INTRODUCTION

Air leakage and water penetration performance has been established for most building enclosure material and assembly components that are commonly used in the building construction industry. However, air leakage and water penetration performance at the interface of materials and assemblies is often missed or misunderstood. Continuity of a building’s air and water control layer(s) lies heavily on how well the building enclosure components are interfaced. It is critical for the design professional to establish which components of the building enclosure will comprise the building enclosure air and water control layer(s). These components may include, but are not limited to, air barriers, waterproofing (WP), fenestration, roofing, precast and cast-in-place concrete, prefabricated panel/unitized systems, insulation, miscellaneous and structural steel components and more.

The relationship between components and trades that is required to ensure continuity of the building enclosure’s air and water control layer(s) may not be immediately apparent or intuitive if the contract documents are unsuccessful in presenting the building enclosure as a contiguous and cohesive assembly, composed of inter-related parts. Furthermore, if the contract documents fail to clearly represent the building enclosure’s continuous air and water control layer(s) and trade relationships, the related subcontractor's obligation will be limited
GREETINGS
from the Chairs

My how time flies, it seems like it was just a few months ago when we were celebrating the success and knowledge sharing that we participated in at the 2023 ABAA Building Enclosure Conference. For your reference, many of the presentations are available on our website at [2023 ABAA Conference Presentations](#) – ABAA Conference. We received another great set of abstracts and are looking forward to learning more about them at next year’s conference. We thank everyone that has already submitted and encourage everyone to submit their unique experiences and ideas for next year’s conference.

On a related note, we are thankful for the support of our membership and sponsors of our annual event. Many of us made great connections during the conference, so, please take a moment to reach out and connect with new and existing partners from the event. Also, we would like to thank the 2023 Conference sponsors and the organizations that have already committed to exhibiting at the 2024 conference in Reston, VA! Conference sponsorship will be opening in October and we look forward to your continued support either as a sponsor, an exhibitor or both! Your continued support allows ABAA to accomplish the development of our shared goals.

Speaking of goals, our committees and task groups are working hard to progress 2023 initiatives. As you have likely seen, the Whole Building Airtightness Testing training program has been a huge success in the pacific northwest. A special thanks to all those involved in delivering this new program. This includes our main instructors for the course, Denali Jones with RDH and Gillian Williams with the Seattle College, both blower door manufacturers (The Energy Conservatory and Retrotec) for supplying technical representatives to support the training and providing test equipment. And last, but not least, the South Seattle Community College for providing a location and for being a great partner to work with. While we celebrate the success in the Northwest, we are also excited to expand our training opportunities to the east coast of the country, with intent to develop more options at other locations, as well. We are also pleased by the recent approval of the Whole Building Air Tightness Testing Technician Certification program. ABAA knows that as code requirements continue to evolve and develop, this certification program will provide an avenue to provide jurisdictions and owners with a listing of testing agencies that meet the requirements of the relevant standards.

It is also important for us to recognize and celebrate the individuals that have helped the ABAA set and achieve their goals. It is with great appreciation that we would like to recognize the significant time, efforts, and achievement of one of our past Chairman that has recently retired from the ABAA Executive Advisor role, Mr. Roy Schauffele.

Roy has been active in the ABAA for over 13 years and during his tenure, Roy has filled many roles. He served on the board of directors and the executive committee for many years. He joined the board in 2011 and was appointed as the Chair of the organization from 2013 through 2017. During his tenure he was awarded ABAA fellowship and the Wagdy Anis award, both very prestigious and only given to a select few individuals. After performing his Past Chair role, he continued to provide guidance to the organization as the Regional Advocate and the Executive Advisor. Roy has been instrumental in the initiation and development of our CABS certification program and continues to support many of the ABAA initiatives through his involvement in the numerous committee activities. We are fortunate to have several members that have the dedication and fortitude that Roy exemplifies. On behalf of the ABAA membership, ABAA Board, and ABAA Executive Committee, we extend our sincerest gratitude to Roy for his significant contributions to our organization, its growth, and influence. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Roy and express your personal appreciation for his efforts.

As always, we can’t thank Roy and our volunteers enough for donating their time and effort to continue the advancement of our industry. We look forward to continuing our progression and hope that everyone enjoys the beautiful fall and holiday season ahead!

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SARAH K. FLOCK, NCARB, BECxP, CxA+BE
Co-Chair – ABAA | Co-Chair – ABAA Research Committee
Principal – Raths, Raths & Johnson, Inc.

MR. ANDREW DUNLAP, AIA, CDT, LEED AP, NCARB
Co-Chair – ABAA | Co-Chair – ABAA Research Committee
Principal – SmithGroup
Is Your Organization Getting All the Education Benefits ABAA Has to Offer?

3rd Quarter | Continuing Education Provided to the Industry

PRESENTED AT 2 MAJOR CONFERENCE
Advancing Construction Quality & IIBEC BES

14
HOSTED 14 ABAA WEBINARS
With topics ranging from wood-framing detailing, preconstruction meetings & construction quality, NFPA History, and paths to airtight buildings.

