# HomeBuyers' Cho!ce

# Homebuilders who delivered best customer experience honored with 2018 Eliant Homebuyers' Choice Awards

MBK Homes earns top rating of all multi-divisional home builders in the nation.

## The Olson Company named top-rated single division builder in the nation.

ALISO VIEJO, CA – Homebuilders who provided their customers with the best purchase and ownership experiences—according to surveyed homebuyers—have been honored in the 22nd annual Eliant Homebuyers' Choice Awards competition.

The winning builders were chosen based on the results of 128,200 surveys which were administered to all recent home owners from over 156 major homebuilders across the U.S.

The Eliant awards are presented annually by **Eliant** (<u>www.eliant.com</u>), a customer experience management company that has been surveying buyers of new homes for over 34 years.

**MBK Homes** is the recipient of the *"The Eliant"* award for the Best Overall Purchase and Ownership Experience from among multi-division builders. In addition, MBK Homes was honored with sixteen awards including seven additional First Place awards among all Medium-Volume builders.

*"MBK Homes is a clear industry leader in the delivery of consistent world-class customer experience,"* declared Bob Mirman, founder and Chief Executive Officer of Eliant. Craig Jones, President of MBK Homes, added *"This top Eliant award is a fitting recognition of our team members' commitment to delighting their customers. Everyone at MBK is extremely proud to have won this award."* 

**The Olson Company** is the recipient of "*The Eliant*" for Best Overall Customer Experience in the single divisional builder segment. The Olson Company was also honored with four additional First Place Awards among all qualifying Large-Volume builders. The Olson Company received a grand total of five Homebuyers' Choice Awards. "Once again, The Olson Company has proven itself to be one of the undisputed leaders in the delivery of an extraordinary customer experience," stated Mirman. Scott Laurie, CEO of the Olson Company, said "The Eliant Award is the ultimate recognition of the service we provide because it is judged by our customers. Everyone at The Olson Company is committed to our customers and this award is a great honor."

**Century Communities** won a total of fourteen Homebuyers' Choice Awards including the Most Improved Builder Award (Washington Division) for improvement from 2016 to 2017. Winning communities reached across all three builder segments (High Volume, Large Volume, and Medium Volume). *"In addition to highlighting our winning builders, it is also important to recognize those teams making progress in creating a customer service culture,"* according to Eliant's Bob Mirman. Ralph Baja, Century's National Director of Customer Relations and Process Improvement, said *"Century Communities takes pride in our focus on strong customer satisfaction in every phase of the home building experience. These multiple awards underscore our success in meeting this goal."* 

Another clear customer favorite, the **TRI Pointe Group**, won a total of thirteen Homebuyer's Choice Awards, nine of which were Premier Awards (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in each category). "*We are thrilled to receive this recognition*," stated Tom Mitchell, President and COO of the TRI Pointe Group. "*These awards are especially gratifying because they reflect our customers' recognition of our companywide commitment to provide memorable experiences.*"

Grand Homes, The New Home Company, William Lyon Homes, Minto Communities-USA, and Robson Resort Communities were recognized in both the Large and High Volume Builder segments. Minto Communities-USA received first place recognition for First Year Quality. The New Home Company and Robson Resort Communities received four Premier awards, Grand Homes received three while William Lyon received two Premier awards.

In the Medium Volume Builder segment, **Rosewood Homes** was honored with six Premier Awards. **Tim Lewis Communities** and **Giddens Homes** received four awards. **Grand Homes** was recognized a total five times in both the High and Medium Volume Builder segments.

In the all-important category of "Percent of Sales from Referrals," **Label & Co.** (Medium Builder segment), **McCaffrey Homes** (Large Builder segment) and **Irvine Pacific** (High Volume segment) scored the highest "Percent of Sales from Referrals. In 2017, McCaffrey Homes sold an astonishing 53% of their homes from referrals.

Eliant's builder clients are improving their customers' experience to such a degree that home owners are not only more willing to offer a referral, but more and more prospects are buying new homes due to these referrals. Each year, Eliant analyzes the "Percent of Sales from Referrals" from the ten highest rated builders: In 2009, 32% of these builders' sales were sourced from referrals, while in 2018, **41.7%** of their sales were from referrals, a 30% increase.

