

Forde Windows and Remodeling Named NARI 2011 Regional Contractor of the Year



Northbrook, IL, Feb. 1, 2011—**Forde Windows and Remodeling, Inc.** (Forde) has been awarded the prestigious Contractor of the Year (CoTY) Award for its North Central Region by The National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI).

Forde was recognized in the Commercial Exterior category for its project replacing all the windows in the historic Jackson Shore Apartments in Chicago's Hyde Park community.

"This is quite an honor for us," said Maurice Forde, President of Forde Windows & Remodeling.

"Although we take our greatest satisfaction from our clients telling us they appreciate our work, to also be recognized by our peers is very rewarding."

This project involved replacing all the windows in the 12-story, luxury apartment building located on Lake Shore Drive. The building was built in 1917 by the prominent builder G.H. Gottschalk & Co. It was designed by the renowned architectural firm Rapp & Rapp.

"The building originally had cream colored, double hung windows," Forde said. "Over the years, the windows were painted black, which not only detracted from the look but also prevented the top windows from opening."

The client had three goals, Forde said: to restore the windows to their original, classic look; to make them more durable, energy-efficient and easier to use; and to have the building listed in the National Historic Registry.

Forde was able to meet each of these goals. Marvin double hung windows were installed. They were painted cream color to restore the original look. Aluminum casings were used to enhance durability, and insulated high efficiency glass will help to maximize energy efficiency. Additionally, Forde used lead safe practices to comply with the law. And, the building now is registered in the National Registry.

Forde will receive his award at the Evening of ExcellenceSM in Jersey City, NJ on April 2, 2011, along with all other regional winners. At that time, NARI will announce national CoTY winners. The Evening of ExcellenceSM is widely considered to be the premier event of the year in the remodeling industry. It will be attended by more than 350 of the industry's elite.

About Forde Windows & Remodeling: Forde Windows & Remodeling is a full service design-build company offering everything from design consultation through finished construction. Forde Windows & Remodeling is committed to designing and building the highest-quality remodeling projects and surpassing client expectations.

Services include residential and commercial windows, kitchen remodeling, and home additions. More information is available at www.fordedesignbuild.com.

About NARI: Forde Windows & Remodeling is a member of the Greater Chicagoland chapter of The National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). NARI is the only trade association dedicated solely to the remodeling industry. The Association which represents more than 8,200 member companies nationwide—comprised of 63,000 remodeling contractors—is "The Voice of the Remodeling Industry."TM NARI members voluntarily subscribe to a strict code of ethics.

Contractors from seven regions around the country vie for CoTY Awards on an annual basis. All projects submitted for judging were an improvement or an addition to an existing structure, with the exception of one category, "Residential Exterior Specialty." Otherwise, new construction projects were not eligible.

In addition, competing projects were completed between July 1, 2009 and November 30, 2010 and were not submitted in prior NARI National contests. An impartial panel of judges who are experts within the industry and associated fields, selected winners based on each entrant's binders, which include "before and after" photography and project descriptions. Judging focused on problem solving, functionality, aesthetics, craftsmanship, innovation, degree of difficulty and entry presentation.

To be considered for a CoTY Award, a company must be a NARI member in good standing. The entries making up this year's competition totaled \$93 million in remodeling projects.

More information is available at www.NARlremodelers.com.