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PHIUS Certifies first PHIUS+ 2015 Passive House in Springfield, Illinois Region

Chicago – May 3, 2016 – Passive House Institute US (PHIUS) announced that it has issued PHIUS+ 2015 Passive House certification to the Wesley Chapel project in Chatham, Illinois built by PHIUS Certified Builder David Cation, owner of Cation Construction based in Springfield, Illinois. This home is the first passive building project to be certified in the greater Springfield region.

Wesley Chapel is in good company, joining **over 1 million square feet of PHIUS+ Certified and Pre-Certified projects across 1,200 units nationwide.**

“We are thrilled to receive our PHIUS+ certification, as this sends a powerful message to the industry that these levels of comfort and performance are possible and affordable,” David Cation remarked. “The focus of the home is not about complicated technologies, but is guided rather by good design principles. I am very proud of what we achieved thanks to a skilled construction team all committed to achieving PHIUS+ certification and reaching the zero energy ready goal.”

The [PHIUS+ 2015 Passive Building Standard](#) released by Passive House Institute US (PHIUS) in March of 2015 is the only passive building standard on the market based upon climate-specific comfort and performance criteria, and the only passive building standard that requires onsite QA/QC for certification. Developed in cooperation with Building Science Corporation under a US Department of Energy grant, the PHIUS+ 2015 Standard makes passive building affordable by targeting the sweet spot between investment and payback to present a cost-effective solution to achieving the most comfortable and efficient building possible for a given climate and location, while also offering the best path for achieving zero energy and carbon. The resulting building performs 60-85% better (depending on climate zone and building type) on an energy consumption basis when compared to a code compliant building (International Energy Conservation Code IECC 2009), due to heating and cooling load reductions of 86% and 46% respectively on average over all climates and an overall site EUI of 10-20 kBtu/ft² per year.

Projects certified under the PHIUS+ standard provide great benefits for the environment as well as the people that live and work in these buildings. Certified projects meet stringent performance metrics aimed at limiting a building’s carbon footprint in line with targets for global carbon reduction goals. PHIUS+ certification requires projects to be zero energy ready and able to accommodate a renewable energy system in the future. The result is a building that is not just

comfortable, healthy, durable, and super energy efficient, but also extremely resilient in the face of power outages caused by extreme weather and other unforeseen events.

Katrin Klingenberg, PHIUS Co-Founder and Executive Director, is excited about the exponential growth of PHIUS+ 2015 Passive Building certification around the country. “The industry is starting to get hip to the fact that there is now a proven solution on the market for achieving buildings that are both environmentally friendly and affordable, allowing homeowners and building users to positively contribute to the planet with the way they live,” said Klingenberg. “We are thrilled that David went the extra mile to earn PHIUS+ certification for his home project. Besides providing a comfortable, healthy, resilient, and energy efficient state-of-the art home, this project will serve as an inspiration and model for what is achievable for future building projects in North America.”

For more information, visit the project’s [GreenBuilt Home Tour profile](#) and the entry on [Green Builder](#).

About PHIUS

PHIUS is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to making high-performance passive building the mainstream market standard. PHIUS is transforming the building sector by developing and promoting North American specific standards, practices, and certifications for buildings, professionals, and products to create structures that are durable, comfortable, healthy, and super energy efficient.

Founded in 2003, PHIUS has trained over 2,000 architects, engineers, energy consultants, energy raters, and builders in the passive building standard. The organization is the leading passive building research and information provider in North America. PHIUS released the PHIUS+ 2015 climate-specific building standard, developed under a DOE grant in partnership with Building Science Corporation, in March of 2015. In addition to the DOE, PHIUS has also established strategic relationships with key organizations including RESNET and the Home Innovation Research Labs, among others. The organization has received funding from the Richard King Mellon Foundation and, more recently, the John D. and Katherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

Through its [Passive House Alliance US \(PHAUS\)](#) program, a membership-based organization with over 800 members across 18 local chapters and dozens of corporate sponsors, PHIUS is building a robust national network of passive building communities across North America.

Learn more at www.phius.org.

About Cation Construction

Cation Construction is a general contractor and custom homebuilder located in Springfield, Illinois. With over 35 years of experience, Cation Construction provides quality building and remodeling services to meet the accessibility and energy efficiency needs of its clients. PHIUS Certified Builder David Cation, owner of Cation Construction, leverages his passive building expertise to achieve projects that are durable, healthy, and cost-efficient to operate.