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STRONG SALES: Sales and marketing director of McDonald Jones Homes Phil Haigh welcomes the news that the company is the largest home builder in the State.

Leading the way Maitland builder largest in NSW

In a victory for the region, Maitland-based McDonald Jones Homes has become the largest home builder in NSW, eclipsing the major builders in Sydney.

The locally-owned company recorded 572 development approvals for the 12 months to October 2009 in the State, with the second-ranked Clarendon Residential Holdings recording 558.

The results were released this week in the industry's official Reed Construction Data figures.

McDonald Jones has steadily risen to the top with previous 2009 figures showing the company at number three at the end of March and number two at the end of June.

Sales and marketing director Phil Haigh said the future looked even brighter for his company.

"Traditionally we have been a Hunter and northern NSW builder, however late last year we expanded into the Sydney and South Coast markets," Mr Haigh said.

"While the majority of our sales continue to be in the traditional areas of operation our homes are being embraced by buyers in Sydney and on the South Coast.

"We invested in display homes in Sydney's North West this year and we anticipate further growth and success as a result."

The Maitland builder's best month in the 12 months was September with 91 homes recorded.

McDonald Jones' monthly average across the period was 48 homes to be built.

The second to fifth placed builders were Clarendon, Allworth (507 homes), Eden Brae (476 homes) and Masterton (414 homes).

"To be ahead of such distinguished builders means we must be presenting to the market what is most desired," Mr Haigh said.

"To us this includes architectural design, efficiency, value and service. Only last month the company was awarded by the Housing Industry Association Hunter Region Professional Major Builder Award 2009."

The Reed Construction Data figures for the regional area from the Central Coast through Tamworth, the North and up to Port Macquarie showed McDonald Jones had a huge 372-home lead over second placed Allworth Homes.

