

Deep Dive into Air Barrier Development & Implementation



All attendees have been placed on mute.



Use the Question Section on the webinar control panel to ask a question at anytime during the presentation.

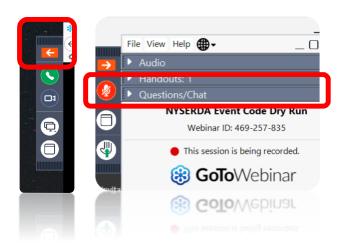


Q&A will take place at the end of each segment.



Webinar will be recorded and sent.

Webinar Overview



Since 1972, Steven Winter Associates, Inc. has been providing research, consulting, and advisory services to improve the built environment for private and public sector clients.

Our services include:

- Energy Conservation and Management
- Sustainability Consulting
- Green Building Certification
- Accessibility Consulting

We have over 125 staff across three office locations: New York, NY | Washington, DC | Norwalk, CT

For more information, visit www.swinter.com







By providing a whole-building approach to design and construction

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Upon Completion of Module

You will receive the following items via email:

- AIA Certificate of completion-can also be used for:
 - PHI Credits
 - NYS PE CEUs
- PDF of final presentation
- Link to the webinar recording



Steven Winter Associates, Inc.

THIS CERTIFICATE IS TO CERTIFY THAT

Katie Zoppo

PARTICIPATED IN

Module 1: Overview of PH/Net Zero Building Concepts, Techniques and Benefits

M100PHNZBCTAB

ON February 11th, 2020

> LOCATION New Paltz, NY

EARNING 4 AIA CES Learning Unit/HSW

Tris D Aguar

Director, Passive House Services Steven Winter Associates, Inc. teven Winter Associates, I 61 Washington St Norwalk, CT 06

Learning Objectives

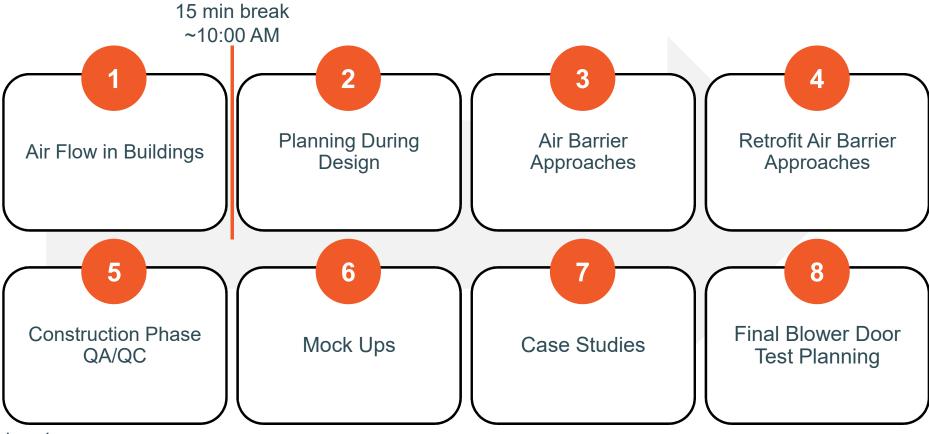
Understand why air tight facades are important for high performance buildings

Explain the steps to designing and constructing an air tight and moisture tight building

Identify air
barriers and
explain why a
continuous air
barrier is critical to
high performance
buildings

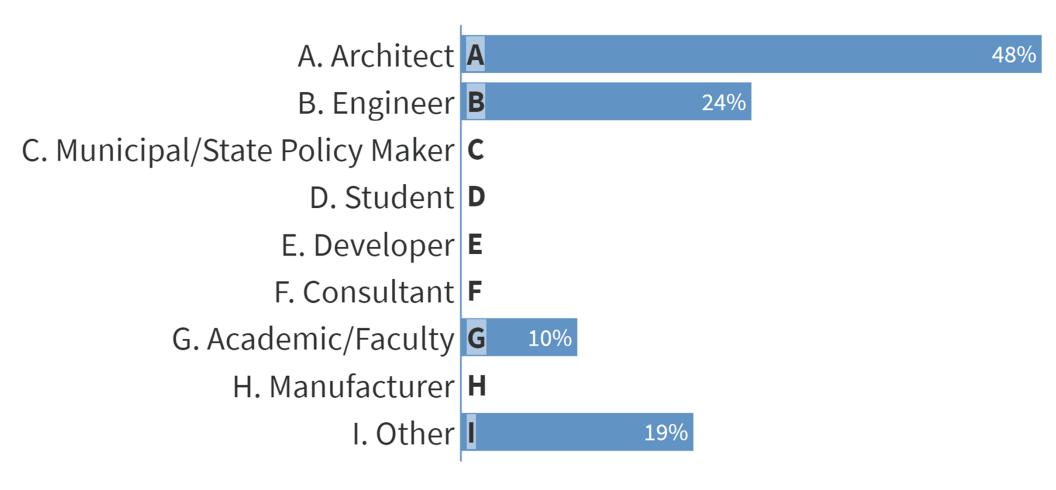
List 3 products and construction techniques utilized in high performance buildings

Overview of Presentation



15 min break ~11:30 AM

What is your profession?



What is the one thing you were hoping to learn about today?





Why we are here: Directive 1B-2

- 2018 Chancellor calls for all new buildings to be zero-net-carbon & deep energy retrofits for existing buildings
- 2018 SUCF issued Directive 1B-2
 - Purpose: define and identify goals for Net Zero Carbon (NZC) new buildings and Deep Energy Retrofits (DER) of existing buildings.
 - Function: outlines the project target goals and provides direction for project designs.
 - Metrics: Site Energy as the measure of performance and energy consumption.

Why we are here: Directive 1B-2

- Design and construct highly energy efficient buildings which significantly reduce energy consumed below an energy code standard for new buildings or energy usage for an existing building.
- In the case of insufficient project funding, the design goal will be to design the building as NZC "capable" where: the design achieves the energy use intensity (EUI) limit using HVAC equipment and systems that can be electrically powered from renewable energy sources.

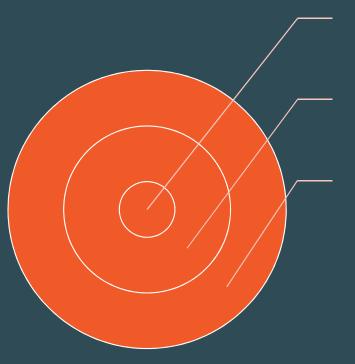
New Building Performance goals: Site Energy Use Intensity (EUI) limits

Classroom building	50 kBTU/ft2/year
Office building	50 kBTU/ft2/year
Laboratory building	150 kBTU/ft2/year
Residence Hall	32 kBTU/ft2/year

Directive 1B2 Trainings

- Module 1: Overview of PH and Net Zero
- Module 2: Construction Methods and High-Performance Products and Details
- Module 3: Air Barrier Development & Implementation
- Module 4: Net Zero HVAC Strategies and Controls + DHW
- Module 5: Construction Documents and Bidding
- Module 6: Deep Energy Retrofits
- Module 7: Refrigerant Management in Design, Construction, and Operations
- Module 8: Construction Manager/Subcontractor/Tradesperson Training

Airtightness



Planning during design and the integrated design approach

Training for contractors and subs

Inspections and testing



Air Flow in Buildings

<u>Infiltration: air movement</u> <u>into the building</u>

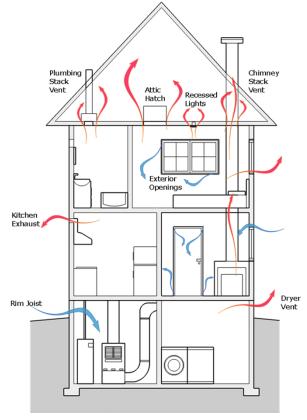
Occurs in areas of negative pressure inside the building

Exfiltration: air movement out of the building

Occurs in areas of positive pressure inside the building



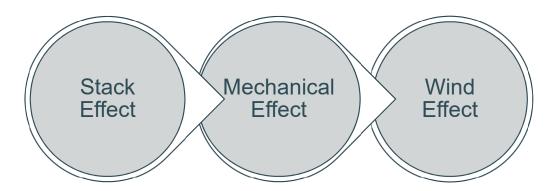
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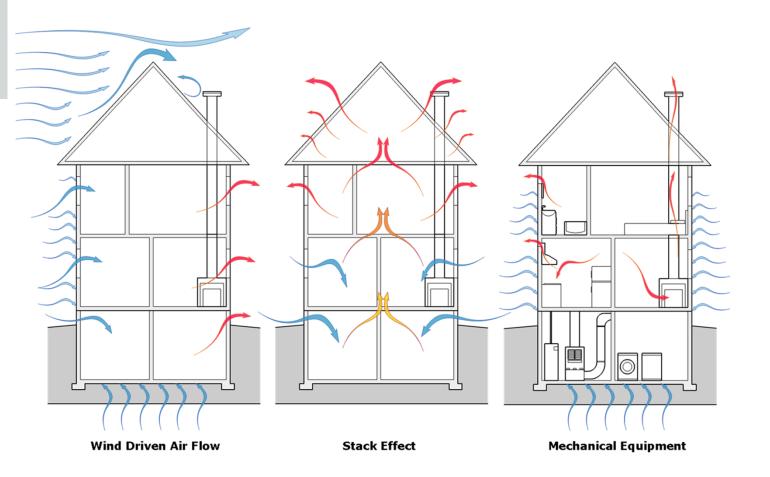


Air Flow in Buildings

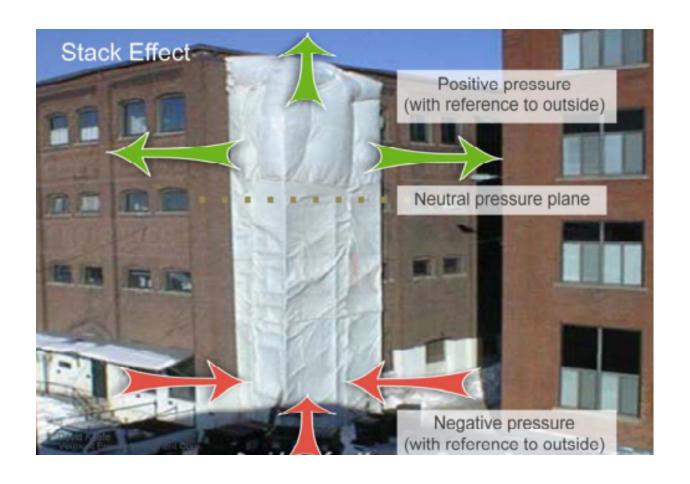
Air Flow in Buildings

3 Main Driving Forces





Air Flow in Buildings



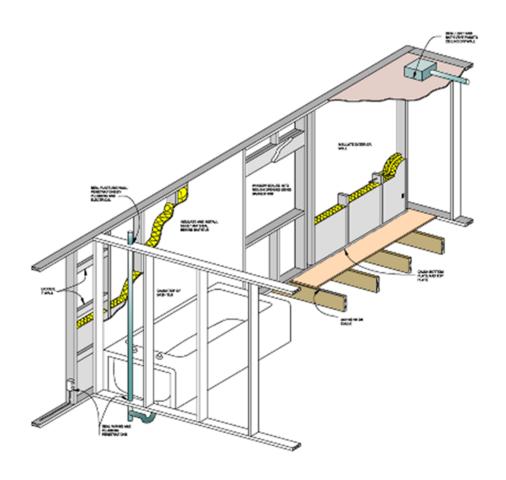
Stack Effect

Air Sealing Priorities

- Stop the Stack Effect!!
- Resolve the biggest holes first
- Top of the building is typically first priority
- Base of the building is next
- Center of the building after that

Air Barriers

- 90% of Moisture transport is (was) by air-movement, not diffusion
- Insulation is ineffective without air-sealing
- Leakage primarily at edges, corners, joints and penetrations, transitions, and terminations



Find the Air Barrier





What is the air barrier?

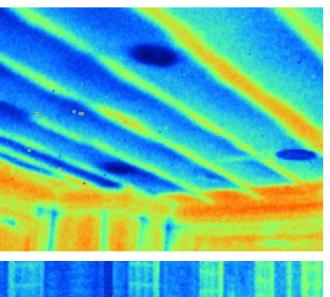


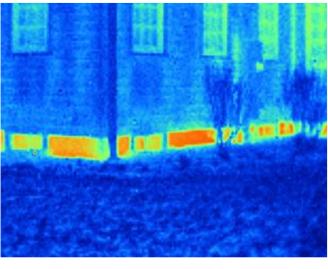
Find the Air Barrier











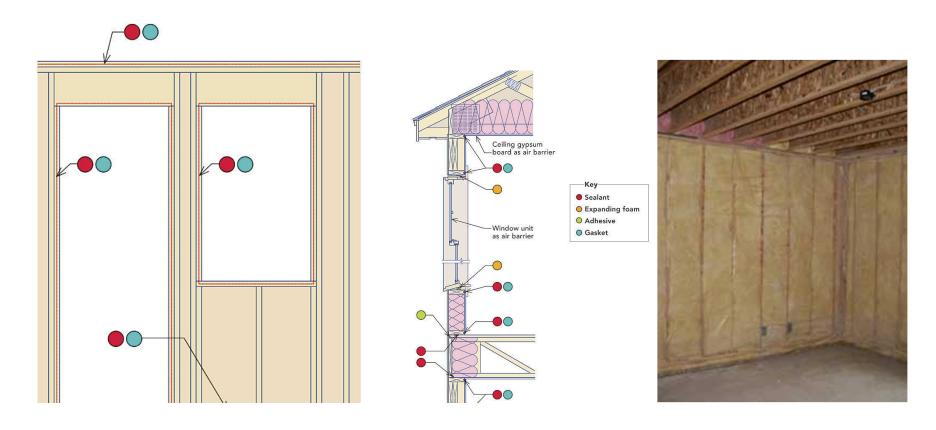
Finding and Measuring Leaks

Caulking your way to Air-tight?





Air Tight Drywall and Interior Membrane



Air-Barrier Placement and Material





How Tight Do You Want To Get?



2021 IECC Residential Code

- 3.0 ACH50
- 0.3 CFM50/ft2 (individual dwelling)

2021 IECC Commercial Code

- 0.3 CFM50/ft2 (individual dwelling)
- 0.4 CFM75/ft2 (whole-building)

Passive House

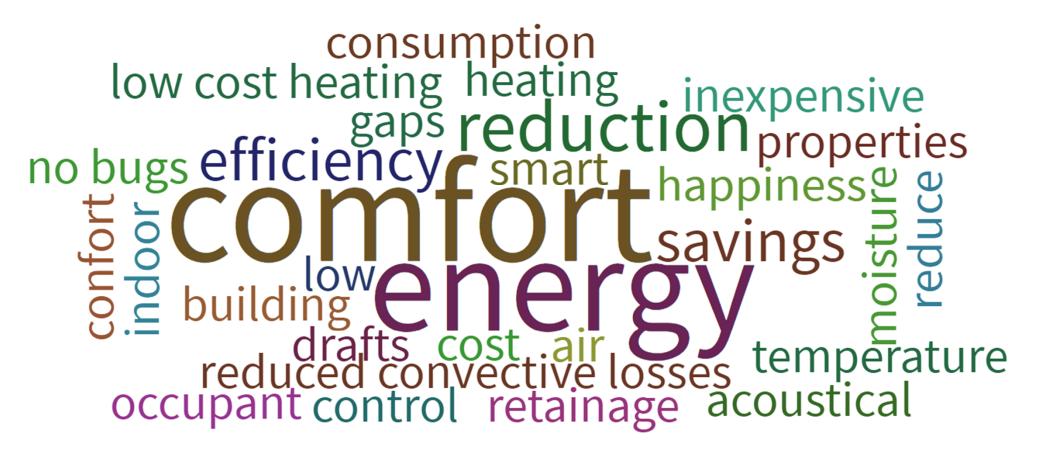
0.6 ACH50

Air Tightness



- Requirement: < 0.6 ACH@50
- What does this mean?
 - @50 refers to 50 pascals pressure difference between indoors and out during a blower door test, ≈ 20mph wind on all sides of house
 - 0.6 ACH@50 ≈ 5 times tighter than
 Code requirements

Name some benefits of air barriers.



Define Air-Barrier

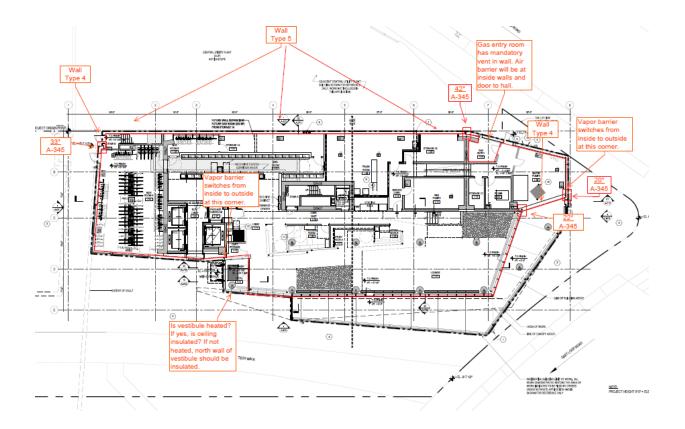
Redline around entire perimeter indicating air-sealed surface

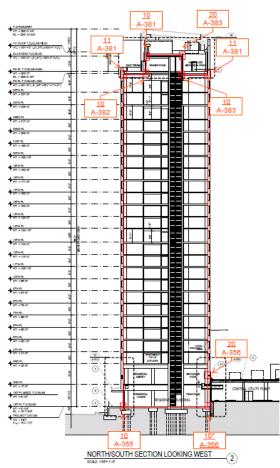
Both in plan view and in section

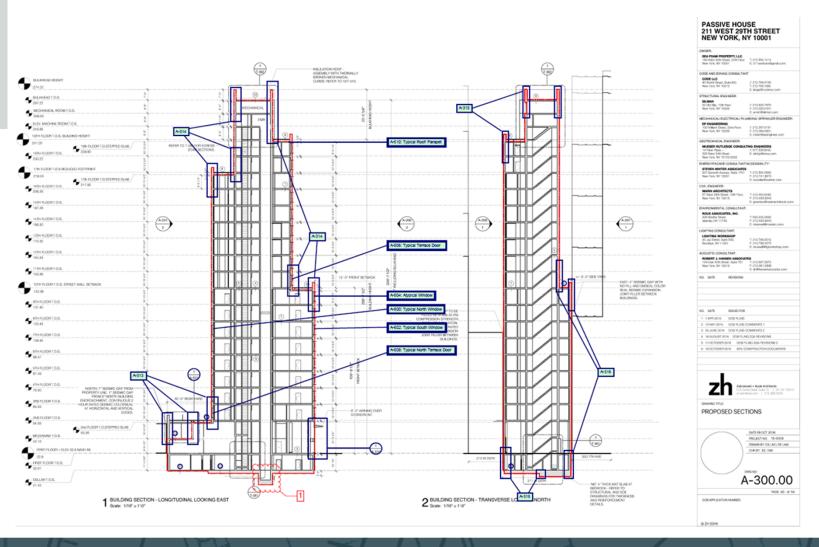
Circle all unique transition points – corners, changes in components, cantilevers, wall/roof, slab/wall, etc.

