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[www.ActiveHouseUSA.com](http://www.ActiveHouseUSA.com)

**First Active House in the USA Under Construction  
in Webster Groves, MO**

*Hibbs Homes and Verdatek Solutions building Active House USA, an industry innovating, green prototype home, for a family in St. Louis, MO suburb of Webster Groves.*

ST LOUIS, MO – September 30, 2012 – The coasts tend to get all of the credit and big projects when it comes to green building, but that paradigm is changing as Active House USA comes together right in the heart of the Midwest in the St Louis suburb of Webster Groves, MO.

This industry innovating home is being built as a prototype home using the Active House specifications developed in Europe, and is also being certified under four prestigious, US green building standards including the ANSI-700 National Green Building Standard, EPA Indoor Air Quality, Energy Star, and Builder's Challenge initiatives. As a prototype, this home is helping to promote and advance these green building standards, and includes many of the top-of-the-line green building technology and products that are being used today, making it a sort of show house proving just what high performance green building is capable of.

Because of the mixed climate zone in St. Louis, the location for Active House USA is ideal for a prototype. The design and components of the building need to meet both the needs of hot, humid summers and frigid, icy winters. This means the prototype will translate well both in the north and south, and more consistent climates around the country.

Active House USA takes a holistic approach to energy efficiency and whole house systems integration. The home's solar orientation and systems actually produce more energy than is used via lighting and solar products that harness the natural and free energy sources.

The home's location in the historic Old Webster district of Webster Groves, MO meant that it had to uphold and blend well with the character and charm of the surrounding,

century old homes – a challenge which meant this Active House which means that unlike the other Active Houses around the world in that the energy collection could not dictate the aesthetics of the home. So this very advanced home has all the charm of an old home, but far out performs it's neighbors in terms of energy usage and indoor air quality.

In addition to bringing together industry leading products, the Active House USA partners and providers are some of the most respected and knowledgeable companies in the green building field. Thanks to an outstanding team and products this innovative home is pushing the edge of green building.

The homeowners, David and Thuy Smith and family, will take up residence in this custom home in late 2012, and have agreed to allow the University of Missouri's Midwest Energy Efficiency Research Consortium monitor the home for the first year they are living there. This data collection represents one of the first times that the benefits of green building will be documented and proven out via statistics.

*For more information please go to [ActiveHouseUSA.com](http://ActiveHouseUSA.com). To schedule an interview or for more press information, please contact Melody Meiners at 314-807-5929 or [melody@hibbshomes.com](mailto:melody@hibbshomes.com)*

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***Hibbs Homes** is a leading custom green homebuilder in the St. Louis area. Since leaving his career in broadcasting in 2006, owner and general contractor Kim Hibbs has been building high-performance and luxury homes for a variety of price ranges and lifestyles. Hibbs speaks to local building professionals and architecture students on a variety of green building topics, and built one of the first gold level green verified homes in the St Louis area. Hibbs is a Certified Green Professional through the National Association of Home Builders, and is active in the St Louis Home Builder's Association where he currently serves on the board.*

***Verdatek Solutions** is a construction firm specializing in green homes, light commercial construction, agricultural building, and low-impact development. Verdatek Solutions is owned and operated by Matt Belcher, a nationally recognized green builder, consultant, and educator. Belcher has been actively involved in the St. Louis construction industry for three decades, including six years as a building code official, and has recently become a consulting partner with Hibbs Homes. Belcher serves as Chair of the NAHB's Green Building sub-committee and also served on their Energy and Construction Codes and Standards committees. Belcher was appointed by the ICC to serve in the development of the new International Green Construction Code and was recently appointed to the ICC's Residential Energy Committee.*