



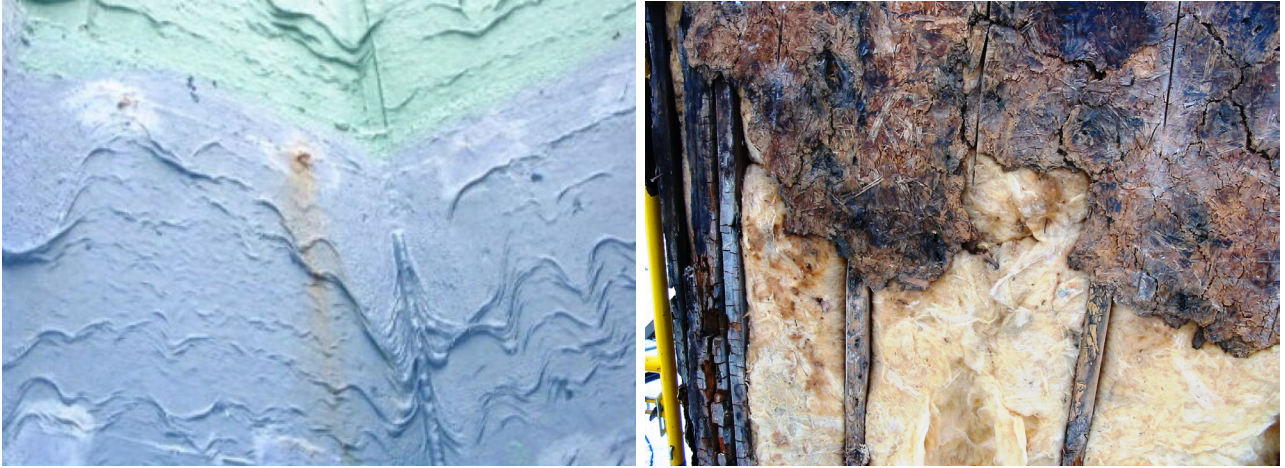
**Air Barrier  
Quality  
Assurance  
Program**

air barrier  
**abaa**  
association of  
america

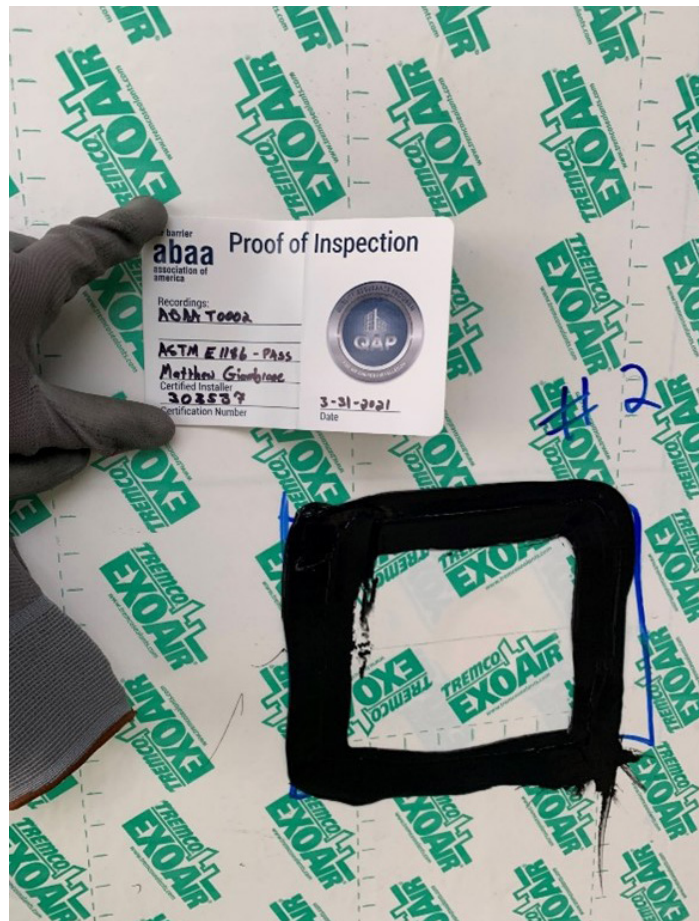


## Less Rework - Minimized Liability

# What Does QAP Offer?



Poorly installed weather resistive air barrier resulted in major rework and over 75% of construction defects are due to water intrusion, air leakage, and poor workmanship.



An installation error was noted by a QAP auditor during a routine quality control site visit. The flaw was quickly rectified (no rework or change order required) thus avoiding possible moisture and air intrusion after the cladding was installed.



