Meet the

NKBAns

30/under 30

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CATHLEEN GRUVER ADKINS  
Gruver Cooley, Leesburg, VA

Cathleen Gruver Adkins received her Masters of Arts in Interior Design from Marymount University in 2015. Her graduate thesis, “Space for Living: Designing for Enhanced Family Interaction within the Home,” received the Best in Show award for her research and evidence based design on this topic. While at Marymount, she was inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success, as well as Delta Epsilon Sigma Honor Society.

For the past four years, Adkins has been the Selection Specialist for Gruver Cooley, her family’s 107-year-old custom home building business, assisting high-end clients in the Washington, D.C. area with the many details involved with custom building and remodeling. In addition, Adkins does commercial design work for an architectural firm and has worked in the retail end of the design business.

She received her undergraduate degree from Roanoke College where she majored in Business with a concentration in Marketing and minored in Art with a concentration in Graphic Design.

MICHELLE ALDERMAN  
Green Forest Cabinetry, Chesapeake, VA

Michelle Alderman has been working in the kitchen and bath industry since 2007. While working as a designer full time she received her Associate’s degree from Tidewater Community College, with a concentration in Interior Design. She went on to receive her B.S. from NKBA-accredited Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech.) in Apparel, Housing and Resource Management with a focus in Kitchen and Bath Design and Property Management. Currently, she is the Regional Sales Manager for Green Forest Cabinetry and an Adjunct Professor at Tidewater Community College located in Chesapeake, VA.

TYLER ALLEN  
Richard Douglas Company, Oklahoma City, OK

Tyler Allen is the Director of Sales and Design at Richard Douglas Company, a leading cabinet manufacturer in Oklahoma City, OK. Upon graduating from the University of Oklahoma, he pursued his passion in the kitchen and bath industry by teaming up with his family’s business. Allen has helped the company grow by tripling sales in the first three years since joining, and has also spearheaded the launch of a new line of cabinets that has already been an overwhelming success in its first year. Along with sales, he is the lead designer and manages the drafting team. He is actively involved in the Central Oklahoma Home Builder’s Association, Urban Land Institute of Oklahoma, a community group at his local church, and also serves on the Chapter Advisory Board for Phi Delta Theta’s Oklahoma Alpha Chapter as the Social and Philanthropy Advisor.
ADITYA BANSAL

Valley Acrylic, Mission, British Columbia

Ambitious, innovative, and supporting an excellent work ethic, Aditya Bansal has already perfected his role as General Manager at Valley Acrylic Bath Ltd. Bansal prides himself on being a passionate individual when it comes to the technical aspects of the bath industry. A natural leader, he is always ready to lend a hand or a word of advice to anyone who wants to be more knowledgeable about the technicalities of the bath industry. Though he brings great professionalism to Valley, he is also a proud handyman, a certified plumber, and an expert when it comes to installation of bathtubs, shower bases, basins, as well as faucets and other bathroom products. Aside from being the General Manager, Bansal also plays an important role in sales, purchasing, and monitoring quality control. Currently, Bansal is working toward achieving his degree in Operations Management at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT).

JENNIFER BEAVERS

Norm Tessier Cabinets, Inc., Rancho Cucamonga, CA

To date, Beavers has designed and managed over 800 residential kitchen and bath design and installation projects. She works with a team of carpenters, contractors, and subcontractors to oversee project design, as well as the build and installation. She performs drafting and engineering, project and shop management, machinery and shop technology oversight and implementation, as well as the client portal, website, and social media accounts. She has expanded the company’s capabilities to full service remodeling and room additions. Beavers is a recent winner of the Viking Design Competition for May, 2015. Beavers is compassionate and dedicated to her client’s wishes. Her out-of-the-box thinking and problem solving deliver solutions that supersede expectations. Beavers has been an NKBA member of the Southern California Chapter since 2010 and has been elected to be the VP of Communications for the chapter in 2016.

ALANA A. BUSSE

Westside Remodeling, Thousand Oaks, CA

Currently a Designer and Remodeling Specialist at Westside Remodeling in Thousand Oaks, CA, Busse’s commitment to her craft has landed her projects all around the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and the British Virgin Islands, as well as multiple publications in “Image Magazine” and “The Ventura County Star.” Busse is proud to be a member of the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC). She is also an active member of the NKBA Central Coast & Valleys chapter—where she has held various board positions since 2010, including V.P. of Academic Relations, Secretary, and was recently inducted as President. In 2014, Busse received the prestigious NKBA Ambassadors Club award at KBIS, and is honored to be one of the NKBA “30 Under 30” for 2016.

