

# News Release

## **Modern Yankee Builders owner helps to launch Rhode Island Remodelers Committee**

CUMBERLAND, R.I. (November 9, 2007): Joseph Cracco of Modern Yankee Builders, a Cumberland-based residential remodeling and design/build services firm, was sworn in as a Local Director of the Rhode Island Builders Association during the annual meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cracco has been an active member of the Rhode Island Builders Association (RIBA) for seven years and will not only serve as a Local Director, but will also co-chair the new Remodelers Committee.

Over the past year, Cracco has become very involved in the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), and met with the Rhode Island congressional delegates at the NAHB Spring Board Meetings in Washington, DC in June. He will be attending the NAHB Winter Board meetings again in February. He is a member-at-large of the NAHB Remodelers (NAHBR) and plans to utilize the resources and support of that organization to benefit the RIBA Remodelers Committee which is currently being formed.

The NAHB Remodelers is the fastest growing group within the NAHB and is the arm of the organization devoted strictly to remodeling professionals. The NAHBR is dedicated to providing educational support, training and numerous other resources to remodelers who are committed to being the best in their field. Cracco explains, "The NAHBR members are the best of the best; when you look at a list of which companies have won national awards for their work, it's like looking at a who's who of NAHBR members. These are people who understand the meaning of excellence in remodeling."

"A program like the NAHB Remodelers in Rhode Island means that everybody in the state wins," states Cracco. "Contractors become better educated while customers get a better remodeling project and better overall remodeling experience." The presence of a local NAHBR group provides better opportunities to bring national educators to the local area so that members can gain both practical field knowledge as well as business operations knowledge. As of the first of the year, the RI Contractor Registration and Licensing Board will require remodelers to maintain 5 hours of continuing education at registration renewal, so it is likely that an education-oriented organization like the Remodelers Committee will be warmly welcomed by RIBA members.

Cracco recently returned from the Remodelers Show in Las Vegas where he met with NAHBR national leaders and attended workshops on business management, clinics on remodeling techniques and new product demonstrations and information sessions. "This is a rapidly changing world and the world of remodeling is no exception," notes Cracco. "New building products hit the market by the thousands each year, so saying '...but we've done it this way for 30 years...' just doesn't cut it. Either you stay on top of the new products and building science information...then decide what works and what doesn't...or you can't possibly provide real value for your clients."