



SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500®

U.S.A.



DATE: 2/4/15

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FROM: SPEC MIX®, Inc.

Contact: Jeff Farmakes, 651-994-7120 or jfarmakes@specmix.com for more information.

Fred Campbell wins 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER® 500 World Championship with 743 brick!



2015 World Champion mason Fred Campbell (left) and mason tender Tony Shelton (right) with their World Championship trophies in the new Ford F-250 truck Fred won.

LAS VEGAS, NV—It was another high energy day of bricklaying action held during MASONRY MADNESS™ Day at the World of Concrete/ World of Masonry tradeshow where nearly 4,000 spectators gathered to watch the 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship event. Recognized as the construction industry's most renowned annual competition that pits some of the world's best masons in one arena for a 60-minute battle that concludes "Who is the World's Best Bricklayer?" It was Fred Campbell of east Tennessee that laid 743 brick and put together the winning hand of skill and craftsmanship that rewarded him with a new Ford F-250 Super Duty truck and over \$10,000 in cash and prizes. Although it was Campbell's sixth attempt at competing in the World Championship contest, in 2013 he also won first place making him one of two masons that have ever claimed top honors in the event's thirteen year history.

Before Campbell and the other 21 masons from North America could test their skills at the final round in Vegas, they had to first become a Regional Champion. In August of 2014, Campbell of Creative Masonry, Greeneville, TN, won the east Tennessee Regional qualifying contest that earned him a spot to take on the other twenty-three highly skilled bricklayers from the United States, Canada and Australia. The difference this year is Campbell walked into the competition arena 65 pounds lighter than his 2013 fighting weight and he vowed that when—not if—he won the 2015 World Champion title he would give the keys to the Ford F-250 truck to his best friend and mason tender Tony Shelton. Campbell is a man of his word and that's exactly what he did. Obviously Campbell is not only a world-class bricklayer; he's a world-class guy that represents the congeniality common in the masonry trade.



Mason Fred Campbell focusing as he lays another line of brick in his winning wall as the crowd looks on.



Mason Fred Campbell's family and fan club decked out in custom "T's" for Tennessee cheering him on during the competition while standing in front of their homemade banner which was entered in the "Best Family Banner" contest held during the event.

Thanks to the SPEC MIX organization and the supporting co-sponsors of the event, Fred Campbell's World Champion performance earned him the following prizes:

- 2015 Ford F-250 Truck SRW 4x4 Crew Cab Truck
- \$5,000 check from SPEC MIX, Inc.
- STIHL: TSA 230 battery-powered cut-off machine with standard 9" abrasive wheel, AR 900 battery pack, AL 500 high-speed charger, one B10 Economy Concrete Diamond Wheel, pressurized water tank, anti-vibration gloves, protective glasses, and construction hard hat system.
- Marshalltown Ceremonial Trophy and loaded SPEC MIX Bricklayer 500 tool bag
- iQ Power Tools: 360 Table Saw Set with rolling table, Smart Cart and 14" Silent Blade
- GATORBACK: (1) 10pk Mortarboards
- STABILA: Custom Trophy 24" Level
- Official SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship jacket and trophy.

If there was an overall theme this year, it was TOUGH COMPETITION, as it was undeniably fierce in Las Vegas. The event was truly a field of champions as the competition went to a new level. No less than four past World Champions competed this year. There were four past SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN winners, and a total of eleven masons who have placed in past World Competition events in the field of twenty-four competitors. At the same time, in a unique twist, due to the expansion of the Regional program a record number of 11 first time competitors were also competing in the arena. So for the 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER® 500 World Championship it was a field of new faces and veterans who carried their trowels into the MASONRY MADNESS arena this year.



North Carolina mason Garrett Hood (right) won the 2015 SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN award and 2nd place by laying 723 brick with his mason tender Ed Huntley (left).

There was only a count of 20 brick between 1st and 2nd place, a testimony to the high level of competition. Thirty-year-old mason Garrett Hood, with Huntley Brothers from Monroe, North Carolina, was a rare dual winner this year taking 2nd place overall and the SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN® award with 723 brick. Hood, who is no stranger to the event, has won a total of two Ford F-250 trucks for his World Champion victories in both 2008 and 2010. This was his first time winning the SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN award which is the second highest prize award and considered by some masons the most desired. This honor is given to the "Most Sellable Wall" constructed over 500 brick. Garrett's mason tender was Ed Huntley.