KATIE COOK

Ferguson Enterprises, Richmond, VA

Katie Cook is a kitchen and bath designer in Richmond, Virginia. With seven years of experience, she brings in-depth product knowledge, inspired design ideas, and superior customer service to each project. She is solely responsible for overseeing the cabinetry designs for large semi-custom new construction builders, as well high-end luxury remodelers. She is involved in all aspects of projects from start to finish, including design, quotes, sales, measuring and meeting with craftsmen on site during installation. This attention to detail is what sets Cook apart from the competition. Cook is the proud recipient of several career achievement awards including “Top 30” placement in the 2007 NKBA-sponsored Student Design Competition, Forsyth Woman Magazine’s “Women on the Move,” and “Celebrating the Individual: Certificate of Recognition” from Ferguson Enterprises in 2014. Cook serves on the Programs Committee for the Virginia Chapter of NKBA, and is a 2008 graduate of the NKBA-accredited Residential Design program at Virginia Tech.

ROBERT COOPER

White Oak Construction, Indianapolis, IN

Rob Cooper has been involved with the construction industry since 2002. Initially beginning his career as a carpenter in the UK, he went on to work for an international commercial construction company, assisting in the completion of some of the most advanced and innovative projects designs in Europe and Scandinavia. He then transitioned into a sales and managerial role for a regional leader in lumber and material sales in the UK, whilst still taking an active role in the family electrical contracting business. In 2013, Cooper moved to the U.S. and after volunteering for Habitat for Humanity, he began to work for White Oak Construction in a sales and project management role before being offered the position of Director of Business Development. White Oak Construction has since become the largest installer of Medicaid, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Aging-in-Place bathrooms in the Midwest. He earned the Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS) qualification and Certified Green Professional (CGP) qualification in 2014. Cooper’s continual involvement with all aspects of the construction process, from initial site consultations and estimating, to purchasing and project management, helps him to continually grow his knowledge base.
Michael Laurysen has been in the kitchen and bath industry for over 13 years and is currently the Production Manager for his family-owned and operated cabinetry manufacturer in Ottawa, ON. In high school he spent his summers in the factory, where he would learn new positions and skills each year, developing his interest in cabinetmaking. He decided to pursue this interest with a specialized degree in forestry offered at the University of British Columbia. After graduating from UBC with a BSc in Wood Products Processing and Minor in Commerce, Laurysen returned to work for Laurysen Kitchens Ltd. and assumed the role of Quality Control Manager. In his five years since graduation, he has been involved in implementing new production processes and procedures, resulting in the reduction of inventory and rework and the improvement in efficiency and product quality.

In 2013, Davies obtained a management degree, to further his career by obtaining a diploma in Project Management. In 2013, Davies obtained the professional designation of Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM) from the Project Management Institute. Davies has been a Project Manager at Royal Home Improvements for over two years, and has quickly climbed the ranks from a Junior Project Manager to Senior Project Manager. Since starting he has successfully managed over 100 renovation projects with a total value of $3 million. These renovations ranged from large scale additions to ensuite bathrooms. Davies takes pride in keeping his clients happy as well as making sure projects are completed on time and under budget. In July 2015, Davies was appointed the Safety Coordinator for Royal Home Improvements. This new role will allow him to implement safety protocols which will keep employees and customers safe.

Brandon Drum has been in the kitchen and bath industry since graduating from Bowling Green State University in 2009 with a Bachelor’s degree in Marketing. He is a passionate leader who prides himself in leveraging technology to improve the customer experience. His first position out of college was with an online retailer of kitchen cabinets, where he helped brand the company and develop a new website while leading the commercial sales division. In 2012, Drum joined the startup wholesale distributor US Cabinet Depot. He has worked in Customer Service, Operations, Sales and Marketing and is now the General Manager.

His work has allowed him to travel all across the world to participate in industry events. His travels to China have truly put global commerce into perspective. His travels to Canada have provided him with an understanding of the kitchen and bath industry from coast to coast. In 2013, he was asked to join the Advisory committee for the cabinetmaking and furniture technician course at Algonquin College. In February of 2015, Davies was appointed the Safety Coordinator for Royal Home Improvements. This new role will allow him to implement safety protocols which will keep employees and customers safe.

