



# High Performance Building Materials for Passive House Construction





475 enables building energy efficiency improvements required to dramatically reduce energy demand and address our climate crisis.

### TRY IT. FREE.

Get a sample pack today & discover the power of Pro Clima

### Construction Details



### VISIT OUR BLOG

Recent Blog Posts

- > Heavy-Duty Window Flashing by Chris Corson Using Extoseal En...
- > 475 On-Site: Historic Brownstone Passive House Retrofit in B...
- > Make it Tight: Building Enclosure Airtightness Training

### AIR-SEALING SYSTEM BY PRO CLIMA

>> See All Air-Sealing System



Window Tapes



Exterior & Interior Tapes



Exterior Membranes /House Wraps /WRBs



Interior Membranes with Smart Vapor Control



Duct, Pipe & Wire Penetrations



Adhesives, Primers & Special Connections

### VENTILATION

>> See All Ventilation



LUNOS e<sup>2</sup> HRV



LUNOS e-go HRV



LUNOS f-go HRV

### THERMAL INSULATION >> See All Thermal Insulation



Gutex Multitherm Wood Fiberboard



Gutex Ultratherm Wood Fiberboard



FOAMGLASS Cellular Glass

### DAYLIGHT SYSTEMS >> See All Daylight Systems



LAMILUX Flat Roof Skylights



FAKRO Pitched Roof Skylights



LIGHTWAY Solar Tubes

### QUALITY CONTROL >> See All Quality Control



Training Workshops



PHPP/Energy Modeling



PHI Design PH

### GEAR & GIFTS

>> See All Gear & Gifts

### Upcoming Events

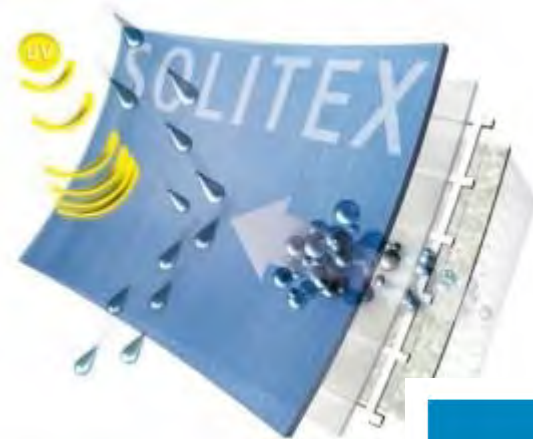
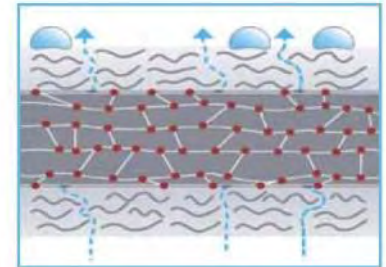
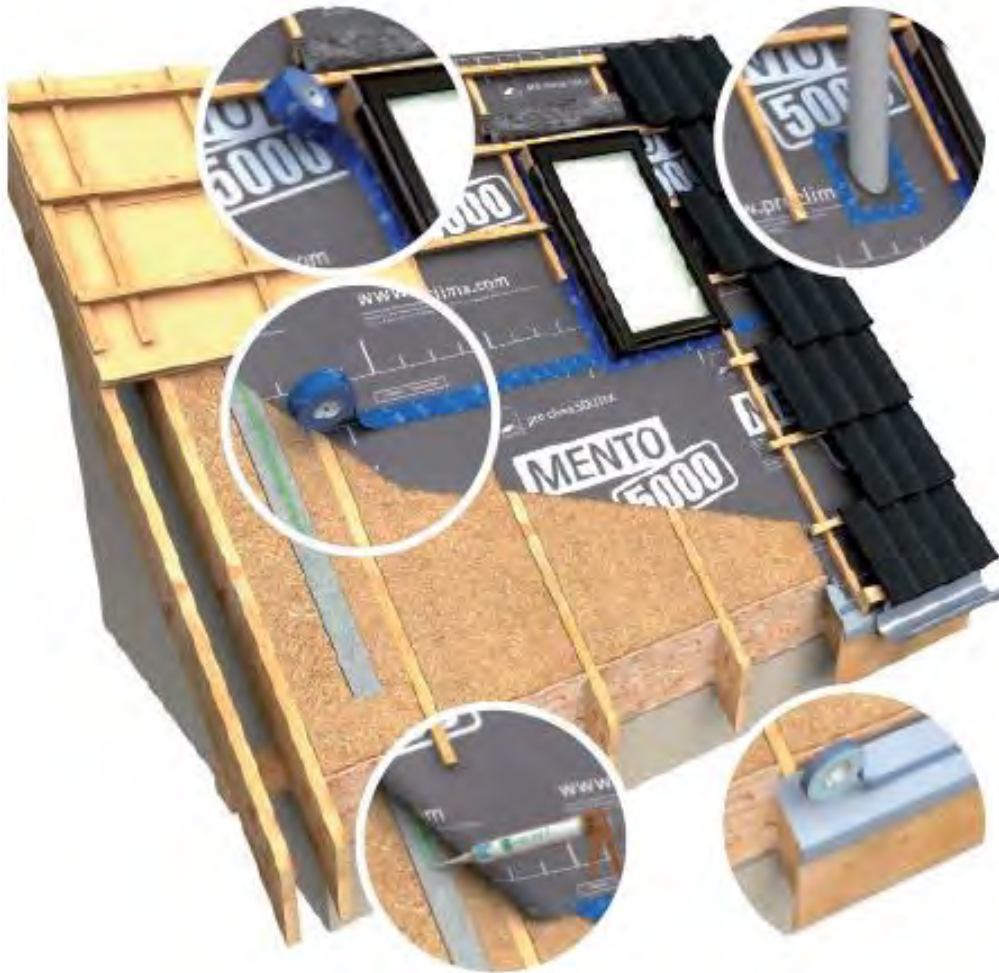
August 14, 2014 **Make it Tight: Building**

### Testimonials

"...the 475 newsletter has proven itself time and



# Exterior air sealing & vapor control

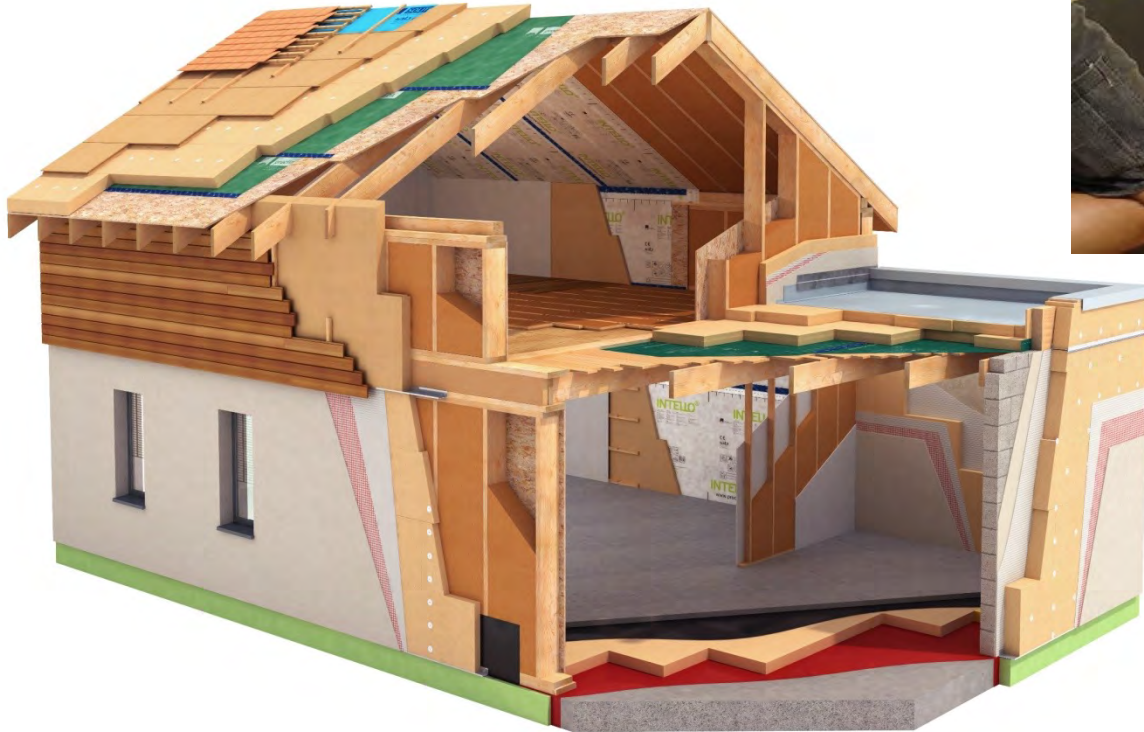


# Interior air sealing & vapor control

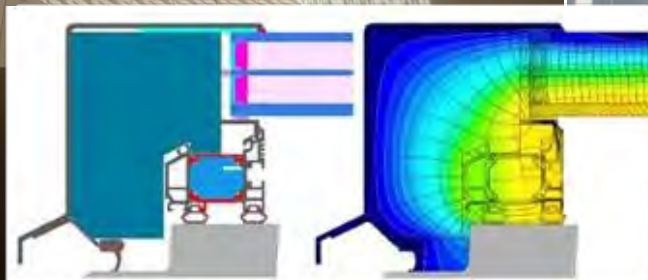
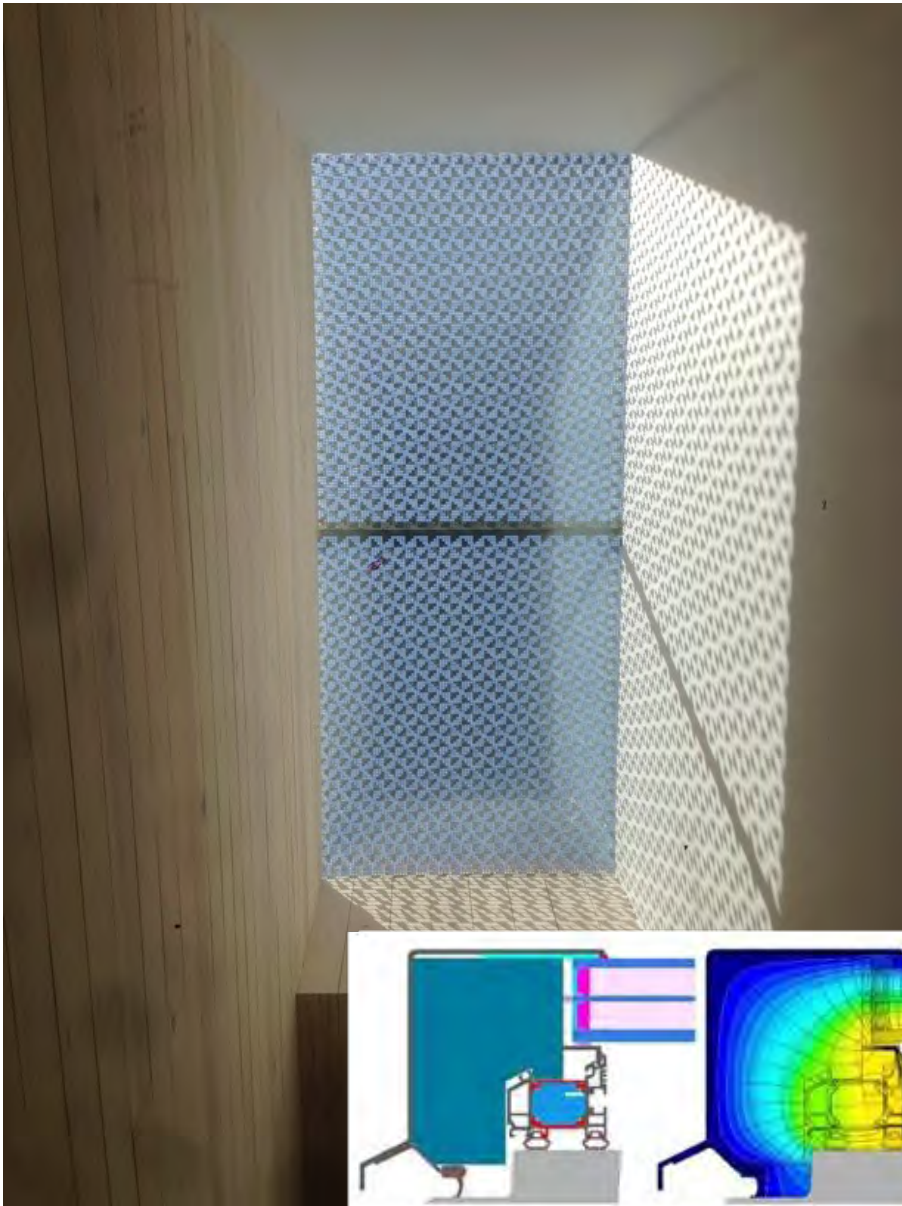




# Wood fiber insulation boards/WRB







# Heat Recovery Ventilation



The image displays the LUNOS energy-efficient Heat Recovery Ventilation (HRV) system. On the left, a wall-mounted unit is shown with its internal components, including a fan and heat exchanger, partially disassembled. To the right, the main cylindrical HRV unit is shown with its end caps removed, revealing the internal fan and heat exchanger. The LUNOS logo, featuring the word "LUNOS" in blue and "energy-efficient" in green with a blue swoosh, is prominently displayed in the upper right. Below the logo, the text "e2" is shown in large blue letters. Two Plus X Award logos are on the left: one for "BEST PRODUCT OF THE YEAR 2012" and another for "Functionality Ecology". A list of features is provided in the bottom right.

**LUNOS**  
energy-efficient

**e2**

- >90% efficient
- Very quiet
- Through wall/Ductless HRV

**PLUS X AWARD®**  
honored as:  
**BEST PRODUCT OF THE YEAR 2012**

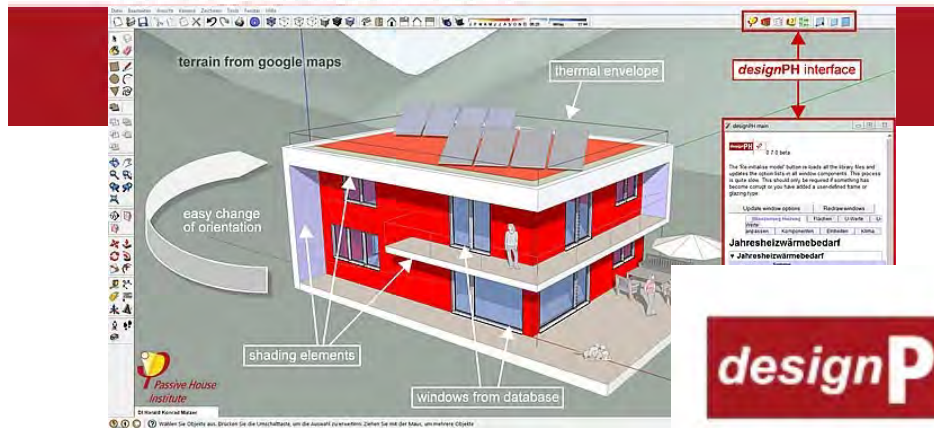
**PLUS X AWARD®**  
achieved for:  
**Functionality Ecology**



# Quality Control: PHI Software & Retrotec Testing



Version 7 (2012) © Passive House Institute



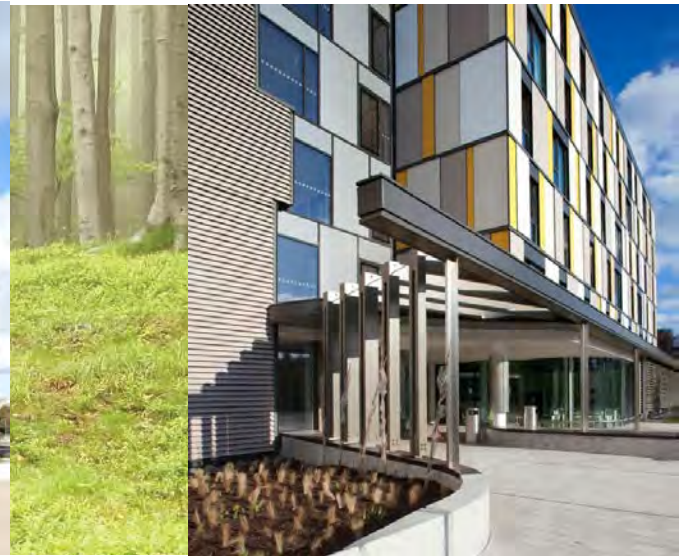
designPH 







# High Performance Building Materials for Passive House Construction





## Learning Objectives:

1. Outline meaning and characteristics of high performance materials.
2. Describe the principles of Passive House, and its impacts on construction.
3. Describe strategies for utilizing high performance materials to achieve Passive House goals.
4. Outline steps for how material utilization strategies can be optimized for affordability, comfort and durability.



# What makes Passive House different?

## Integrated Goals & Methodology:

### 1. Focus on Passive Elements:

- Orientation
- Massing
- Insulation
- Airtightness
- Windows
- Doors
- Passive Heat Gains

### 2. Fixed Performance Goals:

- **Heating:**  $4.75 \text{ Kbtu/sf}^2 \cdot \text{yr}$  demand or  $3.17 \text{ btu/hr} \cdot \text{sf}$  **peak load**
- **Cooling & Dehumidification:**  $4.75 \text{ Kbtu/sf}^2 \cdot \text{yr}$  + climate specific dehumidification
- **Primary Energy:**  $\sim 38 \text{ Kbtu/ft}^2 \cdot \text{yr}$
- **Airtightness:** Tested limit  $0.6 \text{ ACH}_{50}$

### 3. Calculated Energy Balance:

- Passive House Planning Package (PHPP)



"Peak Load Equivalent"  
For 1,000 sq ft house

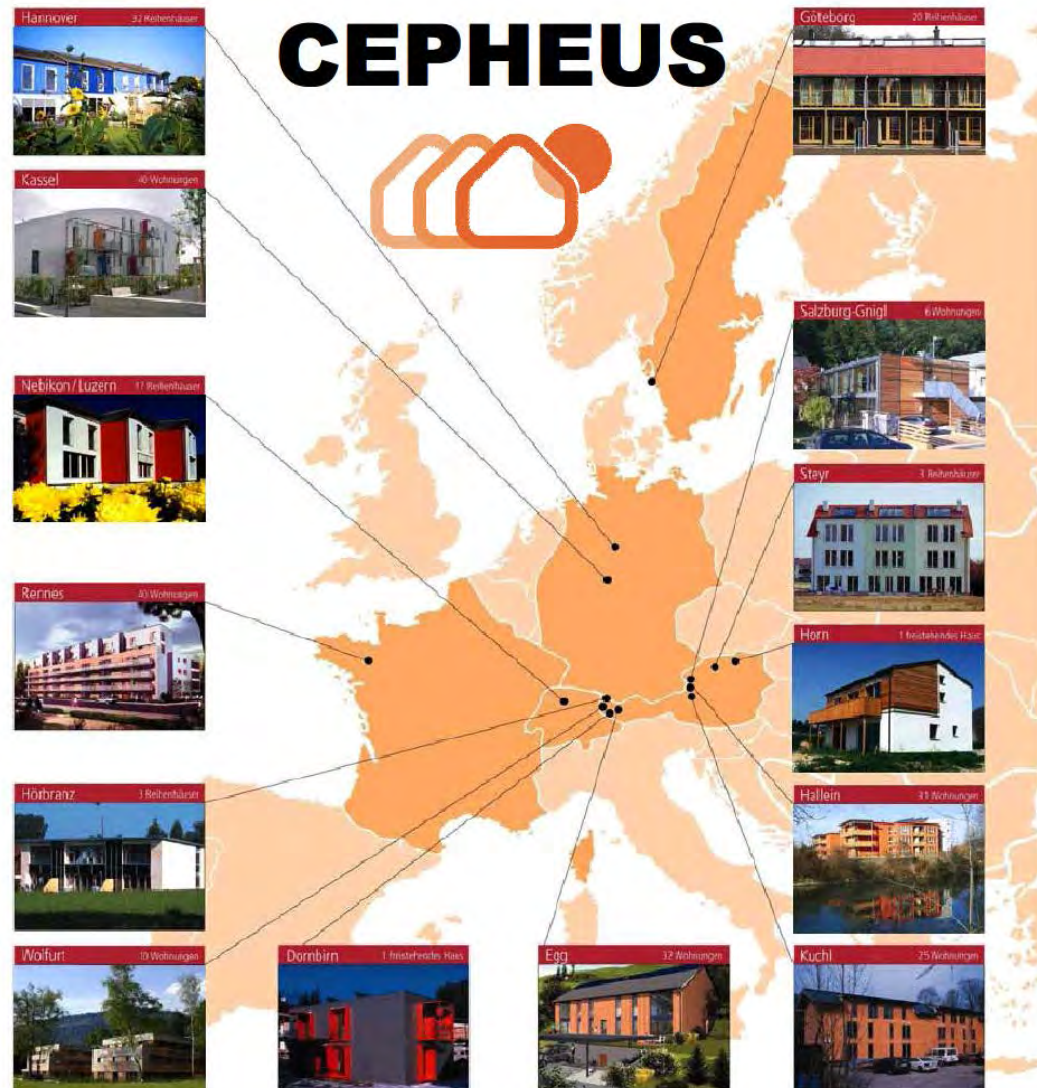
Peak load is the original "Source EUI" metric. The calculation now is for Primary Energy Renewable (PER) and is no longer directly comparable to EUI but still roughly corresponds to this original number for Passive House Classic certification.

