



University of Minnesota ICON Solar House Team Presents

Stories From the 2009 U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon

by Audrey Robinson Favorito
For The University of Minnesota

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Daunting

University of Minnesota ICON Solar House team shares stories of the some of the darkest hours of the project, getting the house ready to ship to DC for the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon 2009.



ICON Solar House Assembly on the National Mall

The University of Minnesota team had a bumpy start as the solar village was assembled for the 2009 U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon. Coming from behind, this short tells the story of the heroic efforts of the student construction management team to assemble the house in time for the competition.



ICON Solar House First Place Lighting Design

Nighttime jewel of the solar village, University of Minnesota team members describe their design and tell the story of winning first place in lighting design at the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon 2009.



ICON Solar House First Place Engineering

University of Minnesota team describes features of ICON Solar House. First time competing in the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon, the team won the prestigious first place award in engineering, 2009.

ICON Solar House Questions and Answers



ICON Solar House Q & A: Is the Solar Decathlon an Exercise in Sustainability?

University of Minnesota's ICON Solar House explores the question of whether the Solar Decathlon is an exercise in sustainability.



ICON Solar House Q & A: How Did You Make Decisions?

University of Minnesota team members describe the ups and downs of the consent based process of decision making they used in designing the ICON Solar House.



ICON Solar House Q & A: What Were Some of the Challenges?

University of Minnesota team members describe some of the challenges of designing and building a solar house for the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon competition.



ICON Solar House Q & A: What is Integrated Design Process?

University of Minnesota ICON Solar House team members speak of the hallmarks of integrated design process.



ICON Solar House Q & A: What is the Solar Decathlon?

University of Minnesota's ICON Solar House team explains what the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon is, and how the University first became involved.



ICON Solar House Q & A: What About the Construction Management Team?

ICON Solar House Assistant Project Manager speaks to the important role of the construction management in the University of Minnesota's competition in the Solar Decathlon 2009.



ICON Solar House Q & A: How Do You Want History to Remember You?

Students from University of Minnesota Solar Decathlon ICON Solar House team reflect on how they hope history will remember their competition in 2009.



Audrey Robinson Favorito

About the Producer

A freelance media producer and graduate student in Learning Technologies, I first came to the ICON Solar House project because of my interest in sustainability education.

Even though the Solar Decathlon project spanned over a period of two years, the experience of the competition felt fleeting for me on the communications team, as I knew the students and faculty would scatter shortly after the competition. The opportunity to capture their thoughts and passion would be lost if we didn't act fast.

Thank you, University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks, for supporting my idea of creating short videos about the project. Thank you, students and faculty, for sharing candid stories. I was honored to work with you.

Comments welcome.

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