Key to details for how all these transitions will be air sealed.

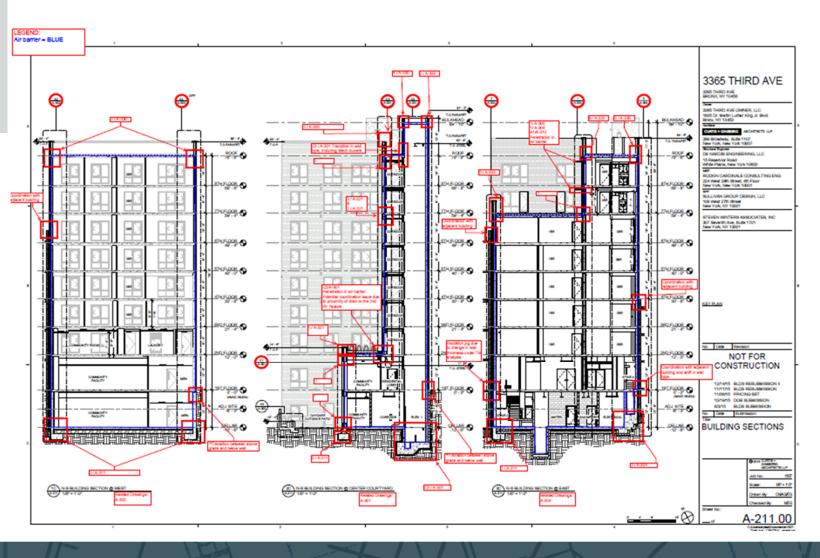
Define Air-Barrier



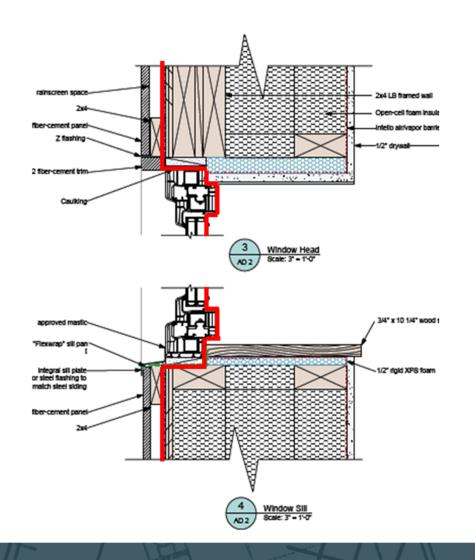




DefineAir Barrier



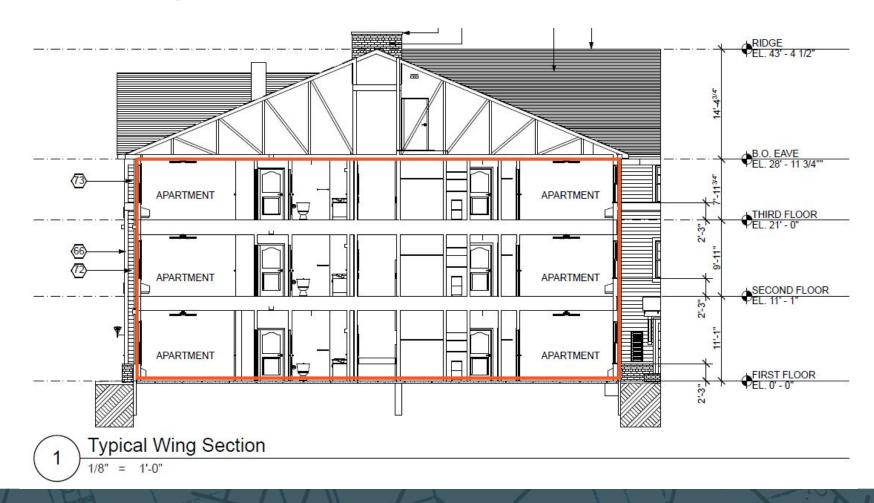
DefineAir Barrier



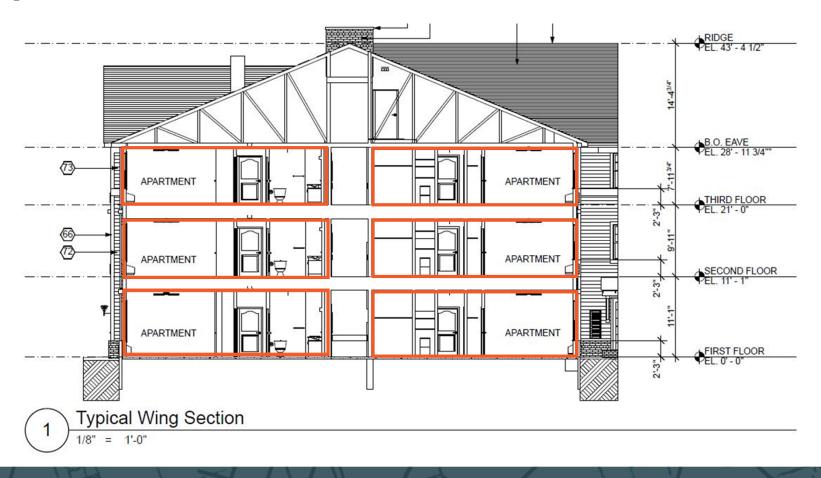
Define Air Barrier

- Redline around entire perimeter indicating air sealed surface
- Both in plan view and in section
- Circle all transition points corners, changes in components, cantilevers, wall/roof, slab/wall, etc.
- Provide details for how all these transitions will be air sealed

Whole Building Barrier



Compartmentalization



Air Barrier Materials

• Building materials that are designed and constructed to provide the principal plane of airtightness through an environmental separator, which has an air permeance rate no greater than 0.02 L/(s•m²) (0.004 cfm/ft²) at a pressure difference of 75 Pa when tested in accordance with ASTM E 2178.

Air Barrier Accessories

- Products designated to maintain air tightness between air barrier materials, assemblies and components, to fasten them to the structure of the building, or both (e.g., sealants, tapes, backer rods, transition membranes, nails/washers, ties, clips, staples, strapping, primers) and which has an air permeance rate no greater than 0.02 L/(s•m²) at a pressure difference of 75 Pa when tested in accordance with ASTM E 2178.
- Air barrier components are used to connect and seal air barrier materials and/or air barrier assemblies together.

Air Barrier Components

- Air barrier components Pre-manufactured elements such as windows, doors and service elements that are installed in the environmental separator and sealed by air barrier accessories
- Must have an air leakage rate no greater than 0.20L/(s•m²) at a pressure difference of 75 Pa when tested in accordance with ASTM E 2357.

Air Barrier Assemblies

- Combinations of air barrier materials and air barrier accessories that are designated and designed within the environmental boundary to act as a continuous barrier to the movement of air through the environmental boundary
- Must have an air leakage rate no greater than 0.20 L/(s•m²) at a pressure difference of 75 Pa when tested in accordance with ASTM E 2357.

Air Barrier Systems (Enclosure)

• Combinations of air barrier assemblies and air barrier components, connected by air barrier accessories, that are designed to provide a continuous barrier to the movement of air through an environmental separator, which has an air leakage rate no greater than 2.0 L/(s•m²) at a pressure difference of 75 Pa when tested in accordance with ASTM E 779.

Common Air Barrier Materials

- Gypsum Wall Board
- Plywood
- Concrete
- Housewrap products
- 6 Mil poly (unpeforated)
- Roll form Water Resistive Barriers
- Fluid Applied WRBs

- Foil-faced Polyisocyanurate
- Extruded Polystyrene (XPS)
- Closed Cell SPF
- "Smart" Vapor-retarders

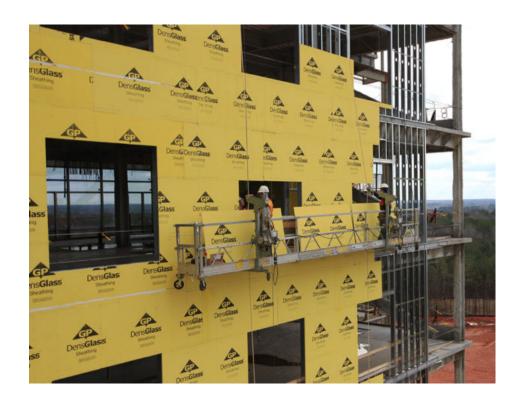
House Wrap





Gypsum Sheathing





Proprietary Air Barrier Materials





Plywood as an Air Barrier



Self-Adhered Air-Barriers and WRBs



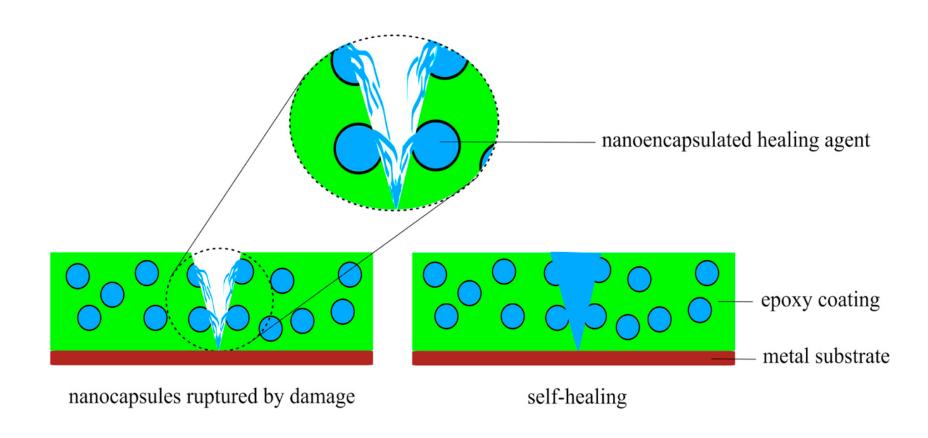


Fluid Applied Air-Barriers and WRBs





Self Healing Membranes



Closed-cell Spray Polyurethane Foam (ccSPF)





Polyisocyanurate

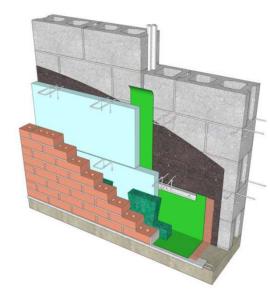




- R-6.5/inch
- Air and vapor impermeable if faced (other facers available)
- Can serve as air-barrier and water-resistive barrier
- Common above-deck roof insulation

Extruded Polystyrene (XPS)





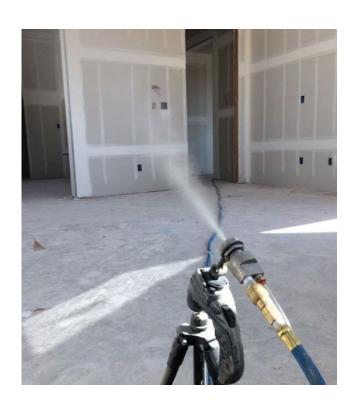
- Can be effective WRB; joints critical
- Monolithic material with no facer
- Material is very water tolerant (below grade uses)
- R-5 per inch (5.4/inch available)
- Class II VR (thickness dependent)

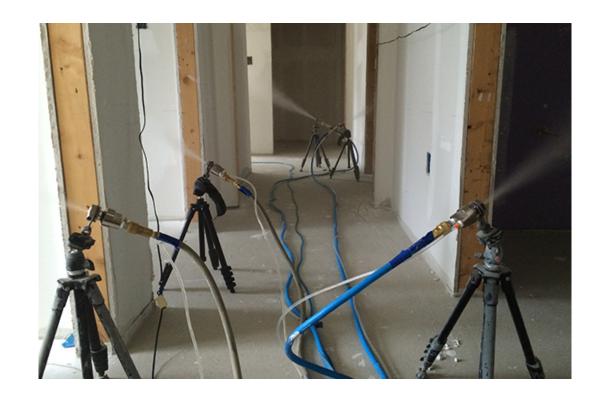
Interior Membranes





Compartmentilazation





Execute Air Barrier Correctly





Thermal Boundary and Air Barrier Integration

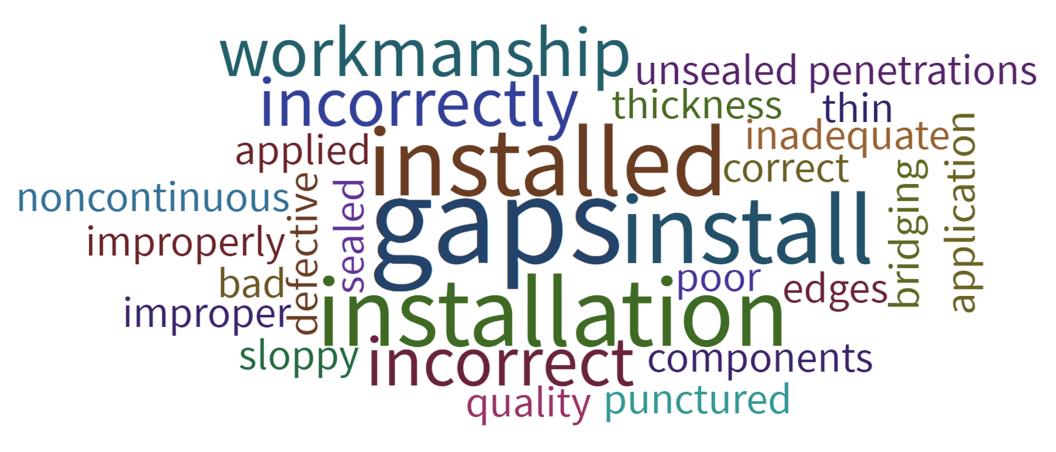
- The two boundaries work together to manage Energy, Moisture, and Increase Durability
 - Energy Control = C02 and \$\$\$ Saved
 - Moisture Control = building durability
 - Comfort Control = happy occupants
- To Function Properly Must be:
 - Continuous (no gaps)
 - Aligned with each other

Aligned Thermal Boundary and Air Barrier



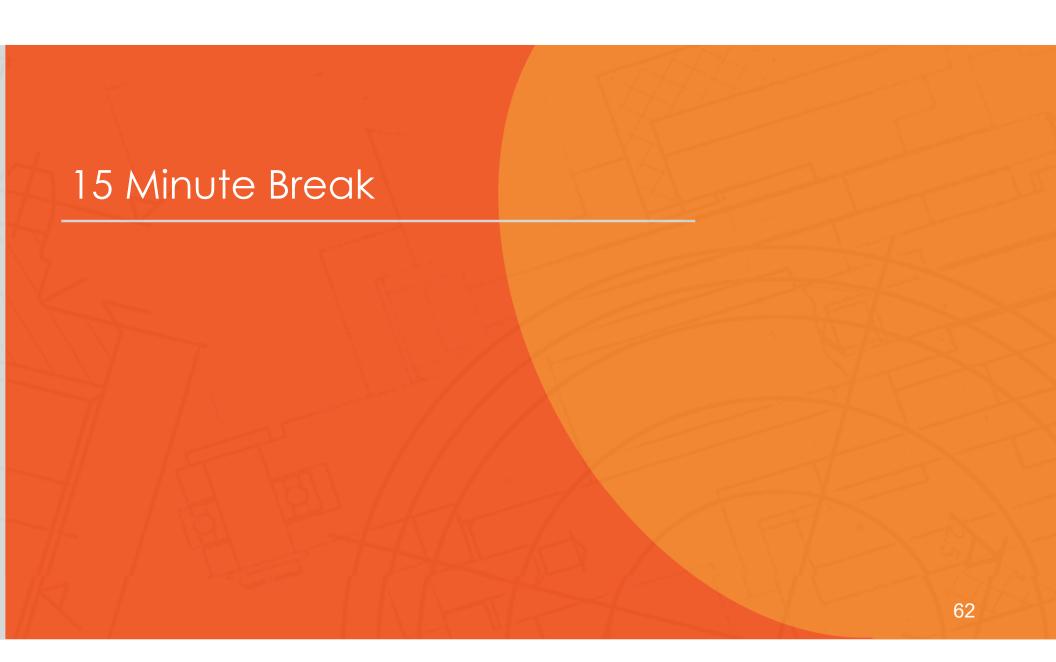


Name a common reason air barriers are ineffective.



Questions?





