



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact:  
Nicole Gittleson  
Tel 650-322-7069

**CLARUM UNVEILS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY'S  
1<sup>ST</sup> ZERO-ENERGY & LEED FOR HOMES COMMUNITY**

**PALO ALTO, CA, July 17, 2008** – Clarum Homes, California's largest Zero Energy Home developer, announced today that they are unveiling the greenest community they've ever built in California at Hansen Lane Estates in Danville. All of the high performance Enviro-Homes at Hansen Lane Estates include solar electric power, solar hot water, 10" structural insulated panel walls, state of the art Nightbreeze heating, ventilation, and cooling systems, super high efficiency insulation and much more.....PLUS every home will be equipped with a Toyota Prius Hybrid in the garage.

**WHAT:**

Continuing with the Clarum Homes' mission of sustainable design and green building, Clarum is proud to present the FIRST zero-energy home community and FIRST Production LEED for Homes community in Contra Costa County.

The homes at Hansen Lane Estates include unsurpassed innovation and performance and are truly appropriate for today's economic and environmental climate. Since 2001, Clarum has been building high performance Enviro-Homes....homes that really make sense.....with exceptional energy efficiency, emphasis on health and indoor air quality, systems that conserve water, and materials and practices that are earth friendly.

At Hansen Lane Estates, Clarum designed the Enviro-Homes to include more features than ever before. Structural insulated panel wall systems, larger solar electric systems (3.8kW), solar assisted hot water systems, the Nightbreeze heating, ventilation and cooling system, super high performance insulation, web based irrigation controllers, LED lighting, and an electric car plug have been added to Clarum's standard list of green features to provide unmatched annual utility savings. Not only are these homes highly efficient, but they were designed to provide the most comfortable living environment possible.

In this critical time where homeowners are searching for answers to skyrocketing energy costs, energy efficiency and air pollution, Clarum has constructed a community where homeowners can find solutions and live in a more comfortable, healthier house. And, to further help the environment and homeowners, Clarum has committed to putting a Toyota Prius hybrid in the garage of each Enviro-Home at Hansen Lane Estates.

Zero Energy Homes are constructed with sustainable building products, generate their own electricity with photovoltaic systems, and reduce energy consumption by up to 90% with other energy efficient features such as on-demand hot water heaters, radiant roof barriers, high-efficiency furnaces and appliances, tightly sealed ducts, extra insulation and low-e windows.

## PROJECT SUMMARY:

- The greenest community ever built by California's leading green builder, Clarum Homes
- Ten single-family homes built at Danville's last remaining 4 acres of in-fill property
- Homes are built under the U.S. Department of Energy Zero Energy Home Program
- Homes are being registered to be certified under the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED for Homes Program (LEED = Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design). The homes are expected to receive the Silver or Gold LEED certification.
- Homes exceed strict Title 24 requirements by 55%.
- Three floor plans with 4-6 bedrooms ranging from 3,628sf to 4,986sf.
- Homes include the following Enviro-Home features:

### **Energy Efficient Features:**

10" SIPS walls (structural insulated panels – R37)

3.8kW Sharp solar electric power system

96% efficiency Nightbreeze HVAC system

- Hydronic heating
- Ventilation cooling system (with outdoor sensors to bring in cool or warm air based on ambient temperatures)
- Ultra high efficiency 16 SEER Energy Star air conditioning system
- Fresh air ventilation system (which constantly replaces stale air with fresh air)

Solar assisted hot water system with 96% efficiency condensing boiler and 120 gallon storage tank

Super high performance insulation (R-43)

Low-e energy efficient windows with very low solar heat gain coefficient glass

Radiant roof barrier sheathing

Tight ducting

Energy star appliances

High efficiency LED and CFL lighting

Electric car plug in each garage

Option to add 1.8kW solar electric

### **Indoor Air Quality & Health Features:**

Fresh air exchanger

Ceiling fan outlets in all bedrooms

Exhaust fan in garage that runs for 20 minutes each time car drives in

Low VOC paint

No added formaldehyde cabinetry

Stained concrete floors (foundation)

Plumbed for whole house vacuum

### **Water Conservation Features:**

Structured plumbing with re-circulating pump

Dual flush toilets in all bathrooms

Water conserving fixtures

Water conserving landscape design

Web based real time irrigation controller

Bio-swale landscaping areas

Front loading laundry equipment (optional)

### **Earth Friendly Building Materials & Practices:**

SIPS walls and 60% of lumber is FSC certified

Engineered wood

Composite decking

Recycled content drywall

Paver streets, drives and walks

Onsite recycling of 85% of construction materials  
Eco-flooring options

#### **About Hansen Lane Estates**

Located in the heart of Danville, and nestled against the Iron Horse Trail, Hansen Lane Estates is a private enclave of spectacular executive-style homes in an established, desirable neighborhood. The community features large tree lined lots with views of the foothills, excellent schools, nearby parks, trails and shopping, and convenient freeway accessibility.

