

## Architectural Design for the 2030 Challenge

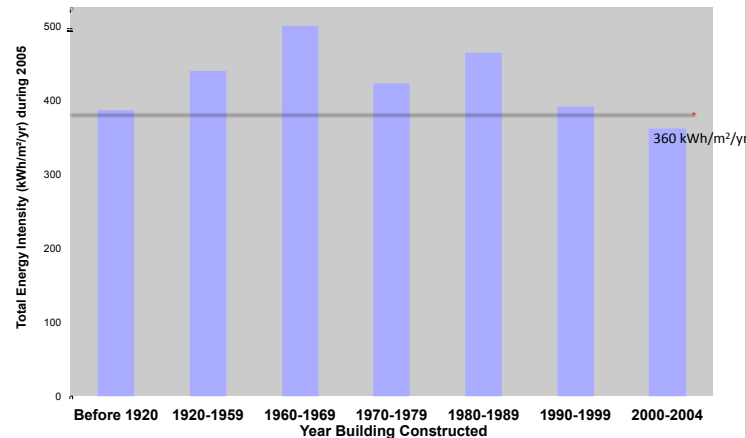
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Associate Professor  
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University of Waterloo  
Building Science Corporation

BuildingScience.com

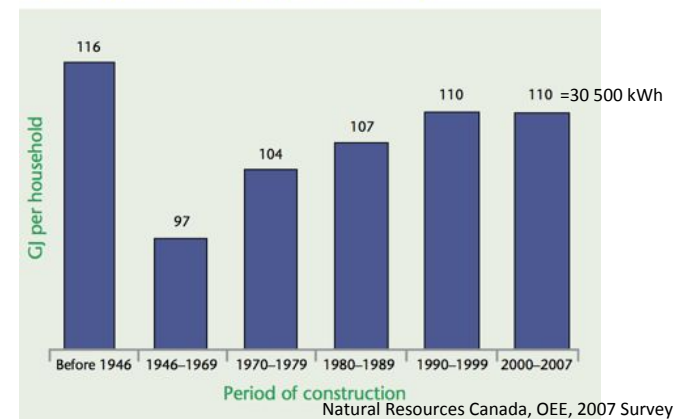
## Architecture 2030

- Focus on energy consumption
  - Real targets, not “% below something”
- Goal is Net Zero Energy
  - 60% until 2015
  - 100% by 2030
- Baseline is approximately the energy use of all buildings of same type and location in 2003 or so

Actual Energy Consumption of Canadian Commercial and Institutional Buildings



Single Family Housing  
Chart 9. Energy consumption by year of construction, 2007 (GJ per household)



2030 CHALLENGE Targets: Canadian Commercial Regional Averages

Averages for Site Energy Use and 2030 Challenge Energy Reduction Targets by Commercial Space/Building Type<sup>1</sup>

Commercial Space/Building Type	Average Site EUI (GJ/m <sup>2</sup> /yr)	2030 Challenge Site EUI Targets (GJ/m <sup>2</sup> /yr)				
		50% Target	60% Target	70% Target	80% Target	90% Target
<b>Canada</b>						
Wholesale Trade	1.470	0.735	0.588	0.441	0.294	0.147
Retail Trade	1.707	0.854	0.683	0.512	0.341	0.171
Transportation and Warehousing	1.323	0.661	0.529	0.397	0.265	0.132
Information and Cultural Industries	1.892	0.946	0.757	0.568	0.378	0.189
Offices	1.382	0.691	0.553	0.415	0.276	0.138
Educational Services	1.896	0.948	0.678	0.509	0.339	0.170
Healthcare and Social Assistance	2.212	1.106	0.885	0.664	0.442	0.221
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	2.156	1.078	0.863	0.647	0.431	0.216
Accommodation and Food Services	4.670	2.335	1.868	1.401	0.934	0.467
Other Services	1.439	0.719	0.576	0.432	0.288	0.144
<b>Ontario</b>						
Wholesale Trade	1.853	0.926	0.741	0.556	0.371	0.185
Retail Trade	1.622	0.811	0.649	0.487	0.324	0.162
Transportation and Warehousing	1.398	0.699	0.559	0.419	0.280	0.140
Information and Cultural Industries	1.734	0.867	0.693	0.520	0.347	0.173
Offices	1.421	0.710	0.568	0.426	0.284	0.142
Educational Services	1.768	0.884	0.707	0.530	0.354	0.177
Healthcare and Social Assistance	2.038	1.019	0.815	0.611	0.408	0.204
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	2.677	1.338	1.071	0.803	0.535	0.268
Accommodation and Food Services	2.597	1.299	1.039	0.779	0.519	0.260
Other Services	1.568	0.784	0.627	0.470	0.314	0.157
<b>Ontario Residential</b>						
Single Detached	0.830	0.415	0.332	0.249	0.166	0.083
Single Attached	0.830	0.415	0.332	0.249	0.166	0.083
Apartments	0.677	0.339	0.271	0.203	0.135	0.068
Mobile Homes	1.203	0.602	0.481	0.361	0.241	0.120

# Design Principles



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## Process and Philosophy

- Decide to value low energy consumption
- Set **measurable targets**, predict usage, measure performance
- Stamp out waste everywhere
- Use energy efficiently when you need to use it
- **Do not** sacrifice safety, comfort, health and durability

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Buildings, Energy, Environment No. 7/84

## Available Strategies

- Siting (small impact)
  - Orient with sun, wind, rain, earth shelter?
- Shape and Form (small to moderate impact)
  - Small, Compact, simple
- Exceptional building enclosure (mod to large impact)
  - Insulated, airtight, durable, solar control
- Efficient Equipment (mod impact)
  - Not there or off is best, controls help
- Renewable Energy Generation (impact varies)
  - Only after very significant reductions

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## Basic Goals (cold/mixed)

- Keep heat in
  - When it is cold
- Keep heat / sun out
  - When it is warm/hot
- Last a long time
  - Reduce construction/repair resources over time
- Use efficient equipment
  - Efficient lighting
  - Efficient computers, elevators

