



air barrier **abaa** association of america

1ST QUARTER 2020
NEWSLETTER

FEATURE TECHNICAL ARTICLE

CEU: PARAPETS – CONTINUITY OF CONTROL LAYERS

by Benjamin Meyer

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>

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

1ST QUARTER NEWSLETTER, 2020



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 Symposiums, and the Herculean effort from our ABAA Regional Resource, Roy Schaufele, 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 Schaufele.

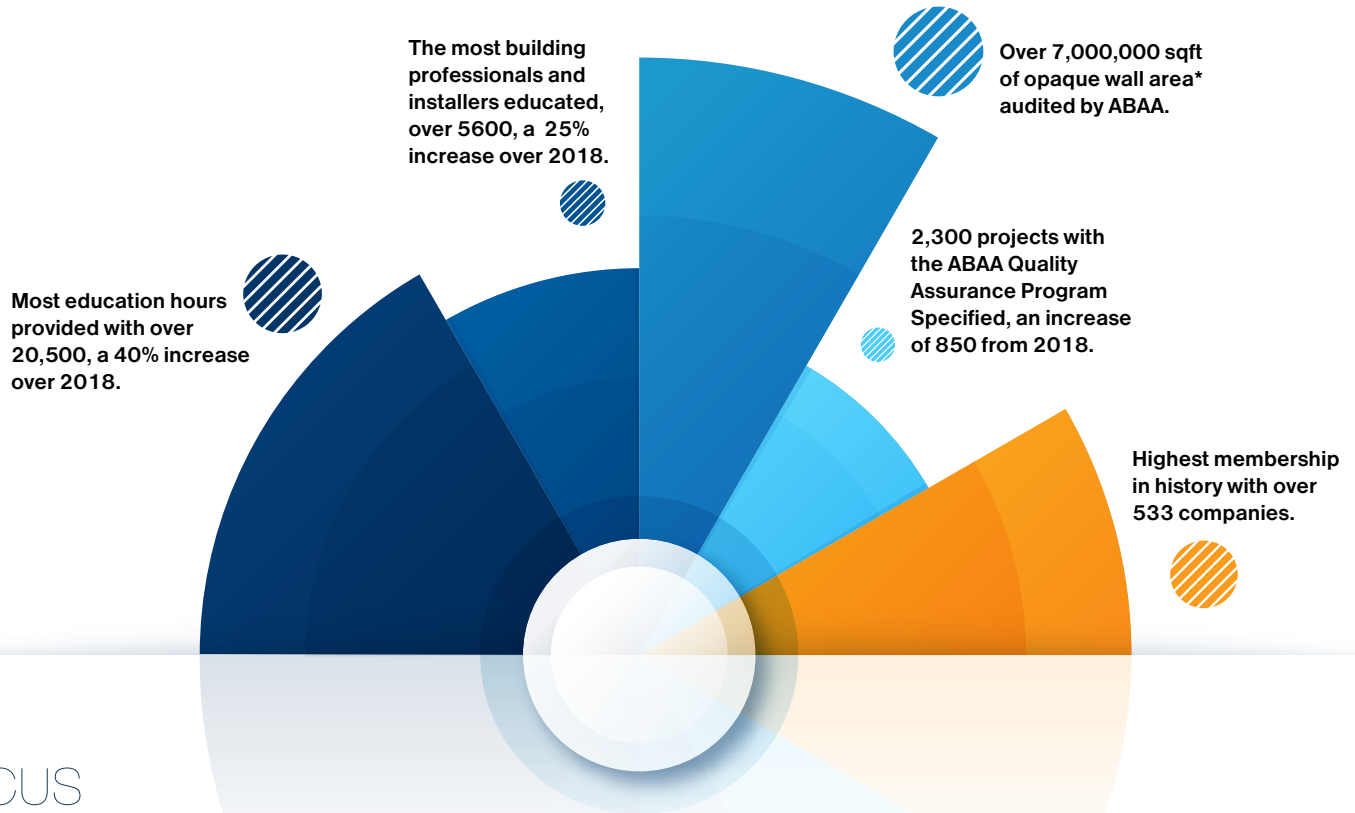
Finally, two of the ABAA's largest endeavors will be happening shortly. First, the launch of our Certified Air Barrier Specialist (CABS) training manual (the CABS certification test is available should anyone want to take now) and second, our 9th ABAA National Conference. While this year's Conference 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