Eliant recognizes the nation's top performing field representatives in the areas of Sales, Construction, Design and Customer Service as voted by recent homebuyers. The spot for top sales representative yielded a two-way tie between Lucie Nguyen (**MBK Homes**, Southern California) and Mike Mahdi (**TRI Pointe Homes**, Northern California). Donna Roveda (**TRI Pointe Homes**, Southern California) was named top Design Consultant. The top Customer Service Representative was Alex Lujan (**MBK Homes**, Southern California). Allen Cumston (**Minto Communities-USA**, Florida) was named the nation's number one Construction Representative. From among thousands of their peers, these representatives were identified by homeowners as the best in America at delivering an extraordinary customer experience.

The recipient of the 2018 "First American Customer Experience Leader of the Year" is Ralph Baja, Century Communities, National Director, Customer Relations & Process Improvement. Sponsored by First American Title Company, this award recognizes extraordinary leadership of the builder's consistent delivery of a memorable customer experience.

A total of 41 different builders were recognized for being in the top five for their excellence in one or more customer-experience categories. Builders with consistently high levels of customer satisfaction included: **MBK Homes** (16 awards), **Century Communities** (14 awards), and **The TRI Pointe Group** (13 awards). **William Lyon** (7 awards), **The New Home Company** (7 awards) and **Minto Communities-USA** (7 awards) also distinguished themselves this year.

This year's award program's featured sponsors widely acclaimed for delivering extraordinary customer experiences; **IoanDepot; Land Concern Landscape Architecture; Cove Programs; Design Tec; Front Steps/DwellingLive; Focus 360; Peninsula Publishing; and First American Title.** 

Information on the survey methodology and a complete list of winning home builders is available at <u>www.eliant.com.</u>

#### **About Eliant**

Founded in 1984, Aliso Viejo, CA-based Eliant has long been recognized as the nation's leading provider of customer experience management services for U.S., Canadian, and Middle East building firms. The firm's world-class customer experience monitoring, training, and consulting services are considered to be the gold standard in the industry. Widely used by hundreds of home builders as well as lenders, escrow, design centers and sales agencies, Eliant's Customer Champion Certification programs provide training, testing, and survey-based Certification which motivates high levels of performance.

#### About loanDepot

As the nation's 5<sup>th</sup> largest lender, loanDepot has funded over \$100 Billion in residential loans since 2010. Of over 40 major lenders evaluated each year by Eliant, loanDepot is continually ranked in the top five for customer satisfaction. Their goal is to be the lender of choice for consumers and the employer of choice by being a company that operates on sound principles of exceptional value, ethics and transparency.

#### **About First American Title**

First American Financial Corporation, a leading global provider of title insurance, settlement services and risk solutions for real estate transactions. For more than a century, First American Title has served the needs of developers, home builders and property owners. Today, we are meeting your needs by changing the way business is done. We are the nation's leading provider of homebuilder title and closing services. We lead the industry in adaptation to changing business environments. We offer smarter processes, simpler systems, and faster closings. No matter the location or complexity of your development, our experts are ready to serve you.

#### About Front Steps – DwellingLive

FrontSteps, formerly dwellingLive, is the #1 homeowner portal and customer experience solution in the industry, voted by your peers. We are 5million homeowners strong and growing at a rate of 75,000 homeowners a quarter.

#### About Focus 360

Focus 360, based in Southern California with offices in multiple states, is an architectural visualization studio serving the real estate development industry. Home builders utilize their services due to their frustration with customers' inability to understand their unbuilt plans, or disappointed with the poor quality of their renderings. They're also concerned their sales centers are perceived as old fashioned, and they're looking to provide a more innovative, streamlined, interactive experience.

#### **About Cove Programs**

Cove Programs provides insurance for best-in-class home builders. The firm is dedicated to providing a custom designed insurance product for great clients.

#### About Land Concern Landscape Architecture

Land Concern is an award-winning landscape architecture firm whose approach continues to redefine and evolve the playing field for their residential, commercial and hospitality clients. 40+ years they've been designing environments that make life better. The staff at Land Concern congratulate all companies acknowledged by Home Buyer's Choice Awards for their achievements.

#### **About Design Tec**

Design Tec is a boutique interior design and merchandising firm made up of highly creative and talented people who are committed to excellence in every way. Founded by Chris Johnson with a simple goal in mind; to provide clients with innovative, functional design while maintaining consistency, integrity and the highest level of personal service. Design Tec has enjoyed long term success through the simple principals of keen attention to detail and approaching every design project with a clear vision of the end result.