**PHIUS+** Separate set of targets and uses WUFI Passive

# Verification of the Methodology

2000:

250 dwelling units  
in 14 different  
building projects  
as Passive House  
Buildings

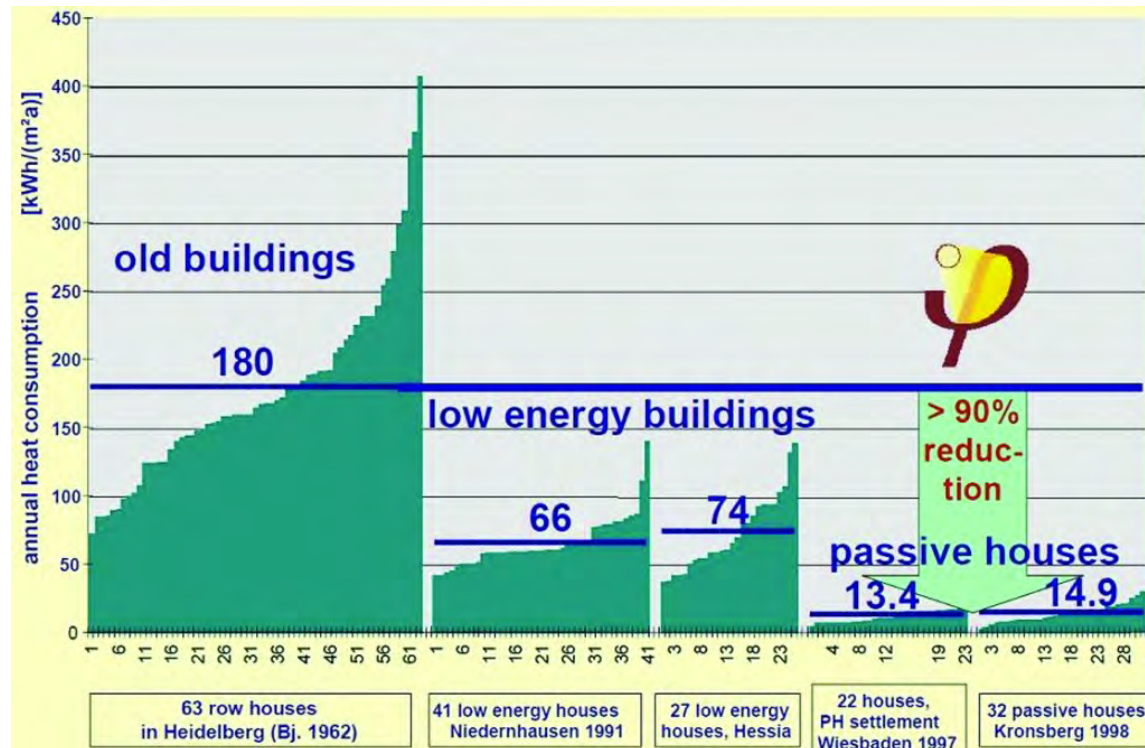




# Delivers comfort with dramatic energy savings:

Approx **90%**  
reduction in heating & cooling

Up to **75%**  
reduction in total energy usage.



# Supports renewables transition:



- **Path to Net-Zero Buildings & more.**
- Allows switching to all electric buildings.
- More even utility demand profile.
- Primary Energy Renewable (PER) Calculation optimizes building energy use for 100% renewable grid.





# Bold Implementation

**BRUSSELS, 2015:** All buildings, private, public, new and retrofitted **mandated** Passive House performance.



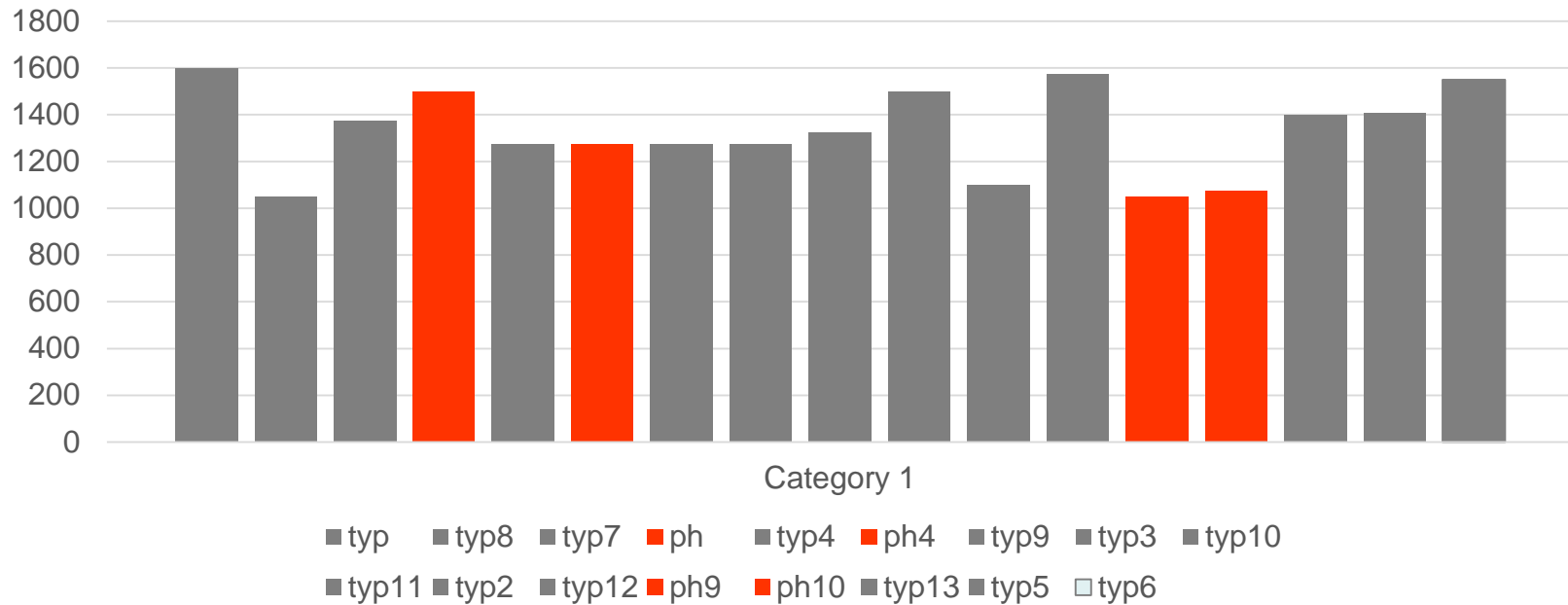
**EUROPE, 2020:**  
Nearly zero-energy buildings.



**NYC (& Vancouver...)**

# Not Typical “Cost-Plus” Paradigm

Brussels: City Block Multi-Use Complex –  
Competitive Design-Build Bids

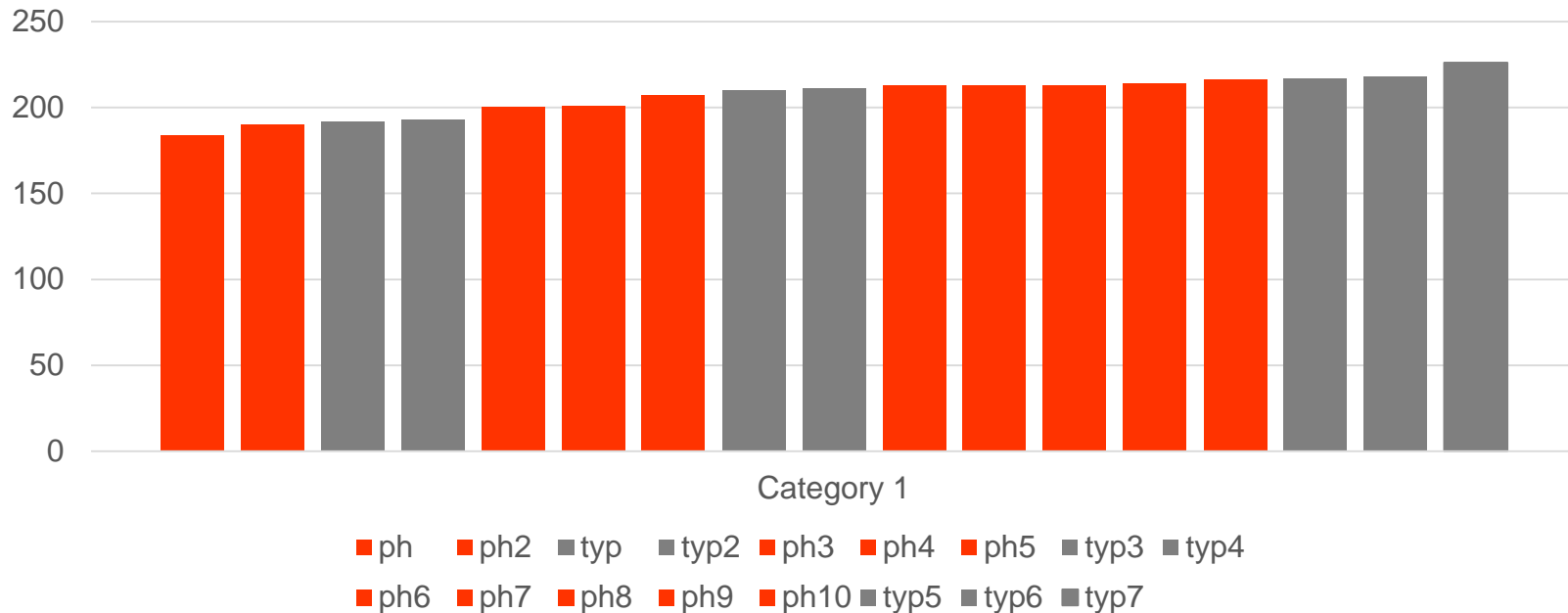


**eu 1,225/m2** vs. eu 1,362/m2 average



# Not Typical “Cost-Plus” Paradigm

PHFA Multifamily Housing Around Philadelphia  
Region = 17 Buildings



**\$206/sf** vs. \$208/sf average

# Complex Buildings in Varied Climates

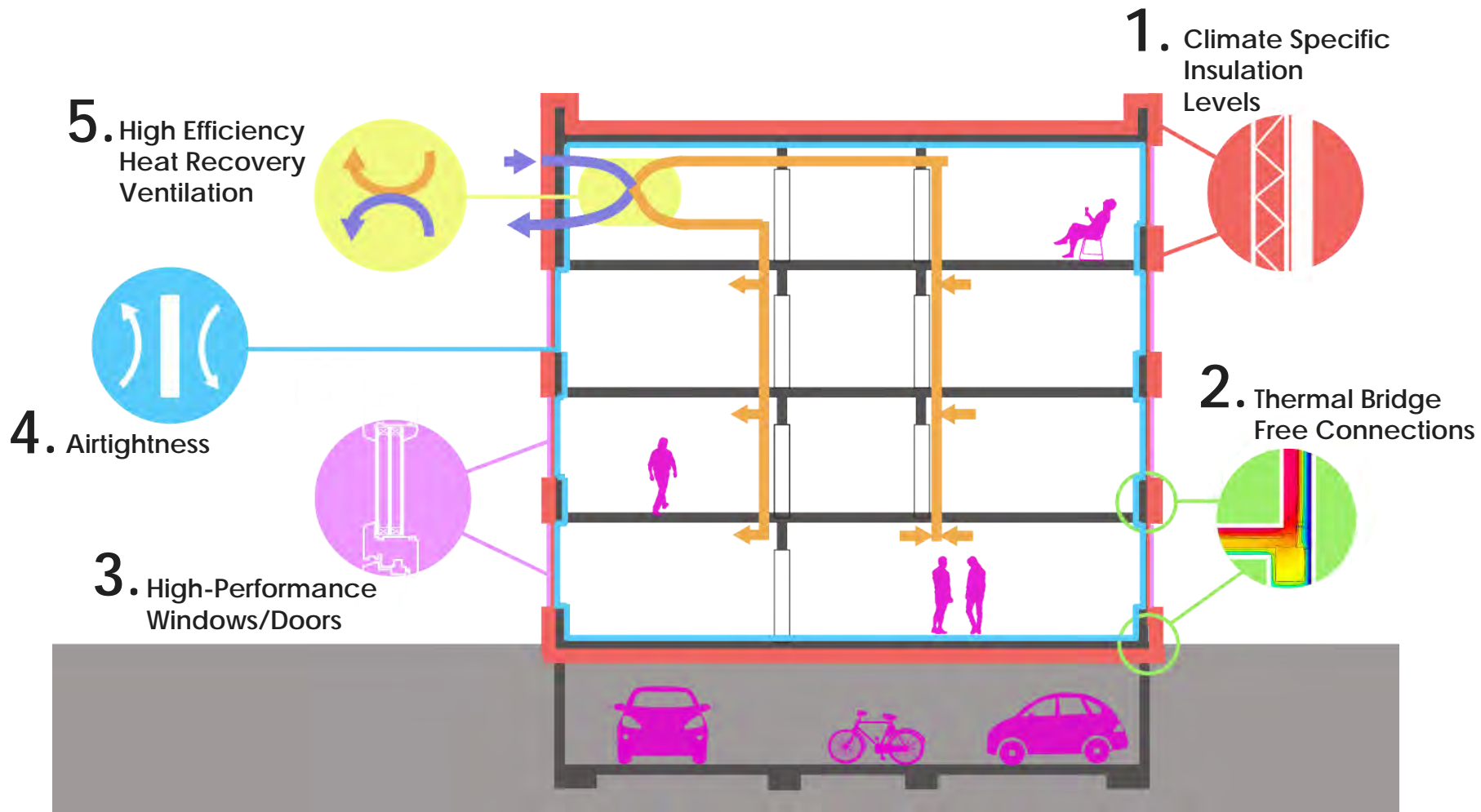




# Retrofit of Existing Buildings



# Five key principles:

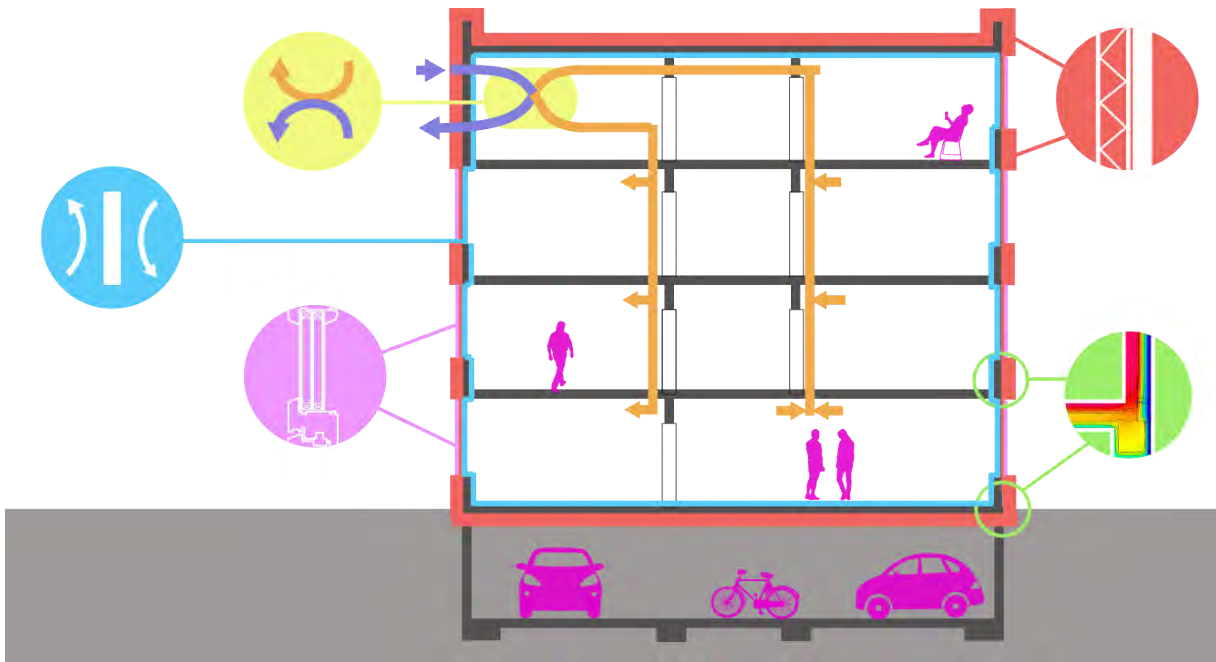




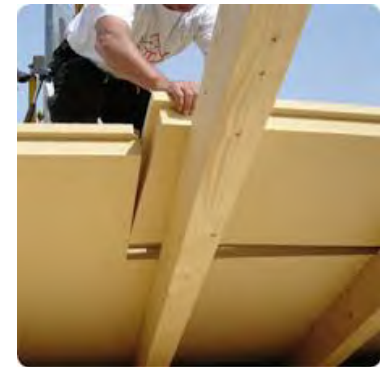
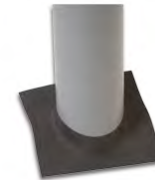
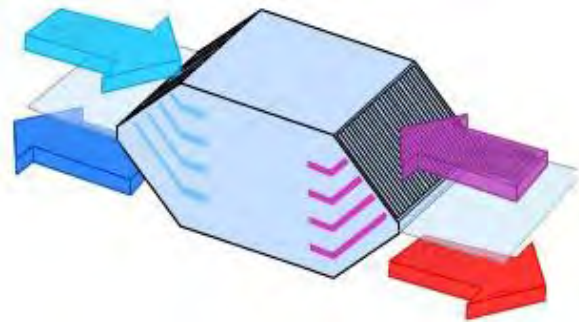
# Win-win