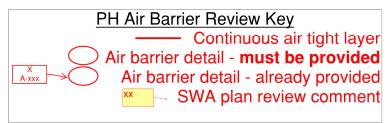
Planning during design and the integrated design approach



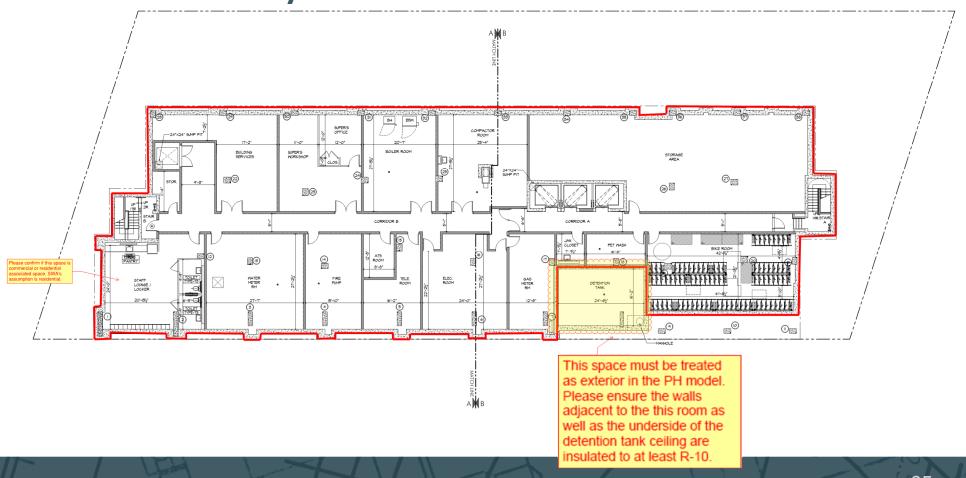
fxcollarborative / MHG Architects

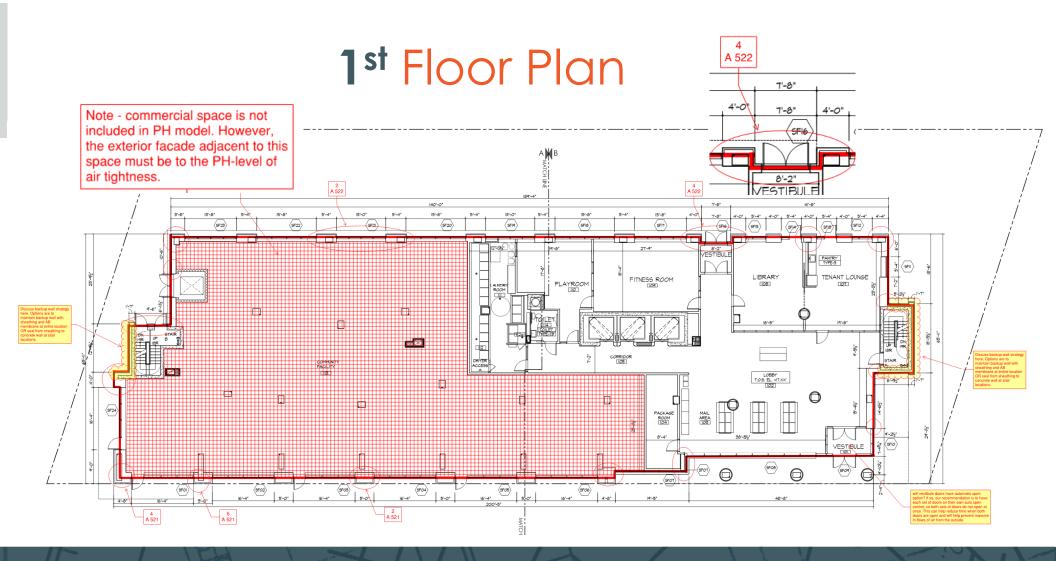
Air-Barrier Review Light Gauge Steel Back-up

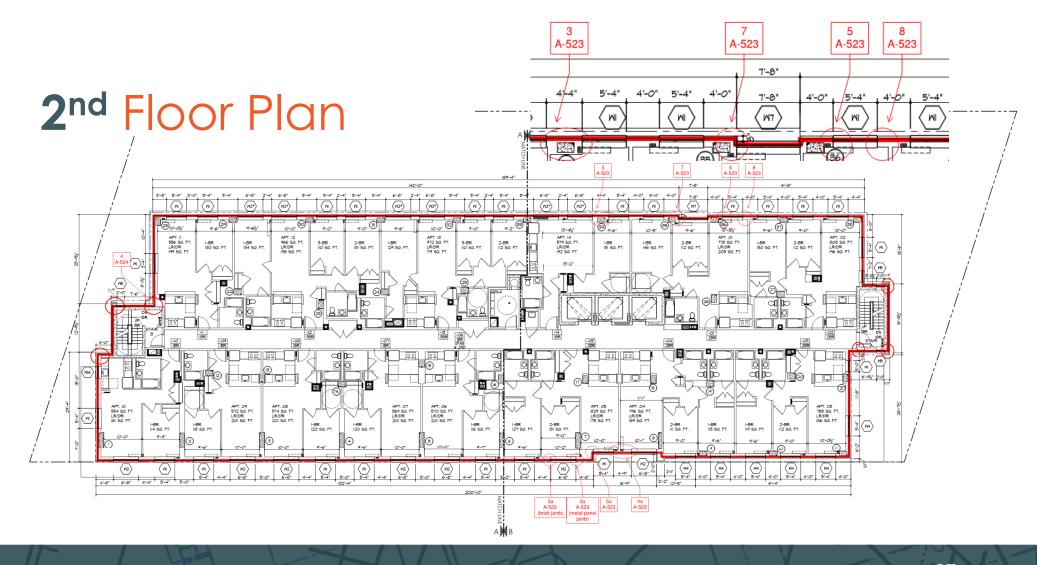
La Central Building C: Air Barrier Review - 50% CD Steven Winter Associates, Inc. January 29, 2019



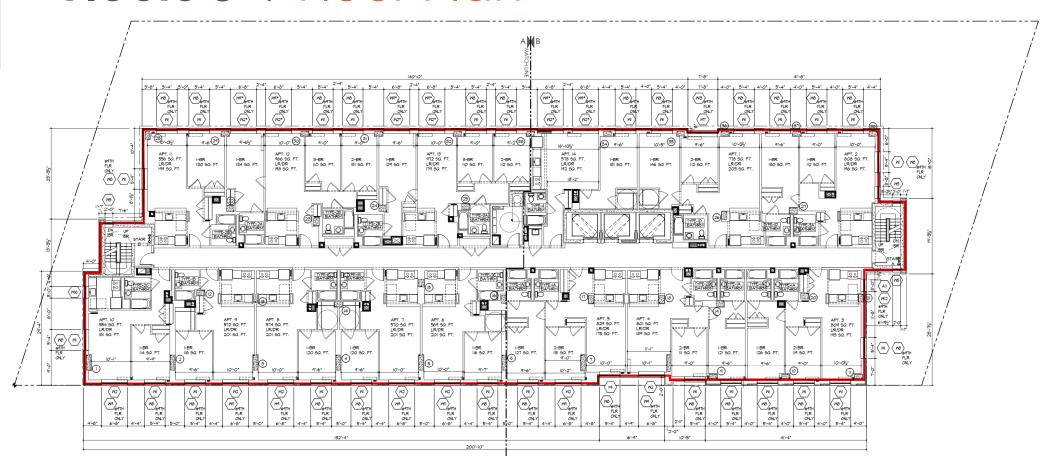
Foundation/Basement Plan

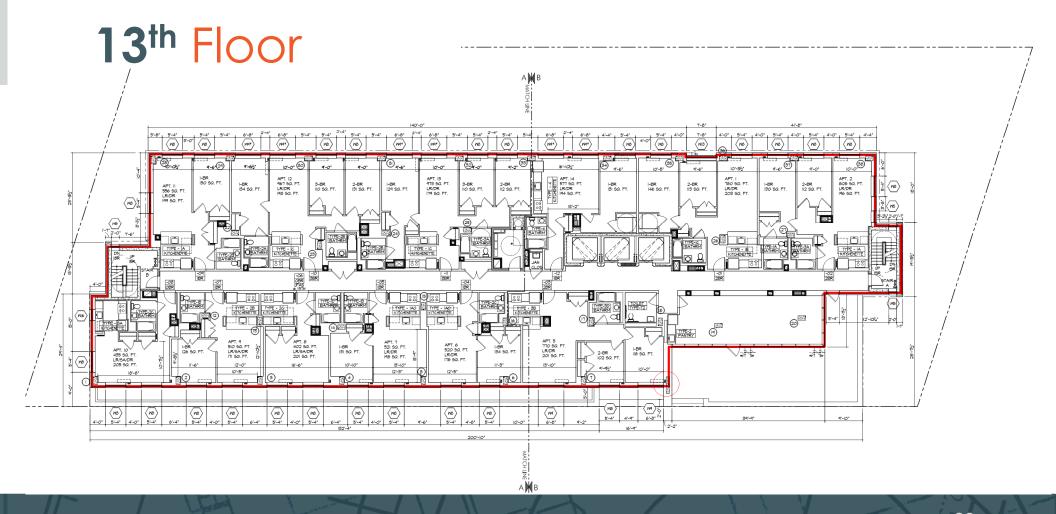




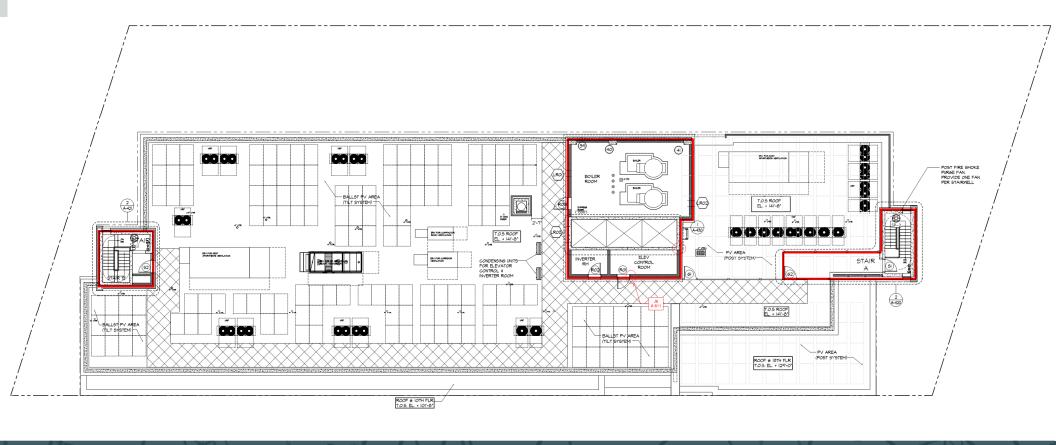


Floors 3-9 Floor Plan

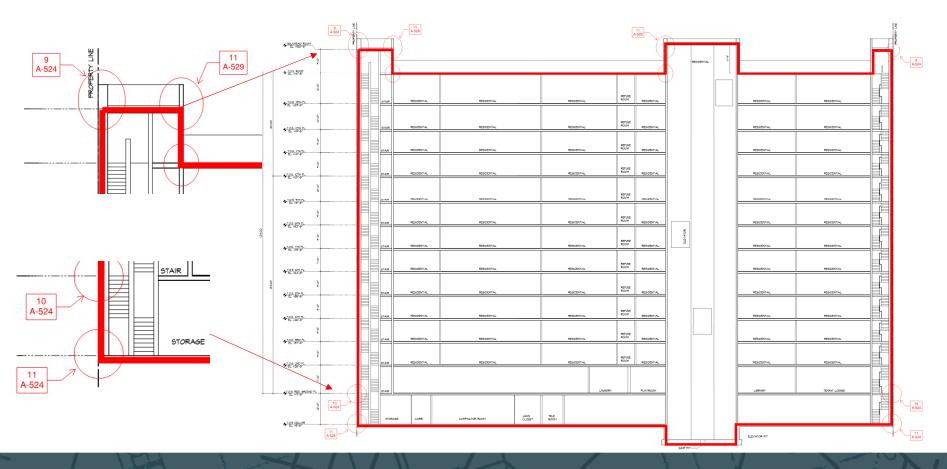


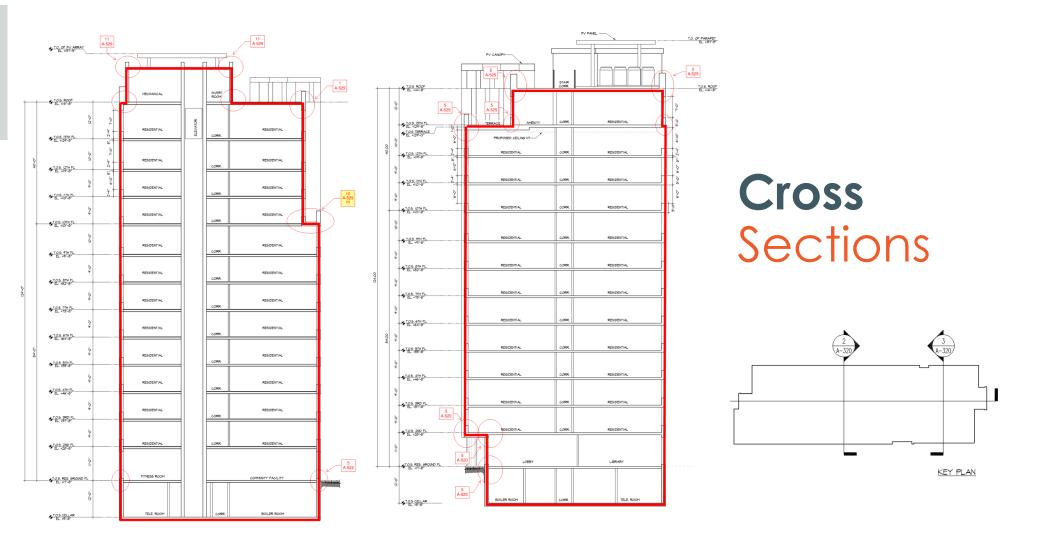


Roof Plan

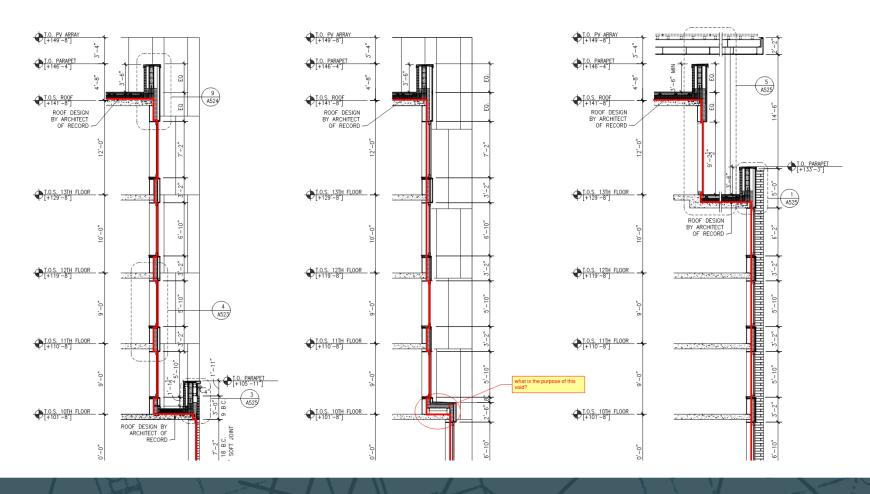


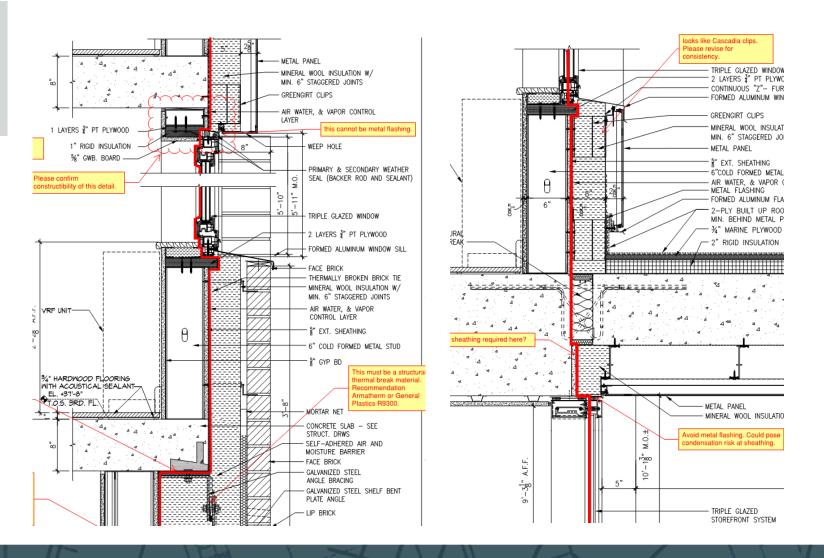
Transverse Section



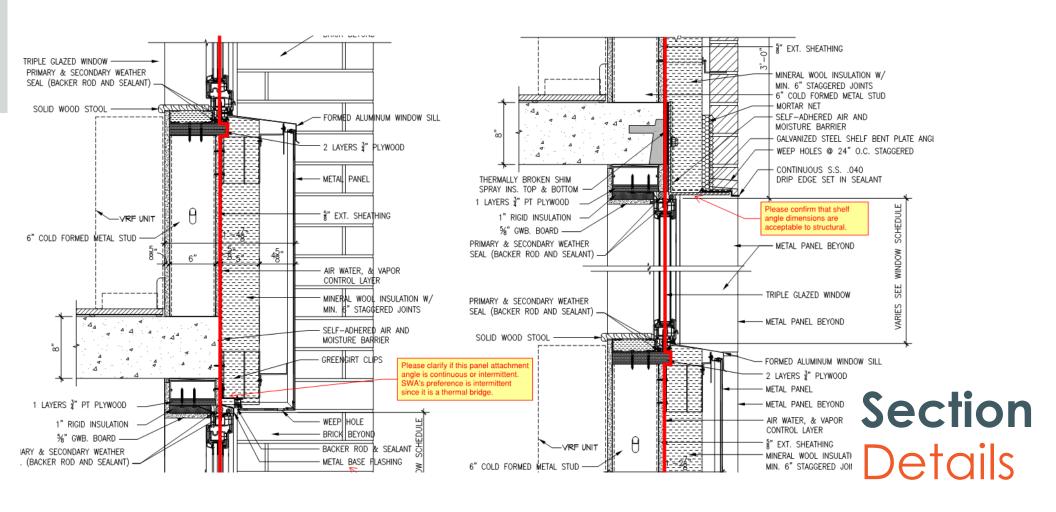


Wall Sections

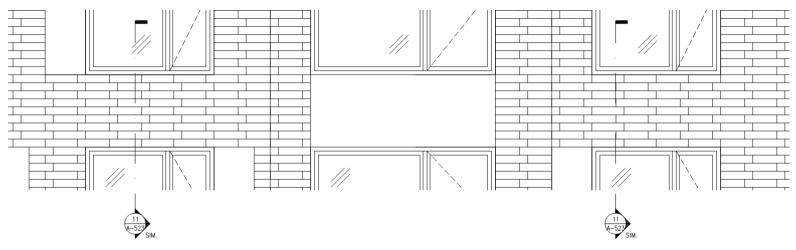




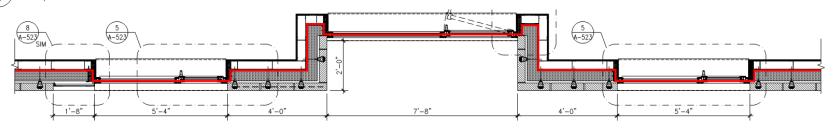
SectionDetails



Plan Details

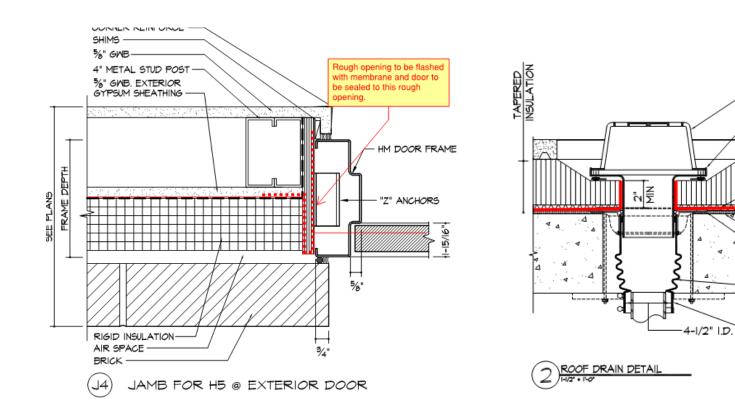








Misc. Details



STRAINER BASKET

CONCRETE)

-FILTER FABRIC

-DECK FLANGE

DRAINAGE BOARD

-6" RIGID INSULATION

NEOPRENE FLEXIBLE BELLOWS 6½" O.D.

