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RECYCLING EXISTING BUILDINGS BECOMING 'GREEN' ALTERNATIVE

La Jolla Pacific Expert Will Address Risks on Multifamily Trends Panel in San Francisco, June 24

SAN FRANCISCO — A welcome trend is taking place in the quest for more sensitive, sustainable development: rehabilitating and renovating existing buildings into new, energy-efficient multifamily housing. Yet applying new methods to older structures can present risks that may have unforeseen impacts, according to [Don Neff](#), president of La Jolla Pacific, Ltd., a national consulting firm advising builders on making the move to “green.”

Neff will address these issues on a panel themed [“New Life for Old Buildings: Why Recycling Buildings Is Green,”](#) scheduled for Tuesday, June 24, from 2:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the [Multifamily Trends Conference](#), a national conference presented by The Urban Land Institute and PCBC®, June 23-24, 2008, at Moscone Center in San Francisco.

“There is always a risk in incorporating new products and techniques, even in new construction,” said Neff. “Rehabbing an existing structure presents even more challenges, such as ensuring that the trades and construction schedule do not compromise the integrity of the building during the rehab process, and that the new products and technologies will function in harmony with existing systems.”

By recycling and reusing much of the existing building materials and creating more energy-efficient, higher-performing buildings, developers are adding a new facet to the goal of sustainable communities. However, the top risk areas associated with new construction are commonly seen in building renovations as well, particularly water intrusion.

“Knowing the risks and having performance guidelines and inspections will minimize the potential for construction-defect litigation and maximize the probability of a good outcome,” Neff said.

PCBC, the largest regional builders' show in the nation, is presented each year by the California Building Industry Assn. For information, visit www.pcbc.com.

With an extensive background in direct construction experience, La Jolla Pacific Ltd. is an industry leader in construction risk management, third-party peer review, green and sustainable building consulting, quality assurance, and forensic investigation services throughout the West. The firm will be exhibiting at the show, in Booth #5432 (North Hall). For information, visit www.lajollapacificltd.com, or contact Cassie Cherry at (949) 336-8913.

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