

## Neil Kelly Design/Build Remodeling buys Bend firm, plans regional showroom and design center

by Bend\_Weekly\_News\_Sources

BEND, Ore. - Neil Kelly Company, Oregon's most experienced design/build remodeler, has completed purchase of a Bend kitchen and bath business and will be opening a remodeling design center and showroom to serve the central Oregon market. The acquisition of Kitchen & Bath Concepts' business and its building at 190 NE Irving Ave. is effective today.

The local showroom will remain open and current projects will continue while the building undergoes extensive remodeling. It will become a design center and remodeling showroom, as well as offices for seven employees, including design consultants, project managers, and administrative staff.

In announcing the move, Neil Kelly owner and president Tom Kelly emphasized the professional respect he has for Chas. Nelson, owner of Kitchen & Bath Concept since 1981. "Chas. and I have both been active in national kitchen and bath industry matters and he has been a dealer for our line of Neil Kelly cabinets. The two of us are going to work together to assure a smooth transition for our current and future clients."

Kelly also emphasized the wisdom of entering the central Oregon remodeling market at a time when other building sectors have slowed. "Faced with a decision to move or improve, most homeowners" assuming they like their neighborhood, schools and local amenities "would prefer to remodel," he noted. "Many of our existing clients are already central Oregon property owners and we are a familiar and reliable partner as they consider building or remodeling. We are in central Oregon for the long term."

Chuck Schermerhorn, currently Neil Kelly's corporate sales manager will become general manager for the new Bend operation.

Suzie Clarke, former Bend contractor, and Michael Mahoney have been assigned as design consultants. Dennis Neveras has been assigned as carpenter and Melinda Roberts will work in administration. The firm will add a project manager and design assistant.

Neil Kelly Company celebrated its 60th anniversary in business last year and has earned a national reputation for award-winning design and quality craftsmanship in design/build remodeling, custom homes and home repair. A separate company, Neil Kelly Cabinets, has earned national recognition for its line of green cabinets, which use healthy, non-toxic materials and finishes.

Neil Kelly's expertise in sustainable design and green building date back to the 1970s when the firm promoted weatherization, a solar addition and solar hot water heat, long before it was popular. Just last year, the west coast's first LEED-certified home, in Parkdale, OR, was completed by Neil Kelly Company's custom home division.

Neil Kelly also emphasizes community involvement, ranging from areas of underserved housing to education, senior care and professional mentoring and education. Employees are assigned to distinct work teams to heighten efficiency, but are also expected to volunteer actively in their communities as part of the company's grassroots business style.

"From the first day of business in 1947, Neil put the emphasis on improving neighborhoods," notes Tom Kelly. "He saw the virtue of improving his community one home at a time. To this day, we honor those principles and work hard to do the right thing as we make our daily business decisions."

Neil Kelly also emphasizes homeowner education and hosts monthly free Saturday Seminars in each showroom, featuring informal presentations on the latest in design trends, as well as practical information on the professional remodeling process. These seminars will be scheduled at the Bend showroom.

Established in Portland in 1947, Neil Kelly Company operates showrooms in North Portland, Lake Oswego and Eugene. Total employment, including the new Bend operation, will reach 170.

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