

Green Contractor of the Year

David Kruse

PRESIDENT, L.J. KRUSE COMPANY



When it came time to nominate the inaugural winner of the Green Contractor of the Year Award, one name was repeatedly thrown into the ring: David Kruse, president of L.J. Kruse Company in Berkeley, California.

When David and his brother Andy took over the 93-year-old plumbing company their grandfather founded in 1916, it was a reputable outfit doing strong, professional work. David, however, recognized a niche that needed filling and transformed L.J. Kruse into a 21st century leader in design and construction utilizing high efficiency, water-saving and alternative energy products. Its slogan, "Where sustainability meets profitability" is something any businessman can appreciate.

And it's not just isolated to his company alone; David is working to pull the entire industry over to the greener side. In 2007, as president of the Mechanical Contractors Association of America, David organized a Green Opportunities Conference in Milwaukee, showcasing many products and techniques that previously lacked wide-scale exposure. A shift in thinking has certainly occurred and David Kruse is right at the center of it.

David is LEED accredited and his headquarters in Berkeley are pursuing LEED Platinum designation from the U.S. Green Building Council. Only a few years ago products like high efficiency, low consumption air and water systems, tankless water heaters, hybrid heat/dual fuel systems and reclaimed water systems were something only the wealthy, so-called "tree huggers" would employ in their homes and businesses. But David Kruse is showing people how these innovations can be both beneficial to the environment and affordable at the same time.

"I'm deeply grateful, thankful and, frankly, humbled to accept this award on behalf of my company," Kruse said. "Understanding what IAPMO is and what you men and women do every day in your careers, with your volunteer time to make our industry better, is a very profound thing and I'm delighted to be a part of it.

"I really want to accept this award for my grandchildren. We all know that we're not doing any of this for ourselves; none of us up here or out there in this audience is doing it for ourselves. We're doing it for our kids and our grandkids."

Ph: 909.472.4100 • Fax: 909.472.4150 • www.iapmo.org

International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials
5001 East Philadelphia Street • Ontario, California - USA 91761-2816