Luxury abounds inside and out with timeless Tuscan style architecture, an emphasis on outdoor living in expansive courtyards with fireplaces, exceptional architectural detailing, epicurean kitchens, luxurious master suites, open floor plan designs, a private bath in almost every bedroom, detached casitas, and three-car garages. The homes are priced from \$1,995,000 to \$2,495,000.

#### **About Clarum Homes**

Clarum Homes is a family-owned development company devoted to building exceptional new home communities and apartments in California. Clarum's mission of building sustainable communities began in 1999 when they began installing solar electric systems in their homes as standard equipment. Clarum Homes is now recognized nationwide as a leader in green building. In 2002, Clarum introduced the Enviro-Home™, its own Zero Energy Home prototype. A perfectly designed blend of innovative construction technologies, unsurpassed energy efficiency and the use of sustainable materials, this home was a breakthrough for Clarum Homes, and for the entire homebuilding industry. The Enviro-Home™ minimizes the use of resources, reduces harmful effects on the environment, creates healthier and more comfortable living spaces, and provides savings on utility bills. The overwhelming response to the Enviro-Home™, and Clarum's strong commitment to the environment, have prompted Clarum to continue building the Enviro-Home™ in all of its communities. The Clarum Homes family and management team are a dedicated group of professionals with an in-depth understanding of green building and decades of combined homebuilding experience. Clarum uses this experience to design the most attractive communities possible, to build the highest quality and most innovative product, and to provide impeccable customer service. For more information on Clarum, visit [www.clarum.com](http://www.clarum.com).

#### **About Davis Energy Group**

Davis Energy Group is a mechanical engineering firm focusing on reducing net energy use in buildings through the application of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. DEG has certified nearly 150 homes in the LEED for Homes program. In addition to being a Provider for the LEED for Homes program, DEG offers design, energy analysis and evaluation, energy program management, product development, and grEEEn® consulting. For more information on DEG's services or LEED for Homes visit [www.davisenergy.com](http://www.davisenergy.com)

#### **About U.S. Green Building Council LEED for Homes**

LEED for Homes is a voluntary initiative designed to promote sustainable home building practices. The LEED for Homes Rating System is targeting the top 25% of homes with best practice environmental design and construction. The LEED for Homes rating system is being developed to provide national consistency in defining the features of a green home and to enable builders anywhere in the country to obtain a 'green' rating on their homes. The strength of the LEED for Homes program will be third-party verification that will include both on-site inspections and performance testing.

The USGBC is a nonprofit, consensus-based organization working to transform the way buildings and communities are designed, built and operated. For more information on LEED and the U.S. Green Building Council, visit [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org).

**About Premier Building Systems**

The largest SIPs manufacturer in North America, Premier Building Systems is a division of Insulfoam LLC, the largest EPS foam manufacturer and fabricator in North America. Both Insulfoam LLC and Premier Building Systems are owned by Carlisle Construction Materials, one of the largest construction material corporations in the country. Premier has a strong presence in the SIPs industry with more dedicated sales representatives, project managers, and distributors located throughout North America than any other SIPs manufacturer. For more information about Premier Building Systems, visit [pbspanels.com](http://pbspanels.com).

PROJECT WEBSITE: [WWW.CLARUM.COM](http://WWW.CLARUM.COM)

**BUILDER:**

Clarum Homes – 599 College Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94306 – [www.clarum.com](http://www.clarum.com)

John Suppes, President

Nicole Gittleson, Marketing

650.322.7069, x22 - [john@clarum.com](mailto:john@clarum.com) 650.322.7069, x24 – [nicole@clarum.com](mailto:nicole@clarum.com)

**ENERGY CONSULTANT:**

Steve Brennan, P.E. – Davis Energy Group

530-753-1100, ext. 19 [sbrennan@davisenergy.com](mailto:sbrennan@davisenergy.com)

**PREMIER BUILDING SYSTEMS (SIPS WALLS)**

Bryan Osborn

707-824-2258 [bosborn@pbssips.com](mailto:bosborn@pbssips.com)