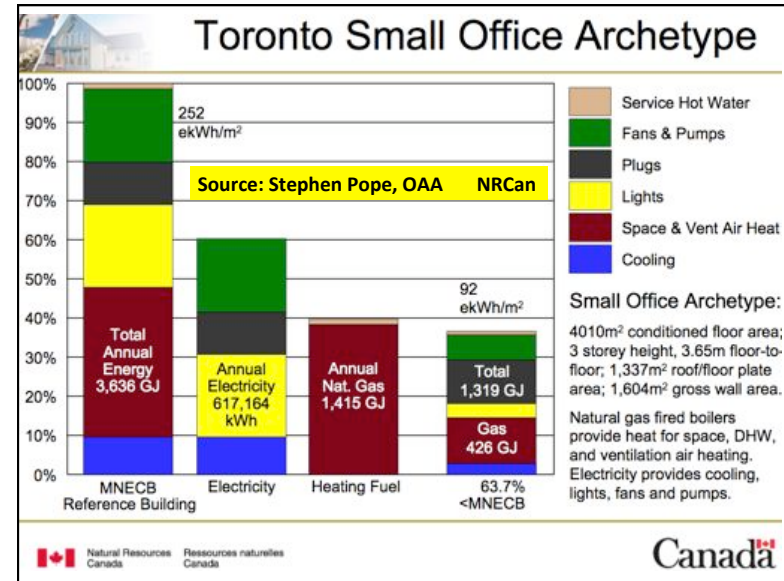
Insulation  
Airtightness  
Solar Control

Rain Control

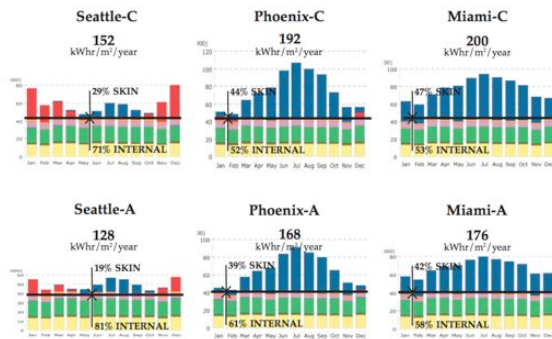
Off is very efficient

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## Climate matters



- Beware architecture magazines

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Typical market Building in Toronto 55% heat+cool

## Other things use energy

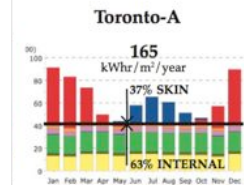
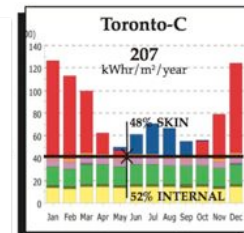
**MD40SQ-C**  
4-storey, square floor plate  
50,000 sf GFA  
40% w-w-r (N, S, E, & W)  
Enclosure "C-Institutional"



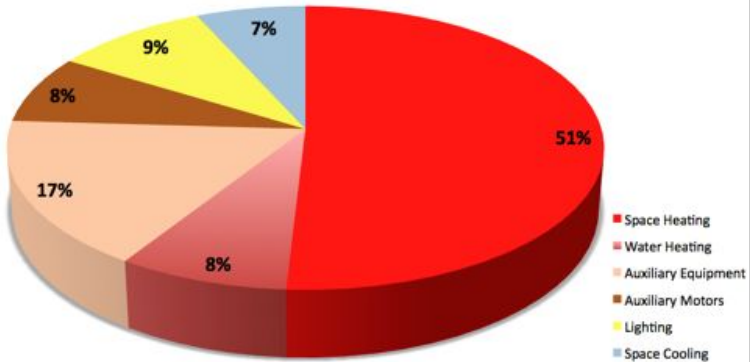
**MD40SQ-A**  
similar to above, except:  
Enclosure "A-Exemplary"

From: Ross, B., "Design with Energy in Mind", M.Arch. Thesis, University of Waterloo, 2009.

www.suiiaingscience.com



## Canadian Offices 2007

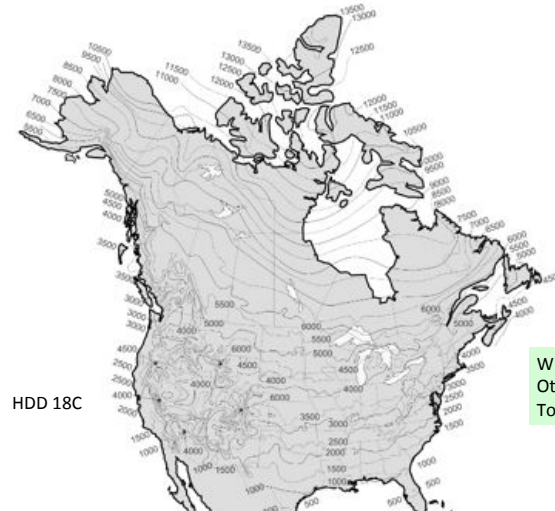


207 million m<sup>2</sup>  
Average 394 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>

Source: NRCan Office of Energy Efficiency

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## Canada:



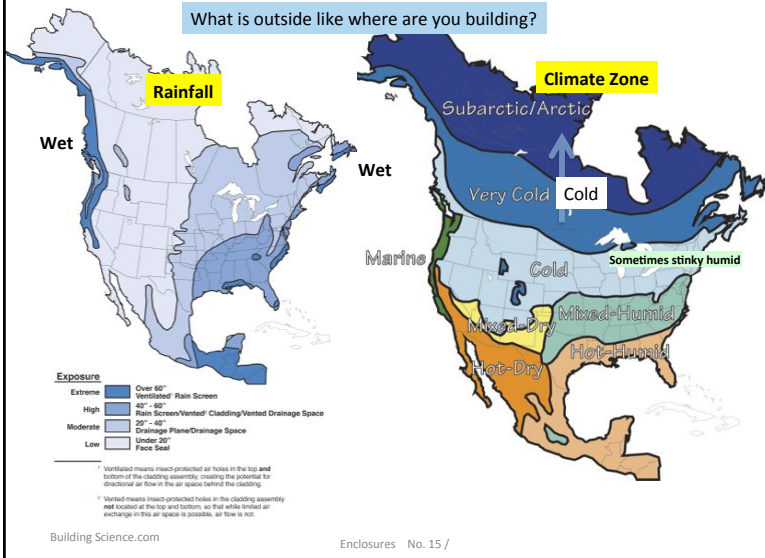
Significant heating demand, especially Prairies and North

Winnipeg 5750  
Ottawa 4600  
Toronto 4000

HDD 18C

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What is outside like where are you building?

