THE HOME FRONT

House Designers Don Hard Hats
Architect-Contractors Gain High-Bid Following

By Sara Lin

Despite the financial crisis and the housing slump, the phone is still ringing in Peter Gluck’s office. “We’re OK now,” says Mr. Gluck, whose office of 50 architects specializes in high-end residences costing $5 million and up.

That may be explained by the fact that Mr. Gluck and his associates aren’t just architects for their buildings. They’re the general contractors, helping to design and build the houses, including the selecting materials and overseeing the construction. They’re also the designers of the homes, which they build with a focus on creating beautiful, functional, and efficient living spaces.

The firm, which Mr. Gluck founded in 1979, has built more than 100 houses in New York City and around the country. The firm’s projects have won numerous awards, including the AIA’s 2008 Housing Award.

In the past, clients have included celebrities such as the late fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent, and the firm has also worked on projects for the upper-class society.

In recent years, the firm has expanded its services to include custom furniture design and production, as well as consulting on interior design.

The firm’s approach to design and construction is based on the idea that a home should be a place where people can live comfortably and joyfully. They believe that a well-designed home is a reflection of its owner’s personality and tastes, and that it should be a place where people can relax and enjoy themselves.

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