A very low energy building via optimized methods produces:

1. Comfort
2. Health
3. Affordability
4. Efficiency
5. Predictability
6. Security
7. Resiliency
8. Climate Mitigation
9. Renewables Transition

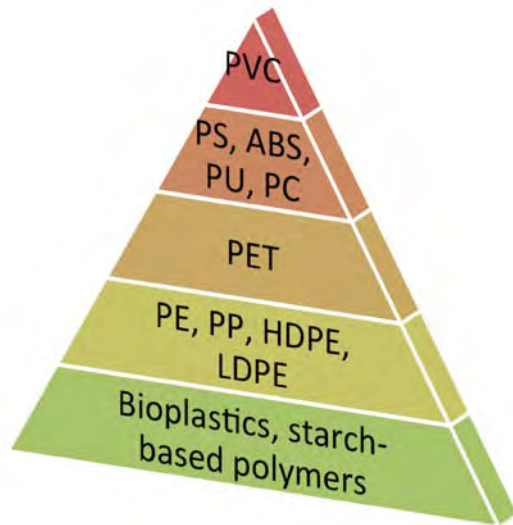


# Universe of Critical Materials Support (or don't support) Passive House Construction





# High Performance General Criteria



Toxicity



Performance



Robustness

# Airtightness Budget

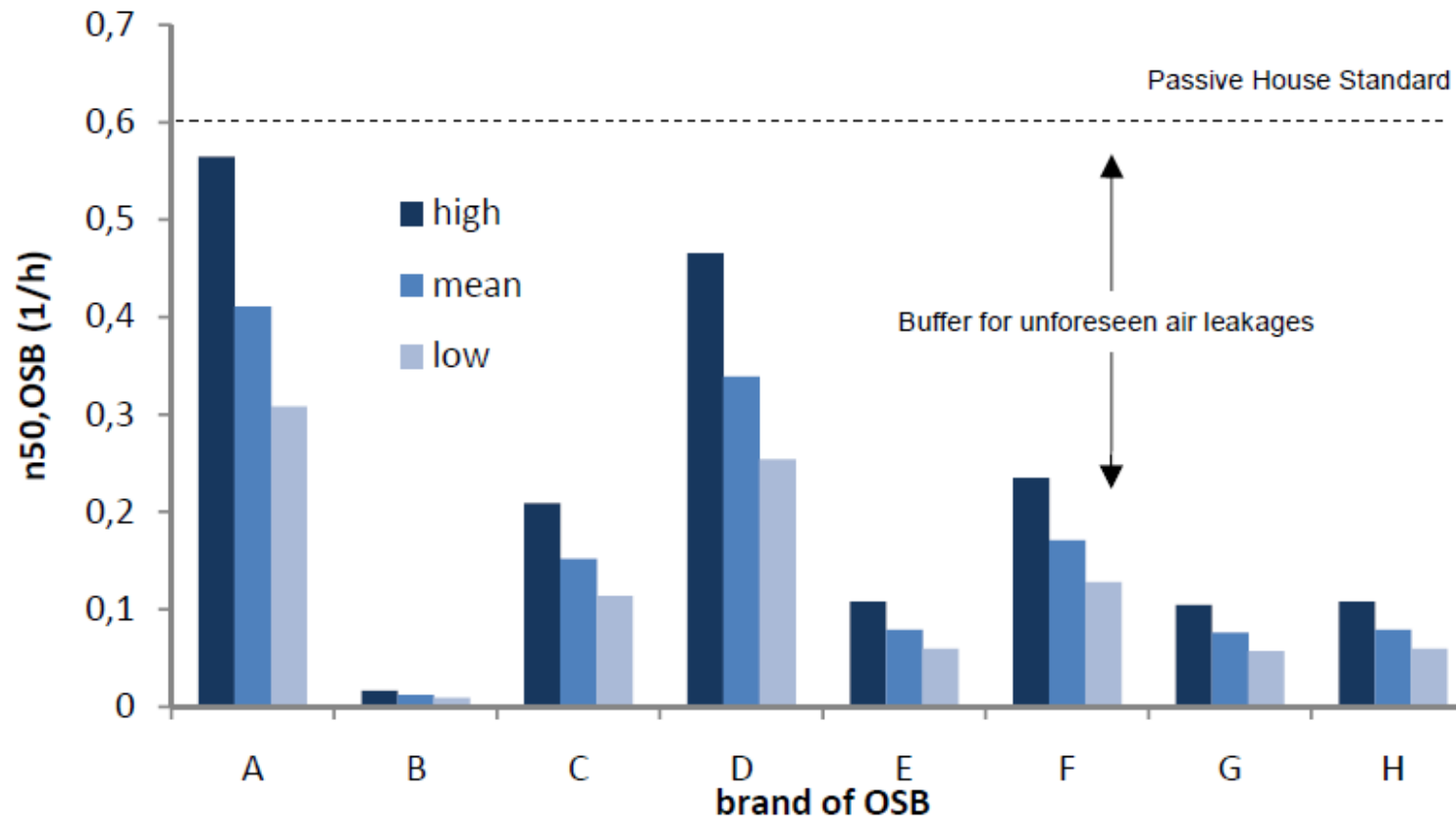


Figure 4: Theoretical contribution of air transport through OSB to global n<sub>50</sub>-value

5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Building and Ductwork Air-tightness  
October 21-22, 2010, Copenhagen/Lyngby, Denmark

e·u·[z]  
energie + umwelt zentrum



# OSB leaky?



# Does it leak?





# Airtight per ASTM E2178

Material	Thickness (minimum)
Plywood	3/8 in.
Oriented strand board	3/8 in.
Extruded polystyrene insulation board	½ in.
Foil-faced urethane insulation board	½ in.
Exterior gypsum sheathing or interior gypsum board	½ in.
Cement board	½ in.
Built up roofing membrane	
Modified bituminous roof membrane	
Fully adhered single-ply roof membrane	
A Portland cement/sand parge, stucco, or gypsum plaster	½ in.
Cast-in-place and precast concrete	
Sheet metal	
Closed cell 2 lb/ft <sup>3</sup> nominal density spray polyurethane foam	1 in.

US Dept of Energy:

# Application

working in **cold** and **wet** conditions



## Worse

- Spray Foam & Butyl Based adhesives:
  - 25 to 40 degree temp limit
  - Low moisture required
  - Clean surfaces



## Better

Pressure Sensitive  
Acrylic (PSA)  
Adhesives

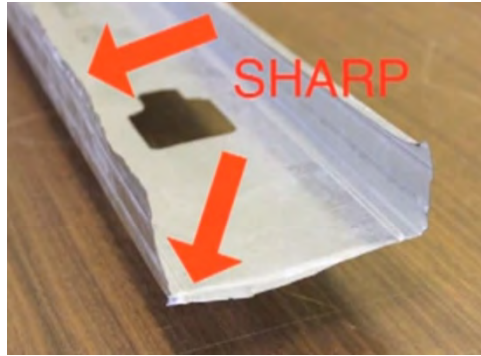
- Molecular bonding
  - 1 hour setup
- Caulking Adhesive
- 48 hour setup
  - **15 degree temp limit**
  - **Moisture tolerant**

Credit: Journal of Light Construction, *Trouble Shooting Spray-Foam Insulation* by Mason Knowles, Sept 2010



# Is it tough?

Is it meant to be a **sacrificial layer**?



Vs.



Vs.

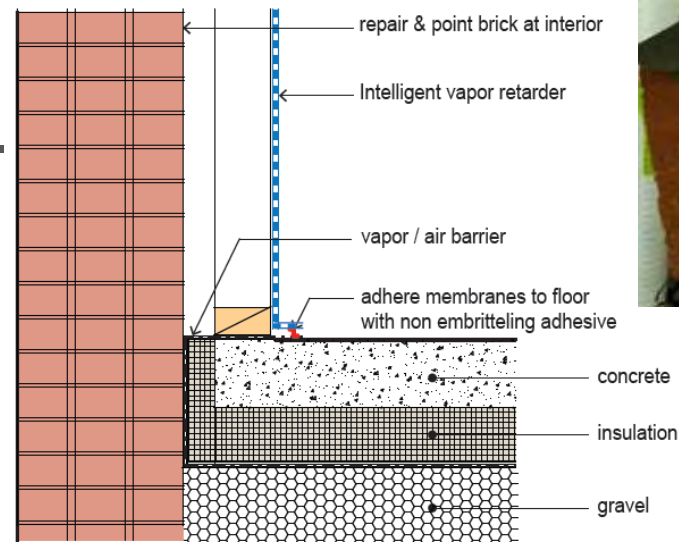


# Longevity

**Flexibility** – Materials can't embrittle over time.



Vs.



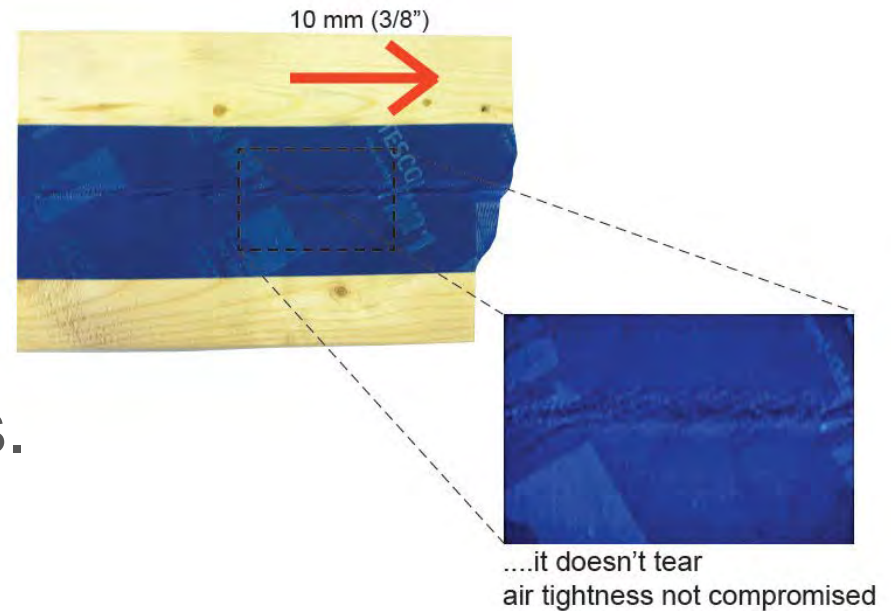


# Longevity

**Flexibility** – Materials can't delaminate or tear over time.



Vs.



# Is it Green?

In **production**, life time usage & **disposal**







## Can it Multitask?

- Water control?
  - WRBs
- Vapor control?
  - Vapor open vs. vapor closed/retarding/variable
- Thermal control?
  - Board insulations

# Most Critical Components are Certified



## Component Database

### Opaque building envelope

- Wall and construction systems
- Façade anchors
- Floor slabs
- ICF for roof parapets
- Flue systems
- Balcony connections
- Attic staircases
- Airtightness systems

### Building services

- Compact heat pump units
- Ventilation systems (capacity < 600 m<sup>3</sup>/h)
- Ventilation systems (capacity > 600 m<sup>3</sup>/h)
- Drain water heat recovery

Explore the house and find the links or  
☐ let the hotspots show up



### Transparent building envelope

- Windows
- Roof windows
- Skylights
- Curtain wall systems
- Glass roofs
- Openable glass roof elements
- Shutters
- Entry doors
- Sliding doors
- Glazing
- Spacers





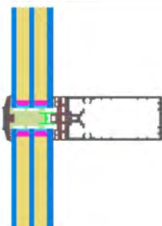
## Component Database

English ▾

### Glass roof LAMILUX CI-System Glasarchitektur PR60 energysave (Glasdach)

Info U-value calculation

Component id: 0159ic03  
 Manufacturer: LAMILUX Heinrich Strunz GmbH  
 Category: Glass Roof  
 Material: Aluminium  
 $U_{gk}$ : 0.81 W/(m<sup>2</sup> K)  
 Efficiency class: pH A  
 Spacer: Super Spacer TriSeal / T-Spacer Premium  
 Climate zones: Cool, temperate



Download certificate (en, de)

Frame cut	Frame width $b_f$ /mm	Frame U value $U_{f,gl}$ (W/(m <sup>2</sup> K))	Glass edge $\psi$ value $\psi_{g,e}$ (W/(m K))	Temperature factor $f_{Rsi} = 0.25$ m <sup>2</sup> K/W
Transom Fixed	60	0.79	0.034	0.79
Top Fixed	60	0.79	0.034	0.79
Bottom Fixed	60	0.79	0.034	0.79
Lateral Fixed	60	0.79	0.034	0.79
Mullion Fixed	60	0.79	0.034	0.79



## Component Database

### Ventilation system (capacity > 600 m<sup>3</sup>/h) Adconair 76 03 01

Info



Component id: 0845v03  
 Manufacturer: Menerga GmbH  
 Air flow range from...: 1000 m<sup>3</sup>/h  
 To...: 2000 m<sup>3</sup>/h  
 At external pressure: 265 Pa  
 Heat recovery rate: 88%  
 Humidity recovery: 0%  
 Available external pressure (with installed filters): 228 Pa  
 Sound level of unit: 57.0 dB(A)  
 Climate zones: Cool, temperate

#### Acoustic duct

Outdoor air: 64.0 dB(A)  
 Supply air: 75.0 dB(A)  
 Extract air: 72.0 dB(A)  
 Exhaust air: 69.0 dB(A)

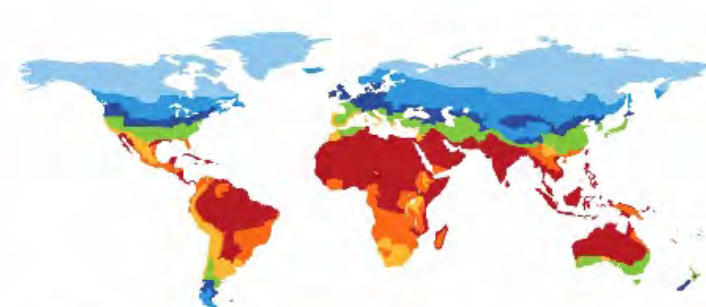
Download certificate (en, de)

# CERTIFICATE

Certified Passive House Component

Component-ID 1106as03 valid until 31st December 2017

Passive House Institute  
 Dr. Wolfgang Feist  
 64283 Darmstadt  
 Germany



Category: Airtightness Systems | Surface Air Sealing

Manufacturer: pro clima  
 Moll bauökologische Produkte GmbH  
 Rheintalstr. 35-43  
 68723 Schwetzingen, Germany

Product-System: pro clima INTELLO

Description: System for surface air sealing

System Components: Airtight membrane „INTELLO“  
 Self-adhesive Tape „TESCON VANA“  
 Self-adhesive Tape „CONTEGA SOLIDO SL“

permeability

0.01 m<sup>3</sup>/(hm<sup>2</sup>) (±0.002)

instructions for use

coherent ✓

recommended  
 detailing

comprehensive ✓

This certificate was awarded based on the following criteria:

Tested under standard boundary conditions the system meets the listed requirements

permeability  
 per unit area  
 @ 50 Pa  
 [m<sup>3</sup>/(hm<sup>2</sup>)]

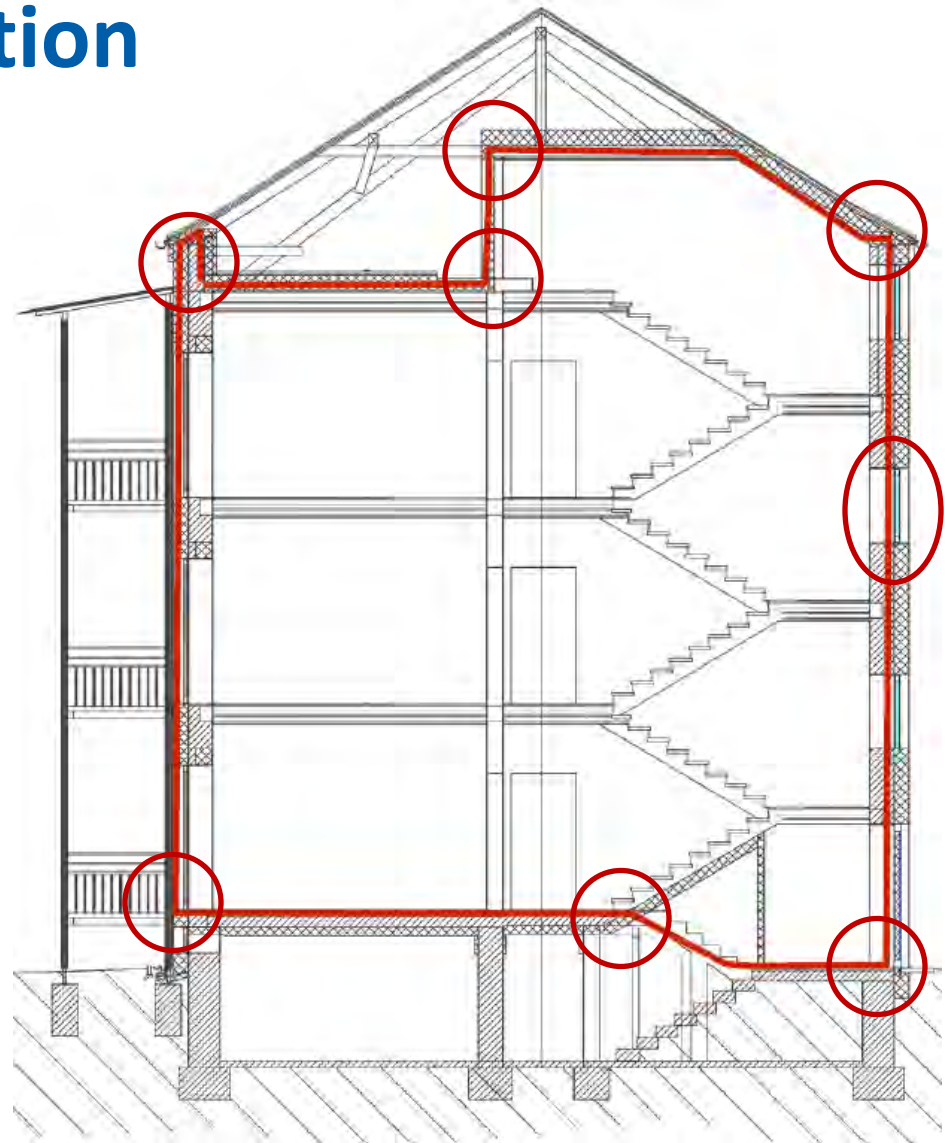
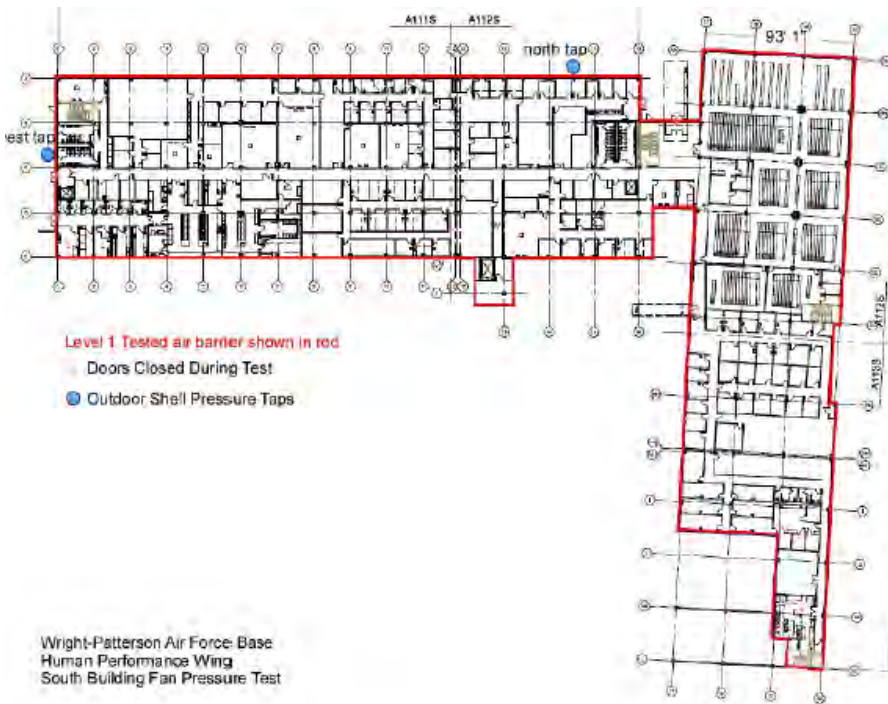
Class	
phA	≤ 0.10
phB	≤ 0.16
phC	≤ 0.25

The manufacturer supplies coherent and comprehensive instructions for use and detailing recommendations for all system components.  
 Adhering to these recommendations the system can greatly simplify the execution of an airtight building fabric. The complete Certification Report may also be downloaded at [www.passiv.de](http://www.passiv.de).



