The parapet is so much more than the intersection of roof and wall. It's also the junction where building aesthetics meets structural performance, air and moisture management, energy efficiency, construction trade sequencing and operational maintenance. Each of these perspectives is critical for the long-term performance of the building, but they are often at odds with one another. At such a critical interface, proper parapet detailing, installation coordination, and execution are paramount. Continuity of water, air, thermal and vapor control layers are necessary for long-term performance. Read more at the link below.

FULL ARTICLE: https://bit.ly/2x2ibiN
Wow, 2019 - what a year for the ABAA! As we continue our momentum into 2020, I would like to congratulate and acknowledge some of ABAA’s outstanding successes in 2019. The ABAA had over 5,600 attendees at our educational events, (which included our National Conference), award winning full day Symposums, and the Herculean effort from our ABAA Regional Resource, Roy Schauffele, to supply countless lunch and learn events. 2019 saw the ABAA have the most Registered QAP projects in our history, and most square footage ever registered! We also found ourselves working with various National Publications and being published on a regular basis (thank you Rob Aird for your amazing efforts in this) and an increase of information on social media (thank you Craig Wetmore). Finally, the ABAA had its largest membership in history!

As we move into 2020, we are continuing our efforts with our quarterly ABAA newsletter for the industry (http://www.airbarrier.org/technical-information/abaa-newsletters/). ABAA has five very informative Technical Notes (thank you Len Anastasi) available on our website (http://www.airbarrier.org/technical-information/abaa-articles/). Our various committees continue to work on new industry standards and research and the Contractors Committee and Quality Assurance Program Committee are actively working together to adapt and improve our Quality Assurance Program.

The ABAA has had a great start to our educational efforts in 2020 with having held full and half day events. Some of these included working with: CSI San Antonio, AIA San Diego, BEC Wisconsin, BEC Denver, BEC Salt Lake City, and BEC Washington DC, with more events on the books! What a great start to assist the educational efforts of Building Science and Construction practices to our industry! A special thank you to those volunteering their time to help with this industry effort: Andrew Dunlap, Corey Zussman, Melissa Payne, Craig Wetmore, Sarah Flock, and our Regional Resource Roy Schauffele.

Finally, two of the ABAA’s largest endeavors will be happening shortly. First, the launch of our Certified Air Barrier Specialist (CABS) training manual (the CABS certification test is available should anyone want to take now) and second, our 9th ABAA National Conference. While this year’s Conference recently got postponed due to the health concern with the COVID-19 outbreak, we have secured the same location for the dates of October 20 and 21, 2020.

Stay tuned for full details, and we thank you for your patience during this time. We hope to see you there!

Brian Stroik
Chair ABAA
Tremco CPG: Director of Building Enclosures
2019 ABAA ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHTS

- Highest membership in history with over 533 companies.
- Most education hours provided with over 20,500, a 40% increase over 2018.
- The most building professionals and installers educated, over 5600, a 25% increase over 2018.
- Over 7,000,000 sqft of opaque wall area* audited by ABAA.
- 2,300 projects with the ABAA Quality Assurance Program Specified, an increase of 850 from 2018.
- Highest membership in history with over 533 companies.

FOCUS

2020 ABAA KEY INITIATIVES

In 2020, ABAA will continue to work to better the building enclosure industry. A few major items are being planned and are being worked on that will benefit you.

1. Board Strategic Planning Session to outline next 3 years in regards goals, strategy and initiatives.
2. Upgrading and improving the ABAA Quality Assurance Program and offering more options to the design professional and owner.
3. Increased education to all building professionals through webinars, joint educational events, and online learning.
4. Offer educational programs for people to prepare for the Certified Air Barrier Specialist Certification program.
5. Work on creating a personnel certification program for individuals that perform whole building airtightness testing.

A GREAT RESOURCE

www.airbarrier.org
ABAA SITE QUALITY ASSURANCE FOR AIR BARRIER INSTALLATIONS

By Peter Spafford

The Air Barrier Association of America (ABAA) has a comprehensive solution to address the problems associated with air barrier systems and the failures they can cause. The ABAA has developed a Site Quality Assurance Program (SQAP) that is designed to ensure that the installation of air barrier systems is performed at the highest level of quality and compliance with the manufacturer’s guidelines.

