For the last few years we have asked our members to enter a basement project that offered challenges of any kind in the 'Basement of the Year' award competition. (A reminder to all CFA members -- you can submit ANY basement you have done regardless of the level of difficulty you experienced). We want to thank the CFA members who entered the eleven entries we received this year, (would have been twelve, had the basement not caused so many issues for a company -- perhaps it will be in next year's competition.)

Each year we look forward to receiving 'Basement of the Year' entries from our members to 'show and tell' in *Concrete Facts* magazine and at the World of Concrete, for contractors and manufacturers from all over the globe to vote on. These votes come from everyone within the concrete industry. We appreciate the time you took to vote on the ones you believe would have created the most difficult construction issues for the builders and their crews.

The following basements are this year's winners -- the ones that were regarded as the most difficult basements to undertake. The information on the following pages is for you to read through and wonder if one of *your* basements could have beaten it out of the top spot.

Single Family 2,000 to 5,000 Kaser & Maeyens out of South Bend, IV. Commercial / Multi-Family Balmer Brothers Concrete Work, Inc out of Akron, PA Here is the information that was submitted by our members when asked these few simple questions.

1. What was the size of the project?

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- 2. Project information.
- 3. Discuss any significant footing details.
- 4. Discuss any outstanding wall features.
- 5. Why did the owner select you as the contractor?
- 6. Describe the complexity of the project and how the challenges were met.
- 7. Discuss the special materials or processes used.
- 8. Any additional information you would like to add regarding why this project should be selected for the Basement of the Year Award.

You've seen them, you've voted on them, and now it's time to congratulate them.

Thank you to all of our CFA members who participated in the 2008 Basement of the Year Award Competition.

Single Family over 5,000 feet Ekedal Masonry and Concrete, Inc out of Newport Beach, C Single Family over 5,000 feet FormCo out of Salt Lake City, UT.

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