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The Action News

2003 CFA Basement Of The Year

All of us at ABI are very proud of winning this National award. It would not have been possible without being the proud foundation company of Custom Homes of Kansas City, Trent Carr Owner and we would like to thank Trent for his business and for his confidence in ABI to tackle such a complex and difficult project.

CFA Announces 2003 "Basement of the Year"

MT. VERNON, IOWA (Feb. 28, 2003) One person's challenge is often another person's dream. Such is the case with many entries in the Concrete Foundations Association (CFA) 2003 Basement of the Year competition (sometimes referred to as the Basement from Hell competition). The 2003 winner, a 4,177-square-foot residential basement, comprises a unique combination of intricate details and site challenges.

The winning structure is a 5,500-square-foot home located in Olathe, Kansas. A custom designed home, being built by Custom Homes of

Kansas City, Trent Carr owner. The outside basement wall also serves as part of the in-ground lap pool and the foundation includes an oval shaped wall with a wall height dropping from eight-feet to four-feet that forms the goldfish pond.

According to Dan Bromley of Lee's Summit, Missouri's ABI Corporation, the concrete foundation contractor for the project, he knew from the beginning that this basement would be a contender for CFA's annual "Basement from Hell" competition. "I told our team from the project onset that this could be a CFA Basement of the Year winner, which motivated everyone to pursue success with as few problems as possible on this difficult project," said Bromley.

The recipient of the Basement of the Year competition is selected by a vote at the World of Concrete each year. This national award is presented by the Concrete Foundation Association, which is an association of foundation contractors across the United States and Canada. The formal award presentation will be made at CFA's summer meeting, 2003 at the Kingston Plantation, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

In July 2002, ABI Corp., began work on the massive and complex project that boasted a total basement construction time of nine weeks. Located on the side of a steep incline, there is a 32-foot difference from the top of the foundation wall to the bottom level. The excavation for the foundation began at the bottom of the incline and moved upward. Once they had moved up to

the next level, they were unable to go back downhill and correct any mistakes. To ensure that there were no excavation errors, ABI used the Geodimeter and AutoCAD technologies.

With 13 different footing elevations, 24 wall heights, and seven different wall thickness, the basement defines an intricate project complete with detailed formwork. In total, the basement boasts more than 465 lineal feet of wall and footings, which required 266 yards of concrete. Wall setting took two weeks and all pouring was done in one day.

Bromley credits the efforts of the entire ABI team for the success of this project. “By project completion, approximately 90 percent of our team had been involved with this job,” said Bromley. “Our team did an excellent job planning and executing the project with very few problems. We are very proud of the project, as well as receiving this award.”

ABI Corporation has provided concrete foundation work to the Kansas City area for residential and commercial use for more than 30 years. Originally formed as Action Basements, Inc., they have been a CFA member since 1988. Gary Bromley, founder of ABI Corp., served as president of CFA from 1995-1996.

2003 BASEMENT OF THE YEAR

Project Entry No. 1

Vitals & Requirements:

- Over 765 lin. ft. of wall and footings w/ 266 yds of concrete.
- 24 wall heights, 7 wall thicknesses and 13 footing elevations
- Oval-shaped wall with wall height dropping from 8-ft to 4-ft.
- Over 4,100 sq.ft. footprint
- 32-ft difference between top and bottom wall levels.

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BASEMENT FOUNDATION

HELPFUL TIPS

I recently read an article where the reader asked “I need to remove rust and paint from cement...

The writer Linda Cobb replied, “For the rust stain, wet the concrete and sprinkle with lemon Kool-Aid. Cover with plastic and soak for 15 minutes. Remove the plastic and scrub with a brush. Rinse well. You might also try Whink Rust Remover or Rust Magic.

The Kansas City Builder’s Incentive Group

Calendar of Events 2002

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|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| March 27-31, 2003 | Mexico Fishing Trip |
| May 16-18, 2003 | Las Vegas Golf & Gamble |
| July | Fall Gold Outing Scotland |

For more information on becoming a member, please contact:

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