

RDC Fine Homes Inc.
Rammed Earth Home
CEDAR GROVE Lane, Whistler B.C.

RDC Fine Homes Inc. was established in 1993 and has been building comfortable luxury homes in Whistler ever since. RDC has been eco focused before it became mainstream, building timber homes from recycled Douglas Fir starting in 1997.

Today RDC is committed to being a leader in environmental construction. RDC is a certified Rammed Earth and Built Green™ Builder and will construct a Net Zero home in 2009. They are currently building an exceptional 3500 sq ft Rammed Earth Home in Whistler B.C. (host venue for the 2010 Winter Olympics).

Rammed Earth is exceptionally energy efficient, requires very low maintenance, is incredibly durable and is possibly the single lowest environmental impact building system commercially available today. The insulated mass walls will maintain a comfortable cozy home for up to 18 hours with no heating or cooling and will achieve unparalleled soundproofing. A Rammed Earth home is a healthy home, composed of only 6 natural materials: sand & aggregate, water, Portland cement, Roxul insulation and a non toxic sealer. Of course the walls offer excellent protection from environmental hazards such as Radon Gas and Electromagnetic fields.

The RDC Rammed Earth home is the first of its kind in the Sea to Sky corridor. This is a home that meets the high-end criteria but also qualifies as a leader in sustainable building technology. The Rammed Earth of course is the key component and is what truly defines the home both visually and philosophically.

The home will be certified as R2000 and Built Green™ Platinum with an Energuide target of 88-90. This will mean significantly lower energy costs, exceptional indoor air quality and unparalleled comfort. Additional green features include passive solar design, standing dead Douglas Fir timber for the roof rafters and roof decking, re claimed Carrera marble counters and stair treads, reclaimed driveway pavers, triple paned fibreglass windows sourced locally from Cascadia Windows & Doors, polished concrete floors with in floor hydronic heat, grey water heat recovery and a whole house ventilation/heat recovery system that is designed to reduce heating and cooling costs by up to 80%.

The home's air tight building envelope was designed to achieve 0.5 air changes per hour; conversely a conventional home is less efficient resulting in 6-10 air

changes per hour. High, air tight insulation values are achieved with R42 2lb Polar Foam in the roof and R26 ½ LB Icynene foam in the wood framed walls.

Rammed Earth is an ancient method of building. Traditional Rammed Earth used wooden forms that were placed and secured, and then damp earth with clay was added and compacted. RDC uses a variation of the ancient technique using locally sourced sand and aggregates with 10% Portland cement. The walls are compacted using pneumatic tampers. The 18" thick walls sandwich 5" of R23 Roxul insulation creating an insulated mass wall. When the forms are removed, the wall is complete. Rammed Earth walls are engineered so that they will both surpass the building code requirements for insulation and will withstand a major earthquake.

Come visit this unique home in Whistler this fall and winter. It will be available for viewing to demonstrate sustainable building practices, showing how nothing has to be sacrificed, aesthetically or technically, in order to build green. Visit us at www.rdcfinehomes.com

Key Points

- The RDC Rammed Earth home is the first of its kind in the Sea to Sky corridor.
- This is a home that meets the high-end criteria but also qualifies as a leader in sustainable building technology.
- Rammed Earth is exceptionally energy efficient, requires very low maintenance, is incredibly durable and is possibly the single lowest environmental impact building system commercially available today.
- The home will be certified as R2000 and Built Green™ Platinum with an Energuide target of 88-90.
- High, air tight insulation values are achieved with R42 2lb Polar Foam in the roof R23 Roxul in the Rammed Earth walls and R26 ½ LB Icynene foam in the wood framed walls.
- The home's air tight building envelope was designed to achieve 0.5 air changes per hour.
- Green features include passive solar design, standing dead Douglas Fir timber, re claimed Carrera marble, reclaimed driveway pavers, triple paned fibreglass windows, polished concrete floors with in floor hydronic heat, grey water heat recovery.
- A whole house ventilation/heat recovery system that is designed to reduce heating and cooling costs by up to 80%.