

Net Zero Energy Homes: Belgravia Green

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada



Award-Winning Net Zero Energy Builder chooses Plasti-Fab® products to boost energy efficiency

Along a quiet tree-lined street in Edmonton's Belgravia neighborhood, innovative builder Effect Homes is turning heads with their cutting-edge green development. Belgravia Green consists of three side-by-side homes similar in their net zero energy ambitions but using different strategies to produce as much energy as they consume over the course of a year.

"There are three different homes and they are all reaching towards the same goal, but approaching it with different considerations and different technologies," said Les Wold, the company's managing partner.

Although the homes have different wall construction and heating systems, one thing they all have in common is a finished basement constructed with Plasti-Fab's Advantage ICF System® and PlastiSpan® HD expanded polystyrene (EPS) insulation.

"We have not built a foundation in the last decade that hasn't used the Advantage ICF System," he said. "For foundations, it is a no brainer because of the added energy efficiency, durability and overall performance."



All three homes have PlastiSpan HD insulation underneath the basement slab. In addition, to further boost energy efficiency on the demonstration home, Wold added 5 inches of PlastiSpan HD insulation to the interior wall. The insulation had a vertical edge relief to accommodate a recessed nailer.

"Using the Advantage ICF System and the PlastiSpan HD insulation helped us make the house as energy efficient as it needed to be," he said.

The project has already garnered attention from both local and national media; and has been toured by over a thousand people, including Edmonton's mayor Stephen Mandel. Effect Homes received an Environmental Recognition Award from the Canadian Home Builders' Association – Edmonton Region and has been named a finalist for the Alberta Awards of Excellence in Housing.