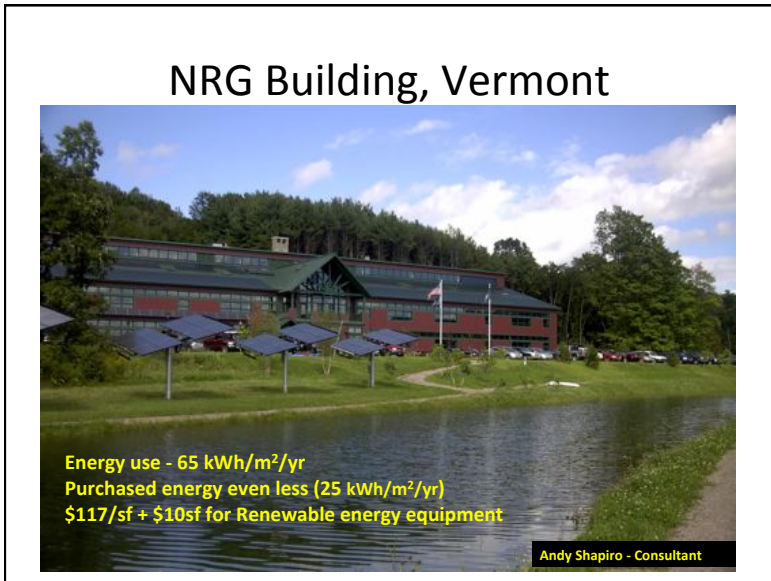
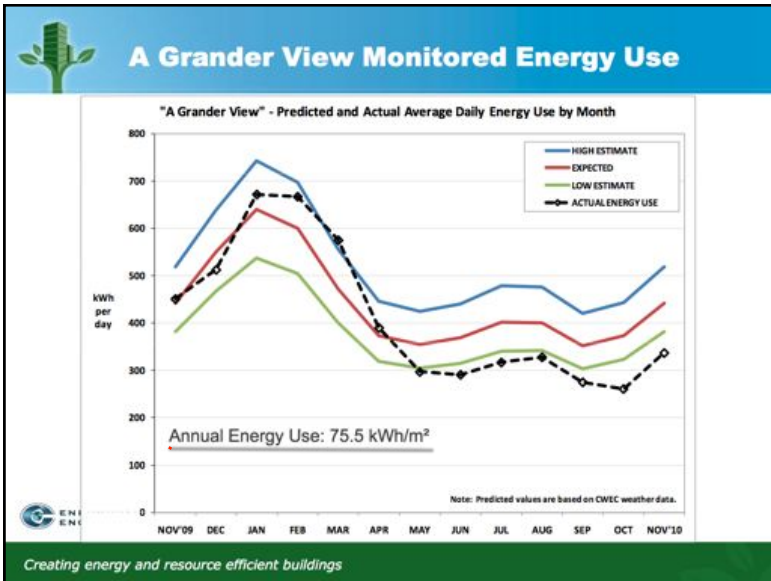


## Can we do it?

- Is it possible or practical to drop energy use by 60% in cold-climate Canada?
- Getting office to 200? 100? kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/yr?

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## Waterloo Apartment / Office

- Built for median cost in 2005
- Less than 100 ekWh/m<sup>2</sup> (Ont avg around 250)
- All standard products



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## Waterloo Region Health & Welfare

- Built 1990. 160 ekWh/m<sup>2</sup>/yr. Less than half national average



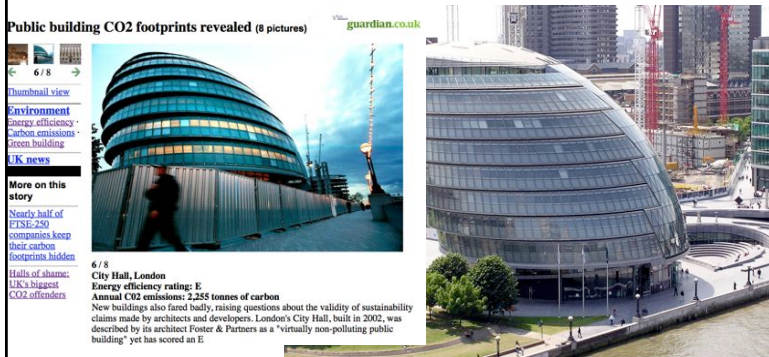
## London City Hall

- “Greenest city hall in the world” 2002
- “Virtually non-polluting” 2011



## London UK City Hall

- Measured: 376 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/yr



## Top Ten List

Commercial and institutional mid-size buildings, Canadian climates

- **Limit window-to-wall ratio (WWR)** to the range of 20-40%, 50% with ultra-performance windows
- **Increase window performance** (lowest U-value affordable in cold climates, including frame effects)
- Increase wall/roof **insulation** (esp. by controlling thermal bridging) and **airtighten**
- Separate **ventilation** air supply from heating and cooling.
- Use **occupancy** and **daylighting controls** for lights and equipment
- **Reduce** equipment/plug & lighting **power densities**
- Don't over ventilate, use **heat recovery & demand controlled ventilation**
- Improve boiler and **chiller efficiency** & recover waste heat (eg IT rooms!)
- Use **variable speed controls** for all large pumps and fans and implement **low temperature hydronic** heating and cooling where appropriate.
- Use a simple and compact building form, oriented to the sun, with a depth that allows daylight harvesting.

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## HVAC

- Architect helps select
- Critical role, as HVAC offers about half the possible savings
- Fancy, complex, expensive not often the lowest energy choice

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## Enclosures

- Enclosures **reduce** space heating/cooling – and help with lighting, ventilation
- We still need **energy** for other things – Lights, appliances, computers, elevators, etc
- Still need to provide some **HVAC!**
- Great enclosures reduce demand & hrs of operation
- Can't "insulate to zero"

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## The Enclosure: An Environmental Separator

- The part of the building that physically **separates** the **interior** and **exterior** environments.
- Includes all of the parts that make up the wall, window, roof, floor, caulked joint etc.
- Sometimes, interior partitions also are environmental separators (pools, rinks, etc.)

Building Science

Enclosures No. 29 /

## Climate Load Modification

- Building & Site (overhangs, trees...)
  - Creates microclimate
- Building Enclosure (walls, windows, roof...)
  - Separates climates
  - Passive modification
- Building Environmental Systems (HVAC...)
  - Use energy to change climate
  - Active modification

## Form & Massing

- Keep it simple
- Cheaper, easier, faster
- Fewer
  - thermal bridges, air leaks
  - Material volumes
  - construction challenges



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## Size: Floor Area to Enclosure Area

The higher the ratio, the more enclosure design & climate impact performance





## Small, Compact Form

- Fewer resources
- Less heat loss and gain



*E. Gracia, A. De Herde / Energy and Buildings 35 (2003) 473-491*

### Shape and Orientation: Heating Energy for cold climate, small building

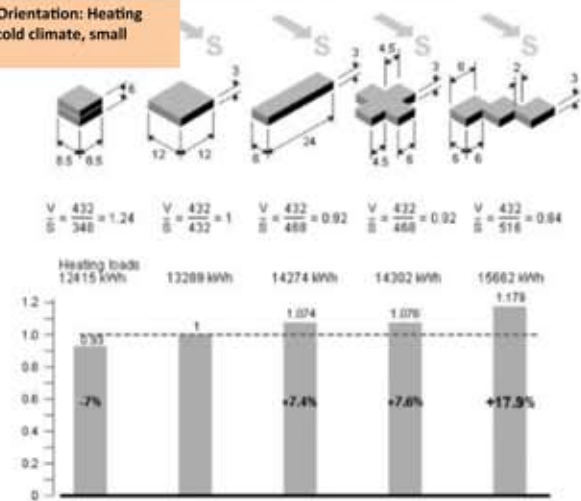


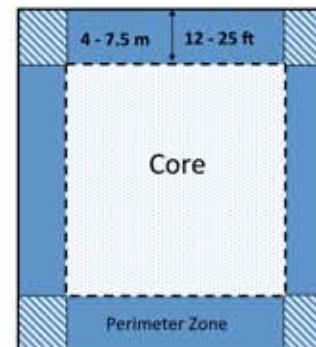
Fig. 4. Impact of the building shape on the heating loads.

