



DATE:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



Calgary, Alberta area holds the 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500® Regional Competition

CALGARY, ALBERTA —the 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500® Regional Competition for Alberta was held at Thomas Riley Building at the SAIT Campus in Calgary, Alberta on November 6, 2015. Six teams of brick masons and tenders vied for a competition spot in the 2016 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship Competition held in Las Vegas, Nevada. There, they will compete for over \$100,000 in cash and prizes including a new 2016 Ford F-250 XLT 4x4 Crew Cab truck.



Ken Rutley, a mason with Mayzes Masonry, Medicine Hat, Alberta, and his mason tender Logan Kessler, edged out the rest of the competition to take home first place. His net count of 592 brick got the job done, and won him the opportunity to compete in the 2016 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 in Las Vegas, \$500 cash, trowels, and a Marshalltown tool bag. The SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN Award went to David Sontag of Gunthers Masonry in Lethbridge, Alberta, earning him \$400 cash. David also finished as runner up taking home an additional \$300 cash, Gatorback Mortar Boards, and a Marshalltown tool bag. Third place went to mason Mitchell McDougall of Aurura Masonry, Calgary, Alberta, who received \$200 cash, a SPEC MIX jacket, and a Marshalltown tool bag.



The annual Alberta Regional event was another big success. This year, competitors and fans were treated to a beautiful November day at the Thomas Riley building of SAIT's Calgary Campus. Some of the top Masons and their tenders from all over Alberta competed, and put up the best possible walls they could. Walter McElrea, masonry instructor, and the SAIT apprentices were a big help at the event, from mixing and running the tubs of mortar out, to ensuring the competitors had everything they could need.

The house was packed with family, friends, and spectators, not to mention the excellent job that local media did covering the event. National Sponsor Multiquip supplied the event with a mixer and mortar tubs which allowed the team to mix and supply the competitors with plenty of SPEC MIX mortar throughout the competition. A big thank you to our local sponsors I-XL, Brock White, National Concrete Accessories, Pokar Masonry, Bricksmiths Masonry, Lafarge and Alberta Masonry council. Their support and effort are very important to the success and continued growth of the Alberta SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 Regional Event. There were many door prizes to be won by all, with donations from Blaklader, Hydro Mobile and others. Many games were held throughout the day, concluding with the ever popular Heads or Tails coin flip game. It was a wonderful event that truly displayed the special skills of everybody involved.



Final Results:

First Place

Mason – Ken Rutley - 592 Brick

Tender – Logan Kessler

Mayzes Masonry, Medicine Hat, Alberta

SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN

Mason – Dave Sontag - 540 Brick

Tender – Sonny Harvey

Gunther Masonry, Lethbridge, Alberta

2nd Place

Mason – Dave Sontag – 540 Brick

Tender – Sonny Harvey

Gunther Masonry, Lethbridge, Alberta

3rd Place

Mason – Mitchell McDougall - 502 Brick

Tender – Matthew McDougall

Aurora Masonry, Calgary, Alberta

The SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 Regional and World Championship series of events are widely considered the masonry industry's strongest promotional program to showcase the skill, speed and craftsmanship of professional masons around the world. Established by SPEC MIX, Inc. in 2003, the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 is the trade's annual campaign that answers the question: "Who is the World's Best Bricklayer?" The winners of each regional qualifying competition earn free trip to Las Vegas to compete against 20 or more bricklayers in the World Championship held during the World of Concrete tradeshow on February 3rd, 2016.

The regional and championship contests consist of a two-person team; one mason and mason tender, that are given 60 minutes to construct a 26 foot 8 inch, double wythe brick wall that must be constructed to meet strict quality standards. The walls are judged by highly qualified, experienced industry experts that carefully follow a 10-point criteria system. The winning masons are ranked and awarded prizes based on the highest brick count while meeting the quality requirements and competition rules. The competition has four awards; 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place which are based on the highest net brick count meeting the quality standards. The 4th award, and arguably considered the most coveted prize (prize), the SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN is judged the most sellable wall. The walls are closely evaluated by carefully selected masonry officials carrying several years of bricklaying experience.

For more information on the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER Regional Program call 888-SPECMIX or go to:

www.specmixbricklayer500.com

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