

NEWS RELEASE

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IT'S SMART; IT'S GREEN; AND NOW IT'S OPEN

Chicago, IL—May 14, 2008—Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry has just unveiled its new Smart Home: a 2,500-square-foot home with two bedrooms and two baths.

Built on the east lawn of the museum, the largely prefabricated home includes:

- Shower tiles made of recycled wine bottles
- An ethanol-fueled fireplace
- Sinks made of ground-up concrete
- Bamboo floors
- A modular green roof installed by GreenGrid Green Roofs
- Low-energy lighting systems

Although building a home with these many green features has proven to be more expensive than building a conventional home, it is believed the Smart Home will have reduced operating costs that will eventually recoup the investment.

For instance, the house has a power-reduced refrigerator, low-water shower heads, and because of added insulation

and the green roof, will likely save more than \$1,000 in energy costs annually.

The Smart House will be open to the public through January 4, 2009. The Museum of Science and Industry is located at 57th Street and Lake Shore Drive in Chicago's Hyde Park district.

About AlturaSolutions Communications, Inc.

AlturaSolutions Communications, based in Chicago, IL., is a communications, public relations, consulting, and marketing firm, working specifically within the jansan and building industries. The company can be contacted at info@alturasolutions.com