

Several changes to this year's contest will help open the competition to even more ICF builders. First, the "Multi-Family" category is being retired, and all projects of this type will now compete in either the light or heavy commercial categories.

Second, based on feedback we received from last year's event, residential entries will now compete in three categories:

- **Small Residential** is for homes under 3,000 sq. ft.
- **Large Residential** will cover homes between 3,000 and 6,000 sq. ft, and
- **Unlimited Residential** covers projects larger than that size.

"We recognize that as ICFs become more popular, many outstanding custom homes are closer to average size. We want to give these entries a chance to compete against similarly sized projects," says Craig Shorts, one of the contest organizers.

Judging will be based on a project's difficulty, architecture, and how well it serves to advance the industry and draw positive attention to ICFs. The judging criteria has been modified to favor project creativity and significance more heavily than in years past.

Competition rules remain unchanged, although judges now require at least 4 construction and 3 finished photos. The complete rules and judging criteria are printed below

There is no prohibition against re-submitting a project from past years that did not receive an award. With the revised categories and improved judging criteria

All entries must be postmarked no later than Friday, Oct. 24, 2008. Winners will be announced at an evening event at World of Concrete 2009, held in Las Vegas the first week of February. We look forward to seeing you there!

Complete Rules 2008 Competition

Entry Notebooks: Notebooks can be downloaded from the World Wide Web at http://www.icfmag.com/documents/builder_awards_08/Entry_Notebook_2008.pdf. They can also be ordered by phoning, mailing or faxing a request to *ICF Builder* magazine. Contact information is listed in the masthead on page 4.

Entry Fees: Cost is \$90 (U.S.) for the first Entry Notebook submitted. The entry fee for additional Notebooks is \$50 (U.S.) each

Deadline -- Entry Notebooks must be postmarked no later than Friday, October 24, 2008. No notebooks will be accepted after this date. Entry Notebooks without payment will not be considered.

Competition Categories – Projects must use Insulating Concrete Forms (ICFs) as the primary construction method. Awards will be given in the following categories.

Light Commercial: This category encompasses all commercial construction projects with a total cost of less than \$5 million (USD). Typical projects in this category would include car washes, warehouse space, restaurants, gas stations, churches, and small retail and office, and complexes.

Heavy Commercial: This category is for commercial construction costing more than \$5 million (USD) to construct. This would include most cinema multiplexes, and large office and

retail buildings, Most apartment complexes and condominiums would also fall into this category.

REVISED! Small Residential: Single-family residential buildings totaling 3,000 sq. ft. or less

REVISED! Large Residential: Single-family residential buildings between 3,001 and 6,000 sq. ft.

NEW! Unlimited Residential: Single-family residences larger than 6,000 sq. ft.

We retain the right to re-assign a project's category if specifications show the project is inappropriate for the category in which it is competing.

Restrictions – Projects must be completed by the entry deadline. There is no restriction on project start date.

Additionally, the competition is open to any type or brand of ICF, and projects may be submitted by anyone associated with the project in any way,

Photography Requirements - A minimum of 7 and a maximum of 20 photographs shall be submitted with each entry. At least 4 photos must be of the project under construction, and 3 must be of the finished project. Both interior and exterior photos are encouraged. Photos should be 300 dpi or better if digital.

Additional Information: If you have questions or need additional information, email Clark Ricks at editor@icfmag.com.

A Note on Photography: Photos should illustrate the project's ability to address each of the judging criteria mentioned above. Photos can be print, slide, or digital; if digital images must be at least 5 x 7 in size at 300 dpi or be (digital is encouraged; see below). Larger images are accepted.

Digital photographs are convenient, easy to duplicate, and can be distributed to the judging committee with very little hassle. However, it is only acceptable when the size and resolution of the image is sufficient.

It is essential that images are provided in high resolution format: 300 dpi (dots per inch) at 5 x 7 inch size. Use a high quality (low compression) mode if stored as a jpeg file (minimum quality 8). Unless you are confident that your digital camera is adequate, stick with a traditional film camera for your submission. Prints and slides from film can always be scanned and modified to meet the needed resolution.

All digital photography should be sent on CD or DVD to the attention of Clark Ricks, Editorial Director of *ICF Builder* magazine at the address below. Prints and slides will be returned only if accompanied with a self-addressed, stamped envelope.