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2019 ABAA ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHTS



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

MOST CURRENT LIST OF EVENTS AND TRAINING

LIST OF AIR BARRIER MATERIALS THAT HAVE BEEN EVALUATED

TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

SEARCH MEMBER CONTRACTORS, MANUFACTURERS, CONSULTANTS, TESTING LABS, AND ARCHITECTS

ABAA SITE QUALITY ASSURANCE FOR AIR BARRIER INSTALLATIONS

By Peter Spafford

The Air Barrier Association of America founded its great reputation in building performance on a well-established Site Quality Assurance Program. This SQAP was first established in 2001 in Massachusetts. Since that time the ABAA has been providing site quality assurance to thousands of both new construction and renovation projects throughout America and around the world.

When we ask most design professionals, air barrier contractors and general contractors what is the biggest problem they face with the installation of air barrier systems and resulting building envelope failures, the common answer is the actual installation of the system.

The individuals who are installing the systems in almost all of the failures of air and water intrusions into buildings have not been properly trained for the installation of the materials for that particular assembly. These individuals may not know what the proper substrate conditions should be for the system they are installing. They may not know how to properly apply the adhesives or primers for self-adhered systems. They may not know how long to wait after the primers have been applied before they can apply the self-adhered membrane. These factors can result in delamination, fish-mouths, and large voids under the membrane.

They may not realize the need to properly roll these self-adhered membranes with an approved membrane roller to achieve proper adhesion. The installer are also required to properly detail around the numerous service penetrations throughout the wall assemblies. If the installer misses any one of these vital steps in the installation process, this can and will result in air and or water leaking into the wall assembly. The remedial costs of these common installation errors can be extremely high. The resulting damage to the building envelope, the growth of mold and mildew, bad indoor air quality, and resulting illness to the occupants of the building are all too common. Additionally, the subsequent litigation that can result due to loss of use, health-related issues, and damage remediation can be devastating.

The ABAA has a comprehensive solution to avoid all of the problems associated with these failures?

APPROVED MATERIALS

The ABAA requires the air barrier contractors to use approved materials on all of our ABAA-specified projects. The materials and assemblies must comply with the ASTM E2178 material standard, and the ASTM E2357 assembly standard to be acceptable on an ABAA-specified project.

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/2x5H2IW>

**DON'T JUST HOPE YOUR
BARRIERS ARE DONE
RIGHT, SPECIFY IT, IN
EVERY DETAIL, WITH
A PROVEN QUALITY
ASSURANCE PROGRAM.**

AIR/MOISTURE OUT.
CONFIDENCE IN.

QAP



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WHAT HAS ABAA BEEN UP TO?

SPEAKING & INDUSTRY EVENTS



BEC Colorado



BEC Colorado

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

AUDIENCE

Construction Specifications Institute - San Antonio

American Institute of Architects - San Diego Chapter

Thermal Energy Systems Resilience in Cold/Arctic Climates Consultation Forum

World of Concrete Conference

Construction Specifications Institute / Building Enclosure Council – Wisconsin

Sprayed Polyurethane Foam Alliance Annual Conference

Building Enclosure Council – Denver Chapter

Building Enclosure Council/American Institute of Architects – Utah Chapter

Construction Specifications Institute Webinar

Construction Specifications Institute / Building Enclosure Council - Washington, DC

Construction Specifications Institute - Baltimore Chapter

TRAINING & EDUCATION UPCOMING EVENTS



**AIR BARRIER
EDUCATION
FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRY**

SUMMARY OF EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS JAN-FEB 2020

ATTENDEES

793

OF EVENTS

11

CEU'S

2,731

PLANNING & INVOLVEMENT

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/



SYMPOSIUM AND PRESENTATION SCHEDULE



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

(!) Events have been postponed, see website for latest details on these events.

NEWS ITEM FOR ABAA ACCREDITED CONTRACTORS

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/

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**BUILDING
ENCLOSURE
CONFERENCE**

**AIR BARRIER EDUCATION
AT THE HIGHEST TECHNICAL LEVEL**

RESCHEDULED

**RESTON
VIRGINIA**

**OCT 20-21
2020**

MORE INFO: ABAACONFERENCE.COM

LOCATION: THE HYATT REGENCY RESTON



**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