 percent post-consumer recycled content.

"The SAVE report verifies RCP's best management and manufacturing practices and gives the building industry a confirmed level of performance of recycled content," said Pete Rovold, RCP Block and Brick Vice President of Manufacturing. "Self-certification is subject to personal biases. Third-party verification such as the SAVE Program should be a requirement to attain green building points."

In addition to verifying the recycled content of RCP's concrete block, the VAR also determines how the product qualifies for points under various green building systems. For example, based on the green building requirements of the NAHB and ICC's "National Green Building Standard" (ICC-700), RCP concrete block could qualify for two points when used with another major building component containing recycled material. The VAR also discusses RCP concrete block applications within USGBC's "LEED for New Construction" and "LEED for Homes", the 2008 "California Green Building Standards Code and GBI's Green Globes Standard."

"VAR-1003 is the first report on recycled content products ICC-ES has issued that, in addition to verification of the amount of recycled content, also includes tables that identify how the products can be considered as qualifying for recognition under a variety of major green rating systems, codes and

standards,” said Steve Thorsell, ICC-ES Director of Sustainability Evaluation Programs. “This information is intended to help the design professional when selecting products, code officials who may have to grant approval and green verifiers who are reviewing project documentation as part of the certification process.”

In adding recycled content to its concrete block, RCP is reducing its own company waste. The concrete byproducts from its manufacturing process are recycled back into the company’s own products. Since 1992, RCP has used a crusher to break the waste concrete block into sand and 3/8-inch minus aggregate, which is reused in future manufacturing.

“RCP block crushes 100 to 120 cubic yards of material a day,” explained Rovold. “That means we keep the San Diego landfill from receiving more than 30,000 cubic yards of concrete waste every year. The use of recycled aggregate furthers the preservation of natural resources and creates a cost advantage over the purchase of virgin materials.”

For more information about the ICC-ES SAVE Program and to view the RCP Verification of Attributes Report (VAR1003), visit www.icc-es.org/save.

About ICC Evaluation Service®

A nonprofit, public-benefit corporation, ICC-ES® is the United States’ leading evaluation service for innovative building materials, components and systems. The ICC-ES® Evaluation Reports® and PMG™ Listing Program provide evidence that products and systems meet requirements in codes and standards.

The ICC-ES® SAVE™ Program provides verification that products have been independently verified as having the sustainable attributes claimed by the manufacturer to develop and advance sustainable design and construction. ICC-ES® is a subsidiary of the International Code Council®. For more information about ICC-ES®, visit www.icc-es.org.

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