



Bricklayer Matt Cash on his way to laying 716 bricks to win the 2017 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship.

2017 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500

MATT CASH TAKES THE PRIZE ON SECOND TRY

North Carolina bricklayer Matt Cash, age 35, took first place and the title "World's Best Bricklayer" at the 15th annual SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship. Held January 18, 2017 in Las Vegas during the 2017 World of Concrete show, the event drew the largest crowd of masonry fans ever.

the keys to a 2017 Ford F-250 XLT 4x4 truck and \$15,000 in cash and prizes. He won the competition on his second attempt, aided by brick tender Chet Huntley, who is also his boss at Huntley Brothers Company in Mint Hill, North Carolina. Earlier that day, Huntley, 45, won the SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER competition, also defeating 24 other competitors.

Cash laid 716 brick in 60 minutes for the win, which earned him

Cash and Huntley trained up for two months before the event, building

10 competition walls — after full days of laying brick on project sites. In addition to the new Ford F-250 truck, Cash's prize package included a \$5,000 check, a trophy and tools and accessories from Blakladder, Gatorback, iQ Power tools, Marshalltown, Stabila and Stihl.

Over the last 15 years, the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 has become a main event at the World of Concrete as a showcase for the rock stars of the bricklaying craft and offers the trade a forum for its craft and practitioners.

Several other awards were taken during the competition, including second and third place finishers and a special award for "best sellable wall." For a complete list of this year's winners, visit www.specmixbricklayer500.com.

Next year's SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship will take place during the 2018 World of Concrete show, January 23-26, again in Las Vegas. **CS**

Chet Huntley won the SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER award with a time of 15:12.31. Chet was the mason tender for bricklayer Matt Cash, winner of the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500.



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