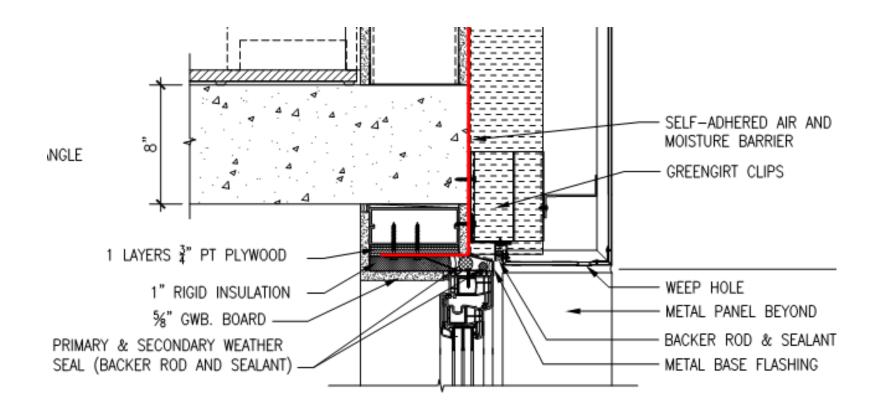
NO-HUB CONNECTION

(R5 PER INCH, MIN R30)

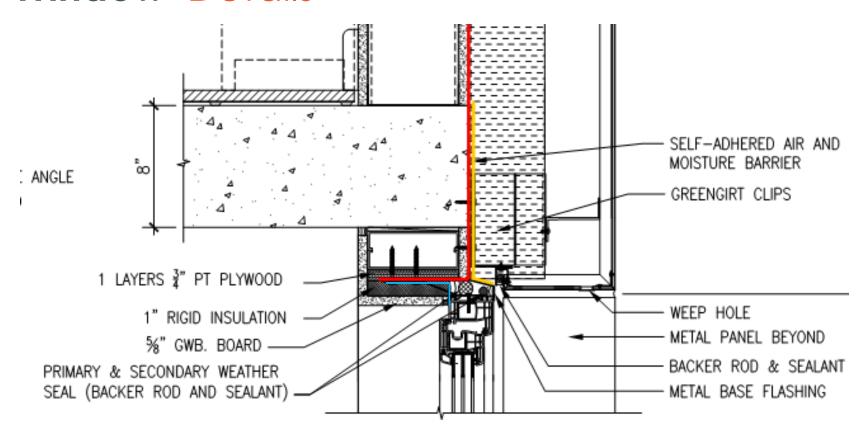
-COLD FLUID APPLIED ROOFING -TOP OF 8" CONC ROOF PLANK

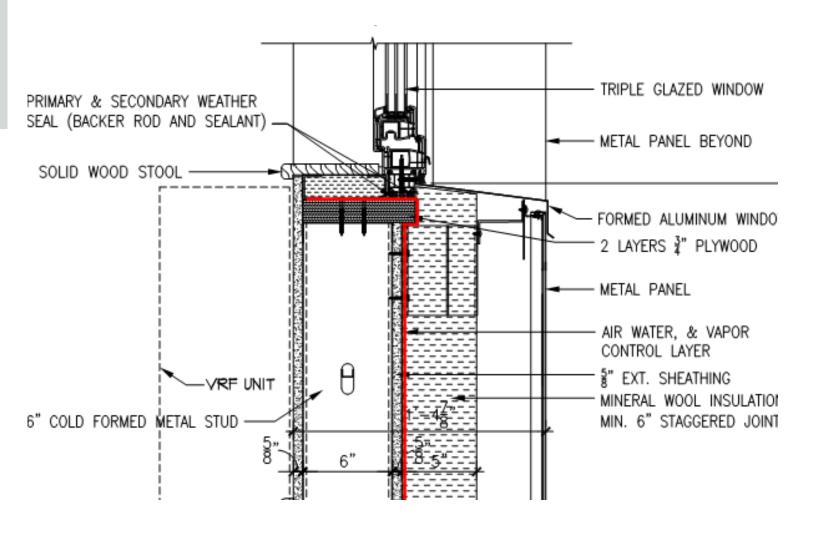
GRAVEL STOP FLANGE \$
SLEEVE W PERIMETER CAULKING
-BALLAST PAVERS (PRECAST

Window Details

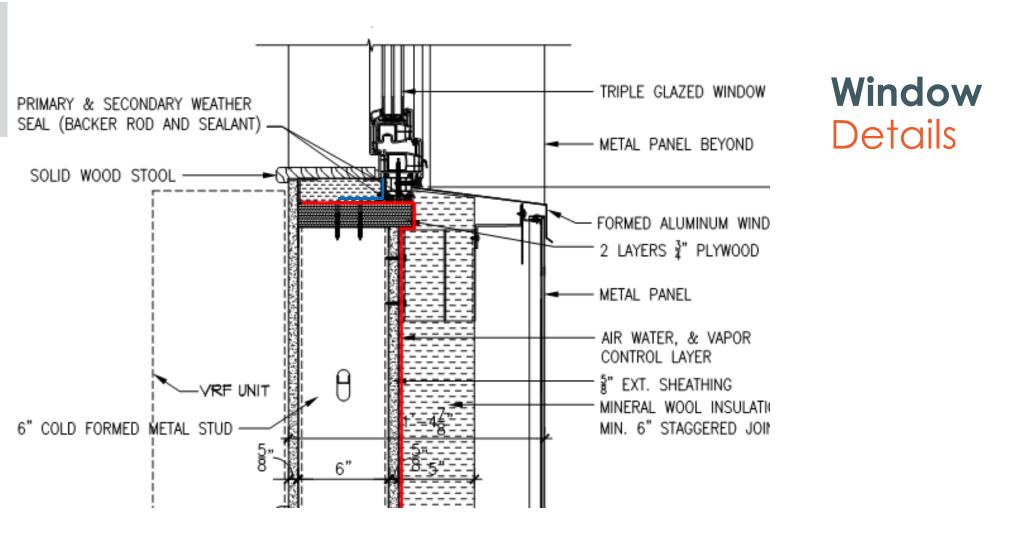


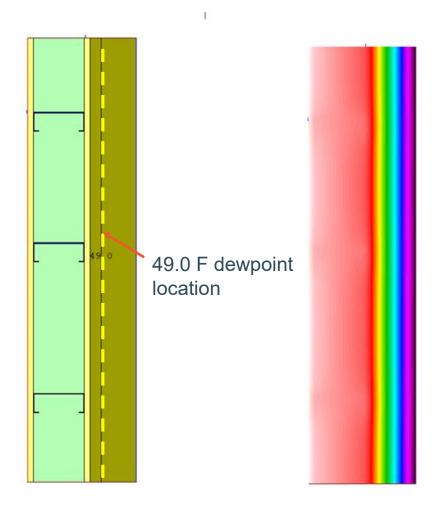
Window Details





Window Details



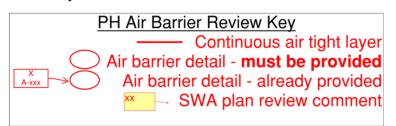


THERM Analysis

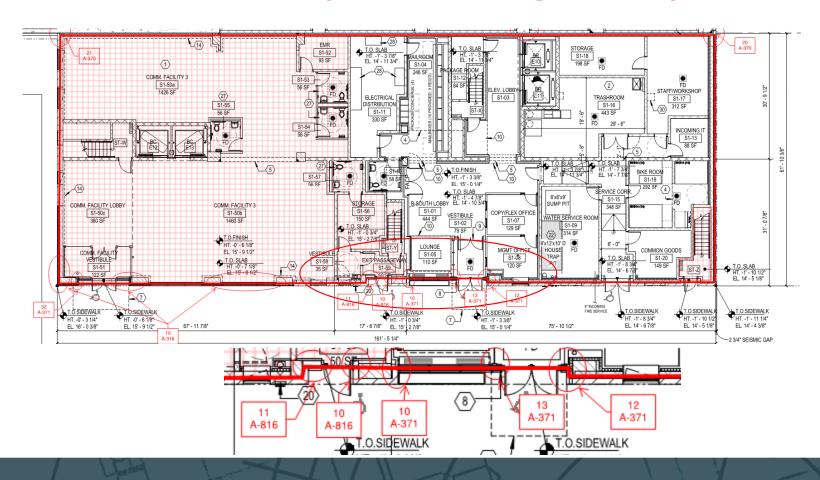


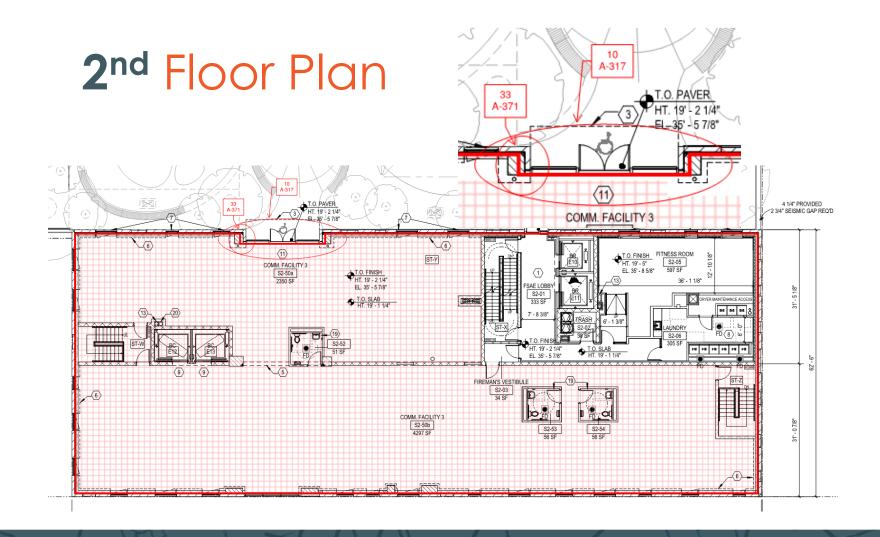
Air Barrier Review CMU Back-up

Steven Winter Associates, Inc. January 29, 2019

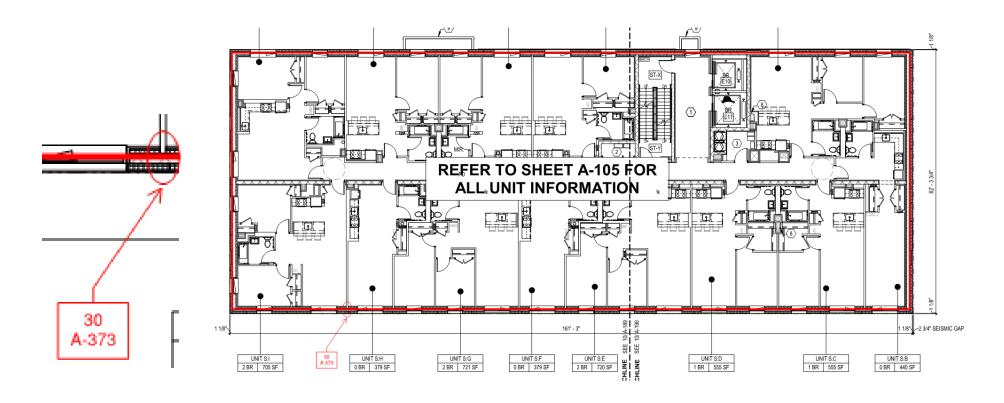


1st Floor Plan (slab-on-grade)

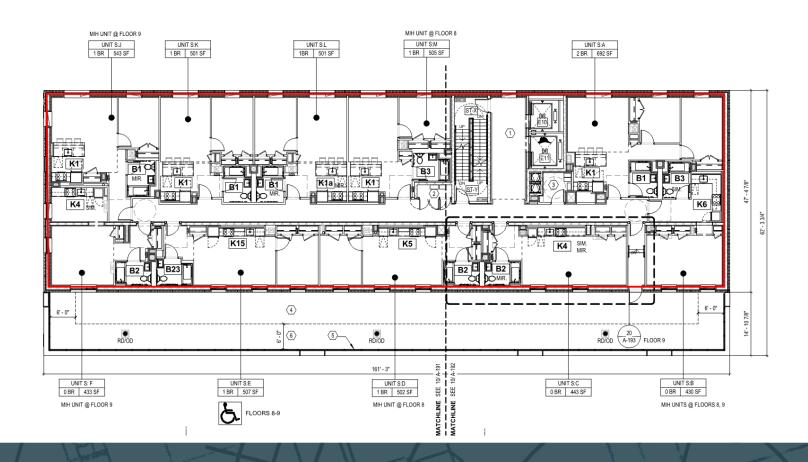




3rd & 4th Floor Plan

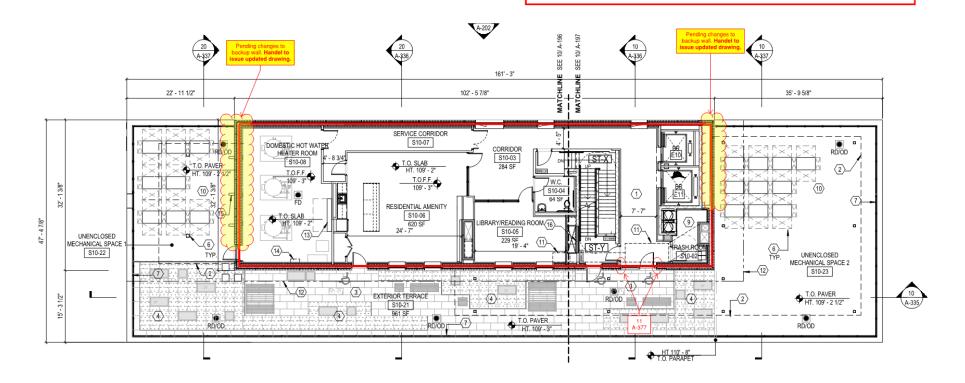


8th & 9th Floor Plan



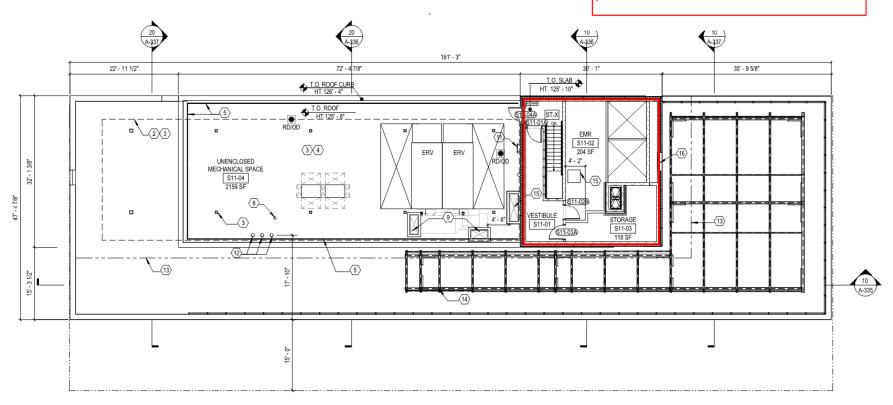
10th Floor Plan

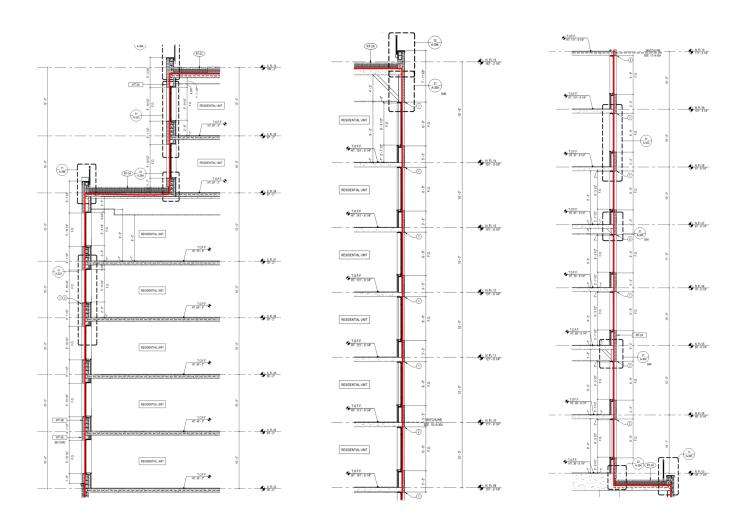
Refer to A-391 and A-392 for roof penetration details.



Bulkhead/Roof Plan

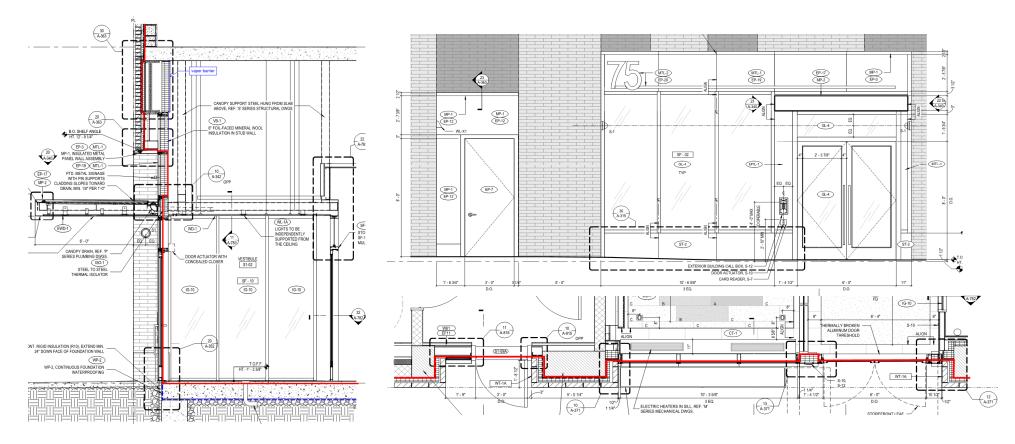
Refer to A-391 and A-392 for roof penetration details.

