

Technical Note 3

Air Barrier Accessory Materials

Abstract: This Technical Note lists the air barrier accessory materials, lists commonly used air barrier accessory materials and gives directions on determining the properties that these materials must possess in order to perform their intended functions.

Air Barrier Accessory Materials

Air barrier accessory materials are materials used in conjunction with air barrier materials to create air barrier assemblies and systems. They have also been labeled as air barrier transition materials. Common types of air barrier accessory materials are as follows:

- Flexible fluid applied membranes
- Flexible self-adhering sheet membranes
- Flexible mechanically fastened sheet membranes
- Flexible adhered sheet membranes
- Metals
- Plastics
- Sealant materials
- Sprayed polyurethane foam
- Tapes



These materials must meet the same air leakage requirements as air barrier materials. Invariably, they are air barrier materials themselves but are not used as the primary air barrier element in the assemblies or systems.

Air barrier accessory materials must also have ancillary properties to maintain their ability to function as an air barrier and to do so for the expected life of either the air barrier materials or the building enclosure assembly. The charts for such properties listed in Technical Note # 2 shall be used in order to determine if materials are air barrier accessory materials.

Summary

This Technical Note contains information about the air barriers. This information may be used to design and build building enclosure assemblies.

The information and suggestions contained in this Technical Note are based on the available data and the experience of the Technical Committee of the Air Barrier Association of America. The information contained herein must be used in conjunction with good technical judgment and a basic understanding of the properties of air barriers.



Final decisions on the use of the information contained in this Technical Notes are not within the purview of the Air Barrier Association of America and must rest with project owners, architects, engineers, consultants and contractors.