

## **QUIKRETE® PRODUCTS HELP BRING 'VAIL'S PREMIER ADDRESS' TO FRUITION**

*Mason Mix, Core Fill Grout used in high-end, luxury home development*

**VAIL, Colo. (Aug. 25, 2010)** – Since it was incorporated in 1966, Vail has established itself as a premier destination for both people building high-end, luxury second homes and avid skiers.

So, when plans were announced for the new mixed-use Solaris Residences development, both local and national media took note.



With an ambitious plan to offer residents “luxury mountain living,” contractor The Weitz Co. and sub-contractor The Gallegos Corp., a specialty masonry contractor, turned to a trusted partner whose products could guarantee the quality needed to help bring “the height of luxury at Vail’s premier address” to fruition – The QUIKRETE® Companies.

One of the key architectural features of Solaris Residences is its dry stack natural stone walls, designed to fit within the stunning natural landscape of Vail. To ensure the stacked stone remained in place for years to come, crews relied on QUIKRETE® Mason Mix Type ‘S’ mortar – a contractor grade mix that achieves 1,800 psi – and QUIKRETE® Core-Fill Grout – Coarse.

“Dry stack stone walls are really an art form, but it’s critical they have a strong bond to guarantee they will stand the test of time – especially in a harsh mountain climate such as Vail,” said Brian Harms, QUIKRETE® regional sales manager – bulk products. “By using a packaged product such as QUIKRETE® Mason Mix Type ‘S’ mortar, crews could mix the amount of mortar they needed, thereby eliminating the need for large scale mixing operations and ultimately reducing waste.”

Located in the heart of Vail Village, Solaris Residences features a combination of residential and commercial space. The project was completed during the summer of 2010.

The property’s 77 condominiums range from 900- to 6,500-square-feet with the average unit falling in the 2,500-square-foot range. The residential units – which are mostly second homes – start at \$1.5 million and rise to more than \$15 million.

In addition to the residential units, there are 20 commercial spaces for retail shops and restaurants surrounding a central 1/2-acre common plaza that features an ice skating rink.

As part of the project, workers used 7,140 bags of 80 pound QUIKRETE® Core Fill Grout – Coarse and 27,552 bags of 80 pound QUIKRETE® Mason Mix Type ‘S’ mortar.

QUIKRETE® Mason Mix Type ‘S’ is a high strength Commercial Grade dry pre-blended mixture of portland cement, hydrated lime, masonry sand and other ingredients selected specially for masonry applications. QUIKRETE® Core-Fill Grout – Coarse is a properly proportioned mixture of portland cement, graded sand, coarse aggregate and other ingredients designed to provide a flowable grout for filling masonry cores and structural walls, requiring only the addition of water.

“Since QUIKRETE® Mason Mix Type ‘S’ is pre-blended, it eliminates the need for sand piles and pallets of cement, allowing crews to work in tight areas with a small footprint,” Harms said. “In addition, since the product eliminates the need for jobsite mixing, the pre-blended product saved time, improved productivity and also assured that the mortar was consistent and met the project’s requirements.

“QUIKRETE® Mason Mix Type ‘S’ and QUIKRETE® Core-Fill Masonry Grout are the perfect solutions for a project such as Solaris Residences,” Harms added. “These products are well suited for workers’ needs, allowing crews to mix material in the batches they needed – no matter how large or small – and finish their work as quickly as possible.”

### *The QUIKRETE® Companies*

The QUIKRETE® Companies is the largest manufacturer of packaged concrete and cement mixes in the United States and Canada, and an innovative leader in the commercial building and home improvement industries. QUIKRETE® products are manufactured in more than 90 manufacturing facilities in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and South America, allowing for unsurpassed distribution and product depth. The QUIKRETE® Technical Center ensures that professionals and consumers alike are provided with the most innovative and highest quality products available on the market. For additional information on The QUIKRETE® Companies or its products, please visit [www.QUIKRETE.com](http://www.QUIKRETE.com) or call (800) 282-5828.