For winning the SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN® award Garrett Hood won the following prizes:

- \$5,000 Check from SPEC MIX, Inc.
- ESSICK PRO12 Mortar Mixer
- STIHL: a TSA 230 battery-powered cut-off machine with standard 9" abrasive wheel, (2) 180 batteries, AL 500 high-speed charger, one x100 Premium Diamond Wheel, pressurized water tank, anti-vibration gloves, protective glasses, construction hard hat system
- Marshalltown: Ceremonial Trophy Trowel and a loaded SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 tool bag
- iQ Power Tools; iQPC912 + 3 Blades: (1) 14" White Blade & (2) 14" Orange Blades
- GATORBACK _ (1) 10pk Mortarboards
- STABILA: Custom Trophy 24" Level
- SPEC MIX Top Craftsmanship Trophy

Hood's 2nd Place score won him the following prizes:

- \$4,000 Check from SPEC MIX, Inc.
- STIHL: TSA 230 battery-powered cut-off machine with standard 9" abrasive wheel, (1) AP 180 battery, AL 500 high-speed charger, pressurized water tank, anti-vibration gloves, protective glasses, construction hard hat system
- Marshalltown: Loaded SPEC MIX Bricklayer 500 tool bag
- iQ Power Tools : \$200 iQ Gift Pack, jacket, shirt and 3 diamond blades
- STABILA: Custom Trophy 24" Level
- GATORBACK : (1) 10pk of Mortarboards
- SPEC MIX 2nd place Trophy



A wide shot of the MASONRY MADNESS™ Day arena that hosts the 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship competition, the largest masonry competition in the world. The grand prize, a new Ford F-250 can be seen in the middle background suspended on the Hydro Mobile mast climber.

Third Place overall was 39-year-old mason Brian Wade who laid 666 brick. Wade is from Stanton, Kentucky and the first from that state to place at the World Championship competition. He and his mason tender, Brandy Noble of Wade Masonry were first time competitors in the event and won the following prizes:



Third place mason Brian Wade and his mason tender, Brandy Noble, with the SPEC MIX trophy and prize check in the amount of \$3,000.

Wade's 3rd Place score won him the following prizes:

- \$3,000 Check from SPEC MIX, Inc.
- STIHL: \$700 product certificate
- Marshalltown: Loaded SPEC MIX Bricklayer 500 tool bag
- iQ Power Tools: \$200 iQ Gift Pack with iQ Jacket and shirt and 3 blades
- STABILA: Custom Trophy 24" Level
- GATORBACK: (1) 10pk Mortarboards
- SPEC MIX third place trophy

The 2015 SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER winner was Brian Tuttle, with Quik Trowel Masonry located in Clearfield, Utah. Although he was the 2012 TOP CRAFTSMAN winner, this year Tuttle was tending mason for his brother Scott who won the Utah regional qualifying contest. Brian didn't beat the TOUGHEST TENDER record time of 11 minutes, 7 seconds set in 2005 by Felipe Reyes, but he did claim this year's title by completing the job in 18 minutes, 7 seconds. Congratulations to Brian for taking home \$2,500 for less than twenty minutes of hard work. This undercard contest for mason tenders is held before the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 and focuses on the mason tender preparing the mason's work area in a detailed and pre-defined way in the fastest time possible.



Brian Tuttle competing for the SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER title.

As the 2015 SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER victor Brian won the prizes listed below:

- \$2,500 check from SPEC MIX, Inc.
- \$700 product certificate from STIHL
- Loaded Marshalltown SPEC MIX Bricklayer 500 tool bag
- iQ Power Tools, a \$200 iQ Gift Pack- iQ Jacket and shirt, 3 Blades (4½", 7", 14")
- STABILA custom trophy 24" Level
- SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER trophy



The 2015 Winners circle, (From left to right) mason tender Brian Tuttle –SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER, mason Brian Wade-3rd Place and mason tender Brandy Noble, mason Fred Campbell-First Place and mason tender Tony Shelton, mason Garrett Hood-SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN and Second Place with mason tender Ed Huntley.

The SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 competition builds on its success

Every year the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 competition has grown and this year was no exception. There was a record high of 24 competitors vying for the top title "World's Best Bricklayer. This gathering of the world's top trowels draws masons from all over the world to display the skill and pride they have in their craft. One mason this year traveled 7,500 miles to compete. The arena crowd was rewarded with a great effort from the competitors who built the most competitive brick walls in the history of the event. In addition, there were live interviews with national trade association leaders who spoke of important strategic challenges for the trade including masonry workforce development. Manufacturers demonstrated their latest products for the crowd and they were entertained by several contests, games and great giveaways throughout the day.

The promotion of the Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation

New to the World Championship event this year was the promotion and fundraiser for the Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation –a non-profit educational foundation that focuses on providing funds for the post-secondary education of surviving children of members of the U.S. Military who have lost their lives in the line of duty. An online auction was hosted by SPEC MIX, Inc. to raise money and create awareness of this worthy cause. Representatives and beneficiaries of Fallen Patriots were introduced to the crowd during the event. Several of the cosponsors of the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship donated items to the online auction as well as direct money contributions to the foundation.

