



## Press Release

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### **Big Benefits for Tax Day 2011 ... Just 388 Days Away!**

PARKERSBURG, W. VA. – As the crunch towards the tax deadline approaches, smart, energy-efficient homeowners are already preparing for tax season 2011.

Thanks to a partnership between Simonton Windows® and H&R Block®, homeowners can receive up to \$150 towards preparation fees for their 2010 personal income tax return when they purchase 12 or more energy-efficient Simonton windows from select lines that are eligible for the Federal Energy Tax Credit under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. These energy-efficient windows qualify homeowners for up to \$1,500 in tax credit from the U.S. government. According to 2009 data, the average fee to prepare an individual's federal tax return was \$187, so the incentive from Simonton can result in significant savings on the total cost of tax preparation.

"Homeowners have until the end of 2010 to take advantage of this incredible opportunity and gain savings on tax preparation fees for next year," says Mark Clement, host of *MyFixItUpLife* radio show. "Inefficient, older windows can drain the energy out of a home and really jack up utility bills. Homeowners start reducing those hefty bills beginning the very same day their new energy-efficient windows are installed.

"The added incentives from the government on the tax credit, coupled with the Simonton Windows and H&R Block promotion, make this one of the best times I've ever seen to invest in energy-efficient replacement windows."

Clement, a home improvement expert who serves as a consultant for *HGTVpro.com*, replaced all the windows in his home with vinyl Simonton windows within the last two years. "The immediate benefit of replacing our windows was stunning," says Clement. "Our energy bills dropped and the windows helped prevent exterior sounds from penetrating the home. Combined, these features dramatically improved the comfort level of our home."

#### **ETC Glass Packages**

Simonton offers Energy Tax Credit (ETC) glass packages in a wide variety of replacement windows and patio doors that are eligible for the H&R Block promotion. Simonton products ordered with the ETC glass packages are ENERGY STAR® qualified and certified by the National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) to meet a U-factor rating of 0.30 or less, and a Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) of 0.30 or less. These are the energy ratings stated by the U.S. government that are required for homeowners to take advantage of the energy tax credit.

“These window packages are guaranteed to meet the requirements for the federal energy tax credit,” says Clement. “And, when purchasing 12 or more of them, homeowners can gain up to \$150 towards their 2010 personal tax preparation fees from H&R Block. The savings don’t stop there. The vinyl windows require minimal investment of maintenance and can add to the resale value of a home.”

A listing of energy-efficient Simonton replacement products that qualify for the energy tax credit is available at [www.simonton.com/taxcredit](http://www.simonton.com/taxcredit).

### **Saving on Tax Preparation**

H&R Block (NYSE: HRB) is the nation’s premier tax preparation company, having prepared more than 500 million tax returns since 1955. In fiscal year 2009, H&R Block prepared more than 24 million tax returns worldwide, utilizing more than 100,000 highly trained tax professionals. There are more than 13,000 H&R Block locations throughout the United States.

The H&R Block tax preparation incentive is available at participating U.S. locations to homeowners purchasing 12 or more select Simonton products that qualify for the Federal Energy Tax Credit under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 between the dates of February 1, 2010 and December 31, 2010.\* Terms and restrictions apply. Simonton is not a tax advisor. For more information visit [www.simonton.com/hrblock](http://www.simonton.com/hrblock).

Simonton Windows produces ENERGY STAR qualified replacement and new construction windows and doors, including a line of impact-resistant products. Simonton ranked “Highest in Builder and Remodeler Satisfaction among Residential Window and Patio Door Manufacturers” in the J.D. Power and Associates 2009, 2008 and 2006 Builder and Remodeler Residential Window and Patio Door Satisfaction Studies<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 security 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.

\*Homeowners who purchase a minimum of 12 Simonton windows or patio doors that are eligible for the Federal Energy Tax Credit under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 from any of the qualifying product lines from a participating Simonton Windows<sup>®</sup> dealer between February 1, 2010 and December 31, 2010 will qualify for this offer to receive a certificate good for up to \$150 toward preparation of his or her 2010 personal

income tax return at a participating H&R Block office in the United States. Qualifying product lines include: Simonton Reflections<sup>®</sup> 5500 Series, Prism<sup>®</sup> by Simonton Platinum Series, Simonton Impressions<sup>®</sup> 9800 Series, Simonton Impressions<sup>®</sup> 7500 Series, Simonton Impressions<sup>®</sup> 7300 Series, Simonton ProFinish<sup>®</sup> Brickmould 600 Series and Simonton StormBreaker Plus<sup>®</sup> Series 300VL. Offer void where prohibited, licensed, taxed and restricted by law. Redemption forms must be postmarked within 60 calendar days of invoice date. Simonton Building Products, Inc. is not a legal or tax advisor. Subject to complete Terms of Offer available at participating dealer locations and online at [www.simonton.com/hrblock](http://www.simonton.com/hrblock).

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