



Homes of Distinction, Built with Integrity



**Chris Donatelli
Builders, Inc.**

534 Horning Street
San Jose, CA 95112

PH: (408) 287-4886
FX: (408) 289-8714

email: info@dcbuild.com

www.dcbuild.com

In This Issue

**Our New Home
Performance
Division**

**There is No Better
Time for You to
Remodel Than Now**

**Home
Maintenance
Reminder**

Quick Links

[Company Values](#)

[Photo Gallery](#)

[Awards](#)

December 2008

[Forward this enewsletter to a friend](#)

Introducing Our New Home Performance Division

All around us we have seen incredible innovations in everything from movie animation to the electronics we depend on each day to the toys our children and grandchildren play with. This is true at Chris Donatelli Builders as well, and we are working hard to stay ahead of the curve, adding beauty and functionality to our projects.

As part of this effort to stay on the cutting edge, two of our own employees recently completed six days of training from CBPCA (California Building Performance Contractor's Association) in conjunction with PG&E. We are rolling out our company's new Home Performance Division. Home Performance is the technique of looking at a building as a whole; taking all the parts together and analyzing how well they work in relation to one another. Doing this will help customers see where they are losing money (in relation to utility bills) and provide possible answers to temperature differences and lack of comfort in the home. By providing Home Performance testing and renovation work, we are looking to add technology and hard data to our craftsmanship and experience. Stay tuned for more information on our new service.

Please contact us at 408-287-4886, extension 213, or at chris@dcbuild.com if you have any questions about making your home energy efficient to save you money.

There is No Better Time for You to Remodel Than Now

With stories about the nation's slowing economy on the front page every day, and talk about how consumers are cutting back on expenses, you might be very surprised to hear that this is a great time to remodel your home. Whether you plan small improvements and updates to your home, or some major changes or additions, consider these five reasons why smart homeowners are remodeling now:



**Build It
GREEN**
MEMBER



Our staff members hold the following industry certifications:

- Certified Remodeler
- Certified Remodeling Carpenter
- Certified Lead Carpenter
- Certified Kitchen and Bath Remodeler
- Certified Green Building Professional



1. Faster Completion

Every homeowner knows that once you've made the decision to remodel your home, you feel a tremendous impatience to see that home vision come to life. And now that vision can come to life sooner than ever before! Since schedules aren't as full right now, you won't have to wait months and months to get on the timetable of the area's best remodeling firms. Their schedules are more flexible, so many projects can not only start sooner, but can take less time from start to finish than they would normally. That means you will be living the dream before you know it!

2. More Remodeling for the Same Dollar

Consumers are now focused on getting the most for their money, and people who are remodeling now are indeed getting more bang for their buck. Since some labor costs are a bit lower than they have been in a while, savings are being passed on to the consumer. For you, this means you can do more remodeling for the same investment you would have made in a stronger economy, turning more things on your home wish list into reality!

3. Get the Best for Less

All remodelers, including the best, know that homeowners are more concerned about getting the best value now than ever before. They are responding by doing what they can to bring down their costs and pass the savings on to you. You may have heard a remodeler was really good but very expensive. You may find their prices are lower than before so now you can afford to hire the very best.

4. Real Value Today

Even in today's wobbly economy, remodeling is the one thing that still gives you guaranteed value every

But Buyer Beware

Even with the benefits to you in terms of value, convenience and cost savings, there are things to watch out for in a slow economy which may give you a false sense of savings, and lead to unexpected costs and major disappointments.

If you are presented with a price that is quite a bit lower than expected, it's a signal to be wary of the following potential dangers:

- Lower quality, less durable materials may be used.
- Less experienced or unskilled staff, or staff who is not used

to working together as a team, may be used.

- Companies may be using staff who primarily worked on new home construction in the past and may not be trained to keep the occupied portion of your home clean, undamaged, and safe for kids and pets.
- There may be less planning and poor management of your project.
- The low price may be based on too-low allowances for products and materials you have not yet selected, meaning you may end up paying a lot more to get what you want.
- The company or person you are dealing with may be unable to finish the project for the price they estimated and will either go out of business, disappear or ask you to pay more than you agreed to.
- The company may be taking unprofessional and/or illegal short cuts like not having the insurance they need to protect you, not paying workers' comp, not paying their suppliers who can then possibly come after you, not getting permits or following code, not paying required payroll taxes, or not properly vetting their employees before letting them work in your home.
- You may have an unpleasant remodeling experience.
- You may end up paying more than you agreed to.
- All of the above.

single day you live in your home. It's the value of having a home that meets your everyday needs for space, function and comfort. It's the value of enabling you to live and entertain in ways you just couldn't do before. Simply put, it's the value of living in a home you love. And no matter whether the markets decide to go down or up, this value is yours and does not change.

5. Years More Value

No matter what the economy, remodeling sooner increases the value you get from your remodeling project by allowing you to enjoy the benefits of the remodel longer. By remodeling now, you can get years more value than if you wait. Also, since remodeling costs generally go up and since they are a bit lower now than usual, remodeling now makes even more sense.

So why wait to make changes in your home that will create the feel and comfort you crave? Take advantage of great opportunities and solid value now when you remodel with a skilled, reputable company like Donatelli Builders. Call us at 408-287-4886 - we'd love to tell you how we can create a home that's perfect for you all while giving you the best quality, the best service and the best value – on-time and on-budget.

Home Maintenance Reminder: Evaluate and Reduce Your Water Usage

For those homeowners who use year-round sprinkler systems, make sure sprinkler

heads are checked for leaks and your timer is working correctly to prevent wasting water.

Now is also a good time to investigate other new water-saving technologies including recirculation water systems, high efficiency Energy Star hot water heaters, and even on-demand hot water systems.

We hope you enjoyed our e-newsletter. Remember, you can use the link below to forward this to friends and family who might be interested, so they can sign up for it as well. Look for us again next month!

Chris

Chris Donatelli CR, CKBR, CGBP