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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



Kitchener, Ontario area holds the 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500® Regional Competition

KITCHENER, ON – The 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500® Regional Competition for Ontario was held on October 7th at Conestoga College, in Kitchener, Ontario. Eighteen 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.



Mario Alves, a mason with A & M Masonry from Hamilton, Ontario, and his mason tender, Kevin Avila, edged out the rest of the competition to take home first place. His net count of 617 brick got the job done, earning him a trip to Las Vegas to compete in the 2016 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championships, \$1000 cash, and prizes from local and National Sponsors. Mario also took home the coveted SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN Award, earning him an additional \$250 and more sponsor prizes. Filipe Orfao, of Res Group of Companies in Cookstown, Ontario finished as runner up taking home \$200 cash and many sponsor prizes. Third place went to mason Michael Alves of A&M Masonry, who received \$150 cash and other prizes.



A great evening was had by over 200 attendees. There was an abundance of prizes, food, and games to go along with watching the best bricklayers in the area laying it on the line. A friendly competition of Hangman from a pair of Blakladder pants was played during judging. Winners of each round moved on to compete for prizes. The crowd favorite 'Heads or Tails' was played for the Grand Prizes of two 55 inch televisions. For the first time at the Ontario Event, there was a support room with local and National Sponsors set up to show all of the materials they supply to the Trade.



Final Results:

First Place

Mason Mario Alves -617 Brick
Tender – Kevin Alvila
A & M Masonry, Hamilton Ontario

SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN

Mason Mario Alves -617 Brick
Tender – Kevin Alvila
A & M Masonry, Hamilton Ontario

2nd Place

Mason – Filipe Orfao 600 Brick
Tender –Jose Orfao
Res Build, Cookstown, Ontario

3rd Place

Mason – Michael Alves 516 Brick
Tender – Alvero Andrade
A & M Masonry, Hamilton, Ontario.

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 3, 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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