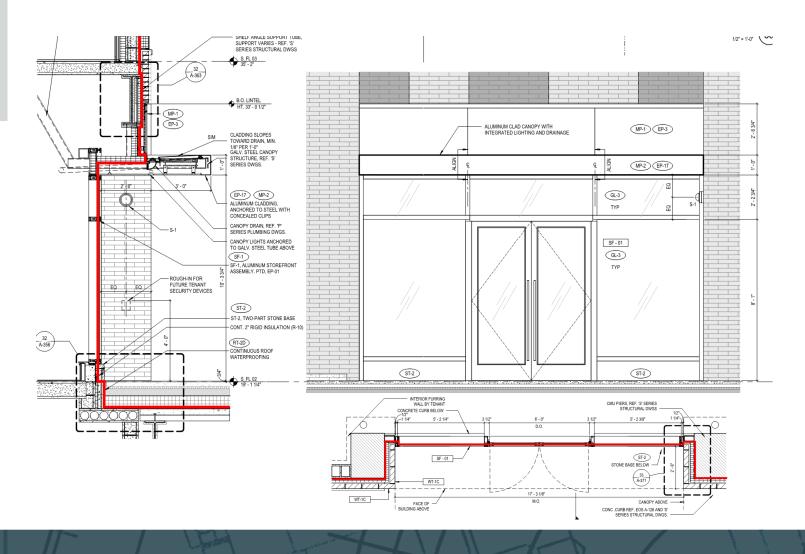




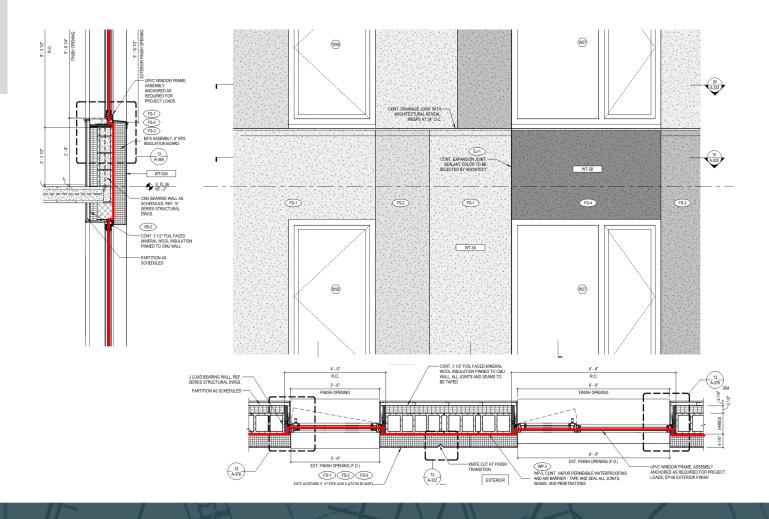
Wall Sections

Detail Sections

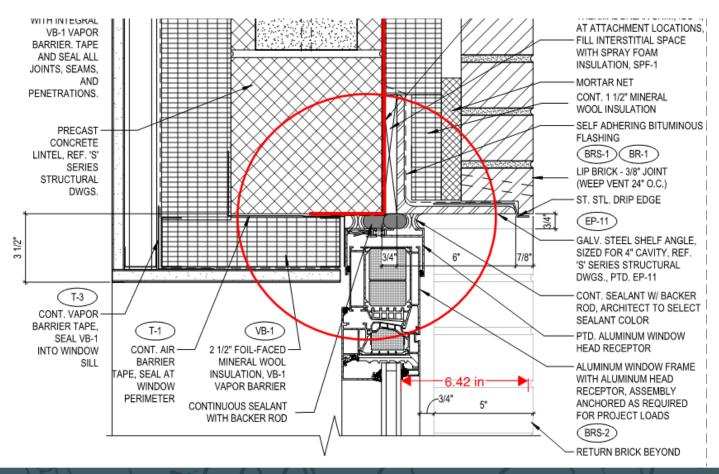


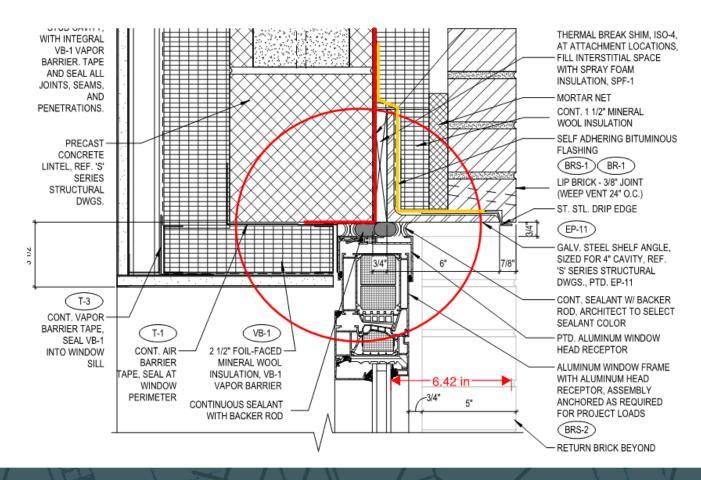


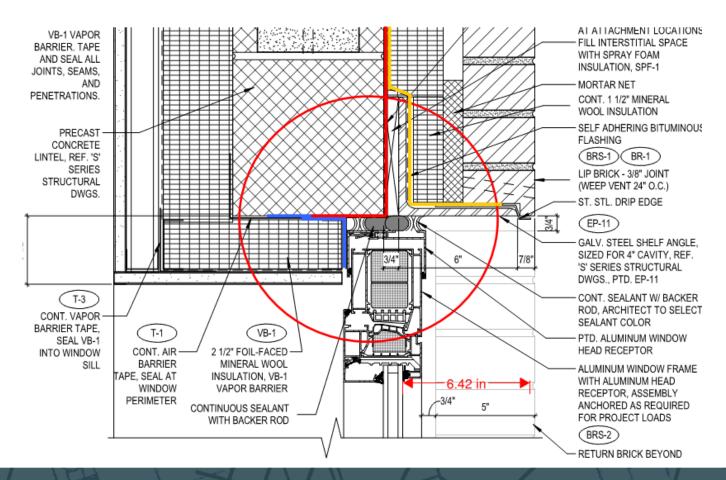
DetailSections

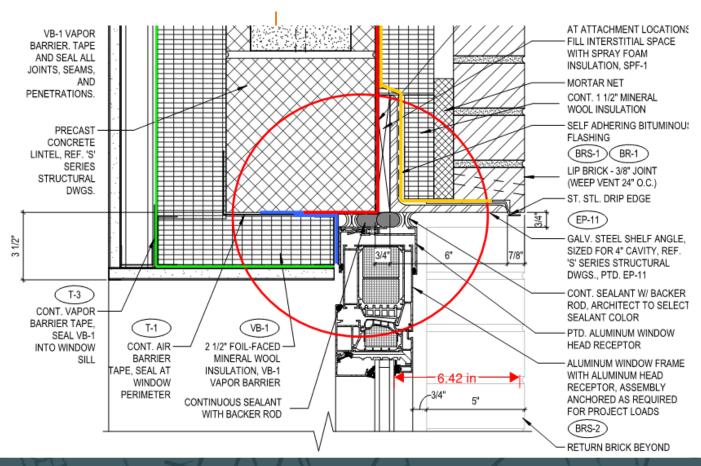


Detail Sections

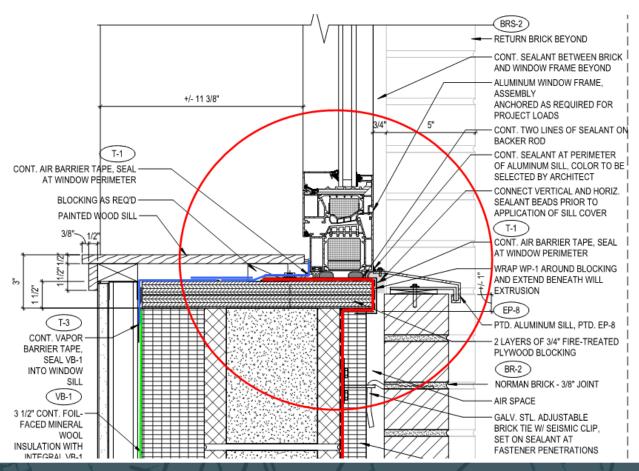


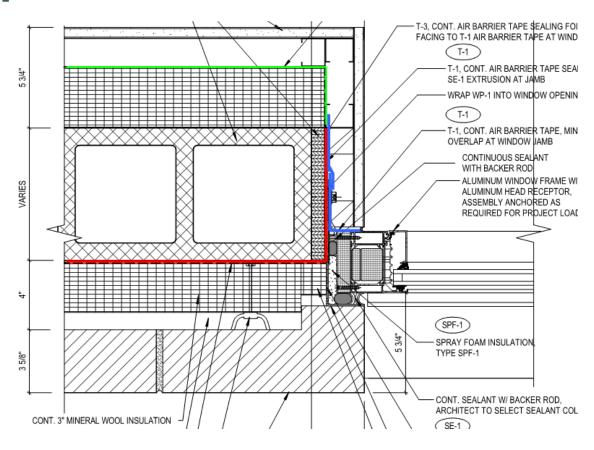


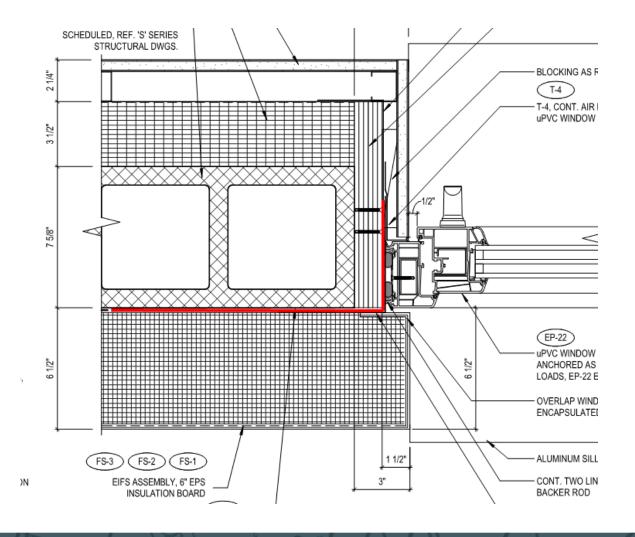




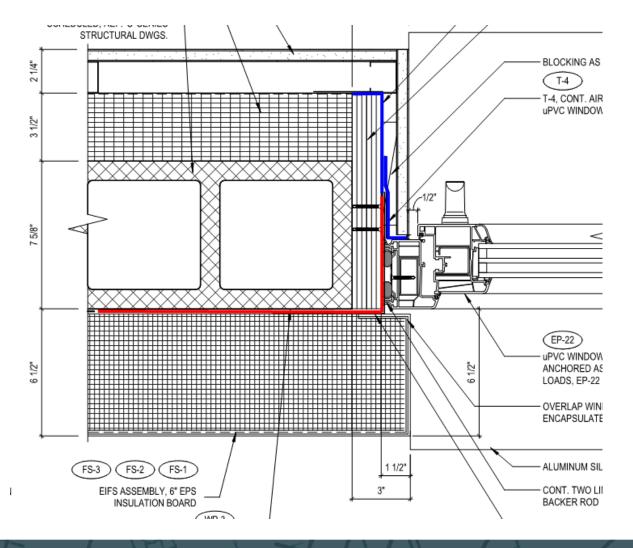
Typical Window Sill @ Brick Veneer



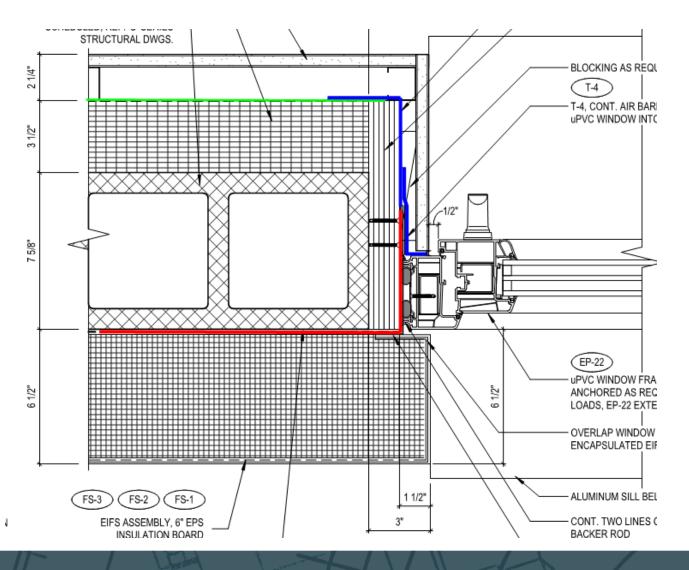




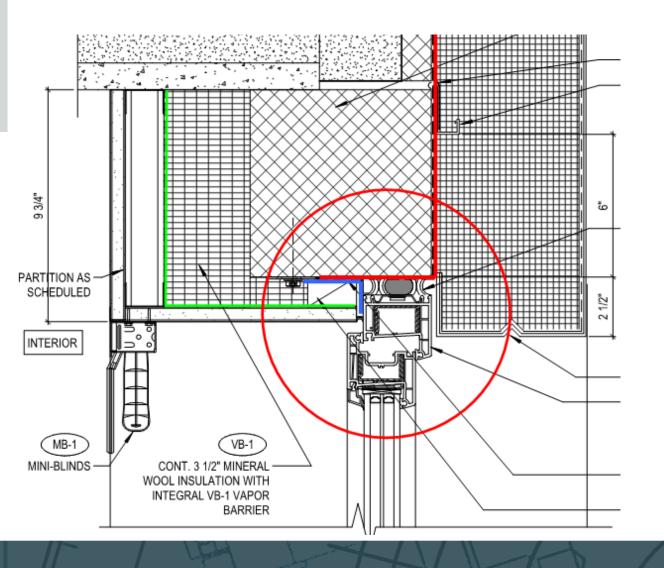
Typical Window Jamb @ EIFS



Typical Window Jamb @ EIFS

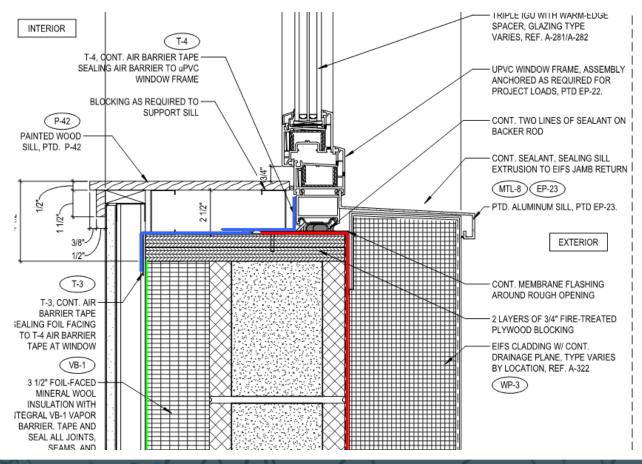


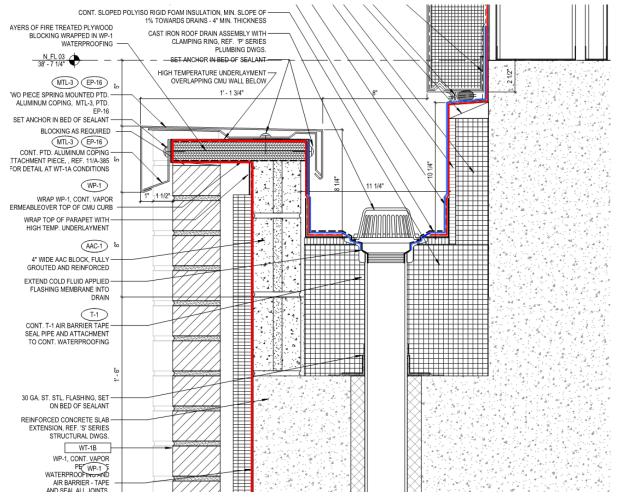
Typical Window Jamb @ EIFS



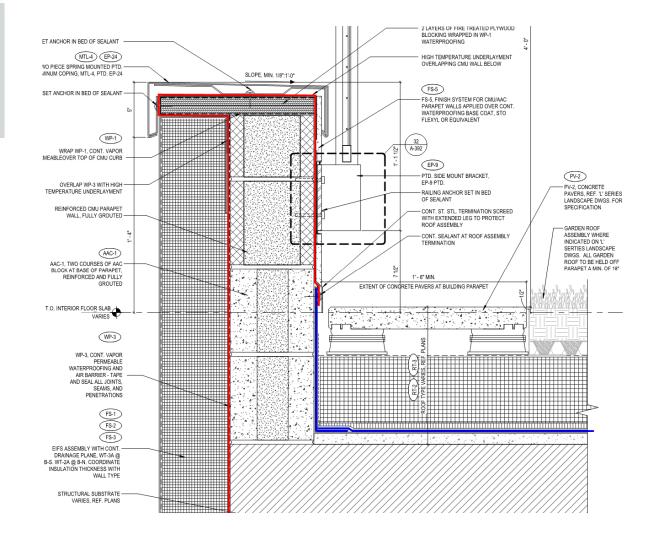
Typical Window Head @ EIFS

Typical Window Sill @ EIFS





Parapet / Roof Details



Parapet / Roof Details

Name required attributes for high performance wall assemblies.



Questions?