Megan Fuller’s diverse background includes university and college courses that contributed to her becoming the department manager at one of the biggest Home Hardware stores in Canada. Having taken courses in topics such as languages, psychology, and human resources, she has gained the ability to think outside-the-box in her work as a bath designer and plumbing outfitter. After working at Rona in her native Ontario for five years, she was scouted by the Whitehorse, Yukon Home Hardware. In just four years, she has left her mark on Northern Canada’s home design scene, supplying to clients throughout two of Canada’s three northern territories. She excels at taking developments from the fledgling rough work to the polished finished stage. Fuller’s expert knowledge, personable nature, passion, and energy have made her an exceptional asset to her company.

Caleb Froelich grew up the son of two painters in the deserts and mountains of Washington. He took his love of nature and craftsmanship with him to Seattle Pacific University where he studied interior design and filled his dorm room with furniture he made of cardboard, discarded plywood and CD cases from the college radio station. Upon graduation, he joined The Home Depot; within in two years, Froelich has become one of the top two designers in the Seattle/Bellevue metropolitan area. In 2013, fueled by the constant need to create, Froelich formed an Etsy shop, Shelter Décor, as a side project to act as a self-funding idea lab. In spring 2015, Shelter Décor was asked to participate as one of seven Seattle based shops at West Elm’s Etsy pop-up event.

Mark Davies has been in the residential construction industry for the past eight years after graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce in Honors Marketing Management from the University of Guelph. During his tenure as a residential concrete finisher and foreman, Davies saw the opportunity to take his extensive construction knowledge, combined with his management degree, to further his career by obtaining a diploma in Project Management. In 2013, Davies obtained the professional designation of Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM) from the Project Management Institute. Davies has been a Project Manager at Royal Home Improvements for over two years, and has quickly climbed the rank from a Junior Project Manager to Senior Project Manager. Since starting he has successfully managed over 100 renovation projects with a total value of $3 million. These renovations ranged from large scale additions to ensuite bathrooms. Davies takes pride in keeping his clients happy as well as making sure projects are completed on time and under budget. In July 2015, Davies was appointed the Safety Coordinator for Royal Home Improvements. This new role will allow him to implement safety protocols which will keep employees and customers safe.

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BRENTON LIU
Design Trends Construction, Pearl City, HI
Over the past 18 months, Brenton Liu has served as Director for Sales and Marketing of Design Trends Construction Inc., a general contracting firm based in Pearl City, Hawaii. Design Trends specializes in interior remodeling for residential and commercial projects ranging from basic renovations to large-scale reconfigurations.

During his time as director he has helped double the company’s residential revenue through new marketing strategies and an effective sales process.
As head of the company’s residential division he oversees the entire estimation, design, and contracting process for each remodeling project. He works directly with customers during these steps to ensure proper planning and detail organization. His personable demeanor and genuine care for each client helps build strong trust and relationships with homeowners.
Liu has enjoyed the rewarding outcome that his methods and innovations have brought in the growth of their business. But the true gift for him is the enjoyment of providing each client with a beautiful, functional, and comfortable living space for their home.

AARON LYTAL
Craftsmanship By John Inc., Houston, TX
Aaron Lytal started his remodeling and design career in 2006 when he began a summer job with Craftsmanship By John (CBJ), a custom remodel and design company based in Houston. Lytal’s video game design skills were applied to his office work and he quickly became a draftsman. While he was attending the University of Oklahoma, he worked the summers at CBJ, where he developed a knack for designing spaces. His mathematics and programming background gives him a unique vantage point for symmetry and spatial planning. Through the tutelage of the incredible builders at CBJ and his own studies, after graduation, Lytal went from a part-time draftsman to a full-time position. His job responsibilities included drafting, design, and IT assistance. He has worked on projects that have won awards through the GHBA, Prism, and Texas Star. Lytal adapts to most situations and creates a unique design for his clients’ styles or tastes.

LAUREN MILLS
Sea Pointe Construction, Irvine, CA
As a third-generation construction legacy, Lauren Mills oversees public relations, marketing and client services for Sea Pointe Construction, a design/build firm in Irvine, California. Mills got her start at Sea Pointe as a marketing coordinator, designing and scaling online and offline customer acquisition campaigns. She is single-handedly responsible for digital, print, direct mail and event marketing efforts, including bimonthly “design workshops” for large audiences of prospective clients in the greater Orange County area.
She has since grown to be responsible for Sea Pointe’s client relation efforts, ensuring the highest level of customer service and serving as a valuable feedback loop to the company’s executive committee. As one of five executive committee members, she provides critical insight to help shape the company’s overall strategic direction. Prior to joining Sea Pointe, Mills built a diverse PR and marketing skillset in Los Angeles as an account manager at a public relations firm specializing in professional services, as well as an event marketing specialist at one of the most prestigious entertainment PR firms in the world. Mills graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Relations and Strategic Media from the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism at Arizona State University.

