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### CFA Project of the Year Awards

e-Inquiry



By [Kimberly Johnston](#)  
**Associate Editor**

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#### ENEWSLETTERS

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In 1999, the Concrete Foundations Association (CFA) started its "Basement of the Year" awards to recognize contractors and projects in the residential concrete foundation [business](#). In 2008, the award was changed to "Project of the Year" to recognize more than one contractor and include not only residential foundations but commercial and above-grade projects as well.

The 2009 awards recognized four winning projects by three contractors in the categories of Commercial/Multi-Family, Above-Grade Concrete [Home](#), Single Family Residence 2,000 to 5,000 Square Feet and Single Family Residence over 5,000 Square Feet. To read more about these projects and the honorable



At the Assael Residence, Ekedal Concrete sandwiched the waterproofing membrane in between concrete slabs to prevent rebar from puncturing it.



mentions, visit [www.cfawalls.org/awards/project](http://www.cfawalls.org/awards/project).

**Ekedal Concrete, Inc.**

**Single Family 2,000 to 5,000 Square Feet & Single Family over 5,000 Square Feet**

Ekedal Concrete, Inc., Newport Beach, Calif., won both residential awards for two separate projects. The first, Assael Residence in Newport Beach, Calif., won in the 2,000 to 5,000 square foot category. The project used a total of 700 yards of concrete, 231,000 pounds of steel and took six months to complete.

The oceanfront location of the [house](#) created a challenge for Ekedal Concrete. The basement was below sea level, and the contractor had to make sure dewatering systems, drilled piles, and the foundation and waterproofing systems were sufficient and worked.

[1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [next](#)

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Ekedal Concrete's winning Villa Del Lago project featured 60 corners and angles as well as a structural deck above the foundation.



Bartley Corp. created a suspended half-moon staircase that was mostly supported by the top landing and steel reaching from the patio to the back of the residence. **Expositio**



Action Concrete Contractors used four different forming systems for the walls, elevated columns and slabs of this dormitory addition.

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After drilling 32 piles and excavating the basement, Ekedal Concrete poured a waste slab, then installed the waterproofing membrane and a cover slab before installing the rebar and pouring the mat slab. "The reason we sandwiched the waterproofing was to protect it from being punctured from the rebar placement," says Vice President Ryan Ekedal.



At the Assael Residence, Ekedal Concrete sandwiched the waterproofing membrane in between concrete slabs to prevent rebar from puncturing it.

But the sea wasn't the only location challenge. Since this house was in a residential neighborhood, next to other high-end [homes](#) and the ocean, the contractor had to ensure structural integrity of the surrounding properties along with being conscientious of the neighbors. They had to maintain strict scheduling of pours and material drops because there was no room on site for storage. The tight quarters also restricted the construction of poured-in-place walls, leading Ekedal Concrete to form shotcrete walls instead.



Ekedal Concrete's winning Villa Del Lago project featured 60 corners and angles as well as a structural deck above the foundation.

Ekedal Concrete's winning project in the over 5,000 square feet category was the Villa Del Lago Residence in Newport Coast, Calif. This [home](#), at 23,557 square feet, required 1,700 yards of concrete,

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297,000 pounds of steel and required 500 pages of detail sheets for the deck and walls. The project took seven months to complete.

The contractor's job consisted of pouring the basement foundation and walls as well as the structural deck above it, which was designed with a camber to compensate for the massive [house](#) which sits above it. To make the project more challenging, it featured about 60 corners and angles, Ryan Ekedal says.

Other details of the project included battered basement walls, which at some points went from 16 to 10 inches. The heavy steel beams used in the structural deck required the use of different mix designs in order to get the concrete between all the steel, which consisted of spacing at 4 inches on center, Ekedal says.

[previous](#) [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [next](#)

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**Bartley Corp. created a suspended half-moon staircase that was mostly supported by the top landing and steel reaching from the patio to the back of the residence.**



**Action Concrete Contractors used four different forming systems for the walls, elevated columns and slabs of this dormitory addition.**

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The size and detail of this [house](#) created a highly visible job for Ekedal Concrete. "There were a lot of eyes on us," he says. "We had to make sure that on top of delivering the project to our client on time and under budget we had to ensure this massive project carried the Ekedal brand of perfection."

#### Bartley Corporation

**Above Grade Concrete Home**  
 Bartley Corporation's above-grade concrete [home](#) was not just a challenge because of its size - 29,000 square feet of walls and floors - but also because of a suspended concrete staircase. The project, the Mangum Residence Concrete House in Stevensville, Md., took Bartley nine months to complete and required 1,016 yards of concrete.

The double, half-moon-shaped suspended staircase was formed with a curve to minimize an obstructed view from the lower level of the house, says Project Manager Ron Mack. This was a new challenge for the [company](#). The suspended nature did not allow Bartley many options for reinforcement. "The top landing is actually bordered by the patio and



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the steel goes into the patio and all the way back into the building like a cantilever," Mack says. "The building itself is holding the staircase up."

Another challenge was the arched windows and doors within curved walls. Although Bartley had done radius walls before, the windows were formed with square blocks. To create the arched windows, Bartley shaped Styrofoam into an arched radius and placed it into the forms, Mack says.

**Action Concrete Contractors**

**Commercial/Multi-Family**

Action Concrete Contractors' addition to an existing 4-story Rhodes Hall Annex dormitory at Clemson University in Clemson, S.C., was a large, seven month project. The cast-in-place walls and foundation totaled 32,000 square feet with 1,852 yards of concrete containing 25 percent fly ash. The elevated slabs also contained 16- to 18-inch drop beams for structural purposes. Action Concrete also poured a detailed staircase with two architectural concrete beams that cantilevered out of the wall, says Vice President Dustin Pelletier.

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