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## **Wafflemat™ Helps Builders Obtain LEED® Points**

*“Green” Aspects of Foundation-Forming System Key as Energy Efficiency and Environmental Design Come to Forefront in Building Worldwide*

**PLEASANT HILL, CA – February 1, 2008** – Best Base today outlined how the Wafflemat foundation-forming system can assist builders in obtaining LEED points for projects.

Administered by the US Green Building Council (USGBC), a non-profit organization committed to expanding sustainable building practices, LEED points are available to builders in six broad categories:

- Sustainable Sites (14 possible points)
- Water Efficiency (5 possible points)
- Energy & Atmosphere (17 possible points)
- Materials and Resources (13 possible points)
- Indoor Environmental Quality (15 possible points)
- Innovation and Design Process (5 possible points)

LEED certification occurs at four levels: “Certified” requires 26 – 32 points, “Silver” 33 – 38, “Gold” 39 – 51, and “Platinum” 52 – 69. Builders submit projects (and accompanying justification for receiving points) for review. Points for Wafflemat would likely be awarded in the categories Energy & Atmosphere, Materials and Resources, and Innovation and Design Process.

Jim Winslow, Director of Best Base, noted: “Several sources put the annual market in green building products and services at more than \$12 billion in the U.S. alone in 2007. We know builders are definitely paying more attention to it, and like the fact including the Wafflemat system in their foundation plans can assist in obtaining LEED points for their projects.”

“Another driver came when the USGBC recently enacted a “Climate Change” resolution calling for a 50% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> for new buildings. As Wafflemat mitigates 5 – 9 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per home when compared to conventional slab foundations (see “*Lowering the Carbon Footprint When Using the Wafflemat System for Concrete Slab Foundations*” at [www.thebestbase.com](http://www.thebestbase.com) ‘Technical Papers’), I wouldn’t be surprised if the points awarded will go up across the various categories. And, that would be huge.”

### **About Best Base Foundation Systems**

Best Base distributes proven foundation systems to contractors, developers, and engineers who need reliable, load-bearing capacity in stable, collapsible, and expansive soils.

For over 20 years, the company’s Wafflemat™ foundation-forming system, Winslow Geo Anchor™, Lateral Force Resistance Device™, pipe pile, and wide flange solutions have been installed across the United States and Mexico to provide support to millions of square feet of structures as diverse as homes, industrial and commercial buildings, bridges, pools, solar arrays and heliostats – without one structural failure.

In addition to having an unparalleled track record of reliability, Best Base solutions significantly reduce costs when compared to alternative designs, providing extensive savings in soils prep, materials, and building cycle time, while also mitigating future warranty issues. Visit [www.thebestbase.com](http://www.thebestbase.com) or call 925.683.2739.