

WALLS & CEILINGS

May 2008

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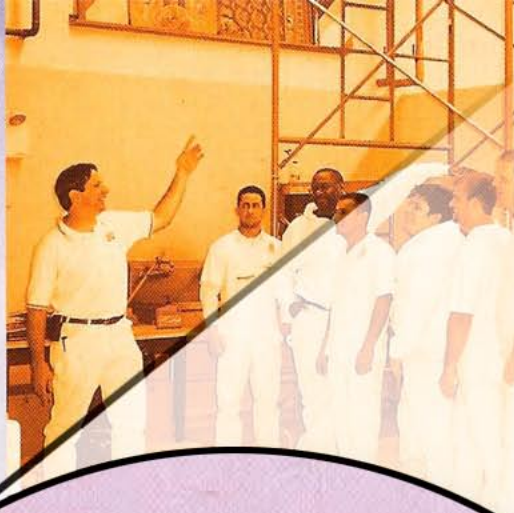
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INSULATED CONCRETE FORMS (ICFs) ISSUE



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Ma
working
years give
al view of
Even on
still pretty
luxury cond
at 600 Lake
town Chicago.

TAPING ROOMS WITH

But the best thing about
day for the next six months
Vasquez, 27, is making extra
money working with people he likes
in a craft he loves, handed down
three generations in his family from
his beloved grandfather, Phillippe,
who brought his plastering skills to
Chicago from Italy.

Vasquez is a drywall taper for one
of the largest drywall firms in Chi-
cago, Tempus Construction Co. He
learned the fine points of his trade
in the two-year program at the
Joint Apprenticeship Training Commit-
tee (JATC) in Chicago, and attrib-
utes his success first to his family
heritage, and secondly to long-time
JATC instructor Eddie Bogden, who
has achieved nearly legendary status

around
he enjoyed the artistic aspects of it
when he was exposed to it in the
classroom. "The more I did it the
more I liked it," Vasquez told *Walls
& Ceilings*, noting that he generally
enjoys taping more than painting.
"Taping is more of an art and you
have to have an eye for it. It takes a
lot of finesse. I got to be known for
my hand-work, and got to be pretty
good at it."

Vasquez eventually excelled in the
use of automatic taping tools, which
led him to being named Apprentice
of the Year in 2007.

Chicago

missed a day of
can with Tempus
years ago. One of the
aspects of his cur-
that he's working with a
friendly crew, and it helps
been working side-by-side
a younger cousin, Joe.

After that, he's confident he's going
to have work, especially since he's
certified as a journeyman as both a
painter and drywaller.

PASSIONATE FAUX PAINTING

Meanwhile, about 70 miles away
from downtown Chicago another
graduate of the JATC program,
Christine Gelden, is enjoying a very
different, but nevertheless prosper-
ous, career as a painter specializing
in faux painting. She attributes her
success completely to the JATC pro-
gram and its instructors.

Gelden first enrolled in the JATC
program 10 years ago when her
children were small, got her jour-