Air Barrier Approaches



TEAM

Cornell University | Hudson Companies | Related Companies Handel Architects | Steven Winter Associates | Buro Happold Vidaris | Monadnock Construction



TEAM

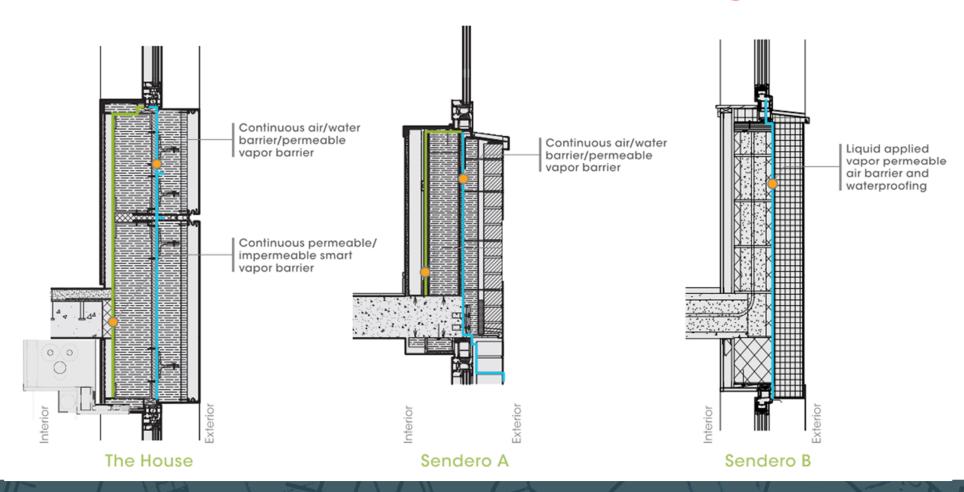
Jonathan Rose Companies | L+M Development Partners | Acacia Network | Handel Architects | Steven Winter Associates Cosentini | DeSimone Consulting Engineers | Vidaris

Comparing Three Different Projects

Exterior Wall Comparison: Air-Tightness



Exterior Wall Comparison: Air Tightness



PROJECT SUMMARY

- 26 stories
- 352 units
- Lobby, fitness room, laundry, lounge, party room
- Split system VRF for heating and cooling
- Centralized ventilation using 2 Rooftop ERV's
- Gas fired boilers for domestic hot water
- 272,500 GSF, 198,338 SF TFA the largest residential Passive House building
- 270' to roof, 285' to top of wrap

USERS



Graduate Studen



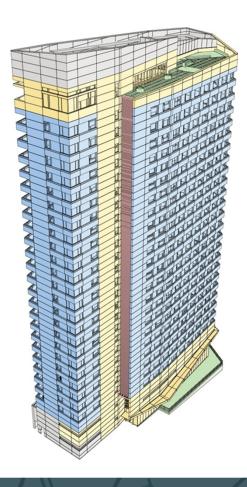
Post Doctor



PhD Candidate

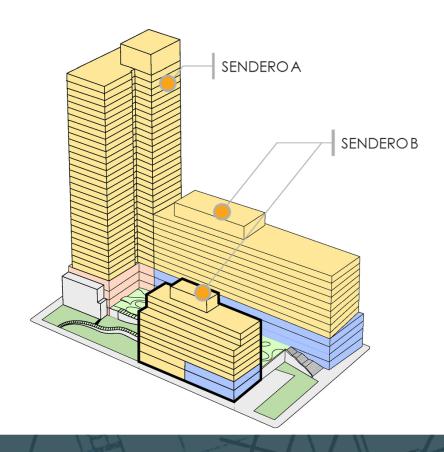


Faculty



The House Project Summary

Sendero Project Summary



PROJECT SUMMARY

- A: 37 stories, B: 15/9 stories
- 698 units total
- Residential amenities: lounges, fitness rooms, study rooms, roofdecks
- Split system VRF for heating and cooling
- Centralized ventilation with Rooftop ERV's
- Gas Fired boilers for domestic hot water
- 650,000 GFA Residential, 249,332 SFTFA (Bldg A), 152,333 SF TFA (Bldg B North), 55,076 SF TFA (Bldg B South)
- 150,000 GFA Community Facility Spaces: High School and Supportive Services

USERS



liah Shool Students



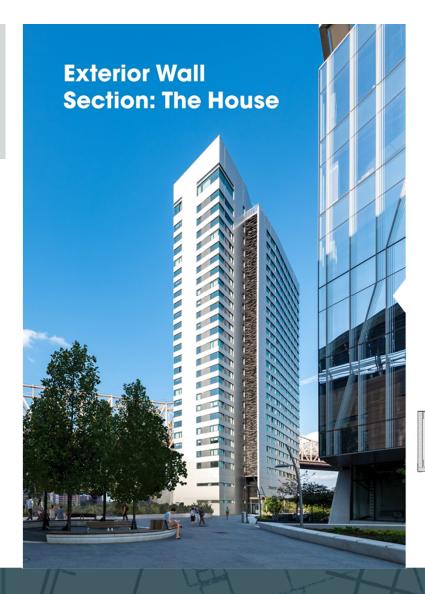
Residents

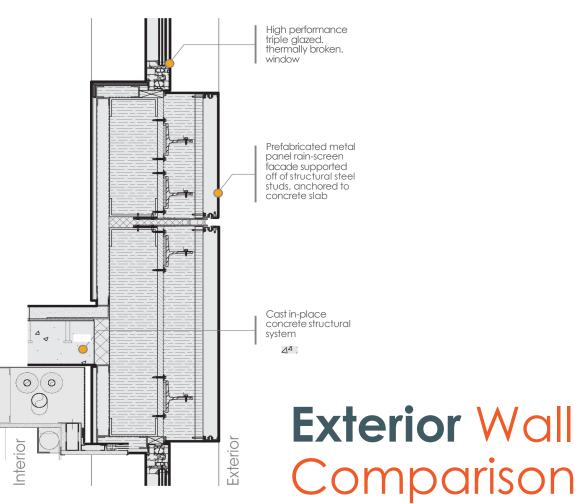


Seniors



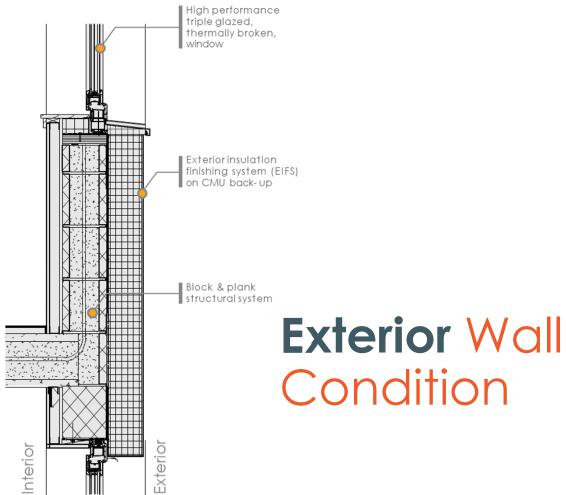
Health Clinic Users



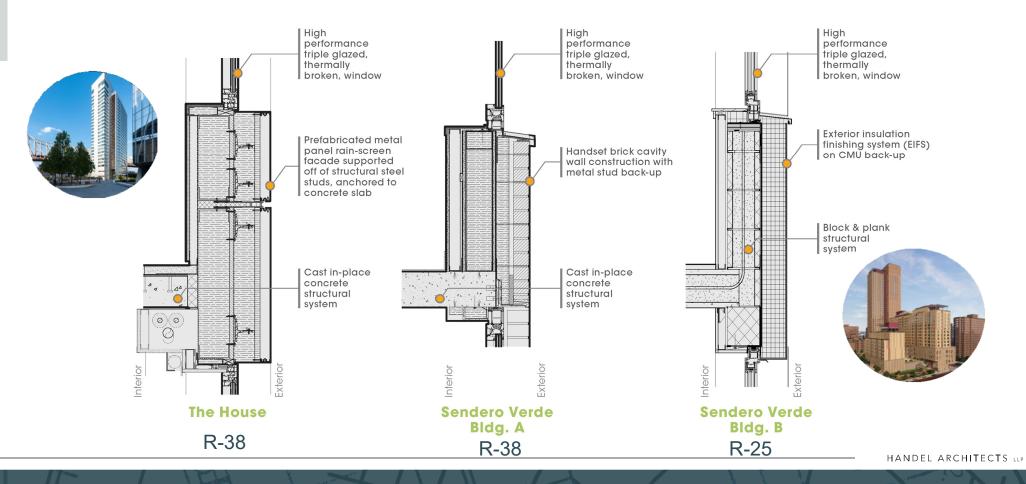




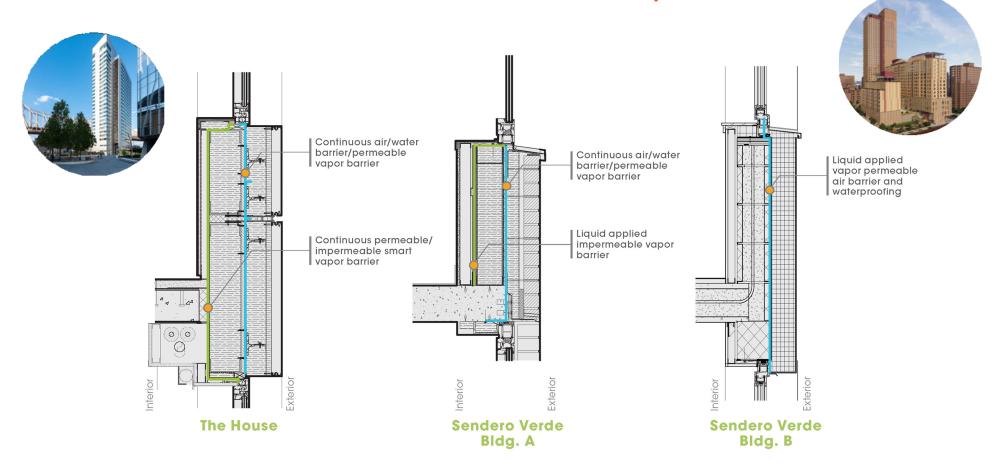




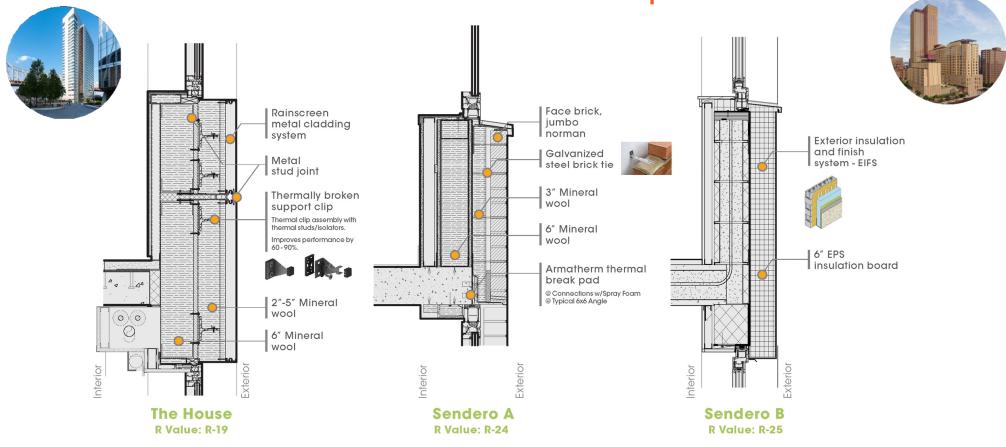
Exterior Wall Section Comparison



Exterior Wall Section Comparison



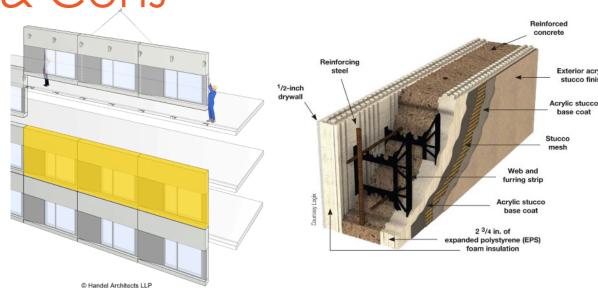
Exterior Wall Section Comparison

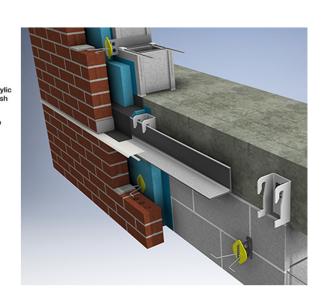


HANDEL ARCHITECTS LLP

Thermal Performance / Air Barrier Pros

& Cons





Prefabricated Panels

Fabricated Stud Frame Wall panel offset with water vapor barrier installed with window

Insulated Concrete Form

Stay in place concrete form with integral straps for attachment

CMU

Concrete masonry wall with rigid insulation

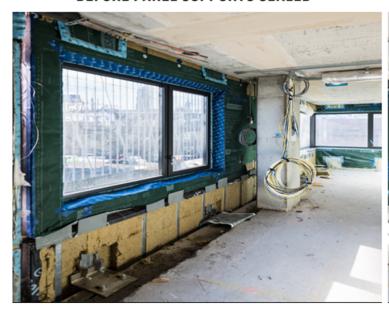




Prefab Panels Air-barrier and Sealing

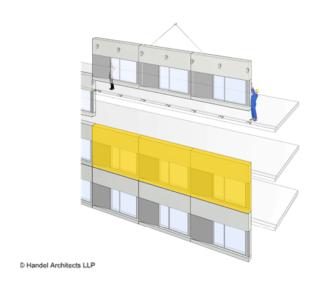
BEFORE PANEL SUPPORTS SEALED

AFTER PANEL SUPPORTS SEALED





Prefab Panels Pros and Cons



Pros

- Speed of construction
- Quality control in the factory
- Can be extremely efficient and air tight

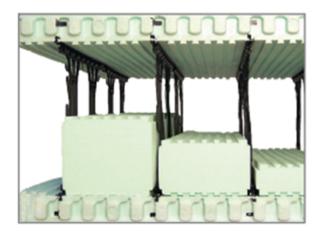


Cons

- Cost
- Coordination and design assistance needed very early on
- Logistics/shipping to site
- Ability to perform air leakage testing on site/sequencing
- Detailing at panel edges is crucial

ICF Thermal Performance





2- 5/8" EPS each side + thermal mass of concrete for effective R-24.1 Additional insert at 2" increments up to R-48

ICF Air Barrier and Sealing



Integral cast insulated jamb are cleanest tightest detail

Avoid Panel Joint at Opening, which allow water/air infiltration

Min. Thermal bridge of Brick Angle

Coordination of Min. Penetration Sleeve

Provide reinforcement at floor edge to prevent gaps

ICF Air Barrier and Sealing

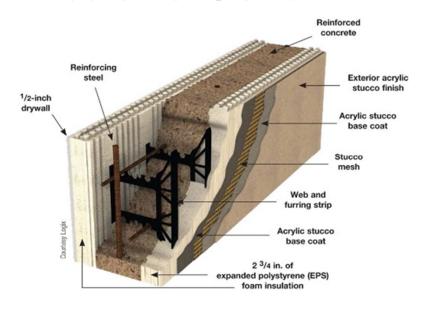




Joint of ICF allow air pathway.

Gyp bd finish adds to the air tightness

ICF Pros and Cons



Pros

- Reduces Trades/More done with one system
- Watertight Quickly
- Greater Design Flexibility
- Great Sound Isolation (OITC 41 to 65)
- Energy Efficiency System with high R-value and integrated air barrier



Cons

- Unfamiliar construction technology and limited sub contractor
- Implementation crucial to maintain vapor/air barrier continuity

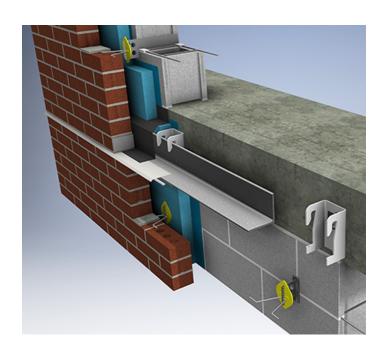


CMU Back-up Thermal Performance

Structural Thermal Break at Individual ERV opening

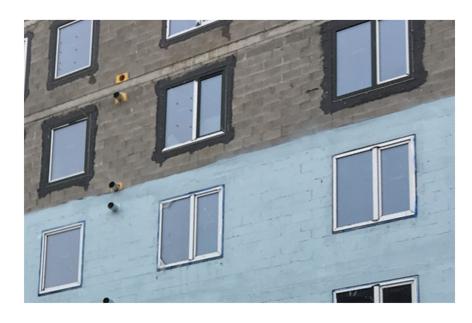
Exterior continuous rigid insulation + Thermal mass of grouted masonry

CMU Back up Pros and Cons



Pros

• Ease and knowledge of construction method



Cons

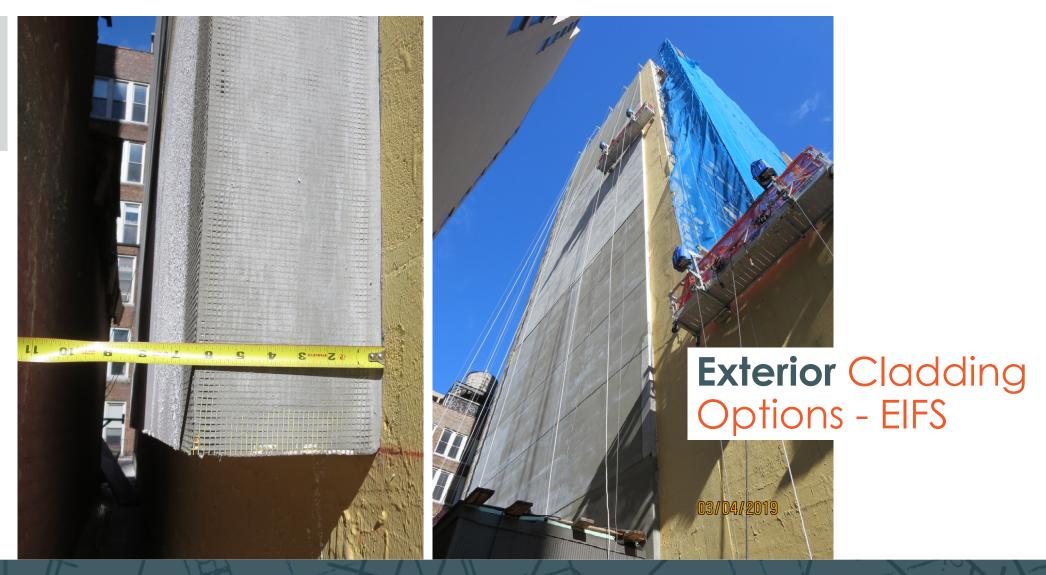
- Need more diligence on air tightness
- May require more structural thermal break for façade elements

