



National Kitchen & Bath Association

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Professional Earns Industry Certification
Recognizes Expertise in Kitchen & Bath Design

Presque Isle, Me. (September 21, 2011) – Lisa Plourde of Rathbun Lumber Co. in Presque Isle announced that (he/she) has earned certification as an Associate Kitchen and Bath Designer (AKBD) from the National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA), the leading trade association for the kitchen and bath industry.

The premiere hallmark for kitchen and bath professionals, NKBA Certification is based on written examinations and industry experience. NKBA certified designers must also meet mandatory continuing education requirements annually. The AKBD certification recognizes achievement in the competencies necessary for both kitchen and bathroom design. The proficiencies required for the AKBD enhance an individual's kitchen and bath career whether they are in industry sales, design, or manufacturing.

To earn AKBD certification, the professional must document a minimum of two years of industry experience, successfully complete 30 NKBA Education hours, submit two professional affidavits, and pass the written AKBD academic exam.

This combination of experience and education ensures that *Lisa Plourde*, AKBD, is a trained, qualified professional in the kitchen and bath industry. A member of the NKBA, *Lisa Plourde*, AKBD, is *the Kitchen & bath designer* at *Rathbun Lumber Co.* The firm specializes in *Kitchen & Bathroom products as well as building materials.*

Consumers may contact *Lisa Plourde*, AKBD, at **207-768-5022** to discuss their dream kitchen or bath. Members of the media are encouraged to contact *Lisa Plourde*, AKBD, for information on design projects, features stories and expert quotes and advice.

About the National Kitchen & Bath Association

The National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA) is a non-profit trade association that has educated and led the kitchen and bath industry since 1963. With nearly 40,000 members and growing, the NKBA owns the Kitchen & Bath Industry Show (KBIS). The mission of the NKBA is to enhance member success and excellence, promote professionalism and ethical business practices and provide leadership and direction for the kitchen and bath industry. For more information, visit www.nkba.org.