



## STUDENT WINS NATIONAL SKILLS COMPETITION WITH CHIEF ARCHITECT

**COEUR D'ALENE, ID, July 28, 2008** – Chief Architect, Inc. is pleased to announce and congratulate Andrew Grafeman, 2008 graduate of Lewis & Clark Career Center in St. Charles, MO, for taking top honor in the Architectural Drafting championship at the National SkillsUSA competition held June 23 – 27, 2008 in Kansas City, MO. The contest was part of the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills conference where more than 5,000 exceptional career and technical education students participated in over 90 different technical and leadership competitions.



Contestants earned a place at Nationals by earning first place in regional, then state competitions. Each contestant involved in the Architectural Drafting segment were given an outline from which to develop a modest, energy-efficient home using sustainable green building practices. Green Building rating system standards were provided by the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and the project was based around the concept of re-building Greensburg, KS following a natural disaster.

With Chief Architect, Grafeman placed first beating out all the other secondary education competitors. “The power and ease of Chief Architect’s design friendly software definitely gave me an edge in the competition. I don’t think it would have been as easy to win using any other architectural software”, says Grafeman. Andrew plans to continue his education in the engineering field at the University of Missouri – Columbia this Fall.

“It is very rewarding to hear when a student says Chief Architect gives them an edge. Andrew did a great job winning regional, state and now the national competition. We’re extremely pleased that Chief Architect’s software is helping Andrew and other students in their education and for their future career plans”, says Scott Harris, Chief Architect, Inc. Vice President of Sales and Marketing.

Chief Architect software sells for \$2,195, while the student and educational versions are offered at a substantial discount to the academic market.

### **About Chief Architect, Inc.**

Chief Architect, Inc. is a leading developer of 3D Architectural home design software for builders, designers, architects, and home enthusiasts. The company first introduced architectural home design software in 1991. For the consumer market, it publishes the Better Homes and Gardens® Home Designer® product line. The Better Homes and Gardens products are available in many retail stores and on [www.HomeDesignerSoftware.com](http://www.HomeDesignerSoftware.com). The Company leads the professional architectural and building home design software market with its professional Chief Architect® product line. For more information, e-mail [info@chiefarchitect.com](mailto:info@chiefarchitect.com) or see [www.chiefarchitect.com](http://www.chiefarchitect.com)

### **About SkillsUSA**

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry representatives working together to ensure America has a skilled work force. It helps each student excel. SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations. It was formerly known as VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America). SkillsUSA programs include local, state and national competitions in which students demonstrate occupational and leadership skills. SkillsUSA programs also help to establish industry standards for job skill training in the lab and classroom, and promote community service. SkillsUSA is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and is cited as a "successful model of employer-driven youth development training program" by the U.S. Department of Labor and is an OSHA Alliance partner.

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