

For Immediate Release



Press Contact:
Brad Brenner (503) 736-0610
brad@brennerassociates.com

AEROSEAL DUCT SEALING TECHNOLOGY KEY TO FORT DRUM BECOMING

LARGEST ENERGY STAR COMMUNITY IN NEW YORK STATE HISTORY

Energy-Saving Technology Out of Berkeley National Laboratory Help Property Managers Reduce Gas Use of 1,500 New Homes by Nearly Half

EAST SYRACUSE, NY – October 10, 2011

– 1,500 homes at Fort Drum Mountain Community Homes were awarded New York ENERGY STAR certification, thanks in large part to a breakthrough energy saving technology developed at Berkeley National Laboratory. The technology, called

Aeroseal, was used to seal the leaks inherent in the heating and cooling duct work of each of the new and existing homes. As a result, Lend Lease, the company responsible for building and managing the properties at the Army post expects to save thousands of dollars each year on home energy costs.



New York ENERGY STAR certified homes meet some of the nation’s most stringent standards in energy efficiency and therefore use approximately 30 percent less energy than conventional homes. To meet these standards, Lend Lease employs a variety of EPA “best practices” when building new homes and retrofitting existing properties.

After testing showed that the homes at the Fort Drum Mountain Community Homes failed to meet the New York ENERGY STAR duct leakage requirement of 5 percent or less, Lend Lease called on the HVAC experts at TAG Mechanical Systems of Syracuse New York for help.

“We took painstaking measures to properly install and manually seal each of the new duct systems with mastic and tape,” said Ellis Guiles, vice president of TAG Mechanical Systems. “But with the changing seasons and shift in weather, new duct systems that passed inspections in the fall, failed miserably when tested again in the winter. The only permanent solution there is to properly sealing the air ducts is AeroSeal.”

Unlike mastic and tape, which are used to cover holes on the outside of the ductwork, AeroSeal is applied as a non-toxic aerosol mist and is pumped through the inside of the entire duct system. The mist locates leaks of all sizes and accumulates around the holes until they are permanently filled.

“Before treatment, air duct leakage averaged about 30 percent for the new homes and even more for some of the legacy units,” said Guiles. “After applying AeroSeal, each and every home tested at or below the 5 percent leakage level required by the New York ENERGY STAR guidelines.”

By sealing the duct work of new homes with aroSeal, Lend Lease is able to reduce average gas usage by 47 percent in comparison to existing homes.

“Building energy efficient homes is not only good for the environment, but it makes tremendous economic sense as well,” said Joseph E. McLaughlin, Lend Lease project director. “Each of the new homes we build at Fort Drum include a number of energy saving designs – from 2x6 construction, raised heel trusses, tankless water heaters and high-grade insulation in both the walls and the attics. Still, we would not be able to attain the ENERGY STAR certification or realize the substantial energy savings we do, without proper duct sealing – and the only way to do that is by aroSealing the leaks.”

For more information on Fort Drum Mountain Community Homes’ ENERGY STAR certification contact Jennifer Liles at 315-955-6820. To learn more about AeroSeal duct sealing technology, visit www.aeroSeal.com or call 877-349-3828.

###