

MERITAGE HOMES ANNOUNCES PRICING OF 1.875% CONVERTIBLE SENIOR NOTES DUE 2032

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz., Sept. 12, 2012 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Meritage Homes Corporation (NYSE:MTH), a leading U.S. homebuilder, today announced that it has priced an underwritten public offering of \$110 million aggregate principal amount of 1.875% Convertible Senior Notes due 2032, which was upsized from the previously announced \$100 million offering. The Company granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional \$16.5 million aggregate principal amount of notes from the Company. The offering is expected to close on September 18, 2012, subject to customary closing conditions.

The notes will be the Company's general unsecured senior obligations. The notes will pay interest on March 15 and September 15, beginning on March 15, 2013, at a rate of 1.875% per year, and will mature on September 15, 2032. The notes will be guaranteed unconditionally, jointly and severally, initially by all of the Company's direct and indirect 100% owned subsidiaries.

The notes will initially be convertible into shares of common stock at a conversion rate of 17.1985 shares of the Company's common stock per \$1,000 principal amount of notes, corresponding to an initial conversion price of approximately \$58.14 per share of common stock, or approximately 47.5% above the last reported sale price of \$39.42 per share of the Company's common stock on the New York Stock Exchange on September 12, 2012. The conversion rate will be subject to adjustment upon the occurrence of certain events.

The Company intends to use the net proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes.

The notes are being offered pursuant to an effective shelf registration statement that was previously filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission. A preliminary prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus describing the terms of the offering has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Citigroup, JP Morgan, Deutsche Bank and BofA Merrill Lynch acted as joint book-running managers for the offering. JMP Securities acted as co-manager. Printed copies of the preliminary prospectus supplement relating to this offer and accompanying prospectus may be obtained by contacting Citigroup, Brooklyn Army Terminal, 140 58th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11220 or by telephone: (800) 831-9146 or by email at batprospectusdept@citigroup.com; J.P. Morgan Securities LLC at 1-212-834-4533 or by mail to Broadridge Financial Solutions, 1155 Long Island Avenue, Edgewood, New York 11717, Attention: Post-Sale Fulfillment; Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Attn: Prospectus Group, 60 Wall Street, New York, New York 10005-2836 or by telephone at: (800) 503-4611, or by email at: prospectus.CPDG@db.com; Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated at BofA Merrill Lynch, Attention: Prospectus Department, 222 Broadway, 7th Floor, New York, New York 10038 or by emailing: dg.prospectus_requests@baml.com; or JMP Securities LLC, Attn: Prospectus Department, 600 Montgomery Street, Suite 1100, San Francisco, CA 94111, or by telephone: 415-835-8985 or by email at ccornell@jmpsecurities.com. An electronic copy of the preliminary supplement and accompanying prospectus may also be obtained at no charge at the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at www.sec.gov.

About Meritage Homes Corporation

Meritage Homes is the ninth-largest public homebuilder in the United States based on homes closed in 2011. Meritage builds a variety of homes across Southern and Western states to appeal to a wide range of buyers, including first-time, move-up, luxury and active adults. As of June 30, 2012, the company had 151 actively selling communities in 15 metropolitan areas, including Northern California, East Bay/Central Valley and Southern California, Houston, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Austin, San Antonio, Phoenix/Scottsdale, Tucson, Las Vegas, Denver, Orlando, Tampa and Raleigh-Durham. In 2012, Meritage also announced its entry into the Charlotte market.

Meritage is an industry leader in innovation and energy efficiency. Meritage was the first national homebuilder to be 100 percent ENERGY STAR® qualified in every home it builds, and far exceeds ENERGY STAR standards in most of its communities. Meritage has designed and built more than 75,000 homes in its 27-year history, and has a reputation for its distinctive style, quality construction, and positive customer experience.

For more information, visit <u>meritagehomes.com</u>.

The Meritage Homes Corporation logo is available at https://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=2624

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements include those regarding the Company's offering of convertible notes, including its anticipated use of proceeds therefrom, which are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. The Company makes no commitment, and disclaims any duty, to update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect future events or changes in these expectations.

Meritage's business is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. As a result of those risks and uncertainties, the Company's stock and note prices may fluctuate dramatically. The risks and uncertainties include but are not limited to the following: weakness in the homebuilding market resulting from economic conditions; interest rates and changes in the availability and pricing of residential mortgages; adverse changes in tax laws that benefit our homebuyers; the ability of our potential buyers to sell their existing homes; cancellation rates and home prices in our markets; availability of materials and labor and resulting inflation in the cost to construct homes; the adverse effect of slower order absorption rates; potential write-downs or write-offs of assets, including pre-acquisition costs and deposits; the availability of finished lots and undeveloped land; our potential exposure to natural disasters; the liquidity of our joint ventures and the ability of our joint venture partners to meet their obligations to us and the joint venture; competition; the success of our strategies in the current homebuilding market and economic environment: the adverse impacts of cancellations resulting from small deposits relating to our sales contracts: construction defect and home warranty claims; our success in prevailing on contested tax positions; the impact of deferred tax valuation allowances and our ability to preserve our operating loss carryforwards; our ability to obtain performance bonds in connection with our development work; the loss of key personnel; our failure to comply with laws and regulations; our lack of geographic diversification; fluctuations in quarterly operating results; the Company's financial leverage and level of indebtedness; our ability to take certain actions because of restrictions contained in the indentures for the Company's senior and senior subordinated notes and our ability to raise additional capital when and if needed; our credit ratings; successful integration of future acquisitions; government regulations and legislative or other initiatives that seek to restrain growth or new housing construction or similar measures; acts of war; the replication of our "Green" technologies by our competitors; our exposure to information technology failures and security breaches; and other factors identified in documents filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including those set forth in our Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 and most recent 10-Q under the caption "Risk Factors," which can be found on our website.

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Source: Meritage Homes Corporation