Standard for Air and Water-Resistive Barriers – Terminology

3.1 accredited test agency
A testing laboratory accredited to ISO 17025 by a member of the IAF/ILAC Multilateral agreement that possesses the necessary competence to test material to the specific test method.

3.2 air and water-resistive barrier accessory
Compatible materials or products designed to maintain air tightness and water resistance between the air and water-resistive materials, components, and assemblies, or to fasten them, or both (includes items such as sealants, tapes, backer rods, transition membranes, flashings, nails/washers, ties, clips, staples, strapping, primers).

3.3 air and water-resistive barrier assembly
A combination of air and water-resistive barrier materials and components assembled and sealed together with air and water-resistive barrier accessories forming the continuous air and water control layer thereby reducing the air leakage and water ingress.

3.4 air and water-resistive barrier component
Pre-manufactured elements or sub-assemblies such as windows, doors, or expansion joints that are installed in the building envelope to meet a project requirement for a maximum allowable air leakage rate and water ingress to be part of the air and water control layers.

3.5 air and water-resistive barrier material
A primary element that provides a continuous air and water control layer, which resists the movement of air and water ingress into the building enclosure.

3.6 air barrier accessory
Compatible materials or products designed to maintain air tightness between the air barrier materials, components, and assemblies, or to fasten them, or both (includes items such as sealants, tapes, backer rods, transition membranes, flashings, nails/washers, ties, clips, staples, strapping, primers).

3.7 air barrier assembly
A combination of air barrier materials and air barrier components sealed together with the use of air barrier accessories forming the control layer and thereby reducing air leakage.

3.8 air leakage
Uncontrolled flow of air through unintended openings in the building enclosure, which is driven by positive (exfiltration) or negative (infiltration) pressure differential.