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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### 'TECO Green Verified' Certifies Gold

**Sun Prairie, WI** — TECO's Green Verified branch is excited to announce its highest and first successfully completed Gold Level Certification through the National Association of Home Builders™ (NAHB) Green Building Program Standard. Shaw Building and Design Inc. (SBDI), a progressive builder from Stoughton, WI, sought one of the highest levels of green home construction and finished successfully in December 2009. The new home, built three miles west of Stoughton, set within tall trees, dirt roads and cornfields, is a model for the future of residential building construction. December was the first full month that homeowners John and Rebecca Scheller occupied their new home, and they are already benefiting from their vision and goal: high levels of environmental friendliness and a low energy bill. December's electric and heating bill was just \$4.

Important categories within the Standard that the Scheller home met include:

- Resource Efficiency
- Water and Energy Efficiency
- High Indoor Air Quality
- Native Appropriate Landscaping

SBDI surpassed all minimum Gold levels of green building with this home. The highest category scored was the Energy Efficiency category, where 100 points is needed to qualify for the Gold Standard level. SBDI scored an incredible 208 points, making this a Net Zero Energy Home. The Scheller home is loaded with the latest energy efficient and energy producing equipment, including LED-dimmable recessed light fixtures throughout the home. All windows, appliances, and light fixtures and bulbs are Energy Star™ qualified, and the full home structure is Energy Star Certified with a very high score in residential home tightness. An energy recovery ventilator was installed, and an insulation package utilizing both spray foam and blown-in insulation. Two ground-source, geo-thermal heat pumps were installed to provide the home with part of its heating and cooling needs. Over 5.7 KW of electricity-producing solar panels that follow the sun across the horizon are located in the side yard. Other green features in the home include engineered wood flooring, GreenGuard™ labeled pad and carpets, non-vinyl siding, WaterSense™ 1.28 gallons per flush toilets, push button circulating hot water pipe system, powerful kitchen exhaust and bathroom fans, non-VOC paint by Sherman Williams®, and SolarTube™ skylights.

Congratulations to Shaw Building and Design on your Gold Level Certification!

TECO is a privately-held company based in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, and in addition to Green Building Verification offers certification and testing services for a wide variety of engineered wood products. Founded in 1933, the company is recognized to certify products for use in the U.S., Canada, and Japan, and operates testing laboratories in Oregon and Louisiana.

For additional information, please contact:

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