#### **About Peninsula Publishing**

With 28 years of trade channel b2b media experience covering production housing business, Peninsula Publishing, Inc. has deep roots in the U.S. homebuilding industry. Through print and online media, Peninsula Publishing owns six business-to-business publications, Builder & Developer, Green Home Builder, American Infrastructure, Residential Contractor, OPTIONS for Today's Fine Homes, and 50+ Builder. Online since 1996, the company also operates10 industry websites including Builder.Media; and two weekly e-newsletters, builderbytes.com and aiweekly.biz. Peninsula Publishing's print and web portals, digital subscribers and social media platforms now reach 337,000 trade channel professionals.

### "Eliant 2018 Home Buyers' Choice Awards" Winning Builders and Criteria

Eliant is proud to announce the 41 home-builder winners of the "Eliant 2018 Home Buyers' Choice Awards," in partnership with IoanDepot, Peninsula Publishing, Land Concern Landscape Architecture, Cove, Design Tec, Front Steps, Focus 360 and First American Title.

The top national award - "The ELIANT" - has been presented to the two highest rated home builders based on customers' ratings of the three "Key Measures" questions at Move-In and Year-End (Satisfied with Overall Quality; Builder Met Commitments; Customer's Willingness to Recommend):

The "ELIANT": Highest rating for "Overall Purchase & Ownership Experience"

- Single division home builder: The Olson Company Seal Beach, CA
- Multiple division home builder: MBK Homes SoCal Division Irvine, CA

All other awards have been given for home buyers' satisfaction with five key elements of the purchase and ownership experience. The six categories include:

- 1. The Purchase Experience (on Eliant's 'Move-In Survey')
- 2. The Design Selection Experience (on the Move-In Survey)
- 3. First-Year Customer Service Experience (from Eliant's 'Mid-Year' and 'Year-End Surveys')
- 4. First-Year Quality (from the 'Year-End Survey')
- 5. Highest Percent of Sales From Referrals (from the Move-In Survey: *"Were you referred to this builder by a friend?"*)

In these categories, awards have been given to builders in each of three 'size' segments based on total 2017 closings:

- High Volume Home Builders or Divisions: 276+ homes closed
- Large Home Builders or Divisions: 126-275 homes closed
- Medium Home Builders or Divisions: <125 homes closed

Eliant also recognizes the "Most Improved" builder divisions.

The top field representatives in the areas of Sales, Construction, Design and Customer Service received awards. These representatives have been identified by homeowners as the best in the nation at delivering an extraordinary customer experience by homeowners in 2017.

Winners of the "*Eliant 2018 Home Buyers' Choice*" awards are based only on scores from all surveys received from January 1-December 31, 2017, regardless of closing date.

The 2018 Homebuyers' Choice Award luncheon to honor our award winners: February 20, 2018 at Seven Degrees- Laguna Beach, CA.

41 Home builders receiving Premier Awards (First, Second, Third Place) or Honorable Mention awards include (in alphabetical order):

- Alvarez Construction Company Louisiana
- Brookfield Residential Bay Area
- Brookfield Residential Southern California
- Camelot Homes Arizona
- Century Communities NorCal Bay Area
- Century Communities NorCal Central Valley
- Century Communities Southern California
- Century Communities Tennessee
- Century Communities Washington
- Classic Homes Colorado
- Gentry Homes Hawaii
- Giddens Homes Austin
- GL Homes of FL Tampa
- GL Homes of FL Palm Beach Adult
- Grand Homes Dallas East
- Grand Homes Dallas North
- Irvine Pacific Irvine
- Keystone Homes Arizona
- Label & Co. Florida
- Landmark Homes
- Mainvue Homes Seattle/Dallas
- MBK Homes Northern California
- MBK Homes Southern California
- McCaffrey Homes Fresno

- Minto Communities-USA Florida
- Meridian Mark Management- Potterhill Homes Ohio
- Robson Resort Communities Arizona/Texas
- Rosewood Homes Phoenix
- StyleCraft Homes Virginia
- The New Home Company Northern California
- The New Home Company Southern California
- The Olson Company Southern California
- Tim Lewis Communities Northern California
- TRI Pointe Group TRI Pointe Homes Colorado
- TRI Pointe Group TRI Pointe Homes Northern California
- TRI Pointe Group Pardee Homes Las Vegas
- TRI Pointe Group TRI Pointe Homes Southern California
- William Lyon Homes Colorado
- William Lyon Homes Northern California
- William Lyon Homes Southern California
- Woodside Homes Fresno

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### "Eliant's 2018 Home Buyers' Choice Awards"

In partnership with Loan Depot, Peninsula Publishing, Land Concern Landscape Architecture, Cove, Design Tec, Front Steps, Focus 360 and First American Title.

