



Puget Sound IEC Takes Flight on Extreme Makeover: Home Edition

Members of Puget Sound IEC were hard at work in Port Orchard, Wash. wiring a 3,500 square foot home in a recent filming of ABC-TV's popular television show, *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*. More than sixty volunteer electricians led by Rick Lambert of Ahearn Electric in Bremerton, Wash., Tom McMullen of McMullen Electric in Puyallup, Wash., and new member Greg Kuraspediani of E-Z Interface in Tacoma, Wash. volunteered to participate in the "Super Bowl of Electrical Contracting."

The overwhelming outpouring of community support was on behalf of the Kirkwood family. Along with their five children aged eighteen to four, Michael and Dawne Kirkwood were driven out of their home by a toxic black mold. The mold had taken over the house after a contractor hired to finish their basement pulled out half way through leaving exposed wiring and insufficient insulation. In the moisture-rich climate of the Pacific Northwest, the mold quickly took over, making it difficult to live and even breathe in the house.

To get the project started, electricians from the IEC member companies met to discuss plans and form working teams. Everyone was encouraged to get involved, put aside any competitive differences and work as a team to accomplish the very challenging task of wiring a 3,500 square foot home in just eight hours. "This is a wonderful, exciting project to be involved with, to be able to come together and in 102 hours build something bigger than each of us," said Meredith Lambert, Chapter Executive Director. "It is a modern day version of a 'barn raising' and we are helping a very deserving family."

"I am proud to see members of Puget Sound IEC working together to give this deserving family a dream home," said Larry Mullins, IEC National Executive Vice President. "The hard work and dedication to the community shown by each IEC electrician on the site has allowed the PRIDE of IEC to take flight on *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*."

This episode is scheduled to air in mid-January 2006. Each episode of *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* has an estimated 20 million viewers every Sunday and is syndicated in 28 countries.

Established in 1957, IEC is a trade association made up of more than 3,200 members with 74 chapters nationwide. Headquartered in Alexandria, Va., IEC is the nation's premier trade association representing America's independent electrical and systems contractors. IEC National aggressively works with the industry to establish a competitive environment for the merit shop - a philosophy that promotes the concept of free enterprise, open competition and economic opportunity for all. For more information, contact Marlise Drischler, Public Relations Manager at (703) 549-7351, or via email: mdrischler@ieci.org.

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Photo Gallery



