



A publication of Cascade Mfg. Co.

March 2007

## Say Goodbye to Winter!

After enduring the cold and snow of February and early March, there is the promise of Spring in the air. And with the warming temperature comes news about the construction market that is also welcomed.

A recent report issued by the Reuters News Agency indicates the U.S. homebuilders' confidence rose in February to its highest level since June 2006. The report, citing information from the National Association of Homebuilders, told of low mortgage rates and sales incentives helping boost demand.

Even former Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan has weighed in with a positive outlook. "I think the worst is behind us," Greenspan stated at a recent conference. "We are in the midst of a very significant inventory liquidation of unsold new homes." Continuing the upbeat assessment Greenspan said, "The worst of the adjustment is over, meaning not that the market is turning but that the rate of decline was at its maximum in the third quarter and continued over in the fourth quarter and should now be moving to a much less negative direction."

Reading between the lines, it would appear that as unsold housing inventory diminishes supply and demand will come more into balance-creating opportunity for growth.



### Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig oraibh! St. Patrick's Day blessing upon you



As is custom, we have included some Irish humor for your enjoyment in this March issue of *The Component Connection*. We hope you know it's no blarney when we say we want to be your truss and engineered wood supplier. Give us a call on your next project.

Paddy was driving down the street in a sweat because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place. Looking up to heaven he said, "Lord, take pity on me. If you find me a parking place I will go to Mass every Sunday for the rest of me life and give up me Irish Whiskey."



Miraculously, a parking place appeared. Paddy looked up again and said, "Never mind, I found one."



O'Toole worked in the lumber yard for twenty years and all that time he'd been stealing the wood and selling it. At last his conscience began to bother him and he went to confession to repent.



"Father, it's 15 years since my last confession, and I've been stealing wood from the lumber yard all those years," he told the priest.

"I understand my son," says the priest. "Can you make a Novena?"  
"O'Toole said, "Father, if you have the plans, I've got the lumber."



O'Malley was in New York City. He was patiently waiting, and watching the traffic cop on a busy street crossing. The cop stopped the flow of traffic and shouted, "Okay pedestrians". Then he'd allow the traffic to pass. He'd done this several times and O'Malley still stood on the sidewalk.

After the cop had shouted "Pedestrians" for the tenth time, Paddy went over to him and said, "Isn't it about time ye let the Catholics across?"