All of our ABAA manufacturer members have numerous materials and assemblies that meet and exceed these standards. So, the common factor to the various failures we see in building envelopes across the country is the lack of experience and qualifications of the individuals who are installing the systems. Many times when we ask: “who is given the task of priming the walls and installing the self-adhered membranes on the walls?” The answer is the laborer and/or the lowest paid individual on the crew. These people do not set out to do a bad job, they are simply trying to do the installation the best they can. These highly important tasks are many times viewed as insignificant and that anyone can do them. The contractor typically gets the lowest paid person with little to no experience to do the installation to try to save money.

When design professionals, owners and general contractors specify the ABAA SQAP, the results speak for themselves. The installations are completed in compliance with the manufacturer’s and ABAA requirements. The installers are all properly trained and certified to install the various systems that are specified on the project. The various types of certification are self-adhered, fluid-applied, spray polyurethane foam, insulated and uninsulated board-stock, and factory-bonded assemblies.

Certified Installers
ABAA-certified installers have a minimum of 3000 hours in the discipline in which they are certified. They are required by the SQAP to install the systems in compliance with the manufacturer’s installation guides.

Daily Testing
Installers are also required to conduct adhesion testing of the installed membranes to ensure they meet the adhesion requirements of the manufacturer. They are also required to complete a comprehensive visual inspection of the installed system. Visual inspections are required for all self-adhered, fluid-applied, board-stock, or spray polyurethane foam systems and the installer shall document the test results each day on daily jobsite reports. The completed DJSRs (Daily Job Site Reports) are then provided to either the general contractor, site superintendent or owner’s representative each day.

Certified Auditors
The installation is also inspected by an ABAA-certified auditor at various levels of completion throughout the installation. The auditor then provides a highly detailed report of the installation.
COMPREHENSIVE AUDIT REPORTS
This report is then distributed to the architect, general contractor, manufacturer of the air barrier system and the air barrier contractor.

If there were any deficiencies identified during the audit, the air barrier contractor would have to repair any and all deficiencies that were identified by the auditor at their own expense.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT
ABAA conducts numerous AIA accredited workshops for contractors and design professionals each year. To inquire about how you can have one of these workshops or lunch and learns in your area, call 1-866-956-5888.

To find a complete list of Manufacturer’s Approved Systems, ABAA Master Specifications, and Accredited Contractors in your area, go to the ABAA website: http://www.airbarrier.org/

We are holding our annual ABAA Conference in Reston, Virginia from October 20-21, 2020. The conference is one of the most highly technical building performance conferences held in the USA each year! There is a host of presenters who are some of the most-respected experts in building performance. We look forward to seeing you there!

MEMBER EXTERNAL ARTICLE

LARGE BUILDING AIRTIGHTNESS TESTING AND THE SELECTION OF APPROPRIATE AIR BARRIER STRATEGIES
by Graham Finch, Dipl.T., M.A.Sc., P.Eng.

An airtight building enclosure is an important part of a modern building. Good airtightness can increase energy efficiency, improve durability, and allow greater control over occupant comfort and indoor air quality. Airtightness is achieved with an effective air barrier system that is carefully designed and detailed and then built and commissioned in the field.

READ FULL ARTICLE: https://bit.ly/2x5H2lW

DON’T JUST HOPE YOUR BARRIERS ARE DONE RIGHT, SPECIFY IT, IN EVERY DETAIL, WITH A PROVEN QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM.
WHAT HAS ABAA BEEN UP TO?

SPEAKING & INDUSTRY EVENTS

CSI MASTER SPECIFIER’S RETREAT
A few of our ABAA presenters headed to Pasadena, CA in January to meet with senior specifiers from across the country, for an exclusive event dedicated to one-on-one meetings, creating a strong networking and promotional opportunity.

ABAA INDUSTRY PRESENTATIONS
A major focus for ABAA continues to be on education to the entire building industry. Through various partnerships with local Building Enclosure Councils, Construction Specification Institute chapters and American Institute of Architect chapters, ABAA has worked to put on a number of ½ day and full day education events. In addition to this, ABAA is able to offer traditional lunch and learns to architectural firms across the U.S. by ABAA approved speakers. Below is some of the activity over the past couple of months.

