

Precast Concrete Basement Sets the Pace for Home Makeover Event

Imagine having one week to reconstruct and remodel an entire home, including foundation, walls, windows and roof. That was the challenge posed by producers of ABC's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," a show dedicated to transforming the lives and homes of a family in need. This time, the cameras began rolling in Warwick, R.I. at the home of the Silva family.

On a cold February day, the volunteer army of building professionals began a frantic week of demolition and reconstruction, knowing that just one glitch would throw the entire project off-schedule. Designers, engineers and contractors relied heavily on prefabricated structural systems to speed the reconstruction process while providing quality results.

As expected, the structural foundation set the pace for the whirlwind of activity that follows demolition. For this critical element, Oldport Homes, a homebuilder charged with completing this phase of the project, opted to go with the Oasis Foundation Wall System donated by Oldcastle Precast. The precast concrete foundation was

custom designed with openings for doors, windows, beam pockets and other necessities.

"It took us five hours to install the finished basement," says David Bruni, sales manager for Oasis Foundation Wall System. "We simply moved the foundation into place and even as we sealed the seams and panels, the framing team was able to begin their work."

Every Oasis Foundation Wall System is constructed of high-density concrete, foam insulation and paperless drywall that resists moisture and prevents water penetration. The result is a drier, mold-free and more comfortable living environment created in "makeover-like" speed.

Back at the Silva home, the rest of the volunteer team continued efforts to convert this approximately 1,000-sq-ft single-story cramped space into a 2,400-sq-ft two-story comfortable living environment suitable for this special family.

The 106-hour Silva home makeover, including installation of the Oasis Foundation Wall System, was featured in the May 4, 2008, "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" episode on ABC. ■



