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HUD BREAKS GROUND ON AMERICA'S FIRST PATH CONCEPT HOME
*Innovative, Affordable Home Will Feature High Quality
and Energy Efficient Building and Design Features*

Omaha, NE -- The Department of Housing and Urban Development today broke ground on America's first PATH (Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing) Concept Home which will feature innovative products and systems with traditional design elements to create a comfortable and affordable home.

"With the PATH Concept Home, HUD is putting into practice the latest in technology advances to respond to changing household demographics and the realities of housing economics," said HUD Assistant Secretary Darlene F. Williams. "Our vision for the PATH Concept Home is a home for all Americans—one that is affordable to purchase, to maintain and to renovate as families and their needs change over time."

The PATH program, a public private partnership between the U.S. government and America's housing industry, works together to advance the use of technology in the housing infrastructure throughout the country.

PATH will demonstrate a blueprint for the future of housing in America that is flexible, efficient and sustainable. Torti Gallas Partners, an award-winning architecture firm, translated the PATH vision for the Concept Home into an applicable design which meets Energy Star, Environments for Living, Green Building and FHA Accessibility criteria. The project is managed by Newport Partners of Davidsonville, Maryland.

"I build homes for real people, many of whom need affordable solutions," said Fernando Pages of Brighton Construction. "These families deserve the best quality with long term durability, low maintenance and manageable monthly utility bills. The application of improved production processes and innovative technologies enhances my ability to provide durable, comfortable, affordable homes. Innovation and vision allow me to continually improve the homes I build."

The City of Omaha donated a site for the PATH Concept Home to be built on a corner lot nestled among new affordable homes and quaint historic bungalows and convenient to downtown and Creighton University. The neighborhood is also part of a broad commercial and residential redevelopment effort.

"This is an exciting and ambitious project. It's great to see the progress represented by this groundbreaking," said James Lyons, project manager.



Newport Partners L.L.C.

Several leading manufacturers have generously donated their products and time including **Masco Corporation** and its subsidiaries BrassCraft, Merillat, Masco Contractor Services' Environments for Living program, **DuPont™ Building Innovations™**, the **Metal Roofing Alliance** and **Follansbee, Seisco and Panasonic**.

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