

Transcript for Building America Video

"Think about a bridge. A bridge between two places. One is the world we've been living in ...

... a place of homes with high energy costs; homes that aren't insulated well; homes that aren't sealed well against the elements; a place where homes may have problems with air-quality, moisture and mold. Homes where lighting costs too much, where heating and cooling cost too much, where basements are dark and dank, and where individual rooms and floors run too hot or cold. It's a world of wasted energy.

On the other side of the bridge is a world of homes with minimal or no energy costs...
... comfortable homes smartly insulated and sealed to minimize energy used year-round; healthy homes that provide fresh, filtered air and minimize dangerous pollutants; homes engineered with high-quality heating and cooling systems tuned to the house's thermal needs; expertly lit homes with modern low-energy fixtures that make beautiful light; bright homes that look out on the world through glass that lets in light but not heat; systems-integrated homes in which all of the separate components work together seamlessly and with less waste; and zero net-energy homes that are so energy-efficient that, when all of our homes are built or remodeled in this way, a small renewable energy system will be able to offset most or all of the energy used. – reducing our homes contribution to total American energy expenditure from the current 22% to less than 12.

The bridge between these two places is Building America.

We're a research and demonstration program at the U. S. Department of Energy and, since 1995, we've been helping to create home-building innovations that lower the cost of energy in American homes.

Our team is made up of federal agencies, national laboratories and private-sector architects, engineers and building-scientists working with hundreds of builders and

buildings all over the US-to test, document, improve and share what we're learning about low energy, high-performance home-building..

Building America innovations are providing a path for homes that are zero-net-energy-ready. Our goal is to provide the know-how for American homes to become healthful, durable and energy efficient.

Visit us at this address to learn more about how Building America innovates the future of American housing.