5
PARTNERED WITH 5 BEC/CSI/AIA CHAPTERS
Including CSI Charlotte, BEC Charleston, K2M Architects, PENTAx Group, and the Architectural Design Guild.

What Has ABAA Been Doing For Member Education?

JANUARY THRU SEPTEMBER
ATTENDEES 11,889
EVENTS 75
CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS 14,033

We want your feedback!

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Sample our Learning Unit Café, an online menu of our most requested air barrier courses that any architectural firm, BEC, CSI, or AIA chapter can schedule at their convenience.

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- Designing Walls for Control of Air, Water, Thermal and Vapor [Link]
- New Standards and Tools to Update Your Air Barrier Specifications [Link]
- QA or QC: What to Specify for High Performance Building Enclosures [Link]
- **NEW**

Have an Article Idea?

Do you have an article or idea in mind? Publishing an article can be a great way to advance your career and create new opportunities.

We pair ABAA Members with ABAA Mentors that will advise you on your article, and verify technical details.

You have skills and knowledge others are trying to obtain. We are looking to assist with articles on a wide range of air/moisture barrier topics, from absolute beginner to highly technical. Contact us to get started!

Contact Louise at: lhardman@airbarrier.org

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BLOWER DOOR TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

CERTIFICATION BENEFITS

The Blower Door Technician Certification Program certifies individuals to conduct whole-building air tightness tests on commercial and large buildings in compliance with testing standards.

Certification is now required by the state of Washington.

Enhanced Credibility
ISO 17024 certification is an industry standard for blower door technicians with architects, engineers, and building owners, showcasing knowledge, skills, and commitment to quality.

Higher Quality Work
Certification validates proficiency in blower door equipment and air barrier testing principles, improving test results quality, reducing errors, and improving accuracy.

Meet Rising Demand
Whole-building air tightness testing is the definitive way to verify air barrier systems were installed correctly. Increasingly, jurisdictions require such testing, and many design professionals and building owners now demand it to validate proper installation.

THE PROGRAM CONSISTS OF TWO LEVELS.

Level I
Technicians competent to conduct a blower door test on commercial and larger buildings.

Level II
Proficient blower door technicians that tackle complex and sophisticated buildings.

Certification Scope
The Blower Door Technician oversees and implements all activities associated with developing and executing a test plan, covering a wide range of responsibilities within their domain.

www.airbarrier.org/abaa-blower-door-certification
Upcoming Certification Training

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Certify yourself or your team! Register Now!

ABAA in Action

Look for Us at These Live Events
Enjoy our presentations and visit the ABAA booth.

17-Oct • BEC Greater Detroit Enclosure Consciousness - Detroit, MI
ABAA is sponsoring and exhibiting!
18-Oct • MetalCon Conference - Las Vegas, NV
ABAA is presenting and exhibiting!
26-Oct • Wagdy Anis Symposium on Building Science - Boston, MA
ABAA is sponsoring!

Upcoming Webinars

19-Oct • Air Leakage Control & the Building Envelope System: Standards, Codes, and How They Are Changing
19-Oct • BNP - Cracking Why Buildings Move: Absorbing Thermal Loads with Movement Joints
26-Oct • Case Study: The Academy for Global Citizenship
16-Nov • Air and Vapor Barriers
06-Dec • Air Barriers for Whole Buildings
Register Now!

Building Science Advisor Tool

A No-Cost, Web-Based Tool
The tool leverages expert knowledge and a database of thousands of pre-simulated hygrothermal models to provide rapid feedback and expert guidance on wall assembly design, tailored for the user’s location. BSA is designed for builders, architects, engineers, and students of building science.
CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES

SPONSORSHIP - OPEN SOON
Sponsoring is the perfect way to enhance visibility among influential business leaders, design professionals, building owners, general contractors, and air barrier contractors. Sponsors are recognized prominently in marketing materials before, during, and after the conference. Availability is limited, and these sell out fast.

EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION
Your goods and services will be visited by hundreds of trade professionals. The exhibitor’s hall is a high-traffic area, with booths in and just outside the main ballroom, close to our keynotes, lunches, opening reception, and training rooms. Prime booth locations are provided on a first-come, first-serve basis!

Limited Availability

VIRGINIA IS FOR BUILDERS

MAY 7TH & 8TH

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abaaConference.com
On this unique high school and YMCA collaboration, the architect and design team were looking for a system to control air and moisture movement. Liquid Foam Insulation Inc. was the accredited contractor to install a Henry fluid applied system to achieve a high industry performance standard.

**ARCHITECT:** BCDM Architects  
**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:** Sampson Construction  
**LOCATION:** Omaha, NE  
**TYPE:** School  
**BUILDING AREA (sq. ft.):** 315,000  
**TOTAL AIR BARRIER AREA (sq. ft.):** 91,317  
**ACCREDITED CONTRACTOR:** Liquid Foam Insulation Inc.

**Quickly Calculate Cost**  
We have a simple QAP calculator, try it out!  
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**Showcase Your Project**  
Your QAP project could be featured here!  
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**ABAA QAP**  
[Quality Assurance Program]  

Check out details on the QAP program that outlines the benefits, what the QAP entails, and how much it costs for a variety of building sizes and types.

[Brochure]  
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