### Homebuyers' Ratings of 'The Purchase Experience'

High Volume Builders (276+ closings in 2017)

# First Place: TRI Pointe Group - TRI Pointe Homes - Southern California

Second Place: Brookfield Residential - Southern California Third Place: Robson Resort Communities - Arizona/Texas Honorable Mention (HM):

- Century Communities NorCal Bay Area
- TRI Pointe Group TRI Pointe Homes Northern California
- Classic Homes Colorado Springs
- William Lyon Homes Southern California

### Large Volume Builders (126-275 closings in 2017)

### First Place: The Olson Company - Southern California

Second Place: Century Communities - NorCal - Central Valley Third Place: The New Home Company - Southern California Honorable Mention (HM):

- Landmark Homes
- Brookfield Residential Bay Area

### Medium Volume Builders (<125 closings in 2017)

### First Place: MBK Homes - Southern California

Second Place: MBK Homes - Northern California Third Place: Rosewood Homes - Phoenix Honorable Mention (HM):

- Label & Co.
- Camelot Homes

### The Design Selection Experience

### High Volume Builders (276+ closings in 2017)

First Place: TRI Pointe Group - Pardee Homes - Las Vegas Second Place: Minto Homes - Florida Third Place: Robson Resort Communities - Arizona/Texas Honorable Mention (HM):

- Century Communities NorCal Bay Area
- TRI Pointe Group- TRI Pointe Homes Southern California
- William Lyon Homes Southern California

### Large Volume Builders (126-275 closings in 2017)

### First Place: Century Communities - NorCal - Central Valley

Second Place: The Olson Company - Southern California Third Place: The New Home Company - Southern California Honorable Mention (HM):

- McCaffrey Homes Fresno
- The New Home Company Northern California

### Medium Volume Builders (<125 closings in 2017)

### First Place: MBK Homes - Southern California

Second Place: Goes to 2 Builders:

- Rosewood Homes Phoenix
- Giddens Homes Texas

Honorable Mention (HM):

- Century Communities Southern California
- Century Communities Tennessee

### **Overall First-Year Quality**

### High Volume Builders (276+ closings in 2017)

### First Place: Minto Communities-USA - Florida

Second Place: TRI Pointe Group -TRI Pointe Homes - Northern California Third Place: Robson Resort Communities - Arizona/Texas Honorable Mention (HM):

- Irvine Pacific Irvine, CA
- William Lyon Homes Southern California

### Large Volume Builders (126-275 closings in 2017)

First Place: The Olson Company- Southern California Second Place: Grand Homes - East (Dallas) Third Place: Century Communities - NorCal - Central Valley Honorable Mention (HM):

- MainVue Homes Seattle
- McCaffrey Homes Fresno

Medium Volume Builders (<125 closings in 2017)

First Place: MBK Homes - Southern California Second Place: Keystone Homes - Arizona Third Place: Rosewood Homes - Phoenix Honorable Mention (HM):

- Tim Lewis Communities Northern California
- Giddens Homes Texas

### The First-Year Customer Service Experience

### High Volume Builders (276+ closings in 2017)

# First Place: TRI Pointe Group - TRI Pointe Homes - Northern California

Second Place: Irvine Pacific - Irvine, CA Third Place: William Lyon Homes - Southern California Honorable Mention (HM):

- TRI Pointe Group TRI Pointe Homes Southern California
- Minto Communities-USA Florida

### Large Volume Builders (126-275 closings in 2017)

### First Place: The Olson Company - Southern California

Second Place: Grand Homes - East (Dallas) Third Place: Century Communities - NorCal - Central Valley Honorable Mention (HM):

- TRI Pointe Group TRI Pointe Homes Colorado
- The New Home Company Southern California

### Medium Volume Builders (<125 closings in 2017)

### First Place: MBK Homes - Southern California

Second Place: Rosewood Homes - Phoenix Third Place: Giddens Homes - Texas Honorable Mention (HM):