ABAA INDUSTRY RECENT PRESENTATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUDIENCE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction Specifications Institute - San Antonio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Institute of Architects - San Diego Chapter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thermal Energy Systems Resilience in Cold/Arctic Climates Consultation Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>World of Concrete Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Specifications Institute / Building Enclosure Council – Wisconsin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sprayed Polyurethane Foam Alliance Annual Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building Enclosure Council – Denver Chapter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building Enclosure Council/American Institute of Architects – Utah Chapter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Specifications Institute Webinar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Specifications Institute / Building Enclosure Council - Washington, DC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Specifications Institute - Baltimore Chapter</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
ABAA continues to plan a number of events in 2020. Below is a listing of confirmed programs being offered and we are looking to add more locations and events in fall of 2020. Information and details are and will be available on the ABAA website Events Tab.

If you are involved in a local organization and would like ABAA to present a ½ day, full day or even a short presentation, please reach out to Tamara Foncerrada at the ABAA office via email: tamara@airbarrier.org or call the ABAA office at 866-956-5888.

**UPCOMING INSTALLER TRAINING, 2020**

**SELF-ADHERED & FLUID APPLIED TRAINING**
- May 5-7, 2020 in Charlotte, NC
- August 4-6, 2020 in Northbrook, IL

**SPRAYED POLYURETHANE FOAM INSTALLER TRAINING**
*Stay tuned for additional training dates

**FIELD AUDITOR TRAINING**
*Stay tuned for additional training dates

For information on programs and registration details, please visit the ABAA website here: [www.airbarrier.org/education/installer-courses/](http://www.airbarrier.org/education/installer-courses/)

### SYMPOSIUM AND PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ORGANIZATIONS</th>
<th>CITY/STATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17-Apr-20</td>
<td>CSI Northwest/West Bi-Region Conf.</td>
<td>Sunriver, OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-Apr-20</td>
<td>CSI Cleveland</td>
<td>Cleveland, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24-Apr-20</td>
<td>CSI Great Lakes Regional Conf.</td>
<td>Cincinnati, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05-May-20</td>
<td>BEC Portland</td>
<td>Portland, OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07-May-20</td>
<td>CSI/AIA Louisville</td>
<td>Louisville, KY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08-May-20</td>
<td>CSI Memphis</td>
<td>Memphis, TN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug-20</td>
<td>NC Building Performance Assc. Conf.</td>
<td>Raleigh, NC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug-20</td>
<td>SCIP</td>
<td>Grapevine, TX</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept-20</td>
<td>CSI Sacramento</td>
<td>Sacramento, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-Oct-20</td>
<td>CSI/BEC Minnesota</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-Oct-20</td>
<td>BEC Iowa</td>
<td>Des Moines, IA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(*) Events have been postponed, see website for latest details on these events.
The Air Barrier Association of America (ABAA) is proud of our accredited contractor members and want to better showcase the jobs they do, reinforcing why someone would want to use an ABAA accredited contractor.

ABAA has developed a ‘virtual museum’ section on the website where ones can review different projects in a photo gallery, at the same time having brief discussions of what was done. The intent is to show off our ABAA specified projects, completed by an ABAA accredited contractor. This has resulted in some great projects being showcased!

Intakes happen twice a year, with the next one scheduled for March. Applications will be reviewed in April, with posting to the ABAA website in May. Keep this date in mind and any potential projects you can submit. ABAA would love to promote the QAP with projects such as these. All projects will be showcased using social media outlets.

This quarter, we have selected to showcase the project submitted from Western Partitions, Inc. (WPI) for the University of Oregon Hayward Field Renovation project.

**PROJECT INFO**

**ARCHITECT:** SRG Partnership  
**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:** Hoffman Construction Co.  
**LOCATION:** 1580 E 15th Ave, Eugene, OR 97403  
**TYPE:** New Construction – University Stadium  
**VALUE:** $200,000,000  
**BUILDING AREA (sq. ft.):** 175,965  
**TOTAL AIR BARRIER AREA (sq. ft.):** 51,000

[www.airbarrier.org/portfolios/hayward-field/](http://www.airbarrier.org/portfolios/hayward-field/)

**NEWS ITEM FOR ABAA ACCREDITED CONTRACTORS**

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**HAVE AN INDUSTRY RELATED ARTICLE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE FEATURED IN OUR NEWSLETTER?**

Submit it to us for review and you could see your work published in the next newsletter! Also, we would love to hear your feedback on our newsletters and any content you want to see more or less of? Email it to us at: abaa@airbarrier.org