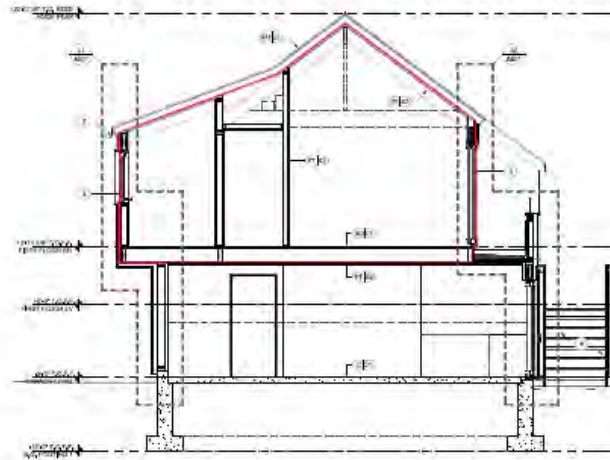
**CERTIFIED COMPONENT**  
 Passive House Institute

# Examine in Plan & Section

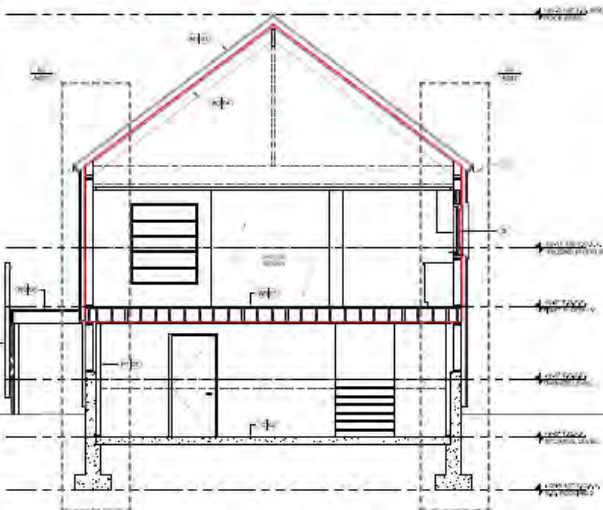




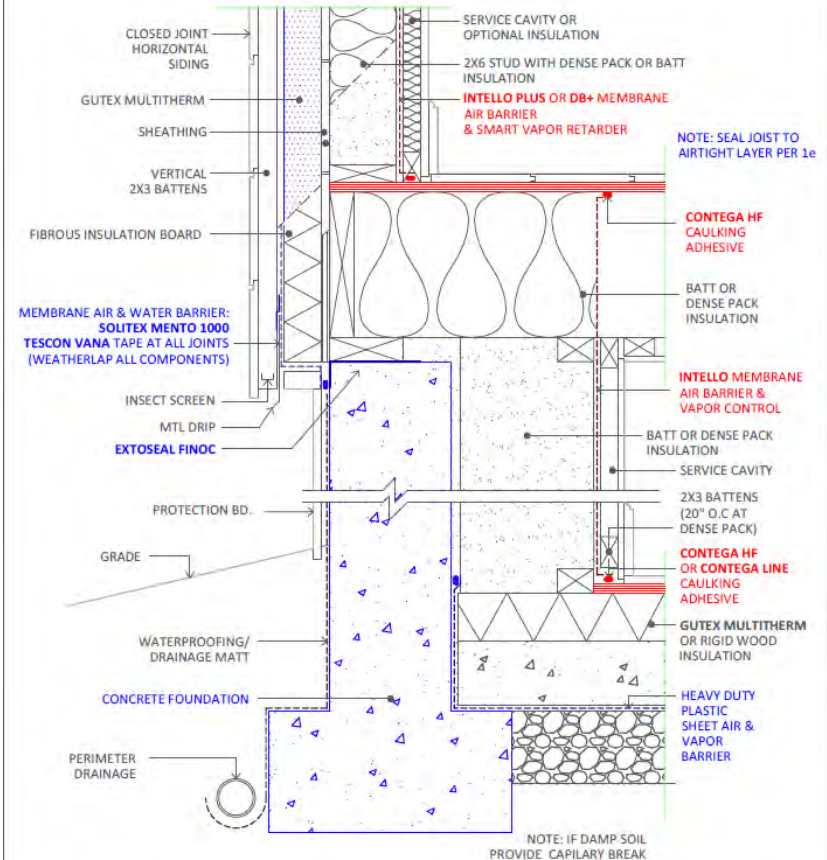
# Specialized Drawings



01 SECTION: EAST  
SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"



02 SECTION: WEST  
SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"



1c

CONDITIONED CELLAR - INBOARD INSULATION

FULL SCALE / PRINT AT: 1 1/2"=1'-0"

# Simplify Wherever Possible

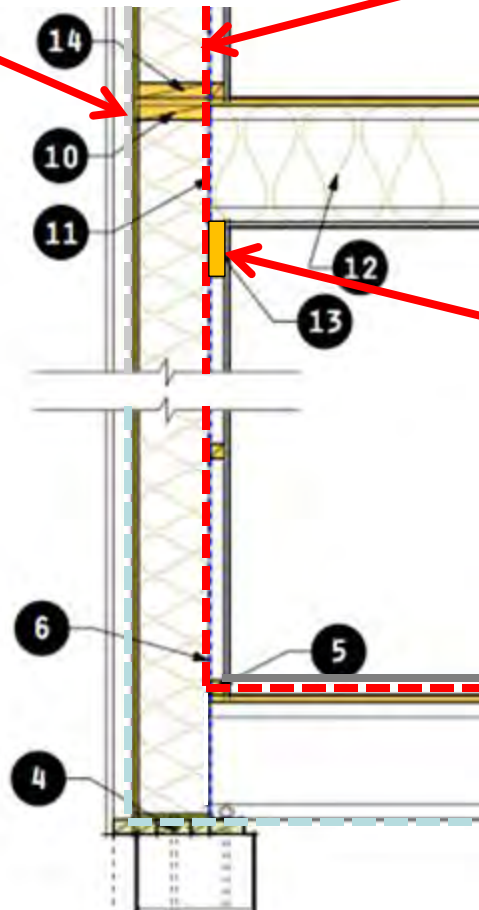
Continuous  
wind-tight  
weather barrier

Continuous air barrier  
with vapor control

Ledger supporting  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor framing

**Exterior**

**Interior**





# Sequence for continuity

## Step One

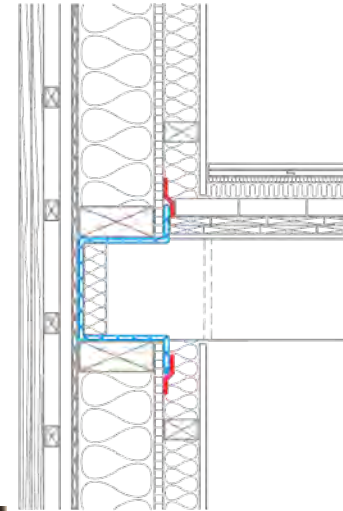


## Step Two



Credit: Ed May, <http://bldgtypblog.blogspot.com/>

# Sequence





# Minimize Penetrations





# Wire and pipe penetration sealing

Allow for **room** to gasket properly



Credit: Ed May, BldgTYP

Credit: Roger Lin, Southern Exposure Homes

# Clip/Post/Joist penetration sealing



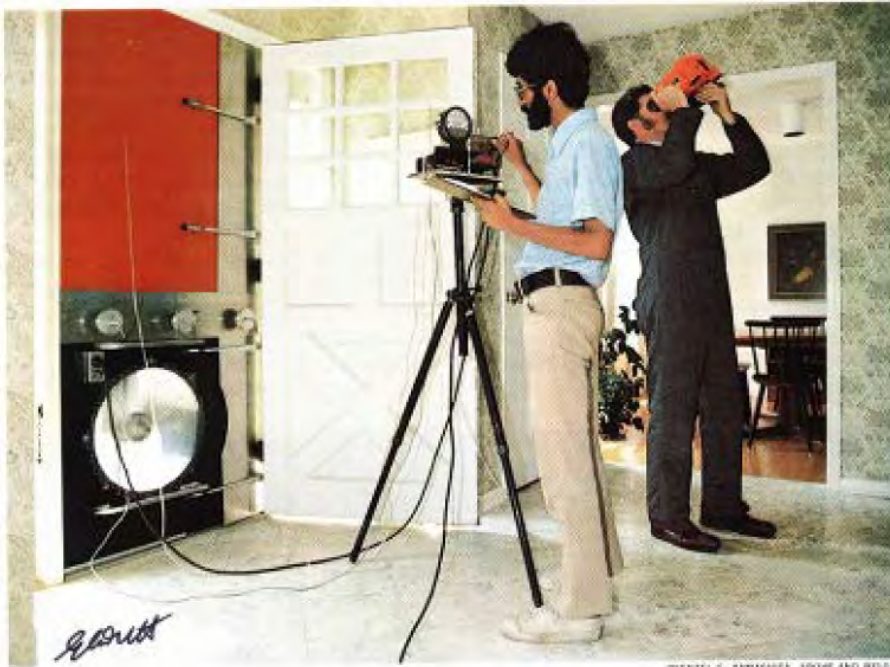


# Construction Planning

- Team meeting
  - Supervisors/foremen must buy in and take responsibility (all trades)
  - Identify few personnel to execute bulk of airsealing
- Training
  - Passive House Tradesperson Training for key personnel
- Sequencing
  - Do not impede or cover the air barrier
- 1<sup>st</sup> Blowerdoor test
  - As early in process as possible.



# Commission & test critical components



- **Airtightness**
- **Doors & Windows**
- **Ventilation flow rates**
- **Heating & Cooling systems**

**Measure and collect data...**

**Make sure everything is running smooth...**

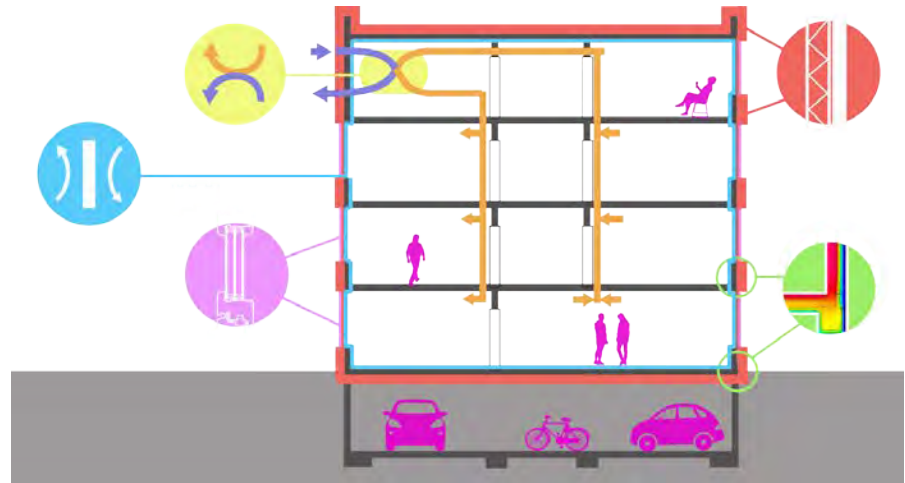
# Protect critical components



## Service Cavity & Vented Rain Screen

# Critical Aspects/Principles

- **Airtightness**
- **Vapor Control**
- **Well Insulated**
- **High-performance windows**
- **Fresh air ventilation**



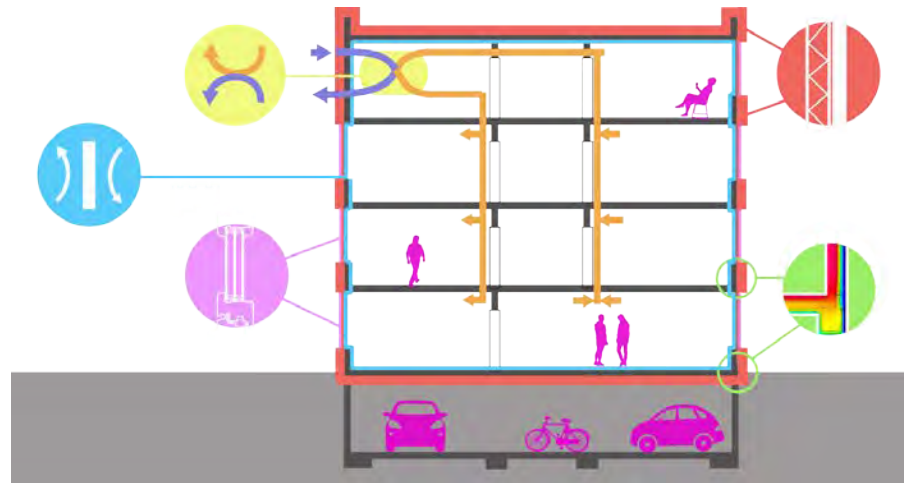


# ....and Key Themes

- **Continuity**
- **Integration**
- **Lower toxicity (not PH specific)**
- **Inspection & Testing**
- **Commissioning**
- **Training**
- **Teamwork**
- **Affordability via Optimization**

# Critical Aspects/Principles

- **Airtightness**
- Vapor Control
- Well Insulated
- High-performance windows
- Fresh air ventilation

