Media Contact Information:
April Lucas
alucas@spi-ind.com
800-433-4873

For Immediate Release

Sierra Pacific Windows Files Patent-Infringement Lawsuit Against Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork Company

Sierra Pacific asserts that Kolbe infringed patent covering its H3® Window to launch Kolbe's VistaLuxe® window.

Medford, WI (February 28, 2019) - Sierra Pacific Windows announced today that the company filed a patent infringement lawsuit against Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork Co., Inc. (Kolbe) alleging that Kolbe's VistaLuxe® products infringe the patent covering Sierra Pacific's H3® hybrid window. Sierra Pacific Industries, the parent company of Sierra Pacific Windows, filed the lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin on October 17, 2018 (Sierra Pacific Industries vs Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork Co., Inc., Civil Action No. 18-cv-853). The patent at issue is U.S. Patent No. 8,561,365.

"Sierra Pacific Windows will vigorously defend our intellectual property and patented ideas," said President Tom Takach. "Innovation is the driving force of our company, and we take our reputation as an innovative industry leader, as well as the protection of our proprietary portfolio of branded products, very seriously."

The H3 window uses a hybrid construction that successfully leverages the best attributes of an extruded aluminum clad exterior, with a vinyl base frame, and the beauty of a wood interior. Kolbe's VistaLuxe windows and doors are also a tri-material construction hybrid. At the time of its launch, Sierra Pacific's H3 was credited by many within the industry for creating the new hybrid construction category. The smart design of the H3 presented builders with a new solution in wood windows to provide higher energy efficiency performance, narrower sightlines, rot resistance, and easier and more reliable installation, among many other benefits.

"We made a significant investment of time and resources into the development of the H3 technology," Takach said. "This included years of intense R&D before this hybrid window was officially launched. The H3 was constructed like no other, and we've continued to build upon the platform and design since its inception."

Sierra Pacific's H3 window is widely regarded for its award-winning design. In fact, the H3 was recognized with *Window & Door* magazine's Crystal Achievement Award for "Most Innovative Window of the Year."

Takach noted that Sierra Pacific Windows recently debuted its highly-anticipated Westchester™ Double Hung Window at the International Builders' Show, and the company currently has multiple patents in process for exclusive new innovations that promise to be a "game changer" in this window category.

VistaLuxe is a registered trademark of Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork Co., Inc.

ABOUT SIERRA PACIFIC WINDOWS

Sierra Pacific Windows is a division of Sierra Pacific Industries, a family-owned forest products company. Based in Red Bluff, California and Medford, WI, Sierra Pacific Windows is one of the largest manufacturers of superior quality, custom wood and vinyl windows and doors in the world. It is the only fully vertically-integrated window and door company, in which the company owns the forestland and manages the entire manufacturing and distribution process. Sierra Pacific Windows has a combined manufacturing production space of over 1.1 million square feet in California and Wisconsin. Its windows and doors are distributed via more than 600 dealers, distributors and company-owned locations.

ABOUT SIERRA PACIFIC INDUSTRIES

Sierra Pacific Industries is a third-generation, family-owned forest products company based in Anderson, California. The company owns and manages 2 million acres of timberland in California and Washington, and is one of the largest lumber companies and largest manufacturer of millwork in the United States. Sierra Pacific Industries is committed to managing its lands in a responsible and sustainable manner to protect the environment while providing quality wood products and renewable power for consumers. The company's forests are certified under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative®. Sierra Pacific Industries utilizes nearly 100 percent of every piece of wood brought to its 18 mills and seven biomass-fueled cogeneration power plants.

###