

CONCRETE BUILDING SYSTEMS

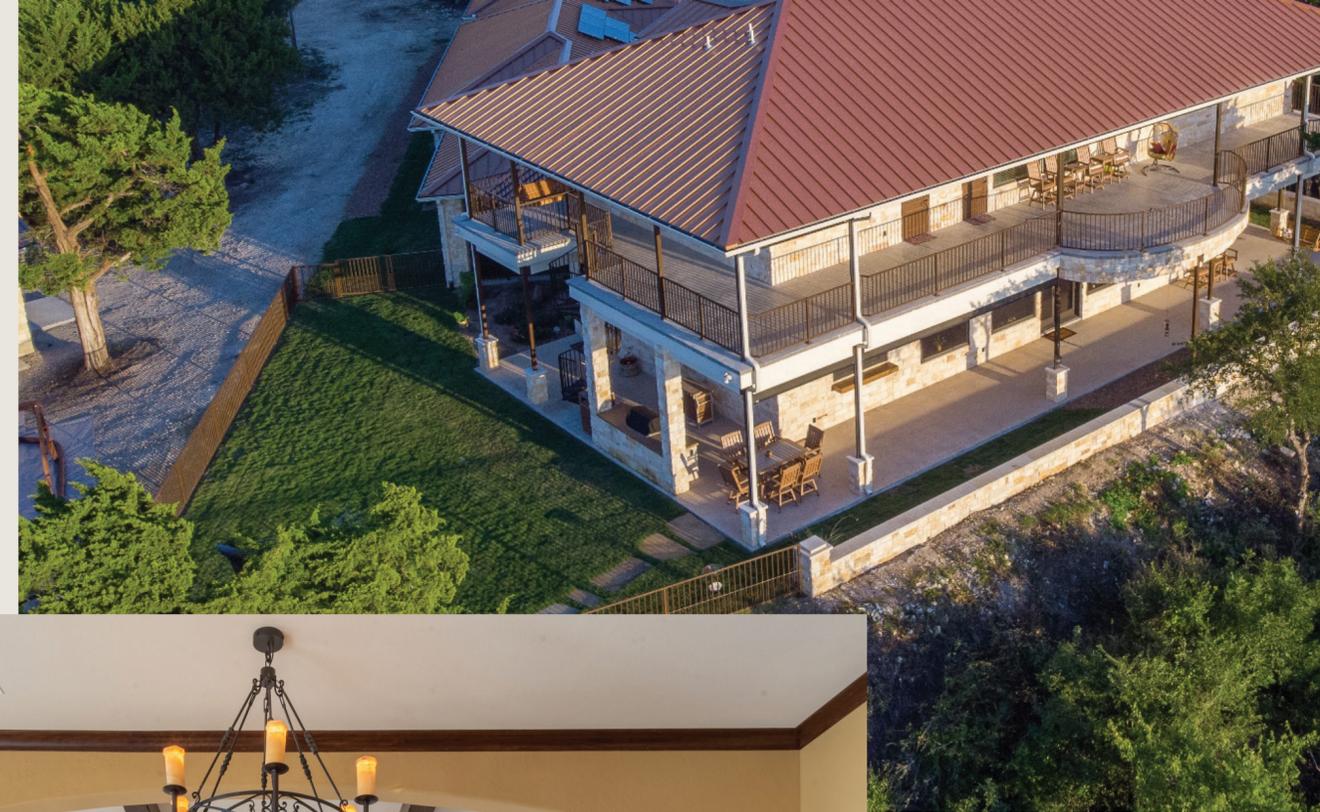
**A Winning Mix for Home Building:
Strength, Speed, and Flexibility**



CONCRETE *on the Rise*

All builders, from the country's largest production companies to the smallest custom home builder, have used concrete in their homes. From driveways and walkways to segmental retaining walls and pools, concrete has been an essential home building material for the past century.

Recently, concrete construction has risen, literally, to new heights. Two manufacturing methods, insulated concrete forms and precast concrete walls have helped whole-house concrete construction become firmly established and accepted.



CONCRETE IS GREEN

Concrete and masonry wall systems conserve energy through the use of thermal mass and reduced air infiltration. The continuous insulation barrier offered by most concrete wall systems reduces drafts and keeps a more even temperature throughout the house. The combination of these factors can often lead to reduced heating and cooling bills.

Concrete is also lauded in green building circles for being made with a combination of recycled and natural products and for producing less waste.

BENEFITS FOR HOME BUYERS

Concrete is unquestionably one of the most durable building products available. Concrete homes have withstood fires, floods, and hurricane-force winds with minimal or no structural damage.

Homes built with insulated concrete walls effectively buffer the home's interior from the outside. The weight and mass of the concrete can reduce the amount of external noise entering the house by as much as two-thirds.

Concrete construction can provide a tight thermal building envelope, which can reduce a homeowner's heating and cooling bills.

The concrete, insulation, and steel in a concrete wall system are mold- and insect-resistant.

Many insurance companies offer lower premiums for fire-resistant concrete constructed homes.

WHY USE
Concrete Construction?

BENEFITS FOR BUILDERS

▶ The cost of the basic components of concrete—cement, water, sand, and aggregate—are more stable than the cost of framing lumber. While lumber prices can fluctuate, concrete costs have remained steady in recent years, allowing for greater planning and financial forecasting.

▶ Concrete construction also boosts profits by increasing the speed of construction and completion times, reducing workplace theft, and virtually eliminating call-backs. Insurance costs for concrete builders may also be lower.

▶ With green building and durability issues hot on consumers' minds, converting to concrete construction allows a business to further stand out from competitors.

WHY USE
Concrete Construction?

We Build Communities



ABOUT the Coalition

The Concrete Home Building Coalition—part of the National Association of Home Builders—is the building industry’s one-stop resource for all cement-based building materials and systems—including foundations and basements, driveways, sidewalks and patios, decorative and stamped concrete, above-grade wall systems, and cement-based siding, roofing, and clay brick.

The Coalition is part of the Building Systems Councils, representing the systems-built housing industry across the country. To contact the Concrete Home Building Coalition, visit nahb.org/whybsc or call 202-266-8577.