

Member Spotlight: Britco

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Chances are you are already familiar with Britco. If you have been to the PNE in the last few years, you might have seen a prize show home that was built by Britco or the last time you stopped for gas or drove by a construction site, it is very likely that the service station or construction site office was from Britco.

In business for 26 years, Britco is a modular building company started by David Taft and Rick McClymont. What started out in a 10,000 sq. ft. plant in Langley, BC has now grown to 92,000 sq. ft. in Agassiz, BC, the largest factory of its kind in the Pacific Northwest. Britco Structures has grown into a very successful design-builder of factory-built modular buildings, and Britco Leasing, started in 1979, has a substantial lease fleet of portable buildings.



Britco Structures specializes in the design and construction of commercial, institutional, and industrial buildings. They manufacture modular buildings for schools, daycares, offices, and camps as well as the retail and hospitality industries. Involved in the residential building industry for the last twenty years, Britco also manufactures single-family homes, condominiums, town homes, and senior housing facilities.



These factory-built structures offer many benefits over the conventional methods of building on-site. "Time and money can be saved as site preparation and building construction are done at the same time. In addition, factory-built structures offer speed of delivery, relocation capability, environmental friendliness, and quality products as they are built in a controlled environment," comments Mike Ridley, Director of Sales.

What sets Britco apart from other construction and building companies is their versatility. Mike Ridley says, "We are willing to take on any project and try anything. We are very flexible and will custom-build to meet our clients' needs." This flexibility can be seen in their most recent and most custom project; a destination resort in the mountains of Colorado. This 20,000 sq. ft. lodge, located at an elevation of 9,500 feet, will be completed at the end of September. Heavy open timbers and five star finishes will be just a few of the custom touches to this extraordinary getaway.

Locally, Britco is once again supplying the Pacific National Exhibition with the annual PNE prize home. This will be the second consecutive year and fourth time that they have built the prestigious show home. This year "The Granville" is over 3,000 sq. ft. and features cedar decks and railings, an in-floor heating system, hardwood flooring, and granite counter tops. Last year, over 100,000 people toured the show home in hopes that they might one day live in such luxury.



The prize home was built in 6 modules in the Agassiz plant and will be relocated to a lake-front lot at Cowan Point Estates on Bowen Island. "A typical home can be built in the plant in about 20 working days. Delays due to poor weather are eliminated as well as other wet-weather problems such as mold," adds Mike. "We are very pleased to be working with the

PNE again on this year's home, and to be part of such an exciting project." For more information on the PNE prize home, you can visit the PNE website at <http://www.pne.bc.ca/homelottery/index.html>.

Proud to be a BC company, Britco is looking forward to the 2010 Olympics. "We are really excited that Vancouver is hosting the 2010 Olympics as we believe that this will create a lot of opportunity for modular building construction." The Salt Lake City Olympics required over 800 temporary buildings for offices, press boxes, first aid facilities and accommodations and there are legacy infrastructure opportunities to explore as well for 2010.



Today, Britco buildings can be found in the US, Russia, Hawaii, Alaska, Japan, and China. Looking to external markets helps Britco to diversify and stay profitable as the local economy changes. Britco's vision for the future is to look at new and greater opportunities, including focused growth in the residential sector. For further information, check out Britco's website at www.britco.com.