

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

FGBC Sponsored Team Daytona Takes 11th in Solar Decathlon

ORLANDO, Fla. – The Swiss Team took first place overall in the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2017 by designing, building, and operating the house that blended smart energy production with innovation, market potential, and energy and water efficiency.

The University of Maryland took second place followed by the University of California, Berkeley and University of Denver team in third place. Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC) sponsored Team Daytona comprised of students from Daytona Beach State College and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University took 11th.

“The Solar Decathlon provides real-world training and experience for the energy professionals of tomorrow,” said FGBC President Jeremy Nelson. “It is also a live demonstration of innovative products available today that can help tackle global energy challenges such as reliability, resilience, and security.”

The teams competed in 10 contests throughout a nine-day stretch that gauged each house’s performance, livability and market potential. They performed everyday tasks including cooking, laundry and washing dishes, which tested the energy efficiency of each house.



Team Daytona’s Beach House, the only team and entry from Florida, finished in the Top 10 in seven out of eight categories including third in market potential.

For the Market Potential Contest, each competing house was evaluated by a jury of professionals from the homebuilding industry that evaluated the overall attractiveness of the design to the target client and the market impact potential of the house.

Some of the criteria included appeal and marketability for the target client, the livability in meeting the target client’s unique needs, the house’s cost effectiveness, and how easily the competition prototype could be constructed successfully by a general contractor.

“This prestigious competition engages students from across the country and internationally to develop the skills and knowledge to become the next generation of energy experts, and I want to recognize all of these teams for their hard work and dedication,” said Linda Silverman, Director of the Solar Decathlon.

This year's collegiate teams were chosen nearly two years ago through a competitive process.

The selected teams and their projects represent a diverse range of design approaches, building technologies, and geographic locations, climates and regions – including urban, suburban and rural settings.

The Beach House will go to the National Association of Home Builders International Builders show.

For more information on the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2017 visit <https://www.solardecathlon.gov/>. For more information on “Florida Green” contact the Florida Green Building Coalition, e-mail info@floridagreenbuilding.org or visit www.floridagreenbuilding.org.