ERICA MURDOCK
Kitchen Choreography, Traverse City, MI
Erica Murdock is the Lead Designer at Kitchen Choreography in Traverse City, Michigan. She earned her Bachelors of Arts degree in Interior Design from Arizona State University in 2009. Kitchen Choreography, a full service design and remodeling firm, has allowed Murdock to use multiple skills in both new build and remodel projects. While she specializes in kitchen and bath design, she also provides a range of services for her clients, including interior architecture, space planning, material selections and tile design, all of which utilize CAD and 3D modeling software. She currently handles in excess of $1 million in sales.
Murdock has reached many milestones in her young career and was most recently named as one of the top 10 designers in Northern Michigan by popular vote of Traverse Magazine readers. She has been a member of the NKBA since she began her tenure at Kitchen Choreography and currently holds the VP of Communications chair of the Northern Michigan chapter board.

BENJAMIN OUELLETTE
Casey’s Creative Kitchens, Waterloo, Ontario
With over 10 years of experience in the interior design industry, Benjamin John Ouellette takes the needs, personality, and vision of a client and creates intuitive working spaces. As the lead designer for Casey’s Creative Kitchens in Waterloo, Ontario, Ouellette has worked with numerous prominent clients from all walks of life, with different aspirations and needs. Ouellette emphasizes modern technology while customizing clients’ homes and providing innovative solutions from top-to-bottom of a project.
After receiving an Advanced Interior Design Diploma from the School of Design at Fanshawe College, Ouellette launched his company, Benjamin John Ouellette Interior Design, which provides great synergy with Casey’s and offers his clients a wide variety of design services.
Ouellette’s modern kitchen design was recently awarded a North American “Elite Design Award.” He stays involved with his community through various events carried out by Casey’s and the Grand Valley chapter of the Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario (ARIDO), and regularly travels all over the world to broaden his understanding of interior design and gain new inspiration.
JORDAN PARISSE

Ferrarini Kitchen & Bath, Elkin Park, PA

Jordan Parisse has been in the residential remodeling business since his teenage years working summer jobs in construction in his hometown of Philadelphia, PA. Parisse is a Certified Construction Manager from Temple University’s Fox School of Business, an ICC 211 Licensed Master Electrician, as well as an NAHB Certified Carpenter. Parisse currently works as a Lighting Design & Installation Specialist, and Construction Consultant for Ferrarini Kitchen & Bath located in Elkins Park, PA. He prides himself on his ability to be an efficient and productive member of any design build process and on excelling in all aspects of the construction sales process. In the spring of 2015, Parisse received the honor of being the Keynote Speaker for the Construction Management Class of ‘15 at Temple University’s Fox School of Business where he was able to share with the graduates his insights and keys to success in the management of residential new construction and design-build alterations.

Parisse is an active member of Jump Start Germantown, an initiative aimed at the revitalization of the residential communities in Northwestern areas of Philadelphia, PA. He is also an active mentor for his personal project “Trades for a Difference,” which provides construction trade job skills training for at-risk teens.

NICHOLAS PRESTON

Reico Kitchen and Bath, Frederick, MD

Nicholas Preston is Branch Manager for Reico Kitchen and Bath’s Frederick, MD showroom location, one of 22 Reico Kitchen & Bath showrooms located in the Mid-Atlantic region. By emphasizing a customer-focused business model for the company and his team, Preston stays on the cutting edge of the ever-changing wants and needs of a diverse clientele of both trade and retail. With the constant shifting of design, style and material usage, he is committed to monitoring industry trends to keep his team and his clients informed.

Preston joined the Reico Kitchen & Bath team in 2012 as Key Business Manager. He spent three years developing a client base across the Maryland and DC metropolitan area, growing sales substantially in his first year. Preston continued that growth by continually expanding his design work and product offering to retain and expand his client base. This dedication to personal development, attention to detail, and sales growth led to him being named manager of the Reico Kitchen & Bath Frederick, MD location in early 2015.

Since receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from Frostburg State University in 2009, Preston has been able to apply his concentration in Business Administration to sales, management, and every aspect of this ever-changing industry.