## Large Buildings

Many buildings with large cores require cooling in winter while heating the perimeter



## Core / Perimeter



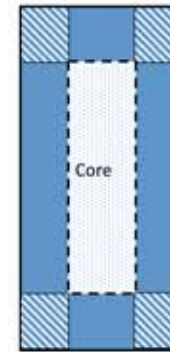
- Perimeter Zone
  - performance dominated by climate and enclosure
- Core Zone
  - dominated by interior use. Climate/enclosure almost irrelevant
- In most occupancies, core needs **cooling and lighting all year long, all day**

## Define “perimeter”

- Maximum distance about 25 ft/ 7.5 m
  - Classrooms often 25-30 ft, open plan office
- Minimum often set by walls/partitions of exterior offices
  - Cellular offices often 15 ft/ 4.5m deep

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## Skin Dominated Building



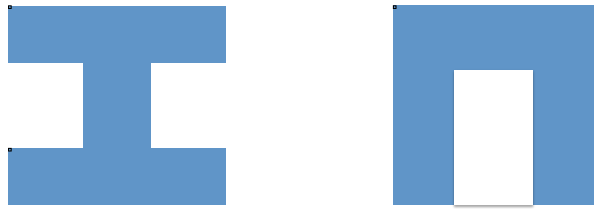
- “Skin-dominated”: Perimeter Zone over most of floor area
- Excellent daylighting and cross ventilation opportunities
- Best massing for many commercial buildings
- ***Demands good building enclosure because of increased enclosure area***

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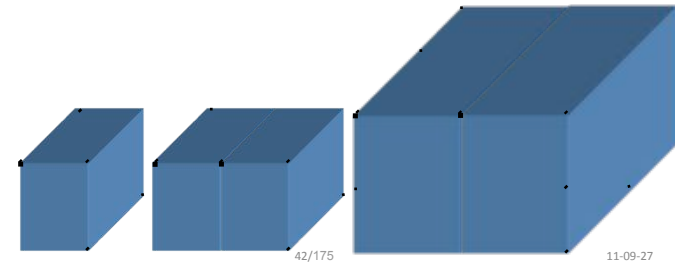
## Expanded Plans

- Better daylight, easier ventilation but more enclosure heat loss and gain and air leaks



## Grouping buildings

- Grouping units reduces heat loss/gain through shared walls
- Reduces resource use per unit



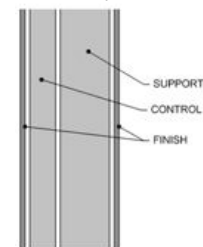
## Enclosure Intro Summary

- Enclosure often defines the H/C load
  - Architecture defines massing, orientation, enclosure
- Enclosure **more critical** for skin-dominated
  - Heat flow, Solar control, air tightness
- Lighting, ventilation critical for deep plan

## Basic Functions of the Enclosure

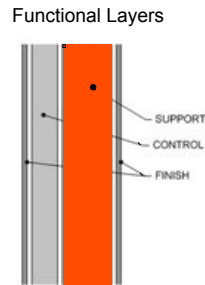
- 1. Support
  - Resist and transfer physical forces from inside and out
- 2. Control
  - Control mass and energy flows
- 3. Finish
  - Interior and exterior surfaces for people
- Distribution – a building function

Functional Layers



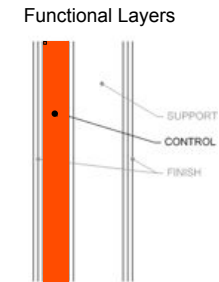
## Basic Enclosure Functions

- **Support**
  - Resist & transfer physical forces from inside and out
    - Lateral (wind, earthquake)
    - Gravity (snow, dead, use)
    - Rheological (shrink, swell)
    - Impact, wear, abrasion
- **Control**
  - Control mass and energy flows
- **Finish**
  - Interior and exterior surfaces for people



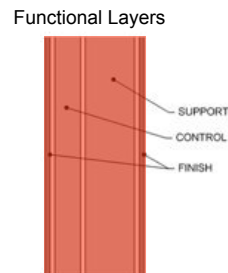
## Basic Enclosure Functions

- **Support**
  - Resist & transfer physical forces from inside and out
- **Control**
  - **Control mass and energy flows**
    - **Rain** (and soil moisture)
      - Drainage plane, capillary break, etc.
    - **Air**
      - Continuous air barrier
    - **Heat**
      - Continuous layer of insulation
    - **Vapor**
      - Balance of wetting/drying
- **Finish**
  - Interior and exterior surfaces for people



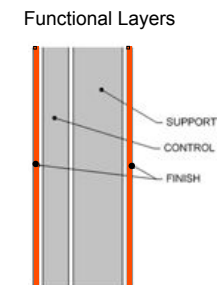
## Other Control . . .

- **Support**
- **Control**
  - **Fire**
    - Penetration
    - Propagation
  - **Sound**
    - Penetration
    - Reflection
  - **Light**
    - Diffuse/glare
    - View
- **Finish**



## Basic Enclosure Functions

- **Support**
  - Resist & transfer physical forces from inside and out
- **Control**
  - Control mass and energy flows
- **Finish**
  - **Interior & exterior surfaces for people**
    - Color, speculance
    - Pattern, texture



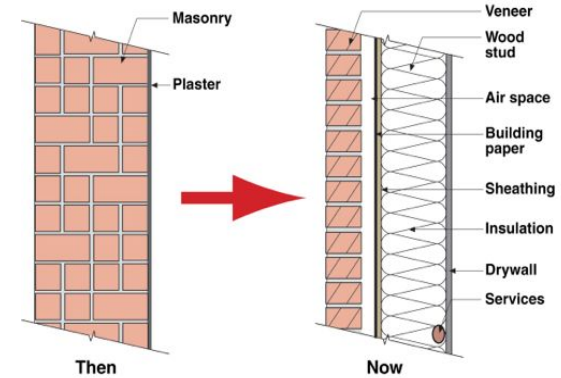


## History of Control Functions

- Older Buildings
  - One layer does everything
- Newer Building
  - Separate layers, . . . separate functions