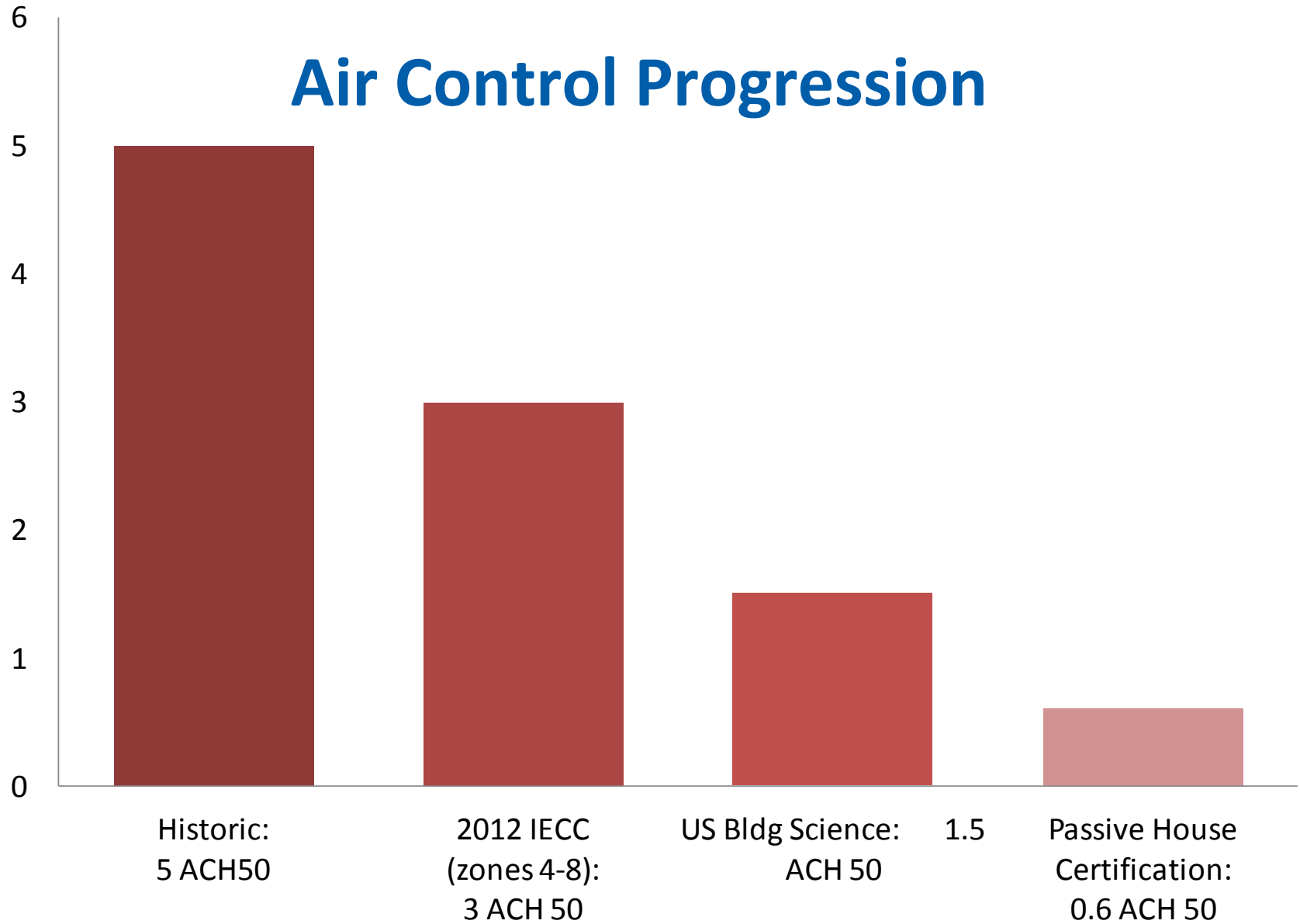


# Measure Airtightness



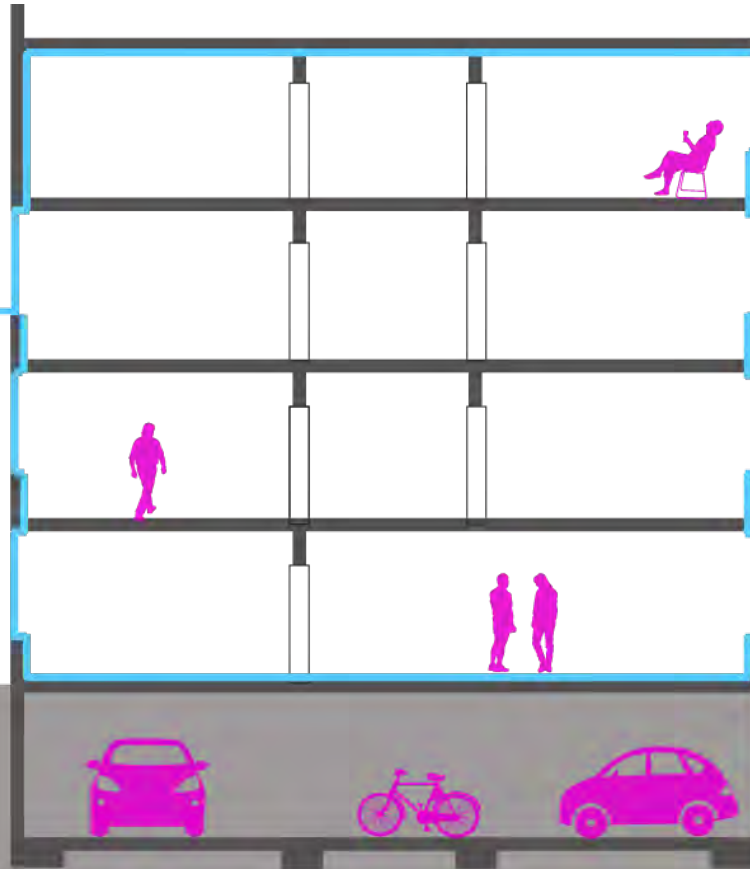


# Air Control Progression



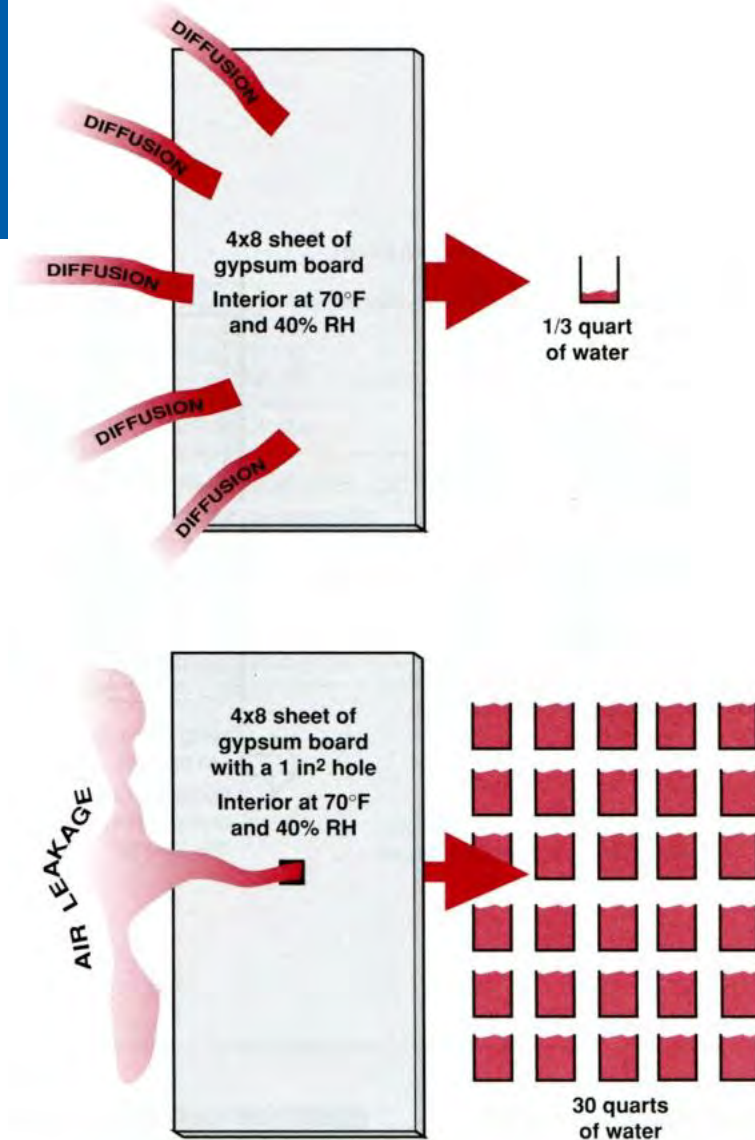
# Airtightness

## Driving Force for Performance



# Air Control

- Second only to water control.
- **Disproportionately effects:**
  - **Indoor air quality:** control the air to control the quality
  - **Comfort:** drafts are uncomfortable
  - **Air transported wetting:** a bigger liability than diffusion wetting
  - **Heat loss/thermal bypass**

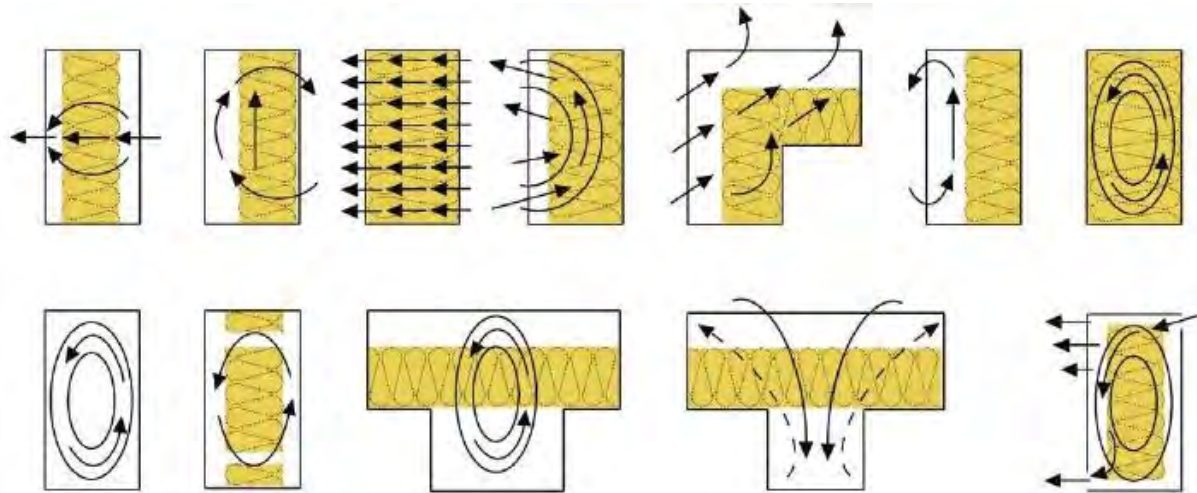


Credit: Building Science Corporation



# Thermal Bypass Diagrams

Thermal bypass describes heat loss that gets around intended thermal insulation, including:  
**windwashing, air infiltration, and convective loops.**

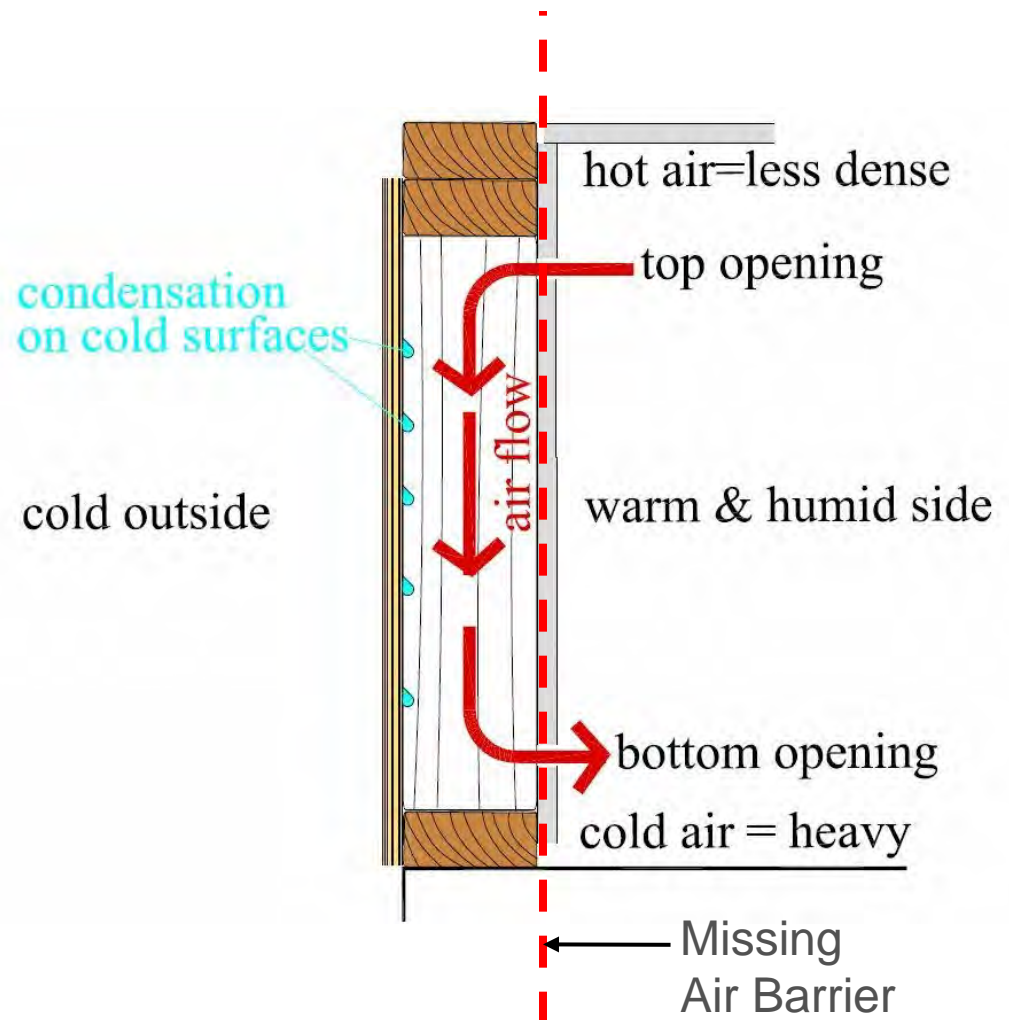


Credit: Mark Siddall, Building Green Magazine

Thermal Performance of **Leaky** vs. **Airtight** enclosures:  
**Factor of 4.8 or a 79% reduction in performance**

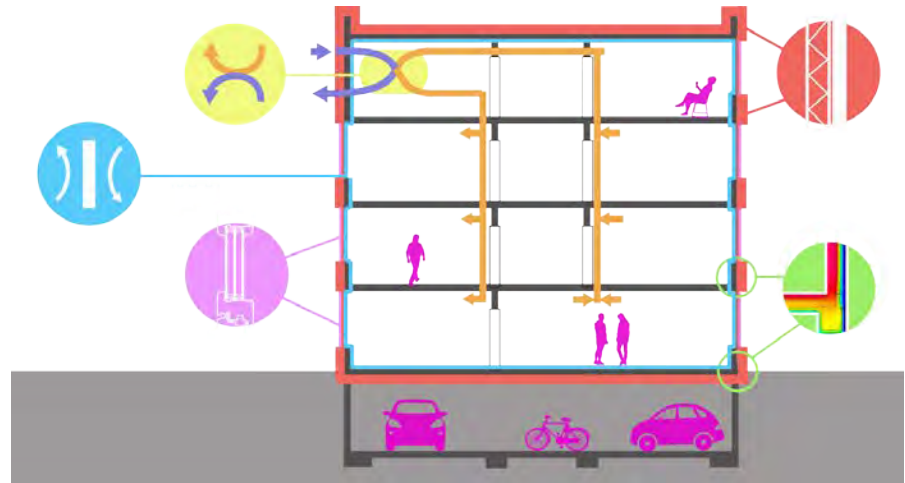
# Why Inboard Airtightness is Better

1. Keeps conditioned air within the conditioned space.
2. Better protection against condensation risk.
3. Places the components of this most important control layer in a climate controlled location.
4. Leaks can often be more readily found and easier to repair.
5. **The air control layer can/should double as a vapor control layer.**



# Critical Aspects/Principles

- Airtightness
- **Vapor Control**
- Well Insulated
- High-performance windows
- Fresh air ventilation





# Vapor Control

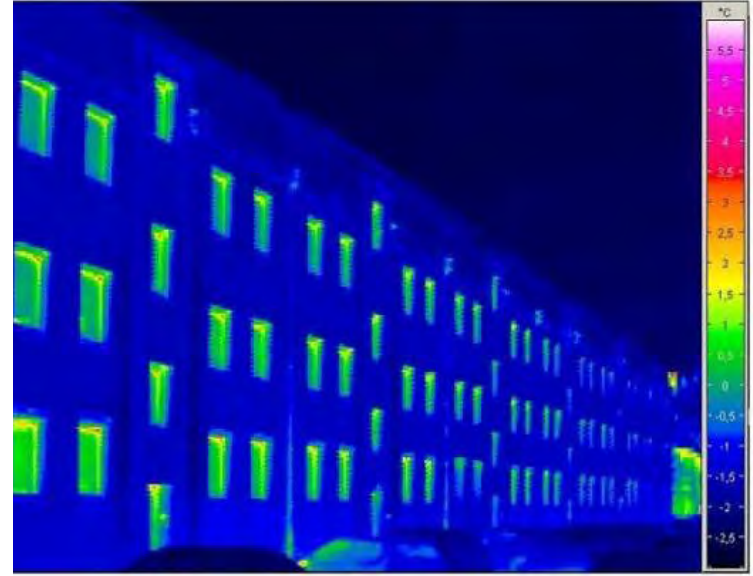
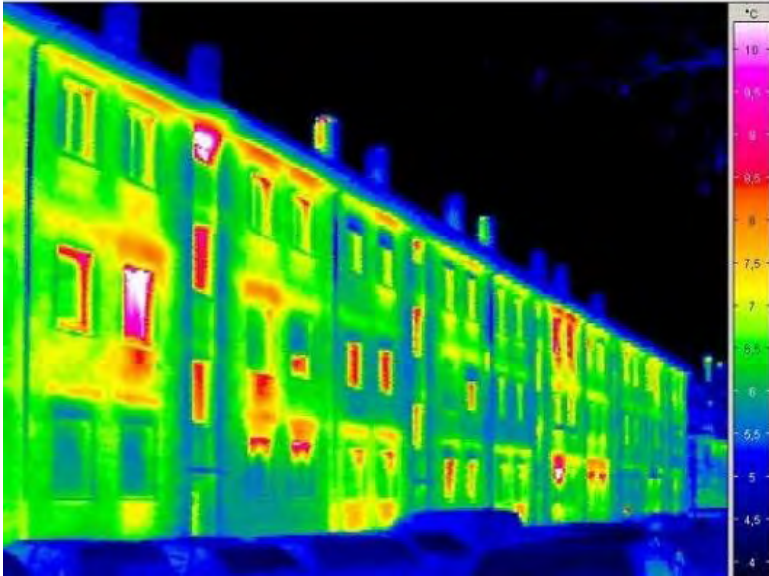
- **Airtightness**
- **Vapor Control**
- **Warm surface temperatures**
- **High-performance windows**
- **Fresh air ventilation**



# Avoid Sweating



# Poorly insulated walls are often heated dry



**Well built assemblies dry through vapor diffusion.**  
(or they don't dry)



# Drying Outward in Winter

**Outside**

**Winter**

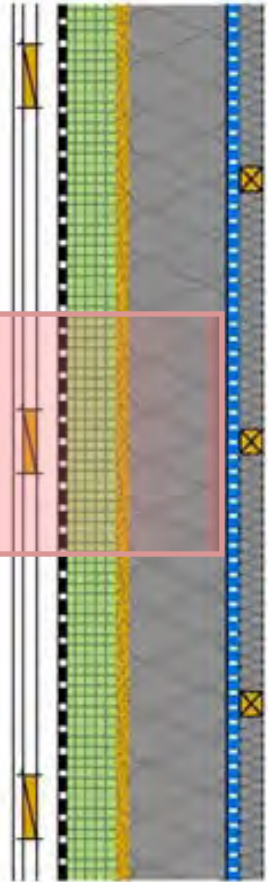
**Inside**

Vapor open

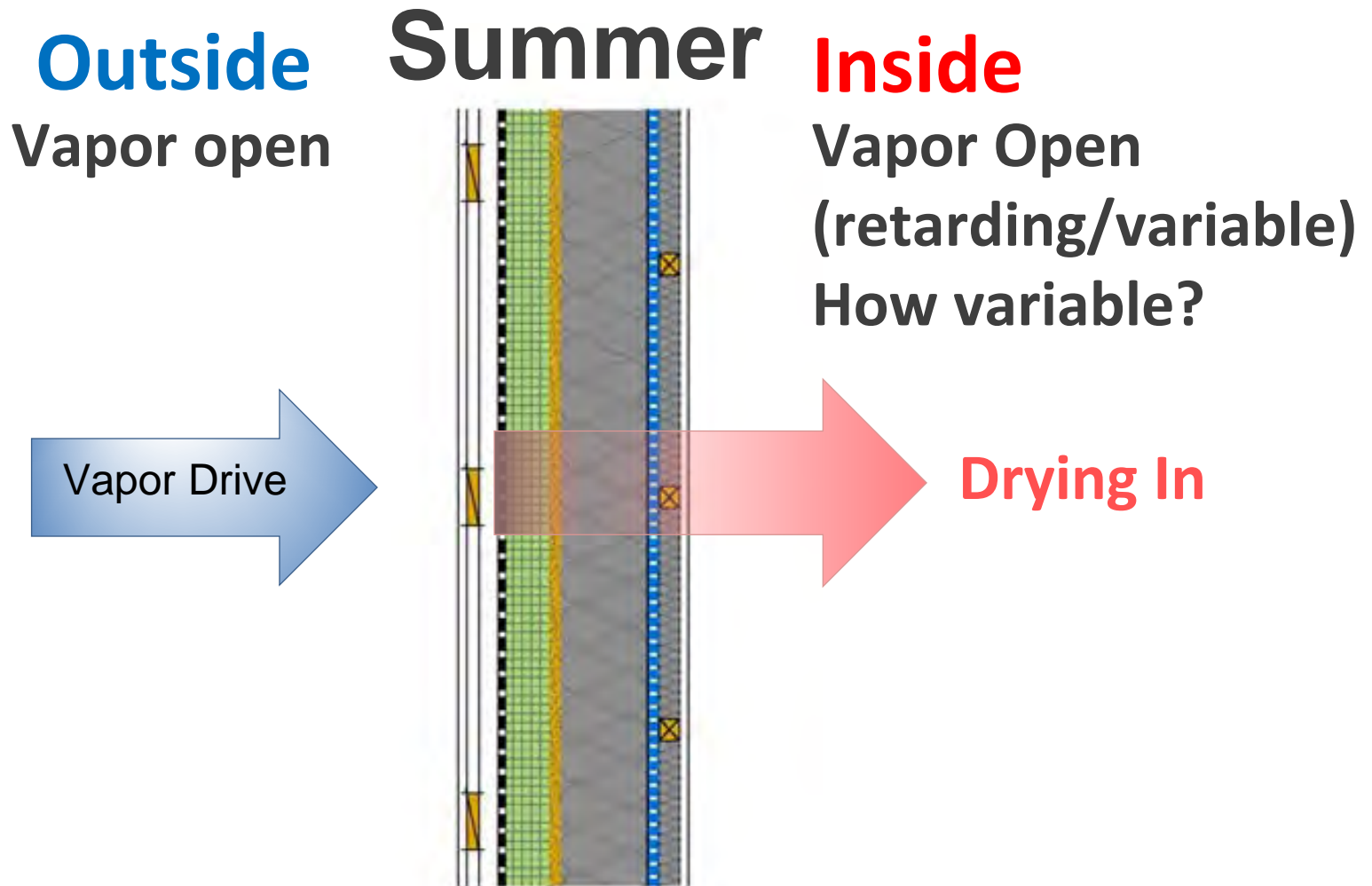
Vapor Closed  
(retarding/variable)  
How variable?