NATHAN J. REYNOLDS, CAPS

INSPIRORS, LLC, East Greenwich, RI

Nathan Reynolds’ artistic sensibilities are rooted in his interior design background and education. Upon graduating from Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, Massachusetts in 2010, Reynolds received his Bachelor of Science degree in Interior Design. He particularly enjoys the DESIGN + BUILD process of working with clients on remodeling projects—from defining the scope and finalizing the budget, to identifying the fun and exciting decisions and guiding material selections prior to the installation phase.

In 2012, he was awarded GOLD for the Residential Kitchen design category between $100,000 - $150,000 at the Contractor of The Year (CotY) 2012 Awards, Eastern Massachusetts Region by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). Reynolds earned the Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) designation by the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) in February 2013. He won “Best of Houzz” in the Design Category consecutively in 2014 and 2015.

Reynolds is the owner and lead designer of INSPIRORS, LLC—a full-service residential design firm, specializing in kitchens and baths. Since opening his business in June 2013, he has designed and project managed kitchens and baths ranging from $25,000-$250,000. He has been featured and published in several Houzz and HGTV design articles, and enjoys sharing his talents and design expertise.

JORDAN SANDERSON

Hansgrohe, Alpharetta, GA

A data-driven business professional in the kitchen and bath industry, Jordan Sanderson has been a Hansgrohe employee since March 2012. He holds a degree in Marketing from The University of North Georgia, where he excelled both in business and in the German language and cultural studies. An ambitious self-starter, Sanderson took his interest in German language and culture to the next level by obtaining an internship in Altenkirchen, Germany his junior year of college. During his time abroad, he helped to successfully promote a community sports organization during the 2011 Women’s World Cup.

After graduating, Sanderson secured a position at Hansgrohe, where he could combine his passion for marketing and the German culture. In his current role as Web Analyst, he has developed a standard for measuring key digital data through Google Analytics and various platforms. The insight gained from Sanderson’s work has resulted in exponential growth of traffic from various mediums to the Hansgrohe USA website. Sanderson looks forward to continuing to deliver excellence in digital analytics and grow professionally at Hansgrohe.
JILLIAN C. SARKIS, ALLIED ASID

Ferguson, Rochester, NY

Jillian Sarkis has been working in the kitchen and bath industry for six years. While completing her degree in interior design, her love of kitchen and bath design grew as an intern for a local design firm, Suite Artistry. She has now worked at Ferguson as a Designer and Showroom consultant for three years, advancing the service of full-scope kitchen design in the Rochester, NY branch. Sarkis creates exciting spaces that are functional and enhance the lives of the users. Utilizing materials, textures, patterns and colors that may not be expected, she transforms her clients’ homes into unique havens that embrace their personalities and lifestyles. Sarkis also holds the board position of Financial Director for the Upstate New York Canada East Chapter of American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) with her past positions including Communications Director and Emerging Professionals Chair.

MARK SCHOLTEN

Scholten Kitchen and Bath, Kalamazoo, MI

Mark Scholten got his start in the kitchen and bath industry working part-time in his family’s business Scholten Kitchen and Bath, a design firm in Kalamazoo, MI. In 2007 he was brought on full-time, and by 2008, Scholten earned the position of Vice President by bringing a new fiscal discipline to the firm. By 2010, Scholten had made major changes to the internal structure of the business and his clear vision helped the company become debt-free.

As Scholten worked his way through each department, he implemented hard changes in line with the new vision, allowing for healthy business growth. Scholten’s greatest joy comes from building a business that holds true to a legacy of fair and honest values. Scholten’s motto is, “Do what’s right over what’s easy.” This gets proven everyday as the needs of Scholten’s clients always come first.

With formal training in the construction industry and a mind for engineering, Scholten enjoys helping on job sites and finding solutions with his craftspeople.

LAURA SHELBY

Laura Shelby
Bathroom Design, London, Ontario

Laura Shelby loves bathrooms. After several years spent exploring most sectors of the residential design industry, she was hired as a Bathroom Sales Designer with the leading UK bathroom retailer, Ripples Bathrooms, in 2013. During her time at Ripples, Shelby received the award for “Design of the Year, 2013” in an annual franchise-wide design competition. This triumph, paired with her exposure to European design standards, fixed Shelby’s foreseeable career focus on the design and product specification of residential bathrooms.

Shelby has since returned to life in London, ON, where she employs her cumulative sales and design expertise to helping homeowners make the best choices for their bathroom renovations.