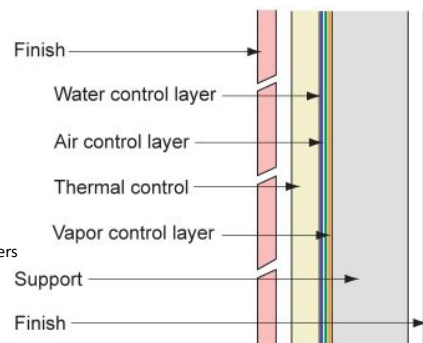


## Changes



## The “Perfect Wall”

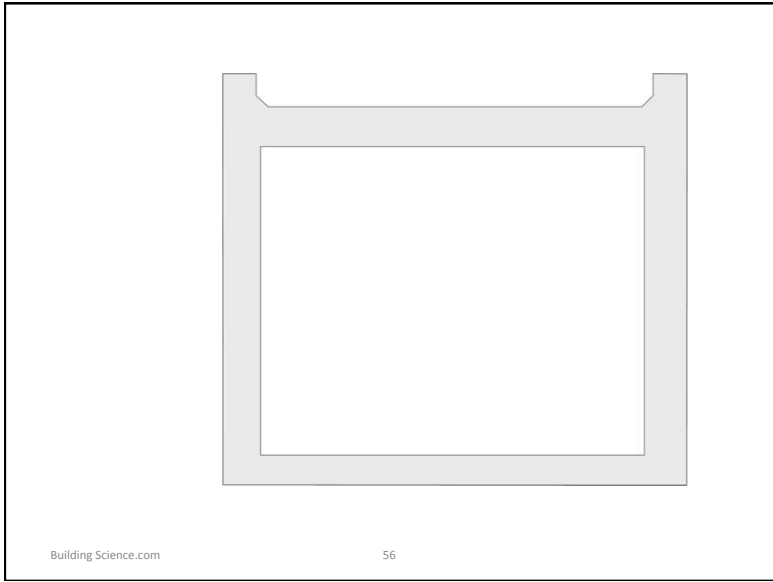
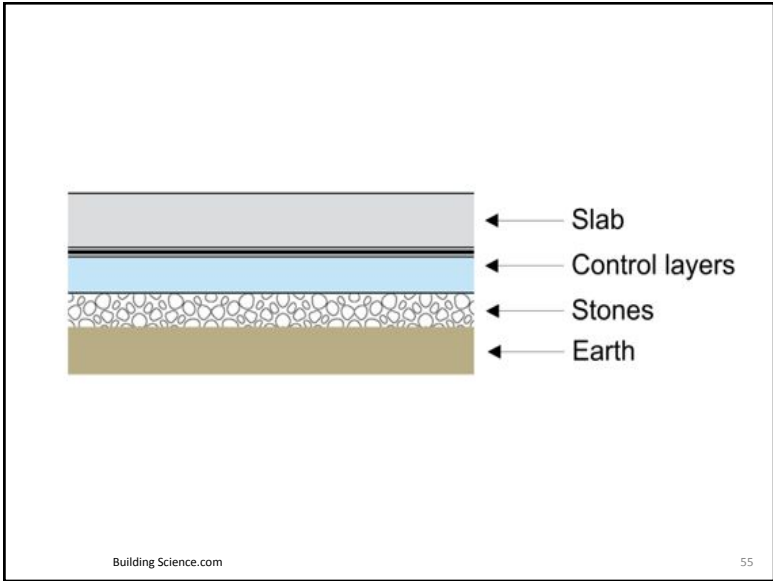
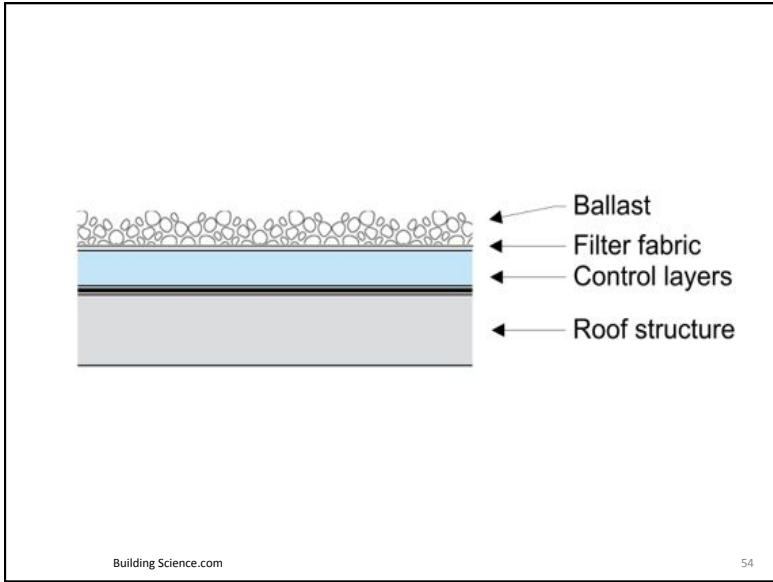
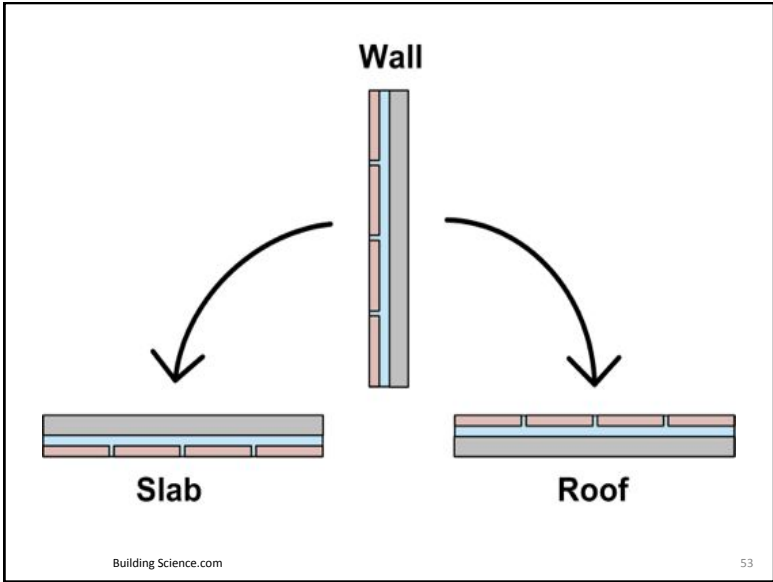
- Finish of whatever
- Control continuity
  - Rain control layer
    - Perfect barrier
    - Drained with gap
    - Storage
  - Air control layer
    - Air barrier
  - Thermal control layer
    - Aka insulation, radiant barriers
  - Vapor control layer
    - Retarders, barriers, etc
- Structure: anything that works