**Drying Out**

**Minimize potential  
Wetting from  
Inside**



# Drying Inward in Summer



# Vapor open sheathing at Exterior



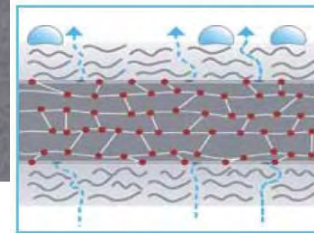
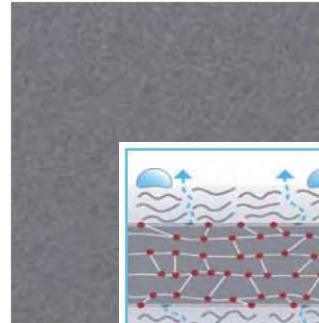


# Membranes: Mechanically Fastened

## Exterior and Interior

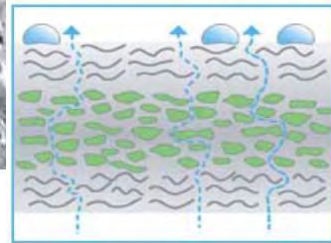
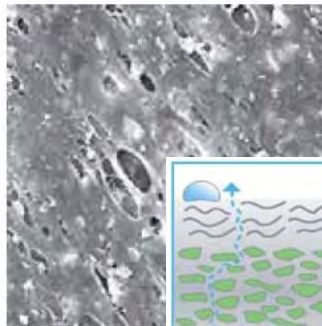
### Exterior Airtight Membranes

Pro Clima: SOLITEX, FRONTA QUATTRO, FRONTA HUMIDA & INTESANA, etc  
Siga: Majcoat (no reinforced option, less water proof)



### Not

Siga Majvest  
Tyvek  
Greenguard  
Hydrogap  
Delta Foxx  
Typar etc



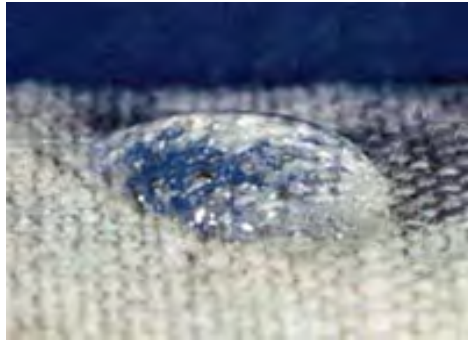
### Interior Airtight Membranes

Pro Clima: DB+, DA, INTELLO Plus  
Certainteed: Membrain (no reinforced option)  
Siga: Majpell (no reinforced option, not vapor variable)  
Polyethelene (vapor closed)



# Water penetration due to reduced surface tension

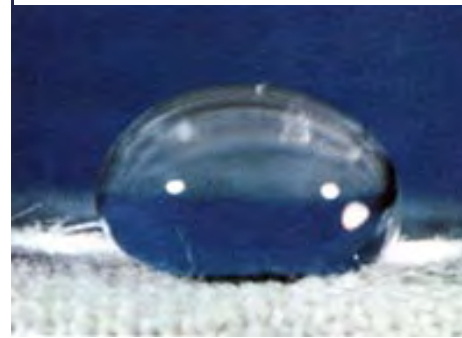
Conventional technology: **PE /PP membrane: (micro)porous**



Water can penetrate the structure due to the reduced water tension caused by:

- Wood preservatives (salts and detergents)
- Chainsaw oil
- Materials contained in the wood (resins, oils or terpenes)
- Not completely airtight (porous)

New technology : **TEEE membrane: nonporous and monolithic**



Nonporous structures are always watertight and are not affected by:

- Wood preservatives (salts and detergents)
- Chainsaw oil
- Materials contained in the wood (resins, oils or terpenes)
- Completely airtight

# High quality exterior membranes



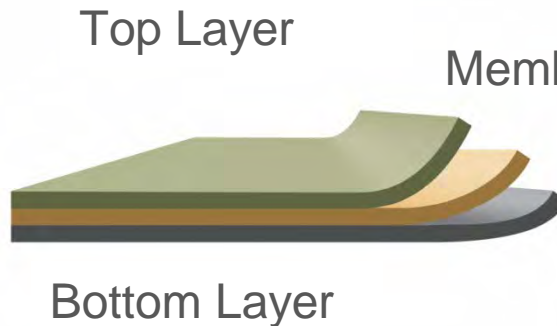
## Functions:

### Top Layer:

Protection of the membrane from the outside at installation process (during the installation of the battens and subsequent roofing).

### Membrane:

WRB: Waterproof against driving rain, Monolithic Actively vapor open (temp roof, roof underlayment and WRB)



### Bottom layer:

Protection of the membrane against irregularities in the substrate (rafters or timber shuttering)



# Active vapor open TEEE



Looks like a Leaky Building ???



**Condensation on PE / PP  
micro-porous membrane**

**- Pores filled = vapor closed**



**Dry surface on TEEE  
nonporous monolithic  
membrane**

**– remains vapor open,  
protects building**

# Tapes

Acrylic, butyl.....

## Acrylic Options:

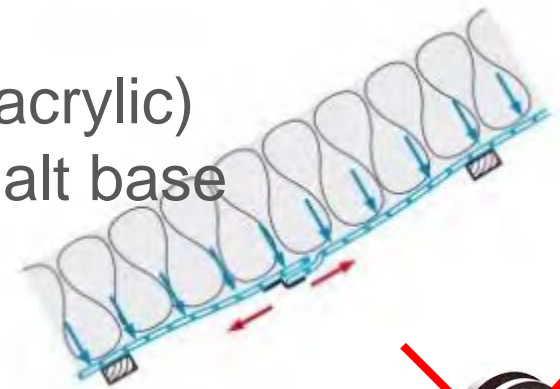
Pro Clima: TESCON Vana, Profil, CONTEGA and more  
3M, Siga, ZIP



## Bitumen/Butyl Options:

Pro Clima, EXTONSEAL ENCORS (butyl/acrylic)  
WR Grace, Vycor (primer required) asphalt base

**Primers must match** profile of adhesive



Note: Expanding/Impregnated Foam cannot be practically installed airtight in our experience



# Tapes

Adhesion must hold  
Slippage doesn't  
provide confidence or durability



Pro Clima primer on masonry tile with Contego Exo  
- forced to failure: internal delamination of tape



Peter Yost



# Tapes

Address Penetrations



# Tapes

Address Penetrations  
(blind taping for concealed hinges)



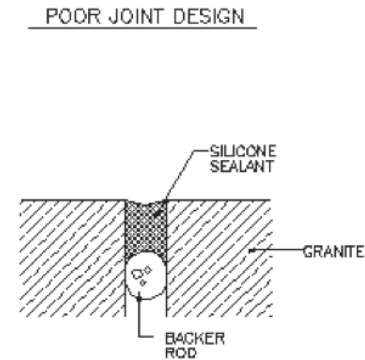
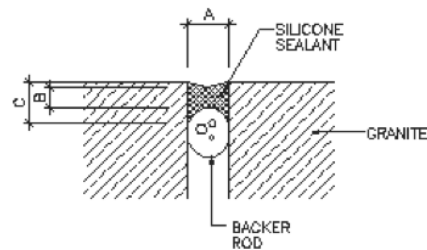
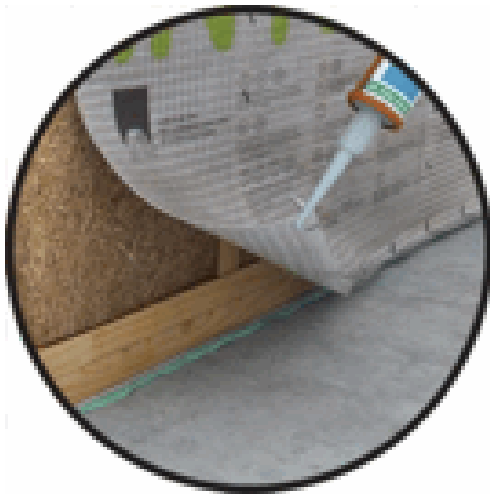


# Caulking Sealant

Acrylic, can be tricky

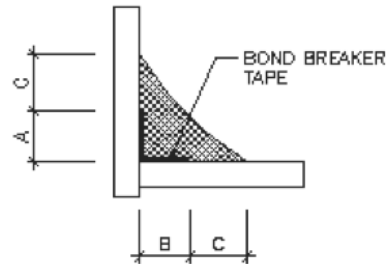
CONVENTIONAL MOVING WEATHERSEAL

Pro Clima: CONTEGA HF  
Contega Classic

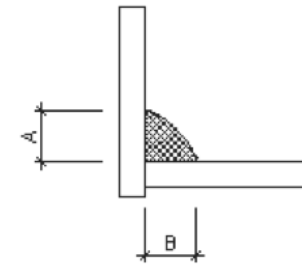


MOVING CORNER JOINT

GOOD JOINT DESIGN



POOR JOINT DESIGN



Siga primur  
Tremco acoustical



# Gaskets

EPDM Rubber for wires, pipes and ducts

Pro Clima KAFLEX

Pro Clima ROFLEX

Plastic Electric Boxes

Pro Clima INSTAA Boxes

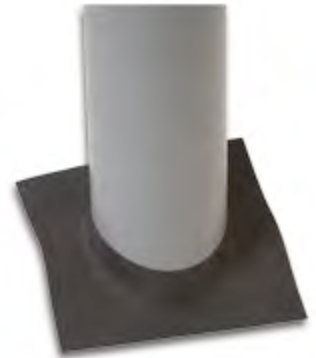
LESSCO

Liquid pipe sealing

Pro Clima WYFLEXA or CONTEGA HF

Zip Liquid Flash

Prosoco Fast Flash



# Insulations

## Mineral wool:

Roxul

Urea-extended phenol formaldehyde binder - very low ppm (Greenguard)

No flame retardants



## Fiberglass:

Typically with phenol formaldehyde binder

Dense pack: Jet Stream Ultra binder free by Knauf

Below: JM Spider with hydrolyzed polyester binder



Alex Wilson, BuildingGreen



# Insulations

Cellulose:

Check for Aluminum Sulfates  
15% Borates for fire, pest and  
mold prevention.



Woodfiber Board:

Gutex & Agepan

High recycled content, check %  
of PU binder

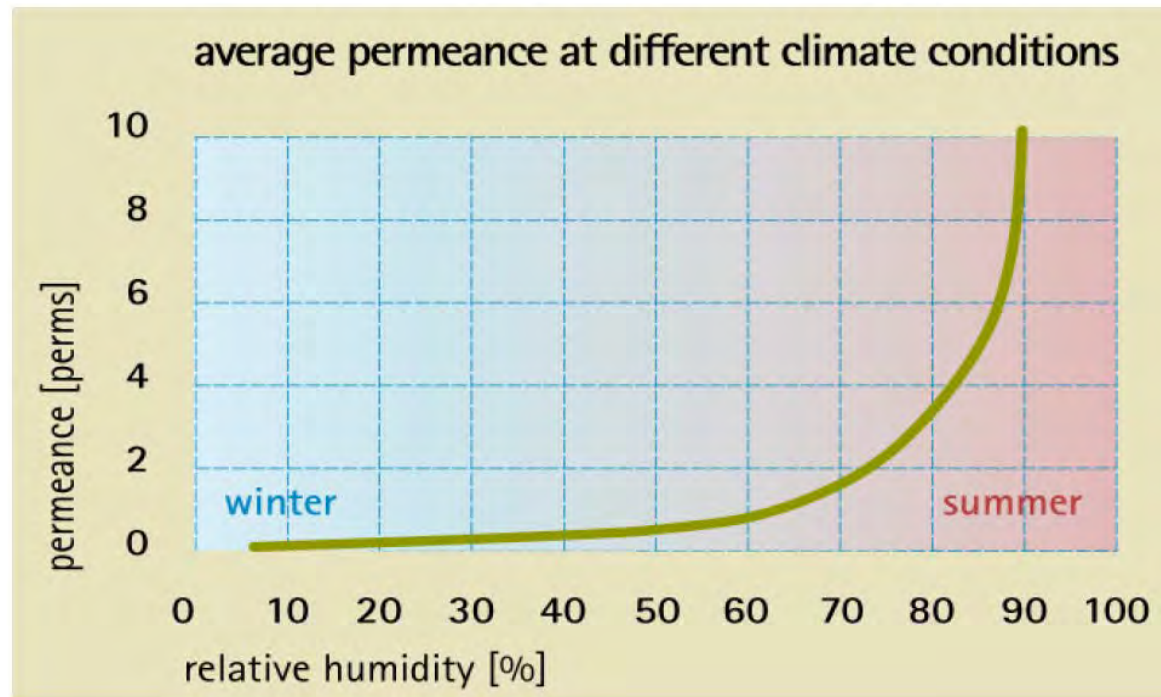
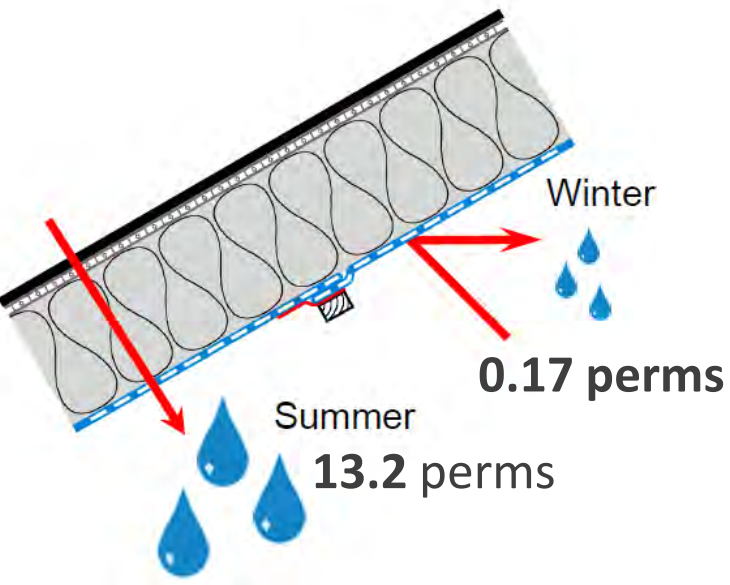




# As risks increase: Intelligent Vapor Retarders....

prevent wetting and promote drying

building drying reserves, for maximum protection



# Cornell Tech

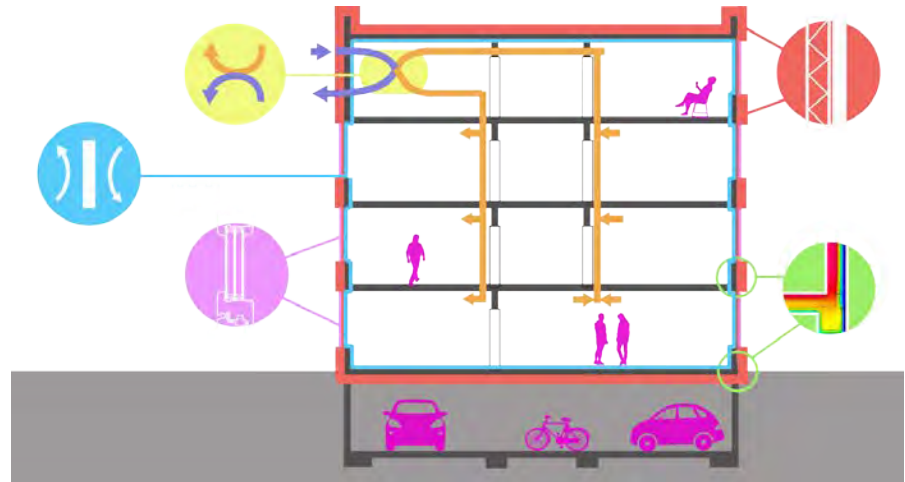
## Panelized System Continuous Envelope





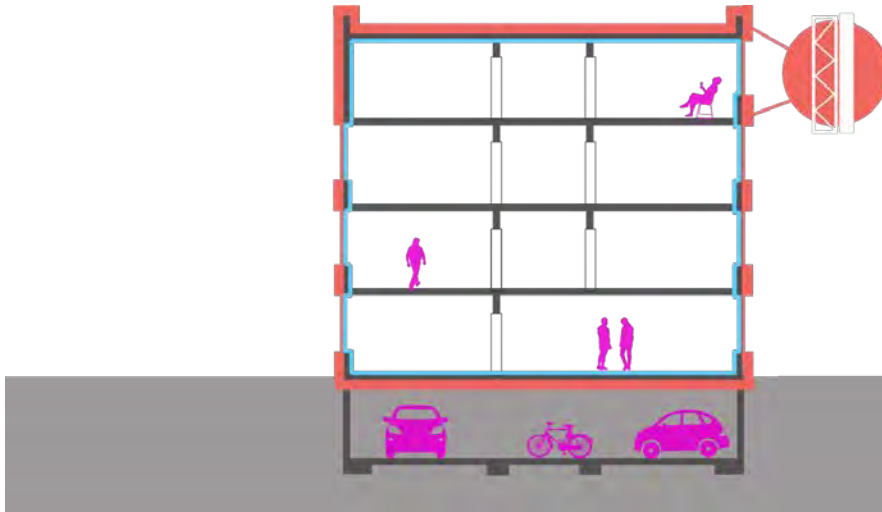
# Critical Aspects/Principles

- Airtightness
- Vapor Control
- **Well Insulated**
- High-performance windows
- Fresh air ventilation

