



**OPPOSITE BACK ROW L-R** Aleks Larocque, Mike Fisher, Shane Bitternose, Ryley Grant  
**FRONT L-R** David Jonasson, Monty Wensel, Cameron Wensel

with our educational and marketing material, which is now featured on the new website. There are explanations of the process, the Atlas HLS 5.0 equipment and some of the options clients will want to consider when replacing a basement."

"Everyone has different needs: some want a basic basement, some want a walk-in suite, and some with a bungalow on a crawlspace want to add both a basement and a main story addition to triple their living space," adds Wensel. "We encourage anyone even considering a basement replacement to have a look at the web site. It may spark a creative idea or answer a question you didn't know you had. There's also some interesting aerial photography from our friends over at Java Post." ■

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## Experience Peace of Mind with "FAILSAFE" BASEMENT REPLACEMENT

PHOTOS HENRY GODNITZ

If you live in a home with a basement in the Regina area, you know that our clay-based soil wreaks havoc on foundations. While construction standards vary over time and location, it is safe to say that a majority of local basements will need serious work. Many will need replacement.

Eight years ago, a Regina home in the midst of a basement replacement collapsed as the cribbing and wooden beams supporting it broke away. Fortunately, nobody was hurt, but the home was left beyond repair. This particular incident triggered inventor, Monty Wensel, to establish Failsafe Basement Replacement & House Lifting Inc. He recognized the need for a safer, more secure method of lifting homes and suspending them.

Failsafe utilizes its own innovative "Atlas" house lifting system, and has completed more than 100 successful lifts in North America since 2007. Now in the fifth generation of development, the Atlas HLS 5.0 (patent pending) provides tradespeople unencumbered access when demolishing and replacing basements. The emphasis on safety provides peace of mind to those who live in the home and those working beneath it.

For the typical homeowner, the task of replacing the basement of their home is a daunting proposition. If the owner acts as the general contractor, there is a significant amount of specific knowledge and information they will need. Coordinating the procedure and booking various tradespeople is also a challenge. In addition, there is the anxiety of having your home

supported by stacks of wood cribbing.

Failsafe Basement Replacements & House Lifting offers premium ICF basement replacement packages beginning at \$80,000 for a modest sized home. Insulated Concrete Form (ICF) construction for the basement walls results in a superior build quality, will greatly improve thermal efficiency, and will actually increase both the value and livability of your home. By including an exterior entrance and a nine-foot ceiling, a basement can be converted into a comfortable, revenue-generating suite. In-floor radiant heat is also a popular option.

According to Cameron Wensel, sales manager, Failsafe strives to put clients at ease during a potentially stressful procedure: "We've gone to great lengths

### ICF Basement Anatomy

1. Horizontal Footing Rebar 3 x 10m - 16" OC typical, 10m traverse 48" OC typical
2. Telepost Pad Rebar 3 x 10m typical
3. Concrete Spread Footing 24"W x 8"H typical
4. Telepost Pad
5. Vertical Dowel vFooting Rebar 10m - 16" OC typical
6. Footing Keyway
7. Wall Rebar Grid 10m - 16" OC Vertical/Horizontal typical
8. Vertical Wall Rebar adjacent to window openings 2 x 15m typical
9. Horizontal Wall Rebar beneath window openings 2 x 15m typical
10. Top Horizontal Wall Rebar 2 x 15m typical
11. 12" ICF Wall 8" Concrete Core
12. 12" ICF Wall 2 x 2" Insulating Foam
13. Window Buck for Lifting Beam Opening
14. Window Buck
15. Telepost
16. Centre Beam Pocket
17. Centre Steel I-Beam
18. Wall Top Plate
19. Wall Anchor Bolts & Nuts
20. Sump Pit
21. Weeping Tile
22. Domestic Water Supply
23. Sewer Connection
24. Drain Vent
25. 8" Radon Rock Nominal
26. Poly Vapour Barrier
27. Floor Slab Rebar Grid 10m - 16" OC typical
28. 4" Concrete Floor Slab typical
29. Waterproof Membrane
30. Parging on above grade portion of ICF Wall

