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Siemens Canada Internet

For the business press

## Siemens Canada volunteers give Canadian families a hand to build a better life

Oakville, ON, September 2, 2014

### This fall more than 200 Siemens volunteers help build Habitat for Humanity houses

For the third consecutive year, more than 200 Siemens employees spent the day building houses for families in need, as part of an ongoing partnership between Siemens Canada and Habitat for Humanity Canada. Siemens volunteers dedicated more than 1,600 hours of work at 15 construction sites across Canada.

Employees, management and executives in 13 Siemens locations volunteered for this great initiative, and worked on a variety of tasks including laying external insulation and siding, as well as dry walling, painting and electrical wiring. Volunteers are not required to have any previous construction experience, as training is provided.

Siemens' volunteers work directly supports the deserving Canadian families awaiting their first Habitat houses. One of the teams build a home for an Ethiopian family of six who were forced to flee their home, lived in a refugee camp in Somalia and then were accepted by the Canadian Government to settle in Canada. They found it impossible to rent a house here and moved many times. Luckily, the family was selected by Habitat based on a list of criteria and committed not only to pay their mortgage (with payments geared to 25 per cent of income) but are also providing 'sweat equity' – 500 volunteer hours to Habitat.

Habitat's mission is to provide a safe place to live for hardworking Canadian families to create a better future and improve their quality of life - children perform better in school, parents' employment prospects improve and families have a better and happier future once moved into their new Habitat home.

Siemens' remarkable donation of volunteer hours and physical work is an addition to a sponsorship contribution of \$60,000 to Habitat for Humanity Canada in 2014. Over the last three years almost 500 Siemens volunteers took part in Habitat's program and donated 3,600 hours of work on house construction sites. Siemens overall contribution since 2012 exceeds \$125,000.

### QUOTES

This is my third year helping with the program. It's only one day out of our lives, but it's a memorable day for all of us. Through all of our efforts, we make a big difference in the lives of those who will move into the homes we have helped build. We are very proud to support Habitat for Humanity's mission to provide housing for hard working Canadian families.

- **Robert Hardt, President and CEO, Siemens Canada**

We are very grateful for the continuing support of Siemens Canada and their employees. Partners like these allow Habitat to provide affordable homeownership solutions to many more families in the areas where we live and work. And ensuring that all families have the foundation they need to succeed not only transforms their lives, but strengthens the entire community.

- **Carla Cappuccitti, National Director, Corporate Partnerships, Habitat for Humanity Canada**

### About Siemens Canada

For more than 100 years the innovative ideas from Siemens have helped make Canada a better place. From the Atlantic to Pacific oceans, more than 4,500 employees in Canada work together to provide answers that last in the fields of industry, energy, healthcare and infrastructure solutions for cities. Since it was federally chartered in 1912, Siemens has stood for technical achievements, innovation, quality and reliability. Sales for Siemens in Canada in fiscal 2013 (ended September 30), were \$2.0 billion CAD. The company has 46 offices and 18 manufacturing/assembly facilities across Canada. Further information is available at [www.siemens.ca](http://www.siemens.ca)

### About Habitat for Humanity Canada

Founded in 1985, Habitat for Humanity Canada is a national, non-profit organization working towards a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live. With the help of over 63,000 volunteers every year and 69 affiliate organizations from coast to coast, their mission is to mobilize volunteers and community partners in building affordable housing and promoting homeownership as a means to break the cycle of poverty in Canada and around the world.

For more information, please visit [www.habitat.ca](http://www.habitat.ca).

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For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Ann Adair, Vice President, Communications and Government Affairs

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