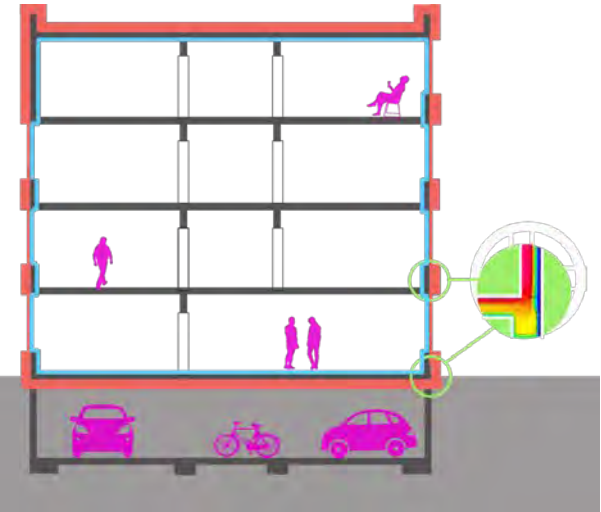




# Warm Surface Temperatures



Continuation insulation



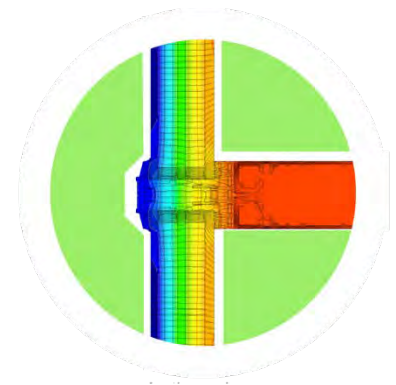
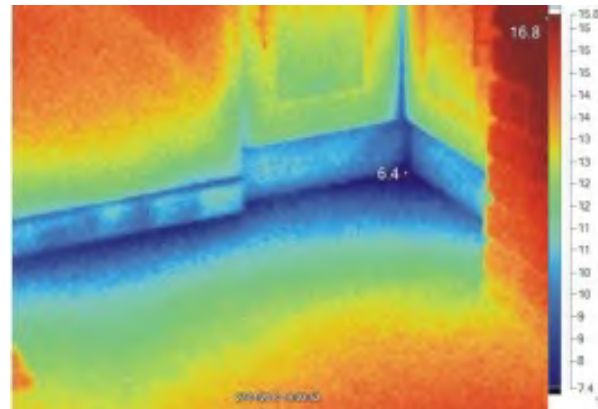
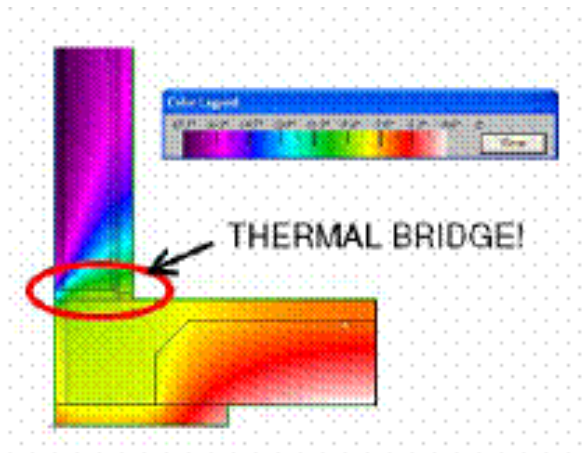
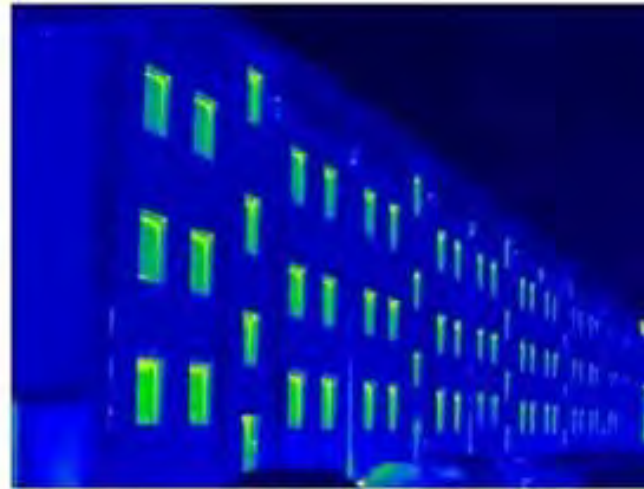
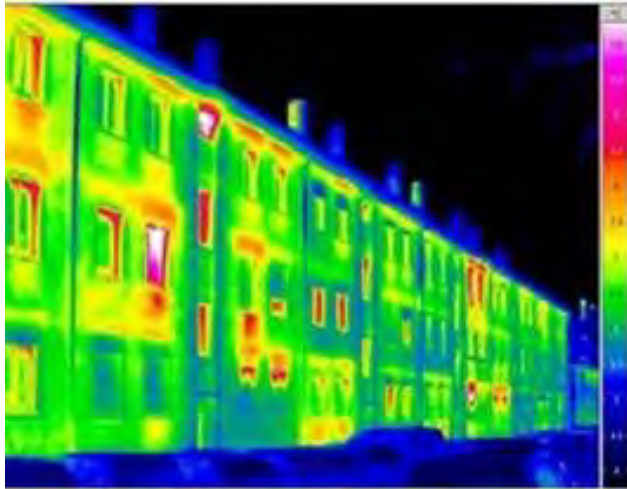
Thermal Bridge Free



Insulation levels are climate specific, like sleeping bags

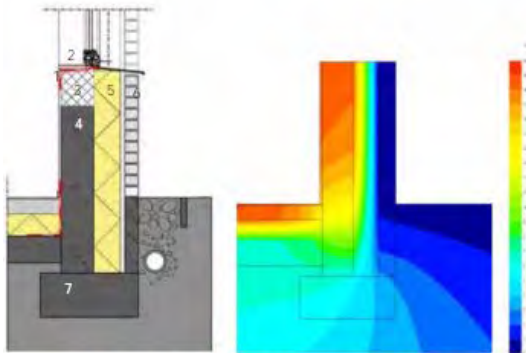


# Comfort Criteria and Safety from Condensation

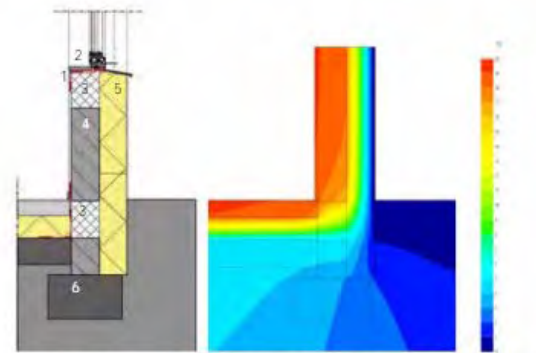




# Thermal Breaks at the Foundation



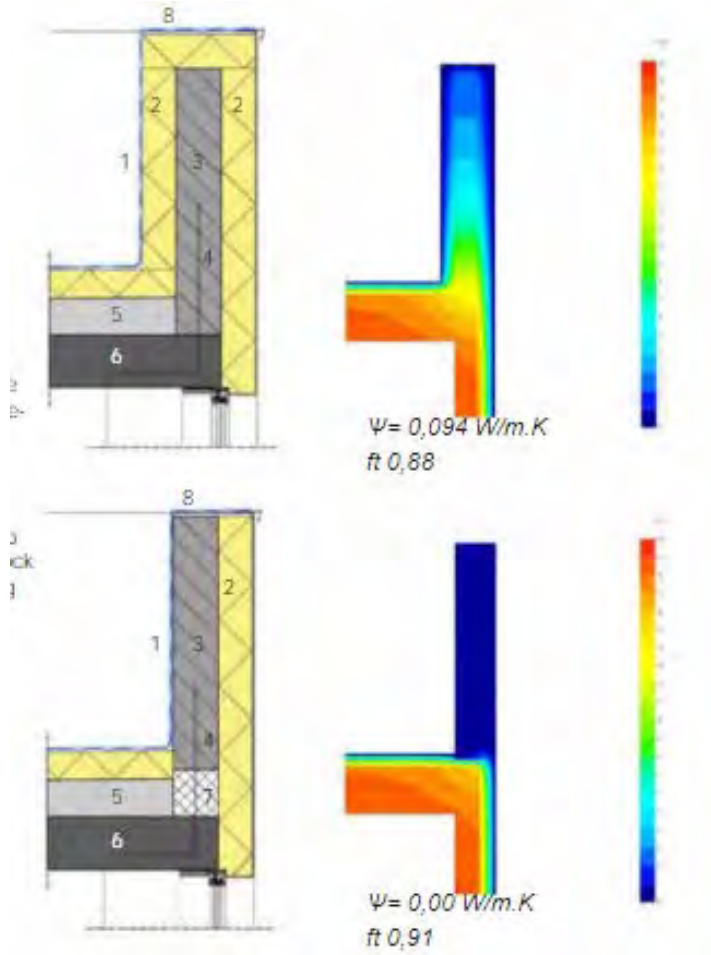
Junction with no insulation block in the brickwork:  $\Psi=0,27 \text{ W/m.K}$



Junction including an insulation block in the brickwork:  $\Psi= - 0,02 \text{ W/m.K}$



# Parapet Walls



A2M passive+architecture



# Thermal Break at the Rain Screen



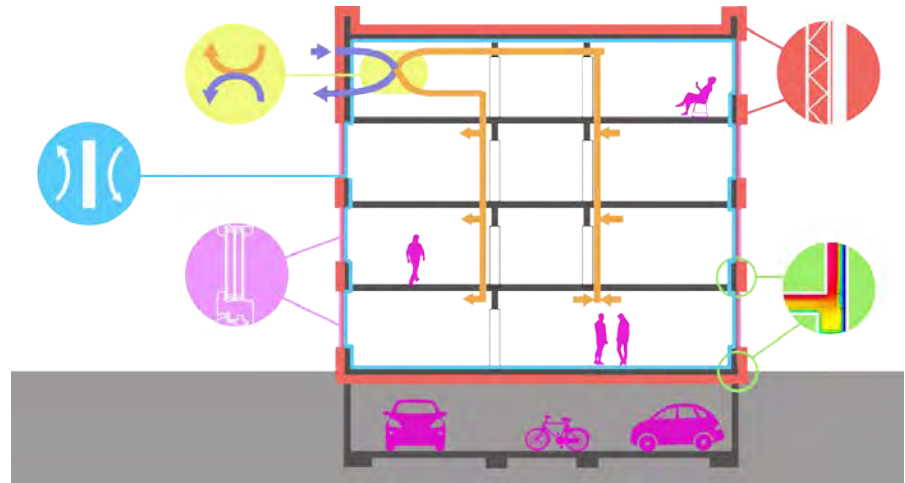


# Thermal Break at Balcony



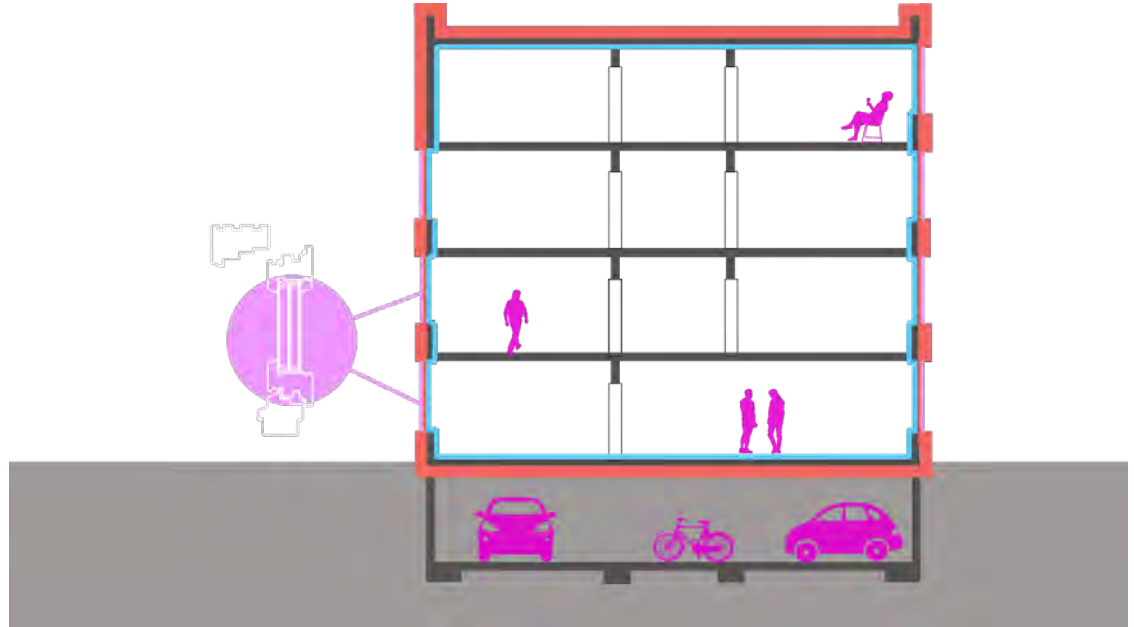
# Critical Aspects/Principles

- Airtightness
- Vapor Control
- Well Insulated
- **High-performance windows**
- Fresh air ventilation





# High-Performance Windows

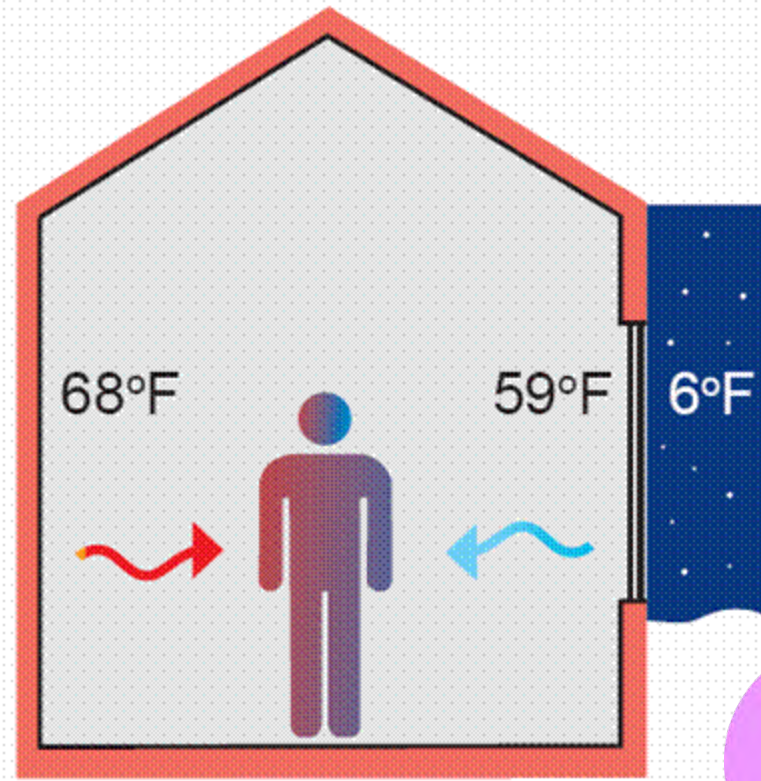


**Comfort drives performance**



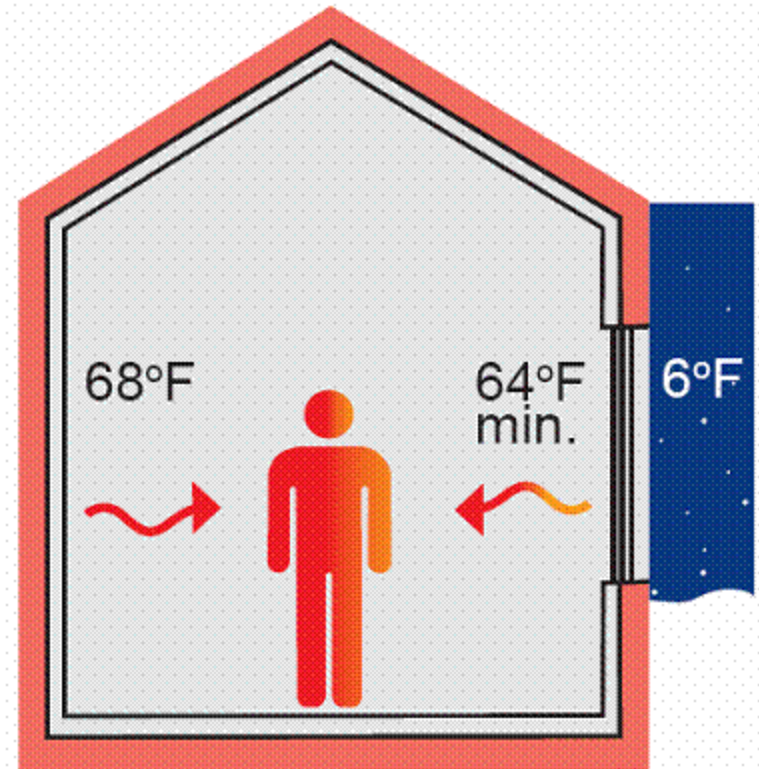
# Comfort drives performance

Typical **Double** Glazing



discomfort

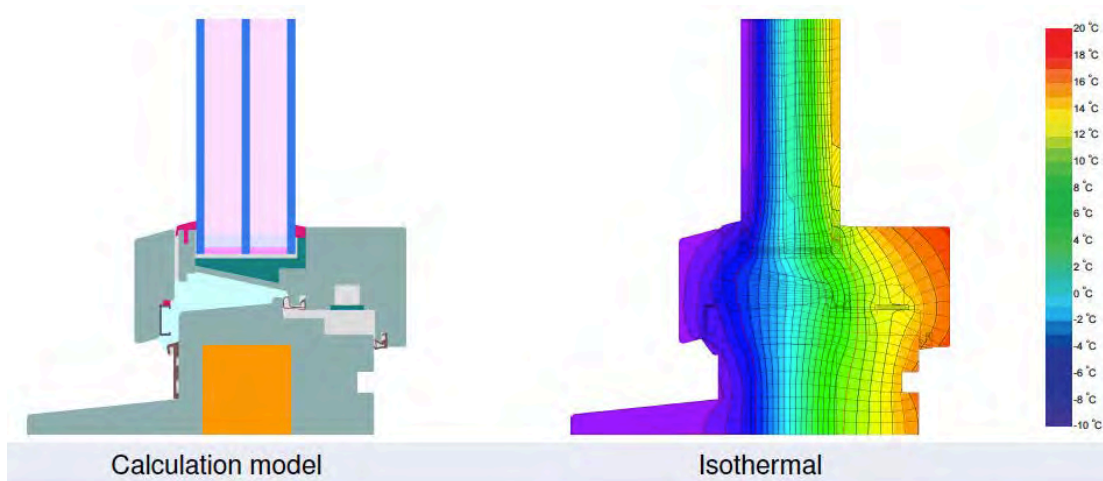
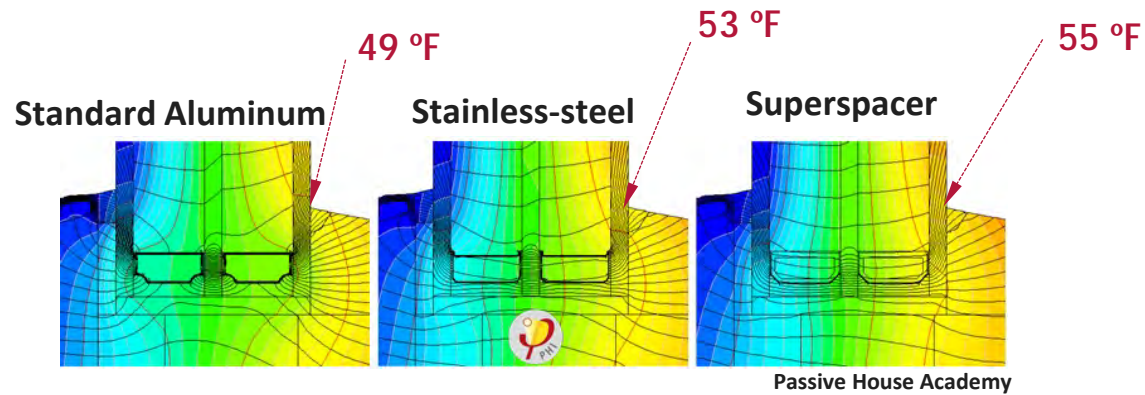
**PH** Windows