With completed residential design projects spread across five countries and two continents, Shelby has proven she is capable of adapting to a broad spectrum of client needs and design challenges. Shelby holds an Advanced Diploma in Interior Design from the CIDA accredited Interior Design program at Sheridan College in Oakville, ON.

JAMIE SPRAGUE

McClurg Remodeling, Marcellus, NY

After graduating in 2009 from Hobart College in Upstate New York with a business/economics degree, Jamie Sprague joined the United Auto Sales Team as an Account Executive. He successfully helped his team to exceed sales goals, meet company objectives and surpass all expectations. After four years, Sprague was promoted to Regional Sales Manager. In April 2015, Sprague transitioned to the Project Consultant position at McClurg. Jamie’s passion for remodeling, design, and a need for a customer-oriented environment have proven to be a successfully rewarding balance.

As a Project Consultant for McClurg, Sprague is self-motivated in both the sales and design aspects of his role. His daily preparation prior to meeting potential customers has led to immediate success. Sprague understands the importance of relationships with customers, and how those relationships impact the sale of the project, the design of the space, the scope of the work, and the future with that customer.
TANSLEY STRUTHERS  
Superior Cabinets, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

As an honors graduate with a diploma in Interior Design, Tansley Struthers knows both the fashion and the function of the modern home. She strives to help her clients achieve a design that captures a place and time, incorporating a sense of their past, while looking towards their future.

Struthers is a Senior Design Consultant with Superior Cabinets in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, where she has been designing custom kitchens since 2010. Struthers has quickly become a sales leader at Superior Cabinets, steadily increasing her sales and close ratio every year, while decreasing her warranty numbers to below corporate targets.

She has received numerous five star reviews on Houzz and her “Eternity” kitchen was nominated for the “Renovation of the Year” at the 2013 SRHBA Bridges Awards. When Struthers isn’t designing beautiful spaces, she’s studying to write her NCIDQ exams and volunteers at various Habitat for Humanity builds.

JACK TOWNSEND II  
Michigan Kitchen Distributors, Marshall, MI

Jack Townsend is a skilled and detail-oriented professional with training and experience in multiple areas of the kitchen and bath industry. His background includes roles in distribution, manufacturing, and both wholesale and retail sales. Townsend started his career in the

kitchen and bath industry building countertops and expanded his role continuously over the last 14 years. Townsend’s business knowledge has helped him achieve success by understanding the industry from the raw products used to finished carpentry. Employed at Michigan Kitchen Distributors, Townsend’s focus is fabrication of laminate, solid surface, granite, quartz and Dekton. Currently involved in the creation of manufacturing process development, marketing and sales techniques and employee training, Townsend’s passion is creating a quick and efficient manufacturing process, working with designers and customers to create an enjoyable experience.

BROOK VERBOOM  
Euro-Line Appliances, Inc. Oakville, Ontario

Brook Verboom was born into the world of appliances. His grandparents immigrated to Canada from Holland in the 1950s and, upon their arrival, established appliance retail stores in two locations. His father and mother followed in the family footsteps, and Verboom is now the third generation Verboom in the appliance industry. Working for Euro-Line Appliances Inc., as Area Sales Manager for the past two years, Verboom got his start on the retail floor at eighteen to pay his way through school at Sir Sandford Fleming College. Four years later, Verboom’s dream job became available at Euro-Line. His experience and sales record made him an ideal candidate. In his current role, Verboom’s responsibilities include expanding all brands, routine sales calls, buyer negotiations, creation and implementation of programs and promotions to dealers, and conducting training seminars.

NICHOLAS YEGGE  
Heartwood Residential, Los Gatos, CA

Nicholas Yegge’s drive and motivation as a young professional in the kitchen and bath industry is both admirable and impressive. A fourth-generation builder, Yegge is the first from his family to engage in the residential remodeling industry. At age 23, while working for a framing contractor, Yegge established his own company, Heartwood Residential, working evenings and weekends as a handyman. As Yegge’s reputation spread,

Heartwood Residential became a full time effort with a growing client base. In the last two years, Yegge has transformed his business into a solid remodeling company, with an established handyman division. He has brought in over $1.3 million of revenue since 2013, and he is on track to meet his revenue goal of $700,000 for 2015.

Heartwood Residential is a member of the NKBA and NARI, Silicon Valley, and Yegge is looking forward to submitting six bathroom remodeling projects and a kitchen remodeling project for this year’s META awards competition. He is also an active supporter of Habitat for Humanity.

Yegge is highly regarded by his fellow industry professional peers, employees, sub-contractors, and clients for his transparency and fair-minded approach to business.