Aerated Autoclaved Concrete



R-1.2 per inch (varies) Compressive Strength up to 1200 psi



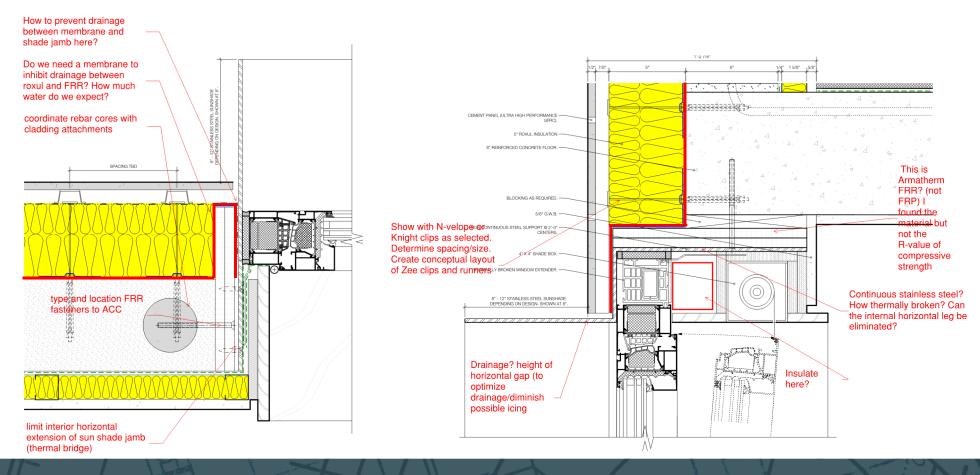


Exterior Cladding Options – Rainscreen

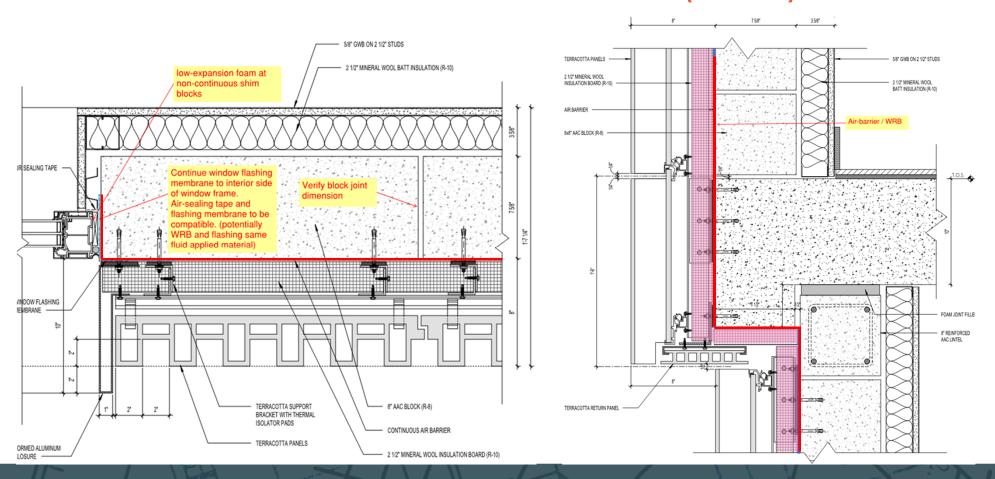




Detail Head and Jamb Mark Ups

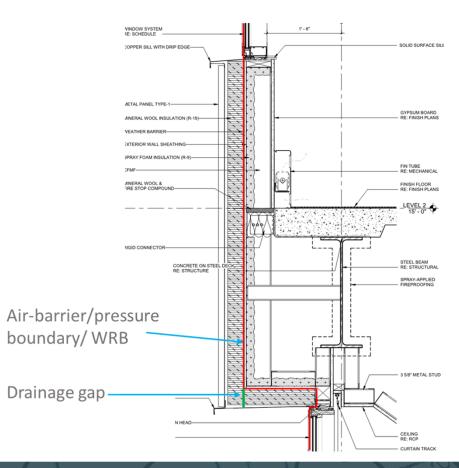


Aerated Autoclaved Concrete (AAC)



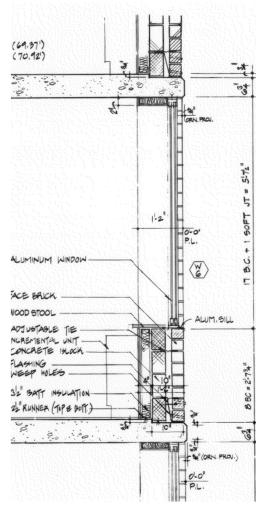
New Construction: Rain Screen





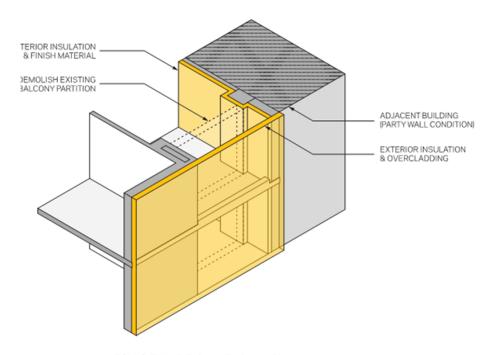
Retrofit Air Barriers Solutions



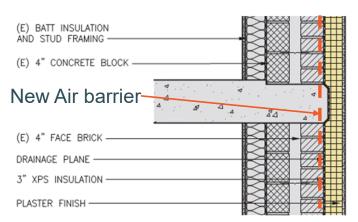


Over-Cladding Solutions

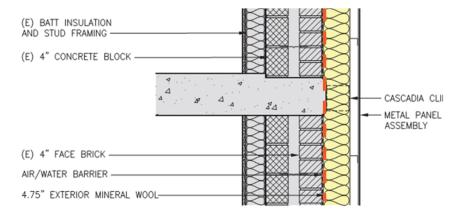
Over-Cladding Solutions



ECM-C-EW-05: Balcony Enclosure Diagram



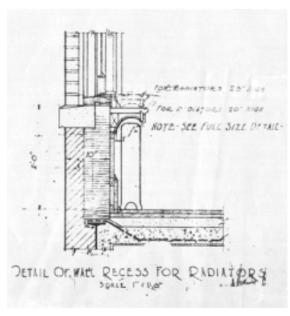
EIFS Over-cladding



Rain-Screen Over-cladding



EnerPHit Study: Rubin Hall - Interior Insulation Proposed

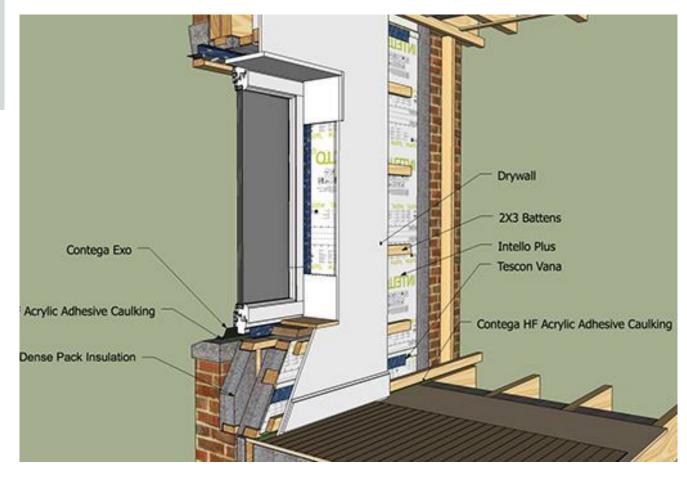


WALL SECTION DETAIL DATED 1948

- Rubin Hall 1925
 Historic Building
- Uninsulated Walls: 4" face brick + 8" Terracotta
- Metal, Single Pane Windows

RH: Wall Assembly Recommendations

	1.5" Polyiso +2.5" Mineral Wool	2.5" Closed Cell
Benefits	Provides interior continuous insulation, air-barrier and dewpoint control layer. R-10 without additional mineral wool	Provides interior continuous insulation, air-barrier and dewpoint control layer. Thinner wall assembly. Even coverage is easily achieved
Issues	Thicker wall assembly - 4.5" and loss of square footage Install quality is important Can be labor intensive	Objections to spray foam and off gassing. Cost of material is higher, but labor to install may not be.



Air Barrier Retrofit Masonry Const.

Drawing courtesy 475 High Performance Building Materials

HEAD/JAMB SIM. 2X4 STUD / **DENSE PACK** INSUL. INTELLO PLUS OR DB+ AIRTIGHT MEMBRANE & SMART VAPOR RETARDER 2X3 HORIZONTAL **CONTEGA EXO &** BATTENS 20"O.C./ **CONTEGA HF CAULKING** SERVICE CAVITY WITH **OPTIONAL INSULATION** WOOD BRICK MOULD TESCON PROFIL TAPE **CONTEGA EXO &** TESCON PROFIL TAPE **CONTEGA HF CAULKING** INTELLO PLUS OR DB+ AIRTIGHT MASONRY SILL -MEMBRANE & SMART VAPOR RETARDER 2X4 STUD / **DENSE PACK EXISTING MASONRY WALL/** INSUL. **REPAIR & REPOINT AS** REQUIRED TO SHED WATER AT EXTERIOR FACE & MAKE WINDTIGHT SILL

Air Barrier Retrofit Masonry Const.



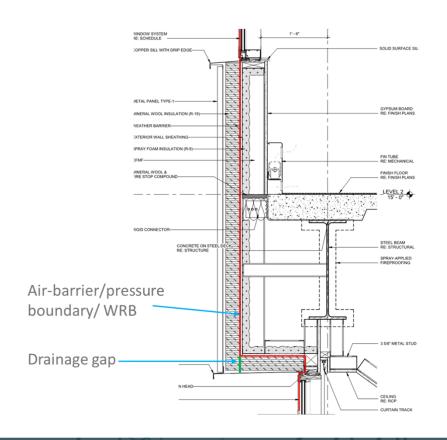
Drawing courtesy 475 High Performance Building Materials

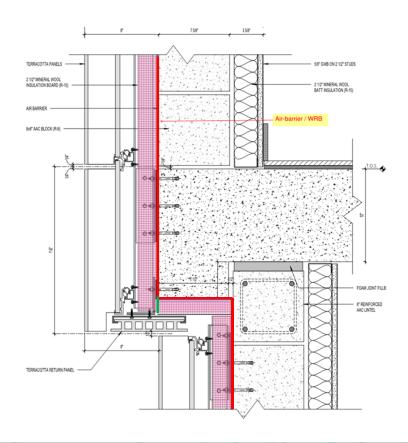
Existing brick wall Existing window Existing window buck Cut and install interior rigid insulation to cover existing window buck Interior stud wall framed flush to the rigid insulation Install interior jamb extension to cover the exposed edge of the rigid insulation and stud framing Install drywall to butt up against the interior jamb extension Install window trim to cover butt joint of jamb extension to drywall

Interior Rigid Insulation



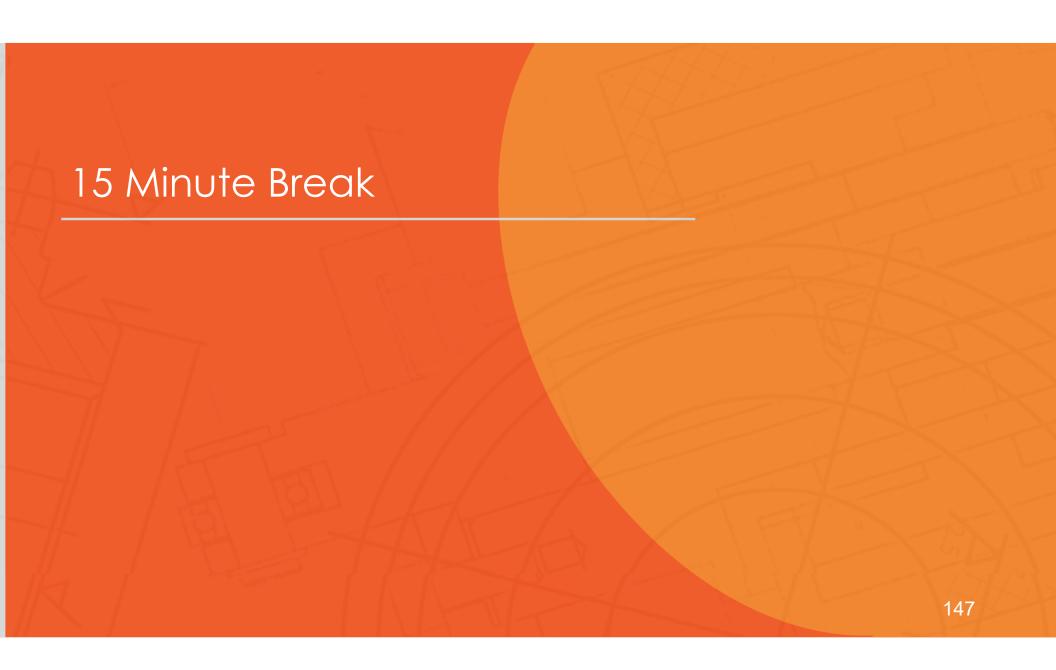
WRBs Must Be Drainable



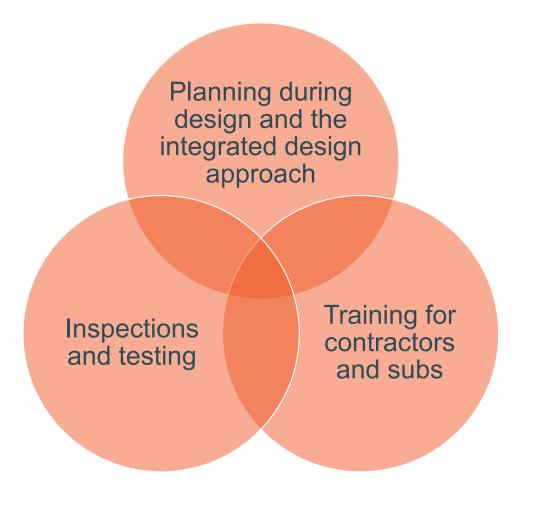


Questions?





Construction Phase QA/QC



Airtightness

Contractor Buy-In

- General contractor and subcontractor buy-in is critical to project success
- All trades have an impact on project results and may require a mind shift on performance testing
- Passive House Tradesperson training mandatory for key personnel
- GC needs at least two people who will be dedicated to PH scope and coordination







Contractor Buy-In

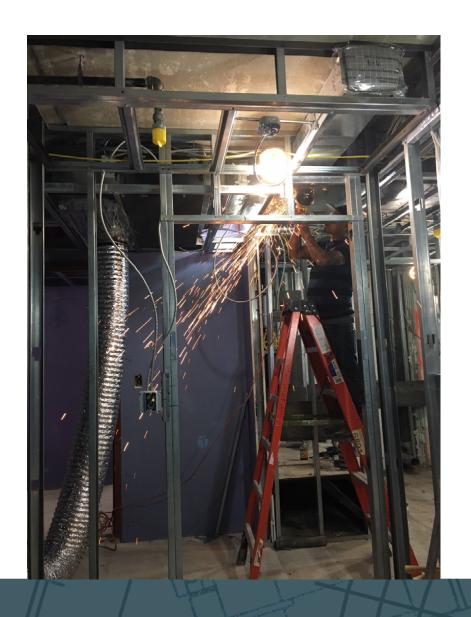
- Ensure GC & trades fully understand what is included in respective work scope
- Discuss expectations with whole project team during bidding
- Ask questions, dispel myths

Verification for Large Projects





- Foundations
 - Abutting neighbor(s)
 - Staging of foundation
 - Under slab / stem walls
- Above Grade Walls
 - Wall construction type: CMU, wood framed, etc.
 - Sequencing for hoistways, upper vs. lower floors
- Roof
 - Thermal breaks and roof membrane penetrations
 - Bulkheads, louvers & dampers



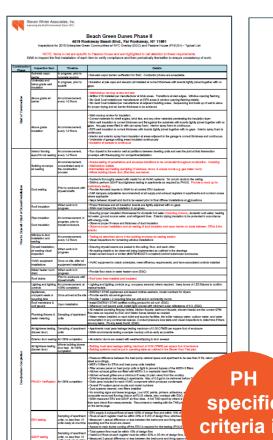
Verification for Large Projects

- MEP
 - In unit heat/cool duct testing
 - Ventilation
 - TAB process
 - Pipe insulation
 - Lighting wattages & controls

Start of Construction

Prior to
Drywall /
Start of
Drywall
Installation

Construction Completion



red

Steven Winter Associates, Inc. Improving the Built Environment Since 1972

Beach Green Dunes Phase II

Site Inspection Checklist - Unique Conditions

 General Contractor:
 L+M Builders Group
 Project Lead:
 Thomas Moore

 Primary Contact:
 Andrew Canarte / TBD
 Primary Inspector:
 Mike O'Donnell

 Date:
 4/17/2018
 Project Manager:
 Lois B. Arena

 Rev:
 0
 Project Number:
 BGNII1A

The following items must be inspected and/or tested by SWA before being made inaccessible.

Project Phase	Item #	Description						
	U-1	Elevator Pit Insulation						
Below Grade	U-2	Below Grade Insulation						
Delow Grade	U-3	Floor Insulation in Lobby Areas						
	U-4	Connection from Below to Above Grade						
	U-5	Compactor Room						
	U-6	Gas Meter Room						
	U-7	Water Room						
	U-8	Laundry Room						
	U-9	Electrical Room						
	U-10	Refuse Rooms (Floors 2 - 8)						
	U-11	Seismic Gap Corners						
Above Grade	U-12	Flood Vents						
Above Grade	U-13	Detention Tank						
	U-14	Air Sealing at Garage Beam						
	U-15	Air Sealing at Garage Ceiling to Wall Connection						
	U-16	EIFS Expansion Joint						
	U-17	Shelf Angle Attachments						
	U-18	Storefront Air Sealing						
	U-19	Canopy Connection & Drain Insulation						
	U-20	Connection from Wall to Roof						
	U-21	Mechanical Equipment Supports						
	U-22	ERV Mechanical Curb						
	U-23	PV Supports						
Out	U-24	Roof Drain Insulation						
Out	U-25	ERV Roof Penetration						
	U-26	Typical Plumbing Penetration - Roof						
	U-27	Exhaust Ventilation Penetration						
1	U-28	Smoke Dampers						

ise note that this guide is not meant to replace the drawings or specifications laid out by the architect or provide a fully exhaustive list of areas where these issues may occur.

