

NEWS RELEASE: 11<sup>th</sup> February 2008

## **TOMMY WALSH LAUNCHES HOUSE ECO-RANGE AT SELF BUILD & RENOVATION SHOW**

Tommy Walsh, TV's friendliest builder, is to launch an exclusive new range of Eco Homes at the Self Build & Renovation Show on 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> March in Swindon, after the success of his 60, 60, 60 challenge.

When Tommy embarked on building an eco-friendly house on a building plot which cost £60,000, for an all in build cost of £60,000 in 60 days, most people thought it couldn't be done. Tommy is passionate about affordable, well designed, well constructed, quality housing which shouldn't cost the Earth; both in financial and environmental terms. The design, selection of materials and build method for the project had to meet Tommy's tough criteria of affordability, quality and above all, be eco-friendly.

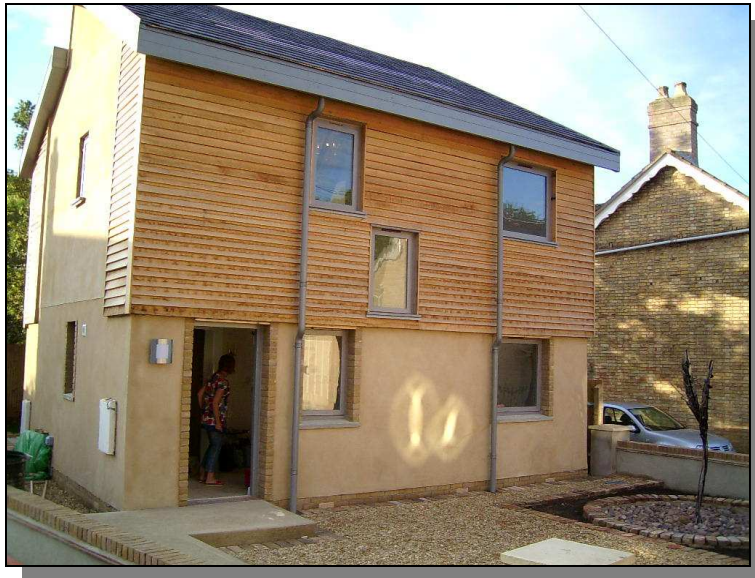
Tommy turned to Potton Limited, the UK's leading timber frame package company for help. The Potton team rose to the challenge and not only provided the timber frame superstructure for the house, but they were so impressed decided to incorporate *Tommy's House* by Potton in their growing house style portfolio. Tommy's house designer Steven Willis was commissioned by Potton to design a range of house formats along the lines of the original design.

The exclusive launch of 'Tommy's House by Potton', the new eco-friendly timber frame package range, will take place at the National Self Build & Renovation Centre during the Self Build & Renovation Show, between March 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, and Tommy Walsh himself will be appearing exclusively at the Show to talk about the range, on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

"We hold similar values to Tommy when it comes to affordable, sustainable self build," says Joe Martoccia, Director of Potton Limited. "And where better to launch this exciting new range than the National Self Build & Renovation Centre, where visitors can learn more about the design, the energy and money saving features and how the whole thing can become a reality with the help of Potton and BuildStore."

The Self Build & Renovation Show, being held at the National Self Build & Renovation Centre in Swindon, has a unique offering to visitors – a packed programme of seminars; product demonstrations, and presentations. Visitors can get to grips with a selection of the newest technical gadgets, professional tools and accessories from Festool, sample the latest in kitchen cooking ranges and appliances from AGA and Britannia; learn about finding land, choosing finance and buying materials from self build and renovation experts, book one-to-one sessions with CAD designers and take part in practical skills workshops in plastering, bricklaying and tiling, with Trade Skills 4U.

The Self Build & Renovation Show will run between Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March, at the National Self Build & Renovation Centre in Swindon. Entry cost £10 per adult, or £15 per couple. Log on to [www.mykindofhome.co.uk/show](http://www.mykindofhome.co.uk/show) to pre-book your tickets now!



ENDS

**NOTES TO EDITORS:**

A half price ticket offer is available for all your readers. To arrange the offer and set up a promotion code, please contact Jaclyn Thorburn on 01506 409 466 or email [jaclyn.thorburn@buildstore.co.uk](mailto:jaclyn.thorburn@buildstore.co.uk)

BuildStore, the company behind the National Self Build & Renovation Centre, offers an end-to-end service to the self builder and people wanting to renovate or convert an existing property. To capture this rapidly growing market, The National Self Build and Renovation Centre was opened in February 2007.

The 67,000 sq ft Centre is on a different scale to anything seen before in the UK self build and renovation sector. It has a dual role of helping to educate people interested in self building and renovating and ensuring those actively building can find all the services and materials they need.

Visitors can learn about the different stages of the self build and renovation process from the "Education Zone", which features six life-sized exhibits including, plant, groundworks, walls and roof structures. They can also find inspiration inside the Potton show home, and in the "Renovation Zone", discover techniques for renovating, with a full-sized house transformed from an 'old wreck' to a fully renovated home.

For visitors just starting their self build or renovation journey, the National Self Build & Renovation Centre can help them find a plot of land, renovation or conversion opportunities, with PlotSearch, consider finance options for their project with the in-house financial advisors, or simply get advice from the team of experts. Those actively involved in the process can take advantage of TradeCard, a unique card which offers discounted prices building materials and tool hire from leading merchants and suppliers. Plus, over 240 industry suppliers showcase their products and services in a dedicated "Trade Village", complete with a bar code system, allowing visitors to easily order brochures and further information, which will be sent to them at home.

For more information on the Tommy's House range by Potton, log on to [www.potton.co.uk](http://www.potton.co.uk)

**For more information, or to request an interview, please contact:**

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