- Tim Lewis Communities Northern California
- Grand Homes North (Dallas)



### Highest Percent of Sales from Referrals

### High Volume Builders

### First Place: Irvine Pacific - Irvine, CA (44%)

Second Place: Century Communities - NorCal - Bay Area (37%)

**Third Place:** TRI Pointe Group - TRI Pointe Homes - Southern California (33%) **Honorable Mention (HM) at:** 

- GL Homes of FL Tampa (33%)
- Woodside Homes Fresno (32%)

### Large Volume Builders

### First Place: McCaffrey Homes - Fresno (53%)

Second Place: Alvarez Construction Company - Louisiana (45%) Third Place: William Lyon Homes - Northern California (44%) Honorable Mention (HM):

- Gentry Homes Hawaii (41%)
- GL Homes of Florida Palm Beach Adult (37%)

### Medium Volume Builders

### First Place: Label & Co. - Florida (47%)

Second Place: MBK Homes - Southern California (35%) Third Place: Century Communities - Southern California (33%) Honorable Mention (HM):

- Meridian Mark Management Potterhill Homes Ohio (32%)
- Century Communities Tennessee (32%)

### Most Improved Builder

### First Place: Century Communities - Washington

Second Place: Grand Homes - North-East (Dallas) Third Place: StyleCraft Homes - Virginia Honorable Mention (HM):

- Tim Lewis Communities Northern California
- William Lyon Homes Colorado



### Sales Representative of The Year:

First Place: Goes To 2 Sales Representatives (TIE for 1st place):

- Lucie Nguyen MBK Homes Southern California
- Mike Mahdi TRI Pointe Group TRI Pointe Homes -Northern California

Third Place Goes to 2 Sales Representatives (TIE for 3<sup>rd</sup> place):

- James Coleman Century Communities NorCal Central Valley
- Heidi Chiang MBK Homes Southern California

Honorable Mention (HM) Goes to 3 Sales Representatives (TIE for 5th place):

- Sheril Alexandre MBK Homes Southern California
- Jennifer Park MBK Homes Southern California
- Debbie Dennison William Lyon Homes Southern California

### Construction Representative of The Year:

### First Place: Allan Cumston - Minto Communities-USA - Florida

Second Place: Scott Rothra - Rosewood Homes - Phoenix Third Place: Jamie Twigg - Classic Homes - Colorado Springs Honorable Mention (HM):

- Rob Cunningham William Lyon Homes- Southern California
- Scott Law MBK Homes Southern California
- Eric Galley Minto Communities-USA Florida

### Design Representative of The Year:

# First Place: Donna Roveda - TRI Pointe Group - TRI Pointe Homes - Southern California

Second Place: Angela Rinaldi – Minto Communities-USA – Florida Third Place: Brandee Tweten - Robson Resort Communities - Arizona/Texas Honorable Mention Goes to 3 Construction Representatives (TIE for 5<sup>th</sup>):

- Jen Jaco Gilham MBK Homes Southern California
- Tessa Korkowski Brookfield Residential Southern California
- Kristie Janko-Ruddell The New Home Company Northern California



### Customer Service Representative of The Year:

First Place: Alex Lujan - MBK Homes - Southern California Second Place: Brian Bauer - The New Home Company - Northern California Third Place: Sheila Morris - TRI Pointe Homes - Northern California Honorable Mention Goes to 3 Construction Representatives (TIE for 5th):

- Robert Lilly MBK Homes Southern California
- Jeff Bolton Grand Homes East (Dallas)
- Matt Gallagher MBK Homes Southern California

### Customer Experience Leader of the Year: Ralph Baja - Century Communities

# Overall Home Purchase & Ownership Experience ("The Eliant")

Single Division Builders (regardless of sales volume)

First Place: The Olson Company - Seal Beach, CA Second Place: Rosewood Homes - Phoenix, AZ Third Place: Minto Homes - Coconut Creek, Florida Honorable Mention (HM):

- Giddens Homes Austin, TX
- McCaffrey Homes Fresno, CA
- Irvine Pacific Irvine, CA

### Multi-Divisional Builders (regardless of sales volume)

First Place: MBK Homes - Irvine, CA Second Place: The New Home Company - Aliso Viejo, CA Third Place: TRI Pointe Group - Newport Beach, CA Honorable Mention (HM):

- Tim Lewis Communities Roseville, CA
- Grand Homes Dallas, TX

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