Together we are stronger

Just like on a jobsite it takes the collective efforts of a team to build something special and an event like the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship is no exception. This year the top product and service providers in the construction industry joined forces once again to support this world class bricklaying competition and promote worldwide the masonry trade. The outstanding collection of sponsors and contributors that partnered with SPEC MIX, Inc. to achieve its goal of keeping the trade strong are as follows:

PLATINUM LEVEL

SPEC MIX, Inc.
Ford Commercial Vehicles
Masonry Construction Online
Hydro Mobile
QUIKRETE Companies
Multiquip
Belden Brick Company
STABILA

GOLD LEVEL

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Blaklader
NCMA

CONTRIBUTOR LEVEL

GATORBACK Mortarboards
Xtreme Manufacturing
AZ Best Block
Safway Scaffold
Razor-back Tools
Easy-Spred

Additional Event background information:

SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500® World Championship & SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER®

Go to www.specmixbricklayer500.com or go to or to [The 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship Digital Magazine](#) that will give you a history and background of the masonry competition program.

2015 World of Concrete: <http://www.worldofconcrete.com>

About the 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship

The 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship is ranked as the top attraction during the World of Concrete tradeshow, this super-sized masonry party takes place at the Las Vegas Convention Center's Gold Lot with the very best who lay brick starting at 12:15 PM. You will see an unbelievable bricklaying competition that the competitors themselves describe as "INTENSE!" At the same time live product demos of the latest and greatest point the way to profitability and there are sponsor giveaways that will rock the crowd of masons and those who love masonry. You will hear the key members of masonry associations speak about the future of 21st Century masonry and key issues that will keep our trade strong. Simply put, this is the biggest masonry party on the planet and you don't want to miss it!

Established by SPEC MIX, Inc. in 2003 to showcase the skill and craftsmanship of professional masons, the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 is a two-person team competition consisting of a mason and a mason tender that are given 60 minutes to construct a 26 foot 8 inch, double wythe brick wall while meeting strict quality standards. Judged by over 30 highly qualified industry experts, the award places are based on the highest brick counts meeting the quality standards and competition rules. Following the Champion distinction, the second most coveted title is the SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN award that the panel of judges rates "the most sellable wall" meeting the required 500 brick count.

The preliminary SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER® event where the top mason tenders go head to head for the fastest time setting up their bricklayer's work station with \$2,500 on the line and was held at 10:45 AM.

As a new addition to the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship competition this year, SPEC MIX, Inc. and our co-sponsor family have joined together in support of the Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation (Fallen Patriots). This non-profit foundation provides post-secondary education funds for the surviving children of military personnel of all services who have died while in military service. Fallen Patriots has the highest charitable organization rating possible and ensures 100% of all funds raised go directly to the educational support of the surviving children. It is our honor to promote general awareness of the Foundation's important mission during our bricklaying competition and raise donations for Fallen Patriots.

About SPEC MIX, Inc.

SPEC MIX® Inc. is the construction industry's national source for high quality, factory preblended cement-based building products for the construction industry. With more than 60 manufacturing facilities in all major markets across the US and Canada, SPEC MIX production plants utilize state of the art batching equipment and the finest materials to ensure total quality control throughout the construction project.

About World of Concrete

World of Concrete is the industry's ONLY annual international event dedicated to the commercial concrete and masonry construction industries. Featuring indoor and outdoor exhibits with the industry's leading suppliers showcasing innovative products and technologies, exciting demonstrations and competitions, and a world-class education program. Visit www.worldofconcrete.com for complete show details.

NOTE USE OF TERMS: Please respect all legal trademarks for trade use. In print, the correct way to refer to the competition event is the 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500® World Championship, case use as shown. The award titles for SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN®, and SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER®, should be in all caps followed by the word, "award." When writing about the SPEC MIX® Corporation the correct way to write our corporate name is SPEC MIX®, Inc. If referring to SPEC MIX brand the correct way is SPEC MIX®. The ® mark should always be used on the 2015 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500®, and SPEC MIX®, Inc. the first time either term is used in body copy and the first time either term is in a headline or sub-headline. If being used for mass media news or editorial use, we ask that the full term be used at least once at the beginning of the article, thereafter, "event or competition" would be acceptable terms. Please do not cut, rename or edit the legal trademarked name of the event so as to maintain the legal brand name and its integrity. If you have any questions regarding this event, need images, video footage or logos, contact the name listed below.

For further information about this press release contact:

Jeff Farmakes

SPEC MIX®, Inc.

Marketing/Marketing Communications

O 888-773-2649

C 612-750-2924

E jfarmakes@specmix.com