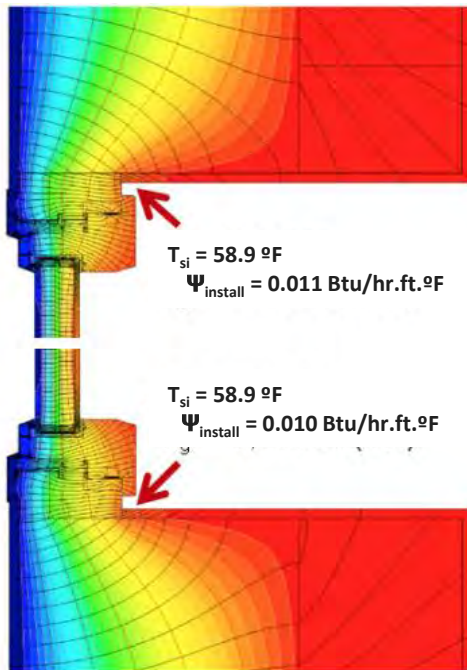
comfort



# Spacers Matter, Frames Matter

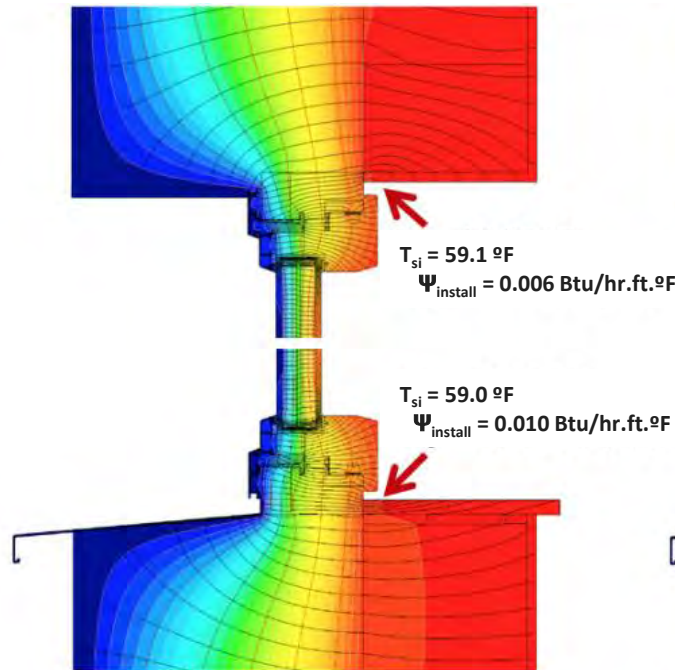


# Window Placement Matters



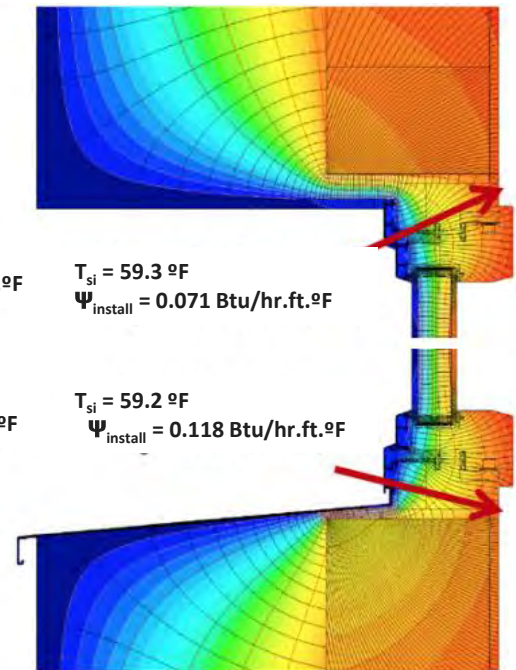
$$U_{w-installed} = 0.151\text{ Btu/hr.ft}^2\text{.°F}$$

$$(R_{w-installed} = 6.62\text{ hr.ft}^2\text{.°F/Btu})$$



$$U_{w-installed} = 0.148\text{ Btu/hr.ft}^2\text{.°F}$$

$$(R_{w-installed} = 6.76\text{ hr.ft}^2\text{.°F/Btu})$$



$$U_{w-installed} = 0.215\text{ Btu/hr.ft}^2\text{.°F}$$

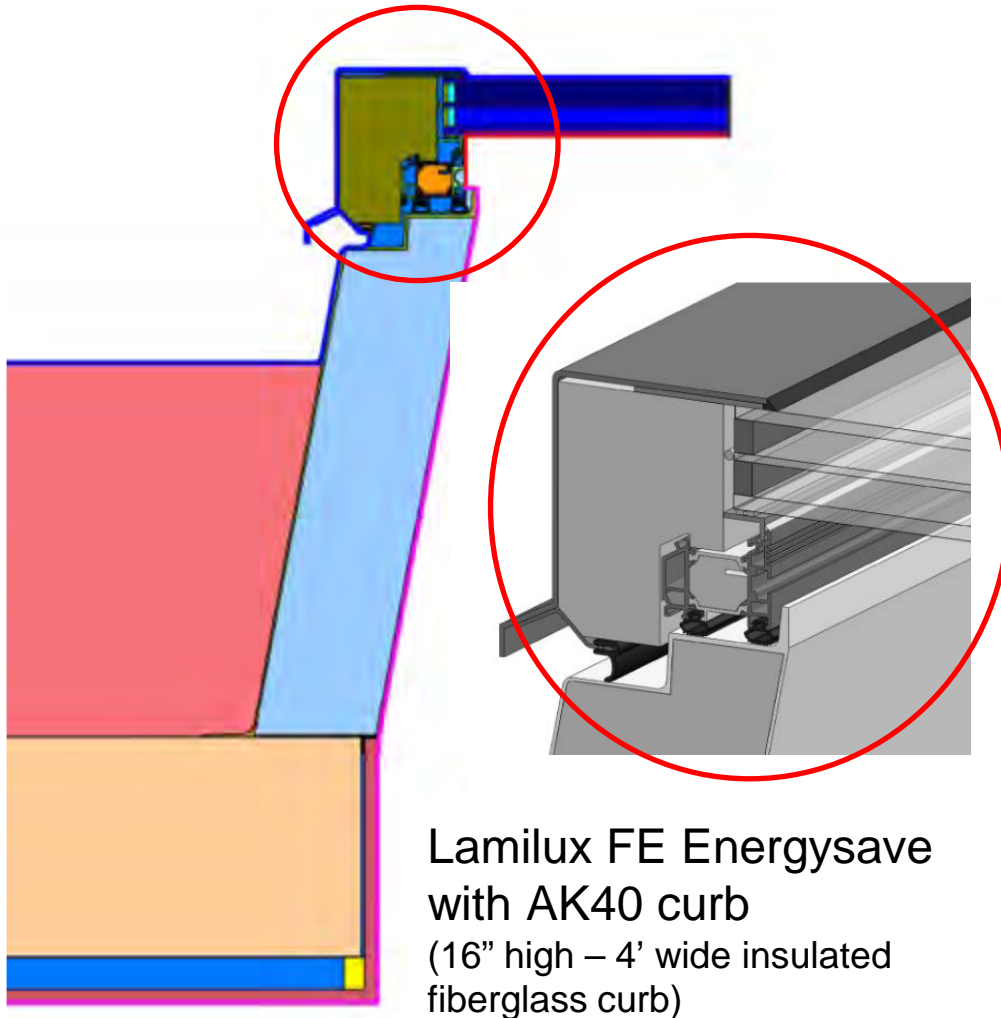
$$(R_{w-installed} = 4.65\text{ hr.ft}^2\text{.°F/Btu})$$



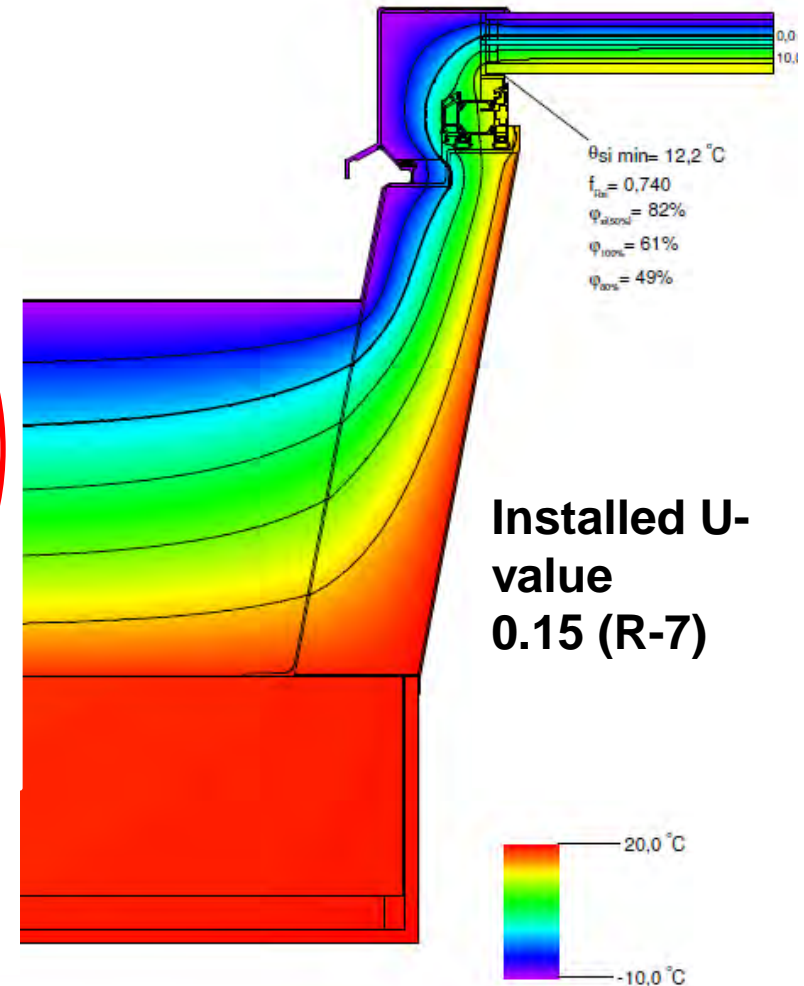
Passive House Academy



# Skylight Integration....

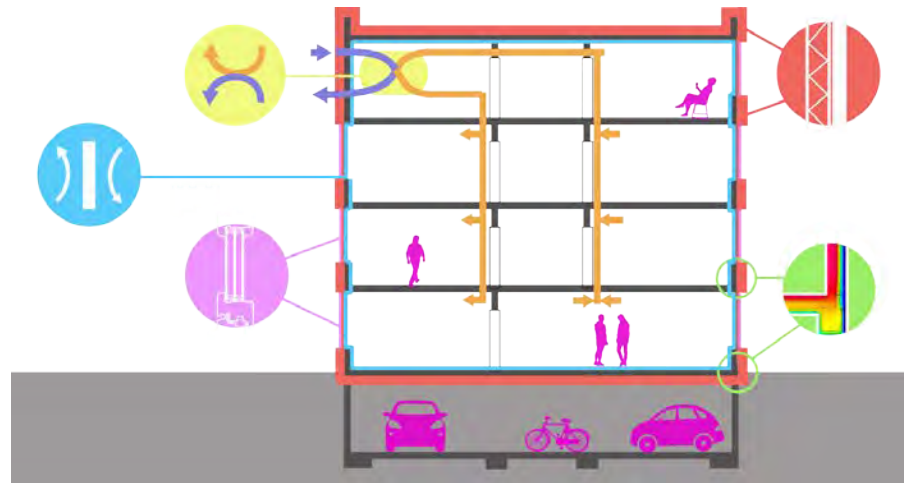


Lamilux FE Energysave  
with AK40 curb  
(16" high – 4' wide insulated  
fiberglass curb)



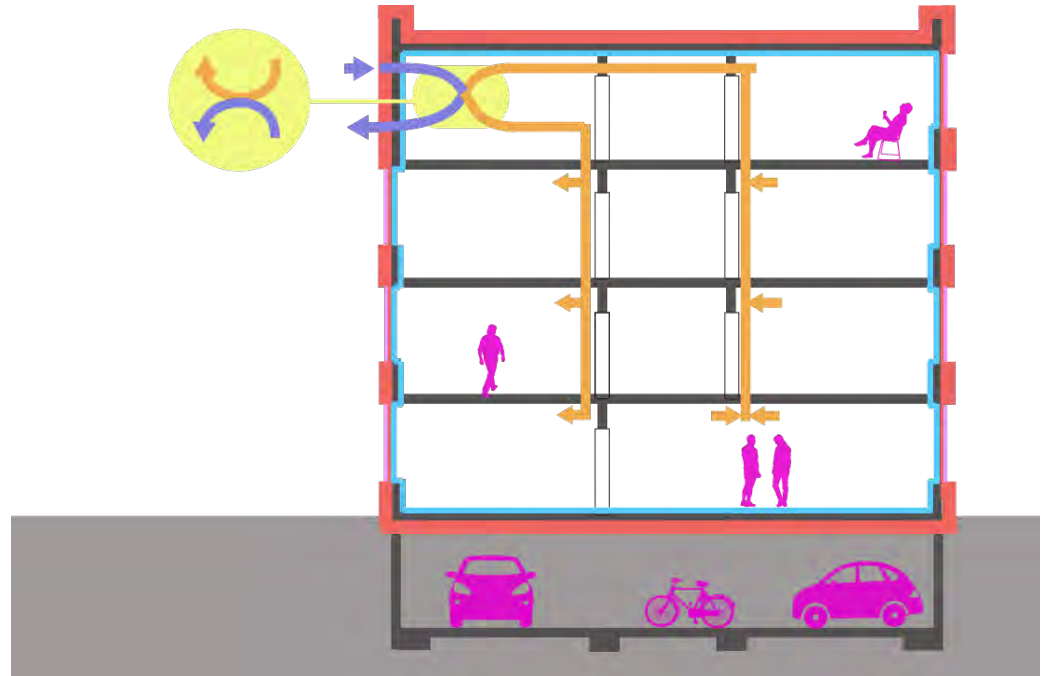
# Critical Aspects/Principles

- Airtightness
- Vapor Control
- Well Insulated
- High-performance windows
- **Fresh air ventilation**



# Fresh Air Ventilation

- Supply to every served space: living rooms, bedrooms, etc...
- Exhaust from every service space: bathrooms, kitchens, etc...
- Individual unit control
- Humidity control





# Centralized vs. Decentralized

- Central Units: at top/bottom/middle of building with risers
- Semi-Central Units: at each floor
- Semi-Decentralized Units: at each apartment
- Decentralized Units: at each room



Central & Semi-Central  
(Ventacity, Swegon)



Semi-Decentralized  
(Zehnder)



Decentralized  
(Lunos)

# Humidity and HRV vs. ERV (for Multifamily)

- **HRV** only recovers heat energy – **good for lowering humidity in winter**
- **ERV** recovers humidity/latent energy – maintaining indoor humidity levels & **good for preventing moisture loading in summer.**



## **Suggested Solution:**

- Address summer humidity with active cooling.
- Address winter humidity with HRV system.

# Lower Toxicity

## Consider Chemical Risks

- Occupational Health
- Occupant Health
- Biosphere Health
  - Chemical sensitization
  - Respiratory ailments
  - Neurological ailments
  - Cancer





# Work to Lower Toxicity

- No/low VOCs
- In manufacture, application, life and disposal
- Toward natural building.
- “Less is Best”
- International Living Future Institute: Red List
- USGBC LEED
- BuildingGreen: Greenspec
- Healthy Building Network: Pharos Project
- Declaration EPD: ISO 14025
- California EPA Air Resources Board
- Perkins & Will’s Precautionary List



# Training, Documentation, Verification & Orientation

## Predictability Relies on Process....

**Trained Professionals:** Architects, Engineers,  
Builders Consultants (PH certified)

**Integrated Design**

**Onsite Verification**

**Occupant Orientation**

Third Party **VeriPHY**

**Airtightness Testing Plan**

**MEP Commissioned** accordingly

**Certification:**



# Signage more numerous than “No Smoking”

## AIRTIGHT BUILDING



**NO DRILLING  
AIRTIGHT  
CONSTRUCTION**



**NO CUTTING  
AIRTIGHT  
MEMBRANES**

**REPORT ALL PENETRATIONS TO SUPERVISOR**



# Verify materials for continuity

## Manufacturers

Airsealing system /Performance requirements

Airtight materials (membranes, sheathing)

Air-sealing tapes

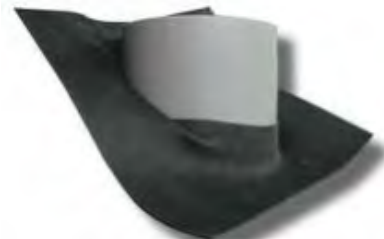
Adhesives

## Accessories

Tape primers

Gaskets for pipes, cables and ducts

Outlet airtight enclosures



# Summary

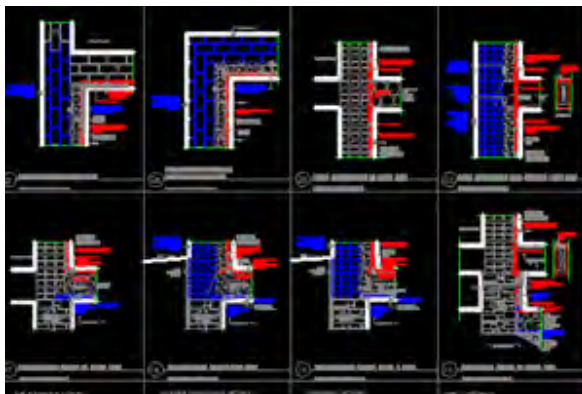
1. Robust (next generation) materials & components
2. Less toxic materials too
3. Fully integrated
4. Forming continuous control layers (predictability)
5. With simplified detailing
6. Sequenced
7. Protected
8. Tested & Commissioned
9. With trained workforce
10. Providing optimized function and affordability

# 475 Can Help!

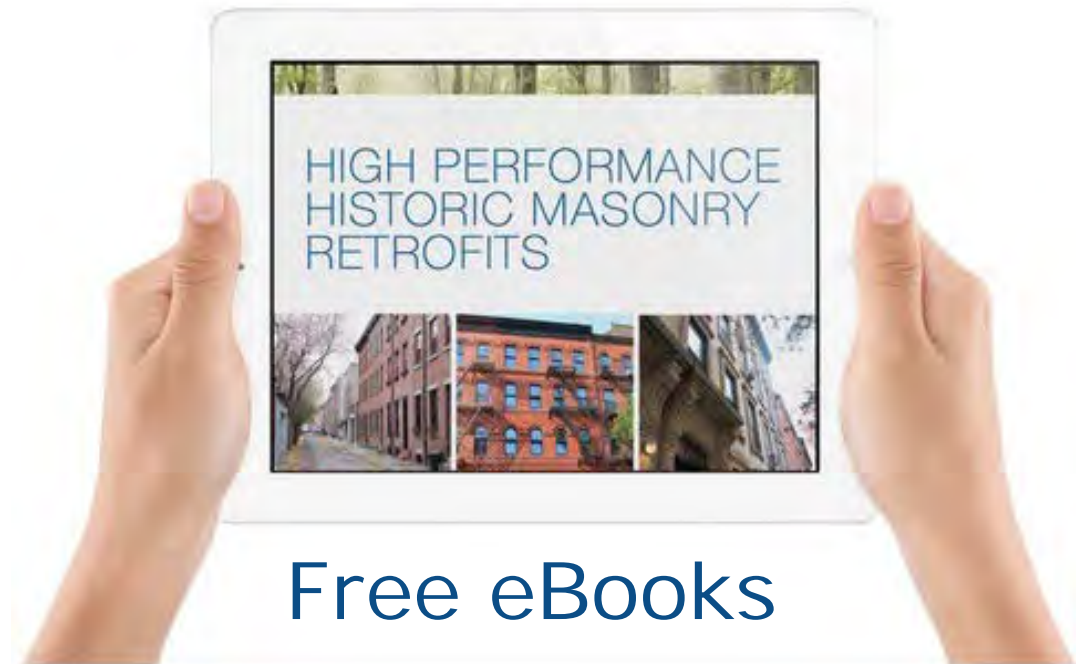
[info@foursevenfive.com](mailto:info@foursevenfive.com)



## 475 CAD Details



## Knowledge and Resources



## Free eBooks





# Thank You!

