

MBA WINNER 2013

LEADING ECO EDGE

Right Homes has again been rewarded for championing cost-effective environmental design

THIS 9-star home in Joondanna has won Right Homes the Excellence in Energy Efficiency Award for the fourth year running.

The judges agreed the home epitomised environmentally sustainable design by combining traditional, cost-effective building materials with passive-solar design principles.

Built on a 379sq m rear strata lot, it harnesses the power of the sun and wind for natural heating and cooling so that it does not have to rely on airconditioning during the summer, or heaters during the winter.

Well-placed windows capture cooling sea breezes, north-facing living areas feature lots of glass to let in the warming winter sun, eaves and a solar pergola provide summer protection, and tiled floors trap winter sunshine and radiate the warmth back into the living areas at night.

ComfortPlus low-e glass, extensive insulation in the walls and

roof, ceiling fans, a solar hot-water system and a 1.5kW solar photovoltaic system further boost the home's energy-saving credentials. The result is a comfortable home the builder says uses 68 per cent less energy than a standard residence.

Gary Wright, director at Right Homes, says the owners wanted an affordable energy efficient, waterwise home that fitted their budget and their lifestyle. Accessibility was also a key consideration.

"They have already mentioned how comfortable their new home is and that they are happy with its efficiency and the savings on their bills," Gary says.

Right Homes is confident we can expect to see a growing number of properties with energy ratings much higher than the 6-star minimum.

"As consumers become more aware of the consequences of owning a poorly designed home, we will see a greater effort by industry to do more," he says.

"The ability to place energy efficient principles into a home primarily comes down to design. If the designer thinks about these options during the design process, then a good outcome will be achieved."

Homeowners are increasingly aware that energy-saving features will not only save them money on their energy bills, but will also help deliver year-round comfort.

"Of course there is an initial cost for all of these options but they are far outweighed by the long-term gain," Gary says.

PAULA EVANS



Winner

EXCELLENCE IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY

builder: Right Homes // phone: 9355 0374 // website: www.righthomes.com.au



The energy efficient, 9-star residence built by Right Homes in Joondanna.