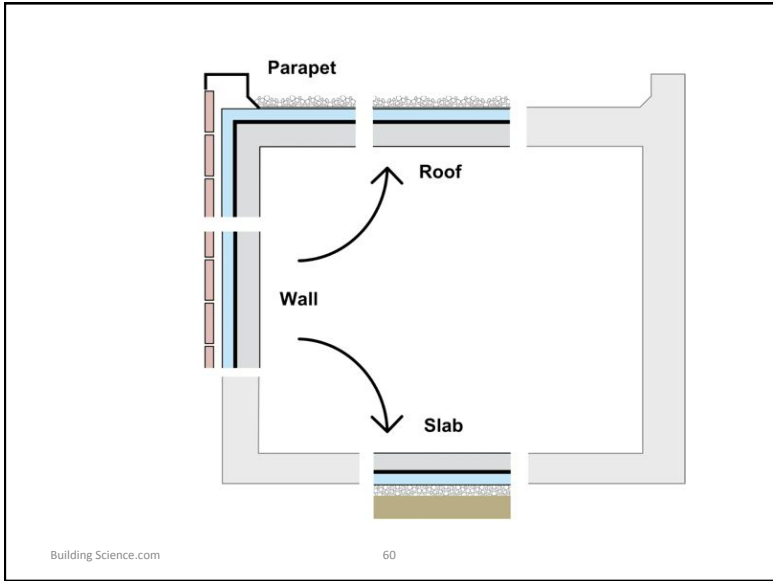
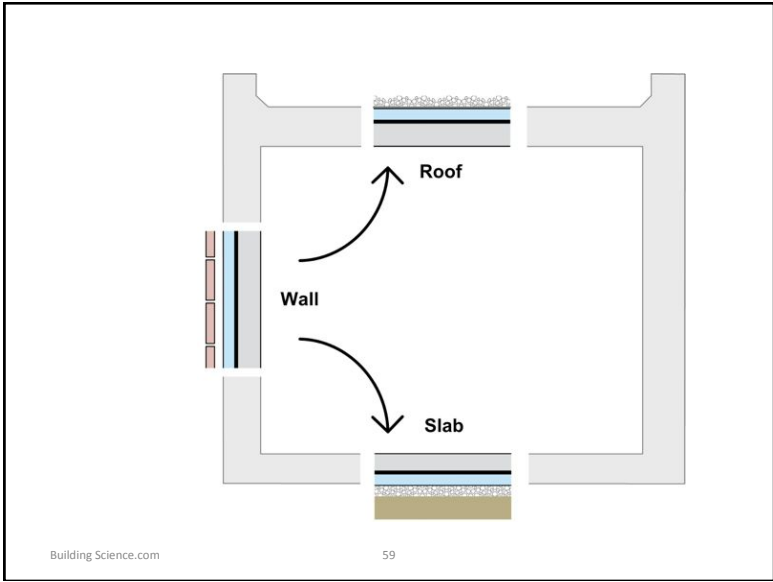
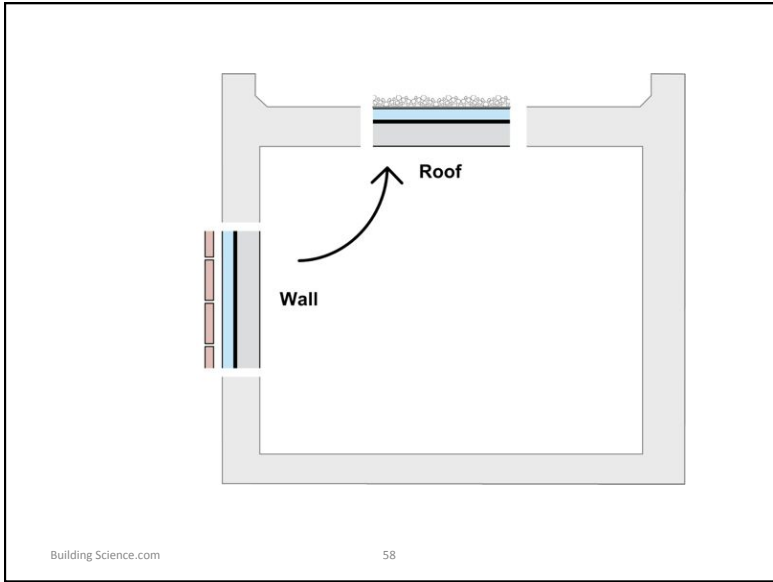
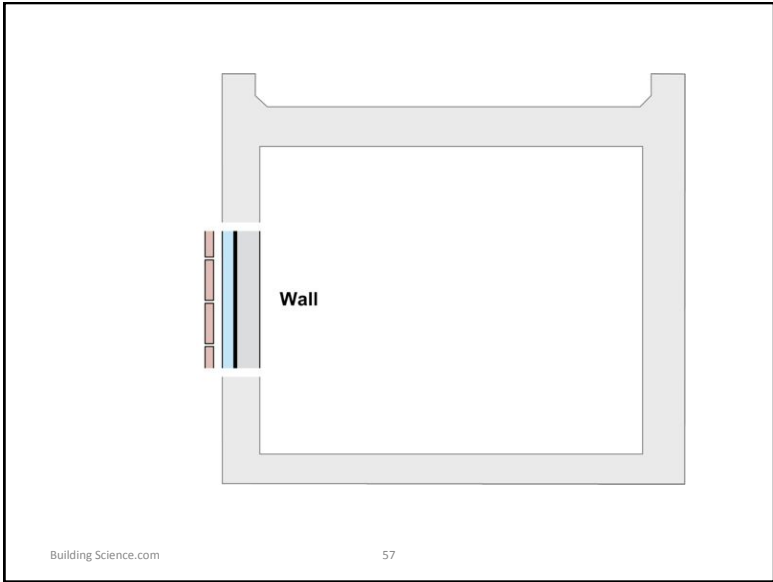