# Multi-Faceted Approach - Integrated Components



## Contractor Accreditation

QAP contractors are **trained, accredited**, and have signed agreements with ABAA to follow installation guidelines and correct deficiencies.

They must meet **bonding/insurance requirements, employ ABAA certified installers, and possess the equipment** to install and test their work.



## Installer Certification

QAP installers are **trained and certified** by ABAA. To qualify they must have a minimum of 3,000 hours of **documented work experience** in air barrier/water resistive barrier installation.

Typically, certified installers work for QAP accredited contractors.



## Evaluated Assemblies

ABAA has tested over 100 manufacturer air barrier WRB assemblies that were **tested in accordance with ASTM E2357** and many other **stringent evaluation criteria**.

By specifying evaluated materials, design professionals can limit their liability and be assured that **materials will meet and exceed stated specifications**.



## Field Documentation

Each day, certified installers are required to **document the installation process, inspect, and fix deficiencies**.

The reports are submitted to the construction site QA office and, in turn, provided to the general contractor and design professional.



## Onsite Field Audits

ABAA field auditors **confirm compliance with project specifications, manufacturer installation guidelines, and ABAA Site Quality Assurance Program**.

Auditors review substrate preparation, compatible materials, applications, and repair procedures.

Audit findings are distributed to the: owner, architect, manufacturer, GC and accredited contractor.



## Final ABAA Audit Confirmation

Upon audit completion, the **final report**, including a photo log, is **submitted to the ABAA Site Quality Assurance Program office** for a final review by **seasoned building science professionals**.

Thereafter, it is filed and distributed to the owner, architect, manufacturer, GC, and accredited contractor.

# \$ Proven Approach - Mitigate Claims

For a fraction of the overall building cost, you can ensure PROPER DESIGN, PROPER MATERIALS, and PROPER INSTALLATION for the most difficult to maintain component of your building: the wall assembly and air barrier system.

— = QAP cost compared to overall construction cost



Strip Mall

Building Cost: \$6,390,000  
ABAA Installed Air Barrier: 11,348 sq. ft.  
QAP Investment: \$4,964  
Audits: 2

**% of Job Cost:  
.08%**



Small Hotel

Building Cost: \$17,280,000  
ABAA Installed Air Barrier: 17,280 sq. ft.  
QAP Investment: \$5,468  
Audits: 2

**% of Job Cost:  
.03%**



Medium Office

Building Cost: \$24,334,400  
ABAA Installed Air Barrier: 10,975 sq. ft.  
QAP Investment: \$4,932  
Audits: 2

**% of Job Cost:  
.02%**



Large Hotel

Building Cost: \$65,594,884  
ABAA Installed Air Barrier: 33,849 sq. ft.  
QAP Investment: \$6,877  
Audits: 2

**% of Job Cost:  
.01%**



Secondary School

Building Cost: \$51,037,800  
ABAA Installed Air Barrier: 27,040 sq. ft.  
QAP Investment: \$6,298  
Audits: 2

**% of Job Cost:  
.01%**



Large Office

Building Cost: \$276,224,400  
ABAA Installed Air Barrier: 64,480 sq. ft.  
QAP Investment: \$11,480  
Audits: 3

**% of Job Cost:  
.004%**

## \*References

Pricing from blog entry: <https://www.levelset.com/blog/commercial-construction-cost-per-square-foot>

Wall area based on DOE prototypes

QAP costs based on QAP Calculator

Audits determined by ABAA wall area



## QAP by the Numbers



**23,000+**

QAP Specified  
Projects



**91 Million**

Sq. Ft. of QAP Audited  
Air Barrier installation

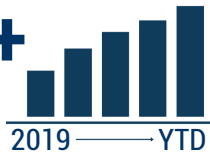
**2,705**

Certified and  
Registered Installers



**6,800+**

Audits



**123**

Evaluated  
Materials



## What are the Next Steps?

Calculate your  
investment



Add the following phrasing to your Division 7 specification to include the Quality Assurance Program (QAP):

### QAP SPECIFICATION LANGUAGE

Installer Qualification: Use accredited contractor, certified installers, evaluated materials, and third-party field quality control audits

Manufacturer Qualification: Use ABAA evaluated materials from a single manufacturer regularly engaged in air barrier material manufacture. Use secondary materials approved in writing by primary material manufacturer

Visit [www.airbarrier.org/qap-overview](http://www.airbarrier.org/qap-overview)

# Building Quality, Reducing Risk, and Mitigating Moisture:

QAP is a job site program that ensures proper materials, installation, and inspection of the air and moisture barrier system.

## How does QAP help me?

