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WHO'S WHO IN THE PAINTING INDUSTRY 2007



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By Susan Helmer

Featured on the following pages are the honorees of *American Painting Contractor's* first annual Who's Who in the Painting Industry. Invitations for nominations were mailed in the fall of 2006 to APC's readers, editorial advisory board and editorial staff, as well as numerous industry experts. From those invitations came more than 200 nominations from which an impressive list of honorees has been compiled.

APC has selected one individual as top honoree from each of 10 categories: Residential Contractor, Small Business (7 or less full-time employees); Residential Contractor, Medium Business (8-15 full-time employees); Residential Contractor,

Large Business (15 or more full-time employees); Decorative Painting Contractor; Full Service Contractor; Paperhanging Contractor; Commercial Contractor; Industry Consultant; Decorative Finishing School; and Industry Manufacturer.

Selection of these top honorees was based on each individual's business accomplishments, passion for the trade, industry commitment and community service.

Following the top honoree profiles are several more featured contractors who APC believes are deserving of special recognition for one or more outstanding accomplishments.

Commercial Jurgen Leiser

President, Leiser Painting & Decoration Co. Inc.
Colorado Springs, CO



Jurgen Leiser served his apprenticeship in Berlin, Germany, and immigrated to the United States in the summer of 1964. There he joined the Painter's Union in Colorado Springs and worked as a painter and paperhanger until starting his own business in the contracting of fine homes in August of 1967 with two employees.

Since that time, the company has grown to become one of the leading painting contractors in the Rocky Mountain Region, specializing in high-end commercial paint-

ing and wall coverings. The company averages 40 painters and office personnel and takes great pride in their ability to provide professional services through an experienced and qualified staff. Company operations now include all areas of Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming. Leiser says the most challenging part of the business is keeping up with federal, state and local regulations regarding the many aspects of daily operations. "One must wear many hats to meet those requirements."

Leiser states that the most important assets to his business are his customers and employees. He still serves some of the same customers they first contracted with 40 years ago, and many of his employees stayed with the company for more than 20 years until their retirement. "We appreciate

that kind of loyalty."

And the most rewarding part of this family-owned business is the fact that it is completely debt free. The offices, shop, warehouse and certified spray facility are all owned and occupied by Leiser Painting.

Leiser is a member of the PDCA and the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce. He has won several awards with the most recent being the Colorado Construction Magazine's 2005 Top Specialty Contractor award.

He is proud to announce that leadership of the business will change hands in August 2007 to his son, who has been employed by the company for 23 years, while Leiser will continue to serve as a member of the board of directors.



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