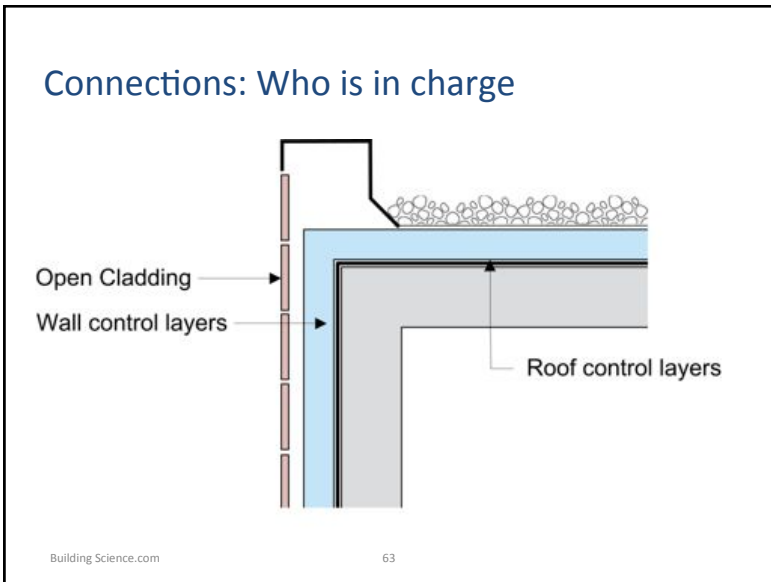
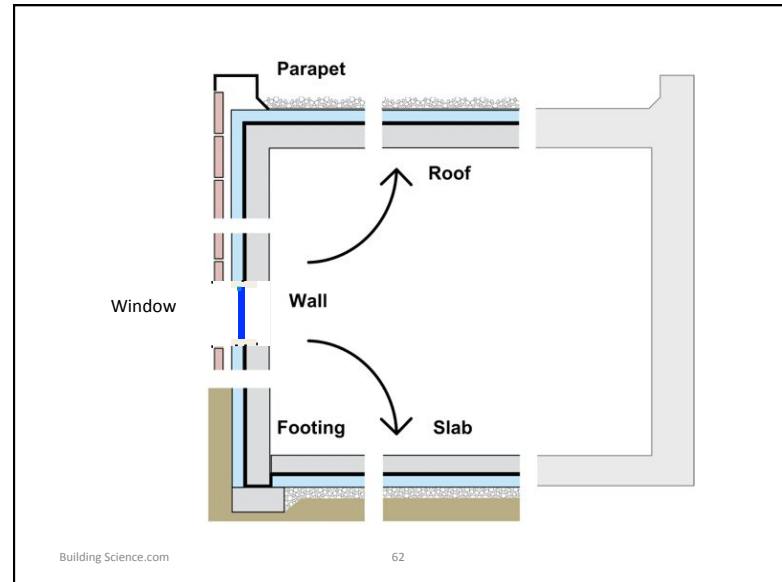
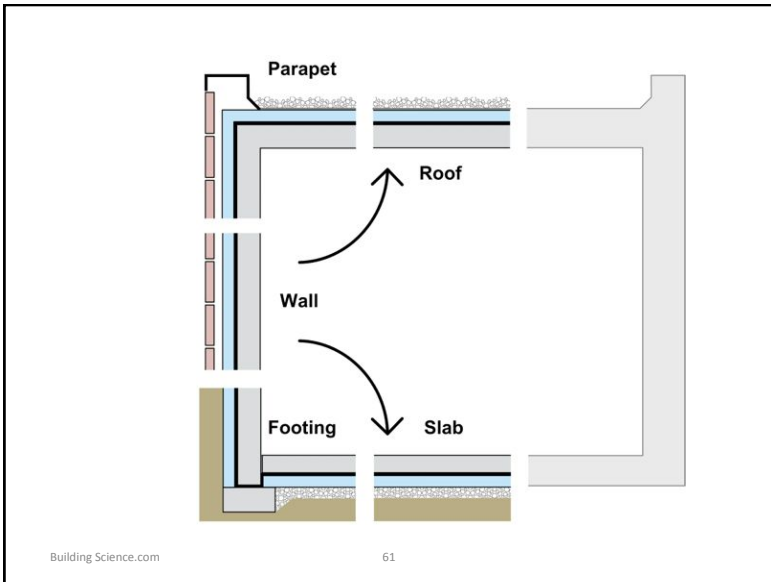
Fire Control may be needed  
Sound Control optional

## What is a High-performance enclosure?

- One which provides high levels of control
- Poor continuity limits performance
- Poor continuity causes most problems too:
  - E.g. air leakage condensation
  - Rain leakage
  - Surface condensation
  - Cold windows
- This course: continuity + high levels



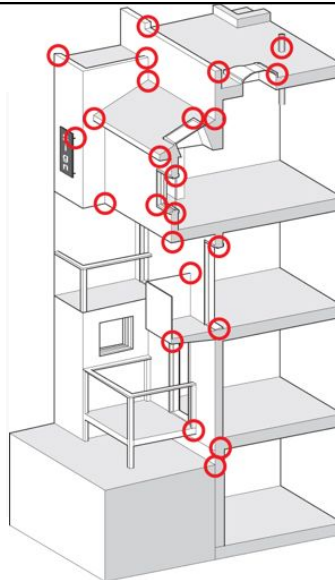




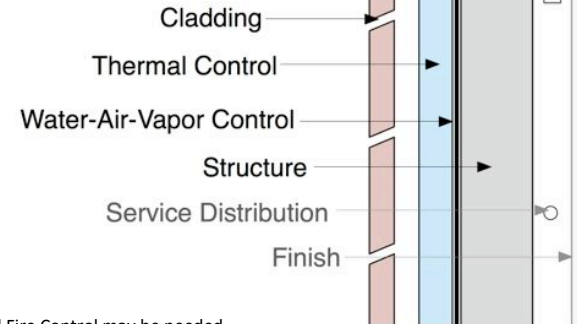


## Enclosure Design: Details

- Details demand the same approach as the enclosure.
- Scaled drawings required at



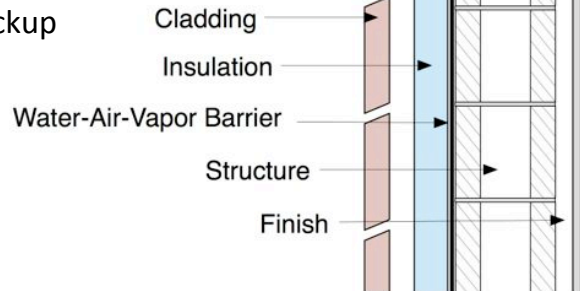
## Perfect Wall expanded



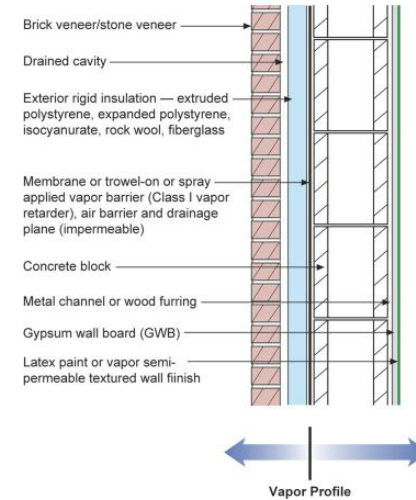
Additional Fire Control may be needed  
Sound Control optional

