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Media Contact: Laura Pennino for Cosentino® North America, 281/286-9398, 713/419-1776 or lp@penninoandpartners.com

Silestone® By Cosentino® and AMC of Wisconsin Provide Kitchen and Family Room Countertops for Huber Home Build Featured on Season Premiere of *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*

HOUSTON, Texas, and SOUTH RANGE, Wisc. (Sept. 28, 2009) -- Howard "Howie" Huber and his family, the recipients of a home built by volunteers in just one week, were featured on the first episode of Season 7 of *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* that premiered last night on ABC. The Hubers were nominated for the rebuild project by Dave Ross, Mayor of Superior, Wisc.

Cosentino®, the maker of Silestone® quartz countertops has joined with *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* to provide countertop surfaces, fabrication and installation services for the Huber family home and as many as 25 deserving families during Season 7. With hands-on involvement from AMC of Wisconsin at the Huber build site, Cosentino donated Silestone® quartz kitchen and family room countertops, custom-fitting and installation services as part of the construction and furnishing of the Huber family home. Cosentino provided Silestone in the color **White North** (also called **Blanco Norte**) for countertops in the Huber home. It was the first of three color choices the *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* designers considered. See <http://www.silestoneusa.com/colors/colors.cfm?ColorID=26> for a sample of Silestone in White North. Photographs of the countertops and rooms where they were installed in the Huber home can be viewed at <http://www.silestoneusa.com/news/extremeMakeoverHomeEdition.cfm>.

Howie Huber, 33, is a firefighter who received Meritorious Service Awards in 2006 and 2007 from the City of Superior and Mayor Ross for his bravery in saving four lives. One incident involved rescuing a woman and her two children from a burning building. When Howie went to work at the fire station, he often feared that the next 911 call he intercepts might be for his own home. Howie got concrete evidence that concerns were valid, after the septic tank exploded and the chimney collapsed, forcing them to live with relatives.

When Howie and his wife Jessica met, they were attracted to each other's commitment to hard work and community involvement. Jessica, 30, a nursing student who works with other moms to provide resources for impoverished families, encouraged Howie to pursue his lifelong dream of becoming a firefighter. They bought a dilapidated farmhouse, planning to use Howie's construction experience to fix it up within a few years. They have two children – Henry, 6, and Rosemary, 3. The Hubers attempted to repair the old farmhouse, but it had a chimney that was separating from the house, improperly installed windows and severe water damage throughout. The electrical, heating, and sewage systems also were unsafe.

The design team for this first episode of "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" featured team leader Ty Pennington and designers Paige Hemmis, Paul Dimeo and Eduardo Xol. Joining them for the one-week build were local home builder Builders Commonwealth, Silestone® by Cosentino® and AMC of Wisconsin, celebrity volunteer and Emmy Award winning actress Patricia Heaton, and thousands of other volunteers.

“We are honored to have had the privilege of joining the entire *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* team to help Howie, Jessica and their kids have a new home that is safe and functioning properly. Silestone countertop surfaces are antimicrobial, scratch- and scorch-resistant, which are assets to growing, active families like the Hubers,” explained Lorenzo Marquez, vice president of marketing for Cosentino North America, which is headquartered in Houston, Texas. “Cosentino is donating products and services for every episode of this season’s *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*. Working with such an amazing program as *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* and so many great families demonstrates our company’s sincere commitment to delivering products that not only look great, but also are practical and durable. We know that we are helping to make a difference in the quality of life of these families with every countertop we install.”

Marquez added: “The fact that the show’s designers can choose from more than 65 colors of quartz countertop surfaces that can be delivered anywhere in America makes Cosentino a great season-long partner for *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*. Our broad color selection provides ample choices for these talented designers to accommodate the regional flare of each family.”

Silestone quartz is known for offering a cleaner and safer surface and for its built-in Microban® as well as its GREENGUARD certification for clean air quality and National Sanitation Foundation certification for food preparation – which represent extensive safety and environmental benefits to families like the Hubers. Silestone quartz also comes with a 15-year limited manufacturer’s warranty.

AMC of Wisconsin provides residential and commercial installations of contemporary stone surfaces throughout the state of Wisconsin. AMC offers Silestone quartz products, Cosentino’s ECO line made of 75 percent recycled content and Cosentino’s SENSA line of maintenance free granite surface. AMC is the largest fabricator of Silestone in Wisconsin and is known for higher level customer service and quality installations. AMC is regarded as the premier Silestone source in Wisconsin.

The Emmy award winning reality program *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*, now in its 7th season, is produced by Endemol USA, a division of Endemol Holding. It’s executive-produced by Anthony Dominici. David Goldberg is Chairman, Endemol North America. The show airs Sundays from 8 to 9 p.m. EDT on ABC.

For photography, see www.abcmedianet.com or call the photo hotline at 818/460-6611

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About Cosentino®

Cosentino®, a global natural stone manufacturer, began harvesting precious stones from the finest quarries in Europe close to a century ago. The Spanish company currently distributes material in more than 80 countries. With 11 manufacturing lines, Cosentino is the largest manufacturer of natural quartz surfaces in the world. The company covers the entire process of producing natural stone products including quarrying, manufacturing, fabricating and installing surfaces, such as kitchen and bathroom countertops, wall cladding and many other applications. In 2008, Cosentino received ISO 14001 Certification for its environmental management, measurement, evaluation, and auditing practices. Cosentino North America was established in 1998 to distribute and market Silestone® natural quartz surfaces in the US, Canada and Mexico. The Cosentino North America family of brands include: Silestone Natural Quartz with built-in Microban® protection; ECO by Cosentino™, an eco-friendly line of surface material made of 75 percent recycled post-consumer and post-industrial content; SenSa® Granite with SenGuard® offering a 15-year warranty against staining; Scalea Natural Stone, which includes marble, travertine and soapstone; Marlique™ Marble, enhanced marble for vanities; MURO™ Mosaics, pre-meshed tiles made with recycled Silestone; and the Prexury™ Collection, a semi-precious stone line handmade by expert craftsmen. For more information visit www.cosentinona.com.

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