Typical & Unique Checklists

Testing Tools and Protocols

- Window mockup testing
- Interim guarded blower door testing
- Interim whole building test if schedule and sequencing allows
- Envelope compartmentalization and window testing
- Unique component testing
- Whole building blower door test

Mock Ups 156

Purpose-Built Assembly, Off-site / On-site, or First Install





Mock ups





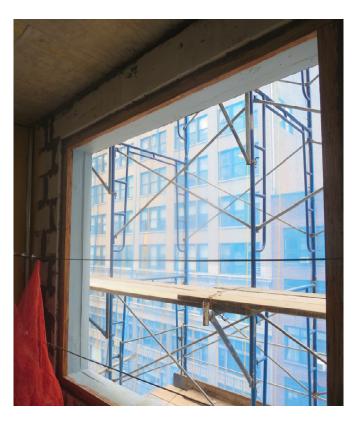


Complete Assembly including Windows





Repeat the Successful Steps Every Time



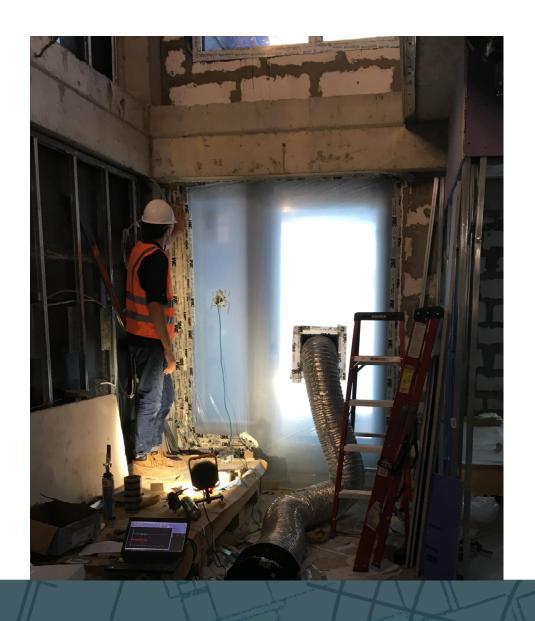




Repeat the Successful Steps Every Time



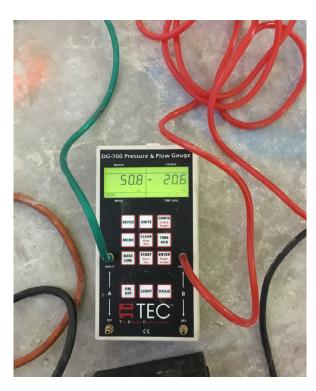




Interim Testing

- Window mockup testing
- Envelope and window testing
- Unique component testing
- Guarded blower door testing
- Whole building blower door test

Testing Interior-Side Air-barrier







WHOLE BUILDING INFILTRATION TESTING PLAN

TO DETERMINE COMPLIANCE WITH PHIUS+ AIRTIGHTNESS REQUIREMENTS AT BEACH GREEN DUNES PHASE II 45-19 ROCKAWAY BEACH BLVD., QUEENS, NY 11691 REV 1

APRIL 17, 2018 UPDATED 10/16/2019



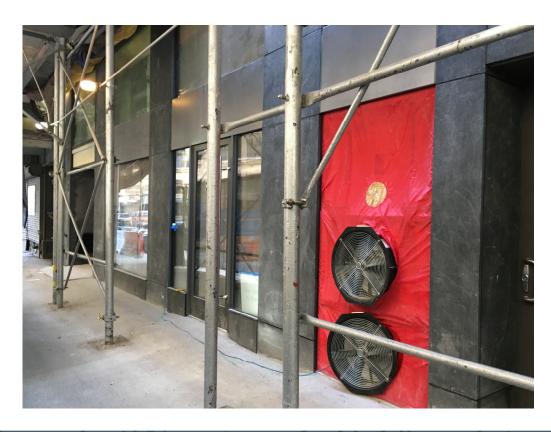
Blower Door Test Plan

Whole-Building Blower Door Testing





Whole-Building Blower Door Testing





Who needs to be involved to insure that the air barrier is installed correctly?



Questions?

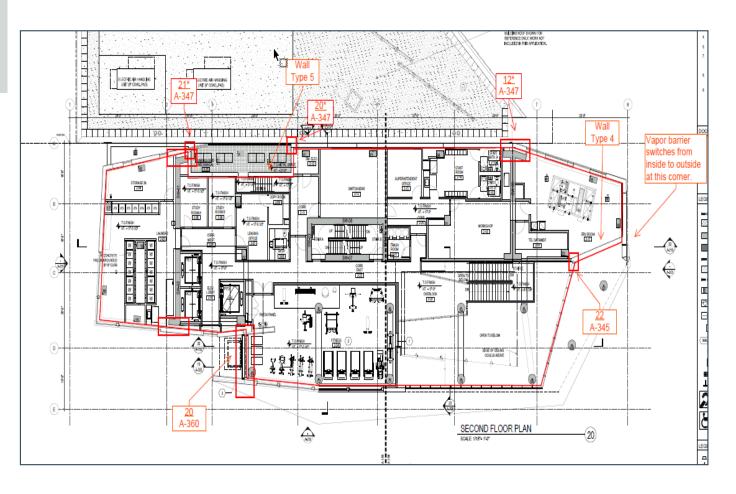


Case Studies



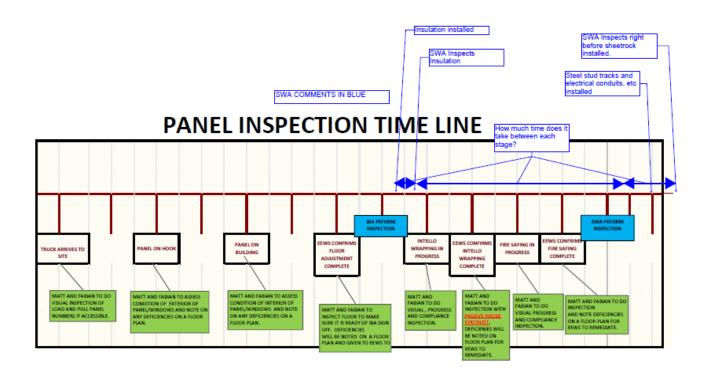
The House at Cornell Tech

- 352 units, student housing
- Roosevelt Island, NY
- Panelized wall system



Redline Plan & Section – Air Barrier Review

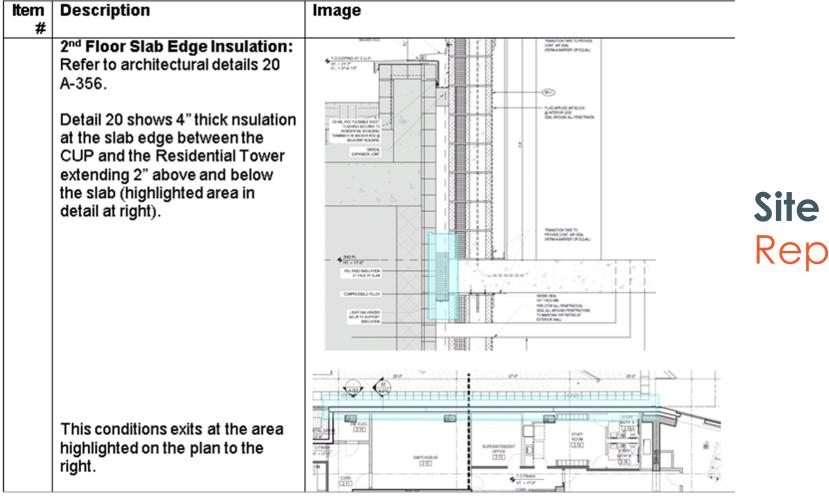
Identify Sequencing & Timing of Inspections







Wall Panels



Site Visit Reports

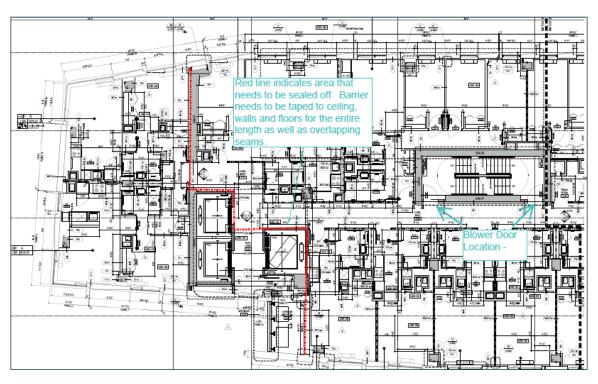
Issues Log - 1/25/2017 SVR Issue Responsible Reinspection Responsible												
VR#	SVR Item #	Type,	Location	Issue	Found by	Date Foun	Action Required	Party _	Required?	Actions Taken/Updates	Verified/ updater *	Open Close
7	1	ENV	7th Floor	Panel Insulation at Joints: Insulation at the panel joints was found to be around 6 inches deep. Shop drawings indicate 9'. (EEWS Shop Drawings Sheet 501, Detail 1, second image right). SWA notified Monadnock of the issue. Monadnock followed up with a photo on 5/11/16 and informed SWA that EEWS will continue to install insulation at 9 inch depth. All panels below the six floor will need to be inspected for insufficient insulation and corrected if needed via exterior scaffolding when exterior caulk is applied.	SWA	5/10/16	Photo documentation using a measuring device will be required to verify PH compliance. SWA & EEWS to agree on frequency of photos and method of depth verification.	Eastern	Υ	On 9/22/16, Eastern issued photos of joint insulation being installed along two swing stage areas (Rig 3 Drop 2 and Rig 3 Drop 4). SWA will continue keeping track of Eastern's progress.		Ongoin
24	2	ENV	2nd Floor	Gap at the comer of storage room and condenser porch located behind the column is not air sealed at this time. Neither is the connection of Intesana to block. SWA to inspect when complete.	SWA	8/9/16	Monadnock to send photos of the area to SWA	Monadnock	N			Open
42	3	HVAC	All Floors	Damaged Ductwork Covers: SWA observed numerous instances of damaged ductwork opening covers damaged or loose throughout the first and second floors. SWA believes a significant amount of dust has likely accumulated in the ductwork. The project is now at risk of losing a LEED point needed for LEED Platinum certification.	SWA	11/21/16	Monadnock to make sure that all ductwork openings have been covered on floors 1, 2, 15-25. Monadnock to issue written confirmation to SWA once this work has been complete. SWA to spot check these areas in its next visit.	SWA	Υ	On 11/30/16, SWA observed that much of previously noted loose and damaged ductwork opening covers were repaired. Issues still persist on the various floors. SWA performed spot checks on floors 1, 2, 15-25 and found issues in all floors. On 12/1/16, Monadnock emailed SWA notifying that floors 1, 2, and 15-25 had been reinspected and damaged ductwork covers had been repaired. On 12/12/16, SWA observed issues on floors 1, 2, and 17.		Open
n/a	n/a	ENV	2nd Floor	Insulation under 2nd floor condensor porch ballast was covered before SWA could inspect. Images showing insulation depth and coverage must be provided.	SWA	5/24/16	Monadnock possesses photo documentation that shows depth and coverage. Provide images to SWA.	Monadnock	N	On 7/28/2016, Monadnock sent photos showing depth of insulation at condensor porch ballast.	7/28/2016	Closed
n/a	n/a	ENV	26th & 27th Floor	Roof deck insulation inside AHU curb was covered before SWA could inspect. Images showing insulation depth and coverage must be provided.	SWA	5/1/16	Monadnock possesses photo documentation that shows depth and coverage. Provide images to	Monadnock		On 10/1/2016, SWA received photos from Monadnock showing blurry tape measurements of insulation at the AHU curbs. On 10/24/2016, SWA	10/24/2016	Closed



Interim Testing

- Original plan no whole floor testing
- Revised plan guarded testing on 4th, 5th and 6th floors
- Window & Door Leakage
- Façade Leakage
- Compartmentalization

Guarded Test & Temporary Barriers





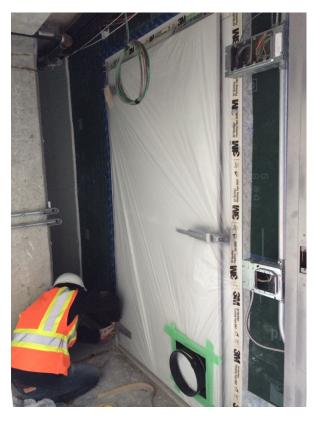
Guarded Test = Blower Doors on 3 Floors

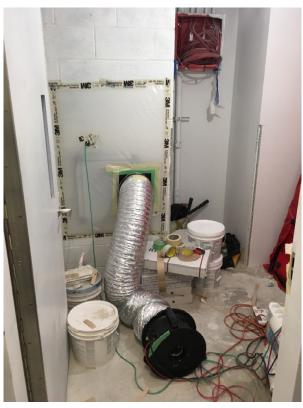












Other Tests

- Condenser porch doors
- Trash chute rooms / doors

Results

- 6/3/2017 blower door test completed
 - 0.13 ACH50 (more than 4x less than 0.6)
- ERVs commissioning completed
- 8/1/2017 students moved in
- 10/17/2017 PH Certification received!!!



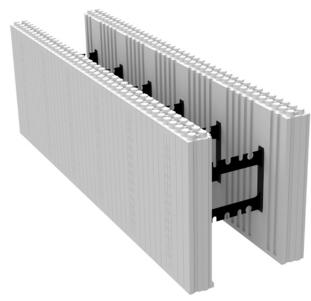


Beach Green North

- 101 units, affordable housing
- Far Rockaway, NY
- Insulated concrete forms (ICF)

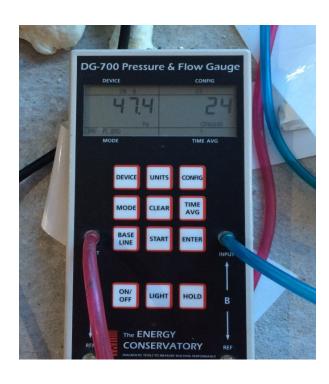
Wall Inspections





 ICF doesn't require as many inspections for insulation and air barrier

1st Window Mock-up Test



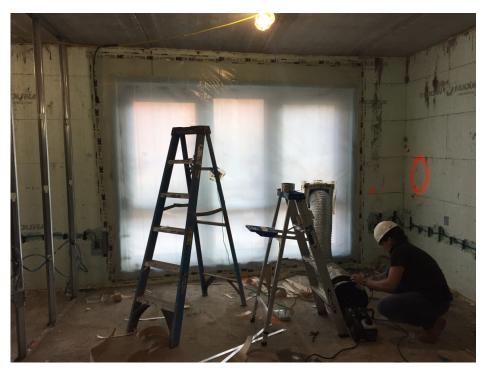




2nd Window Mockup Test



ICF Potential Issues (similar project)





ICF Potential Issues (similar project)







Results

- AeroBarrier by Aeroseal was utilized
- 6/24/2017 envelope leakage test performed but couldn't finish, Building Department shut down site for working on Saturday
- 7/6/2017 infiltration test for energy model passed!!
- ERV testing & commissioning completed
- 4/4/2018 PHIUS Certification received!!!



Final Blower Door Test Planning

Blower Door Test Conditions



Intentional Opening	Test Setting	Notes
Windows, doors, skylights in the building enclosure	Closed and latched	
Doors and operable windows inside the test enclosure	Open	Use stairways to connect all zones of the building
Fire dampers	Remain as found	
Dryer doors	Closed and latched	
Gas meter room	Door to gas meter room closed and weather stripped	
Waste handling system	Trash chute termination at roof taped off. Door to trash rooms closed.	
ERVs (apartments)	Fan off, any dampers closed. Ducts to the outside sealed inside the ERV cabinet in each apartment.	Ventilation is continuous, so can remain taped off
Motorized dampers: ERV-4 (cellar)	Fan off, dampers closed. Taped off from the exterior	Ventilation is continuous, so dampers closed and sealed off
Motorized dampers: ERV-5 (1st floor)	Fan off, dampers closed. Taped off from the exterior	Ventilation is continuous, so dampers closed and sealed off
Motorized dampers: ERV-2A (1st floor)	Fan off, dampers closed. Taped off from the exterior	Ventilation is continuous, so dampers closed and sealed off
Motorized damper: Laundry Room (2 nd floor)	Fan off, dampers closed. Taped off from the exterior	Untaped for Method A test
Motorized damper: ERV-2 (2 nd floor)	Fan off, dampers closed. Taped off from the exterior	Ventilation is continuous, so dampers closed and sealed
Motorized dampers: EMR (1st floor) Stair A Star B Flevator	Taped off from the exterior	Untaped for Method A test

Boiler Room (roof)

Whole Building Test Logistics

- Enough fans, cruise manometers, frames, shrouds, tubing, CAT5 cabling, people?
- Is building access limited to avoid people opening and closing doors, windows, etc.?
- Thorough walkthrough the day prior to test date to confirm prep has taken place?
- GC and appropriate subs on site to help with building prep and issues that come up on the test day?
- Saturday work permits active?

Central ERVs and Blower Door





- Need to seal off ERVs for the test
- Wrap rooftop ERVs and/or seal exterior intake and exhaust louver ports

Individual ERVs and Blower Door









- Typically can't reach all vents to seal from outside
- Tape off both outdoor connection ports inside every ERV
- Some ERV's can't be sealed inside the cabinets

Recommendations for Success

Do This



Insist on

- Training for construction staff
- Mockups & don't stop until the window mockup passes
- Interim blower door testing

Advanced Planning

- Typical and Unique checklists
- Blower door testing plan

Quality Control

- Typical details readily available on site for all subs
- Communication between GC and PH verifier
- Panelized construction, if applicable

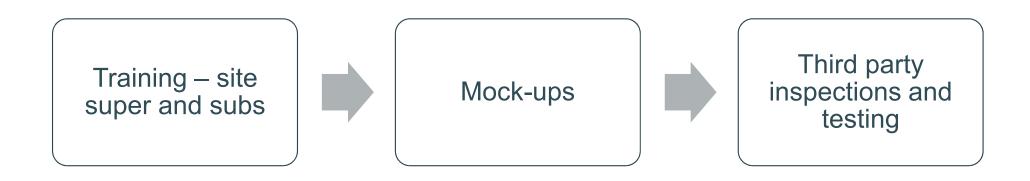
Do NOT Do This



Be wary

- Assume if the GC has done a PH / Net-Zero project that the second will automatically pass
- Keep going without passing the window mockup
- Depend on subs understanding contract docs without communication
- Allow the GC to exclude meeting PH requirements from the contract
- Ignore your PH Consultant!!!!!

Construction Process and Quality Assurances



Summary

- Thermal insulation slows heat flows and drying
- Moisture management is critical! Understand it.
- Understand dew-points and condensation control
- Understand vapor retarders and their placements
- Air barriers must be complete and continuous
- Insulation is ineffective without air barriers

Summary Continued

- The air barrier must be planned and delineated
- Reduce thermal bridges
- Specify grade I Insulation
- The code will not save you
- Multiple viable insulation / air-barrier options for all circumstances.
- Consider the issues to make informed selections

Take our survey: PollEv.com/swa335

Join Us for More Trainings!

- Module 4: Net Zero HVAC Strategies and Controls + DHW
- Module 5: Contracting for Passive House: Construction Documents and Bidding
- Module 6: Deep Energy Retrofits: Strategies for Gut Rehab or Full Occupancy Retrofits
- Module 7: Beyond Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs): Refrigerant Management in Design, Construction, and Operations
- Module 8: Construction Manager/Subcontractor/Tradesperson Training: Classroom and Field Training

Register here: https://www.newpaltz.edu/sustainability/view-programs-and-progress/zero-net-carbon-training/workshop-schedule-registration--details/

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Resources

• www.airbarrier.org