

Avtec Homes builds on reputation of excellence

BY ANNE STRAUB
 FOR FLORIDA TODAY

Homegrown Brevard County builder Avtec Homes has held its own during the building downturn, coming in at No. 185 on Builder Magazine's Top 200 Builder list for 2009.

Avtec builds in four communities in Brevard County, as well as in Port St. Lucie and Deltona. The company got its start in 2005, building only for first-time buyers who qualified for down payment assistance.

Avtec promoted affordable prices at a time when soaring real estate costs had closed first-time buyers out of the market.

The company still offers entry-level homes – base price of its smallest model is \$99,900 – but will build for any buyer and has expanded to accommodate move-up buyers.

“Even though we’re a fairly new company, we’re getting a good reputation and getting a lot of referrals,” said Sandi Forest, Avtec vice president. “People who have built an Avtec home are bringing more people to us.”

Affordability remains the hallmark of the company, though Avtec has responded to the market and increased its options and customization. At Manchester Lakes in West Melbourne, the company recently added a two-story floor plan that covers 2,472 square feet under air conditioning.

“We have a unique ability to be

Builder: Avtec Homes
Communities: Palm Bay, Manchester Lakes in West Melbourne, Adamson Creek in Cocoa, and Plantation Oaks in Titusville.
Price range: \$99,900 to \$170,000
Home size: 1,256 to 2,472 square feet under air conditioning.
For more information: Call one of the builder's three Brevard County models at 676-4668 in Palm Bay, 733-6014 in West Melbourne or 636-2176 in Cocoa.



PHOTOS BY CASEY DECOTIS, FLORIDA TODAY



“Even though we’re a fairly new company, we’re getting a good reputation and getting a lot of referrals,” said Sandi Forest, Avtec vice president, pictured above. “People who have built an Avtec home are bringing more people to us.” Avtec is building homes in four communities in Brevard County.

flexible,” said Patti Wiltshire, new-home consultant for Avtec.

The company has met customer requests for 10-foot ceilings, moving a

wall, adding French doors and adding fireplace, for example.

“The last few homes I’ve done have been quite custom,” said Wiltshire, who

works at the Manchester Lakes model. “We’re willing to make changes people want, and they’re getting them at production prices.”

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