



## Press Release

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### **President Obama Meets with Simonton President Savan to Discuss Energy Efficiency Issues**

PARKERSBURG, W. VA. – On Tuesday, December 15, 2009, President Obama hosted Simonton Windows® President Mark Savan and a small group of business leaders at the White House to discuss home energy efficiency issues and plans for the future. Held in the President's Private Dining Room, the intimate group of invited business leaders included Savan, Frank Blake, CEO of Home Depot, Andrew Liveris, CEO of Dow, and Steve Cowell, Chairman and CEO of Conservation Services Group. White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel and Valerie B. Jarrett, Senior Advisor to the President, also participated in the in-depth discussions.

"This was an exceptional opportunity to have a productive interaction with the President on the need for more energy-efficient products and homes in America," says Savan, president and COO of Simonton Windows, a Fortune Brands company. "President Obama is clearly dedicated to the goal of energy-efficiency in America. He was eager to discuss programs and procedures that would help Americans make their homes more energy efficient.

"Additionally, we talked about the challenge of adding potential incentives that would rally homeowners to adopt energy-saving technologies and products. I was sincerely impressed by the President's eagerness to gain a greater understanding of the issues related to energy from the people gathered in the room. From all indications, he will use yesterday's meeting to support strong initiatives to make homes and buildings more energy-efficient in the future."

According to Savan, the President is extremely interested in finding solutions that will put more people to work in our country while making homes more energy-efficient. "I believe the varied input from everyone at the meeting has helped provide President Obama with additional insights into both the manufacturer's viewpoints and the homeowner's perspectives when it comes to energy-related home improvements," says Savan.

Simonton strongly supports the pending legislation that would shift the federal tax credit from the .30/.30 requirement to align with the newly-introduced ENERGY STAR® 2010 standards. "The shift of the tax credit from the artificial criteria established in the stimulus bill to the newest ENERGY STAR label would help build on the success of the tax credit by providing consumers with the most energy-efficient

window based on their particular home and the climate they live in,” says Savan. “At Simonton, we believe this legislation would be a positive step toward making it simpler for more Americans to participate in the federal energy tax credit program in 2010.”

Simonton Windows produces ENERGY STAR qualified replacement and new construction windows and doors, including a line of impact-resistant products. For the second year in a row, Simonton ranked “Highest in Builder and Remodeler Satisfaction among Residential Window and Patio Door Manufacturers” in the J.D. Power and Associates 2009 Builder and Remodeler Residential Window and Patio Door Satisfaction Study<sup>SM</sup>. Simonton was also ranked #1 in quality in the 2009, 2007, 2002 and 1998 Brand Use Studies sponsored by *Builder* magazine and has won three Best-In-Class Awards from Market Research Associates.

Founded in 1946, Simonton’s hallmark has been to deliver its made-to-order products in five days or less. Part of the home and hardware business of Fortune Brands, Inc. (NYSE: FO), Simonton delivers award-winning products nationwide to key markets throughout the 48 continental United States.

For information, call (800) SIMONTON (1-800-746-6686) or visit [www.simonton.com](http://www.simonton.com).

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*Simonton Windows received the highest numerical score in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2008-2009 Builder and Remodeler Residential Window and Patio Door Satisfaction Studies<sup>SM</sup>. 2009 study based on responses from 3,109 builders and remodelers measuring 16 manufacturers. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of builders and remodelers surveyed in April-May 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit [jdpower.com](http://jdpower.com)*

*ENERGY STAR is a government program that helps consumers protect the environment through superior energy efficiency and is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.*