

EG Construction LLC Earns Merit Award from NAHB

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“The building’s exterior complements our beautiful environment here in Bozeman,” said Eugene Graf, president of E.G. Construction.

The Awards of Excellence recognize achievements in the commercial building industry for remodeling and new construction design, market appeal, energy efficiency, challenges faced during building and overall project success. Commercial builders, architects, engineers and other industry professionals are encouraged to apply for the [2012 Awards of Excellence](#) by Monday, Aug. 1.



[The Weedin building in Bozeman, Montana](#)

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First Time’s the Charm

Situated on a lot surrounded by roads on three sides and by a creek on the fourth, E.G. Construction was able to work within the property’s setback restrictions to build the largest office building on the site for [State Farm Insurance agent Jeff Weedin](#) as close to the road as possible.

The Weedin building was E.G. Construction's first commercial project, yet the firm finished it on time and on budget — a factor that the judges noted.

“Eugene’s eye for detail was invaluable,” said Weedin. “Whether it was working with the city of Bozeman or touching up some interior finish work, his expertise was much appreciated.”

That expertise included ensuring that the building would be energy-efficient, even though it had a small mechanical room. To achieve the desired efficiency, E.G. Construction installed small water heater units for each sink to provide on-demand hot water. The company also tinted the windows and used closed-cell spray polyurethane foam to help insulate the walls.

Weedin had leased three-quarters of the building by the time it was completed. The remaining office space was leased within eight months.

“Even as we recover from the economic slump in the commercial building sector, the best projects in the industry continue to impress the judges with their innovation, efficient use of materials and overall construction excellence,” said Carl Harris, 2010 chair of the NAHB Commercial Builders Council.

A fourth-generation builder and a member of the [Southwest Montana Building Industry Association](#), Graf points to his involvement with his HBA as a reason for his success.

“Participation, dedication and volunteering for the association do pay off in the long run,” Graf said. “Not only are you helping to improve the industry, you are improving the way you do business.”

Apply for Commercial Builders’ Awards of Excellence by Aug. 1

Non-residential projects or facilities in the U.S. completed after Dec. 31, 2009, are eligible for consideration. Multiple entries are accepted.

Award categories include green commercial, industrial, institutional/medical, mixed-use commercial/residential, recreational and other commercial.

A panel of building industry professionals will select the winning entries within six size divisions ranging from projects less than 5,000 square feet to more than 100,000 square feet.

The judges will choose a Project of the Year and Grand, Merit and Chairman’s awards in each category. Winners will be featured in [Commercial Builder Online Magazine](#).

To download an informational brochure and entry form, visit www.nahb.org/2012CommercialAwards. The deadline for entries is Aug. 1.