## Perfect Wall

- CMU/concrete backup

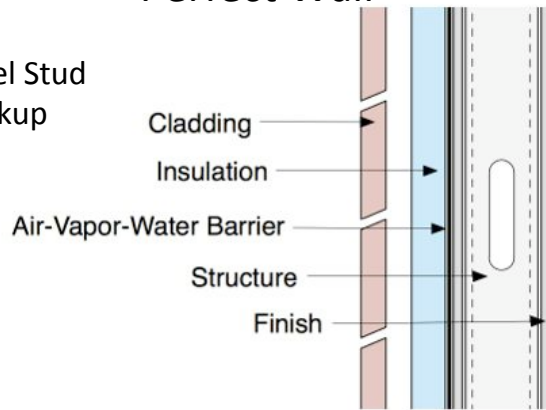


Any R-value, e.g.  
4" PIC=R25  
5" XPS =R25  
6" MFI=R25



## Perfect Wall

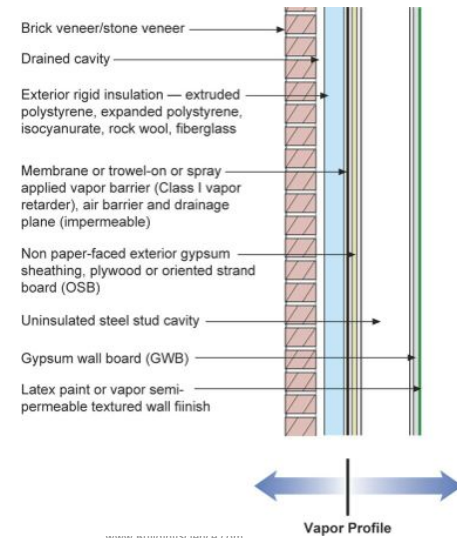
- Steel Stud Backup



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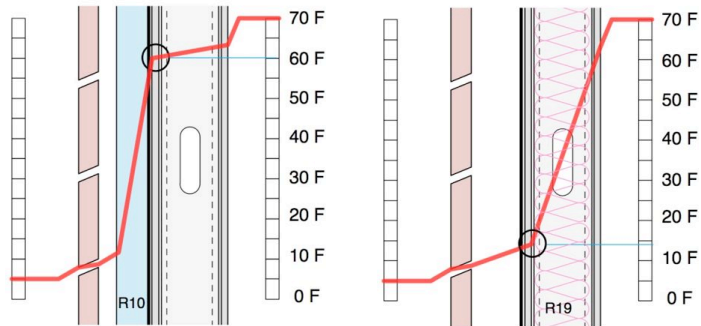
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Any R-value, e.g.  
4" PIC=R25  
5"XPS =R25  
6" MFI=R25



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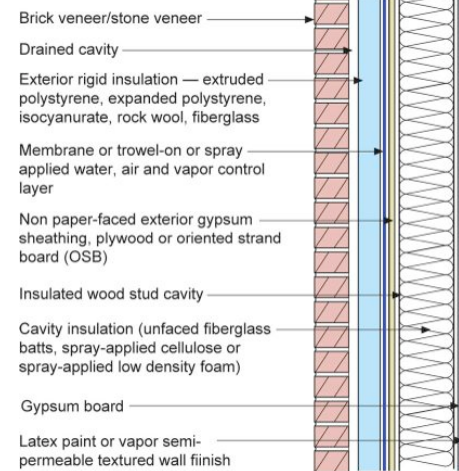
## Condensation & Drying



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Compromise

Ratio: Exterior R-value / Studbay R-value controls risk of condensation

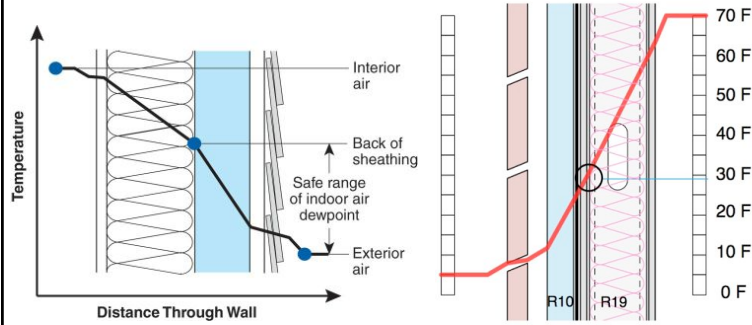


Steel studs compromise the thermal performance. Wood studs, not so much.

Any R-value, e.g.  
6" wood stud+  
2" PIC= R30  
3"XPS= R32  
4"SPF= R40

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## Compromise= Risks



$$T_{\text{sheathing}} = T_{\text{in}} - (T_{\text{in}} - T_{\text{out}}) * R_{\text{cavity}} / R_{\text{total}}$$

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## Specifics

- Now we will look at
  - Rain Control
  - Air Flow Control
  - Thermal Control
- In some detail

} Energy & Comfort  
} Durability, Health

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## Rain Control



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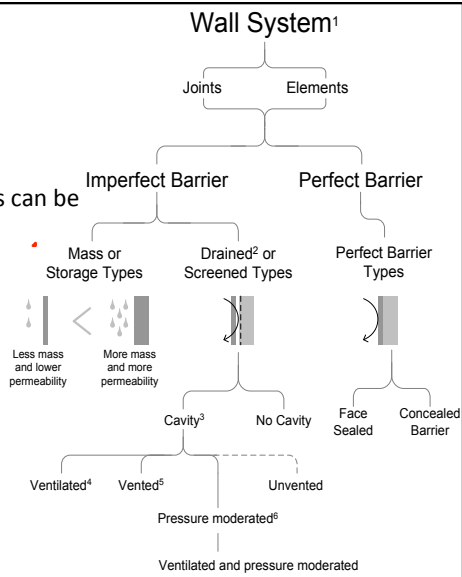
## Rain Control

- Next to structure, the most important, fundamental requirement
- Source of many serious building problems
- Major impact on durability
- Low-energy buildings & rain
  - Different enclosure assemblies
  - Reduced drying ability= need for better control!

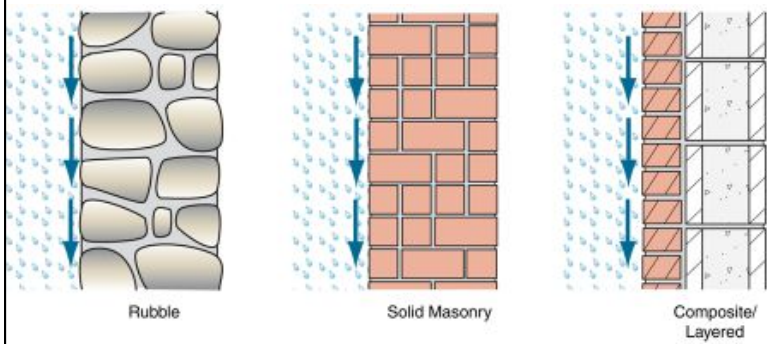
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# Rain Control

- Elements and joints can be different



# Mass/Storage/Reservoir Walls



John Straube

# No building paper, flashing, weepholes



Build

— Rain Control 79

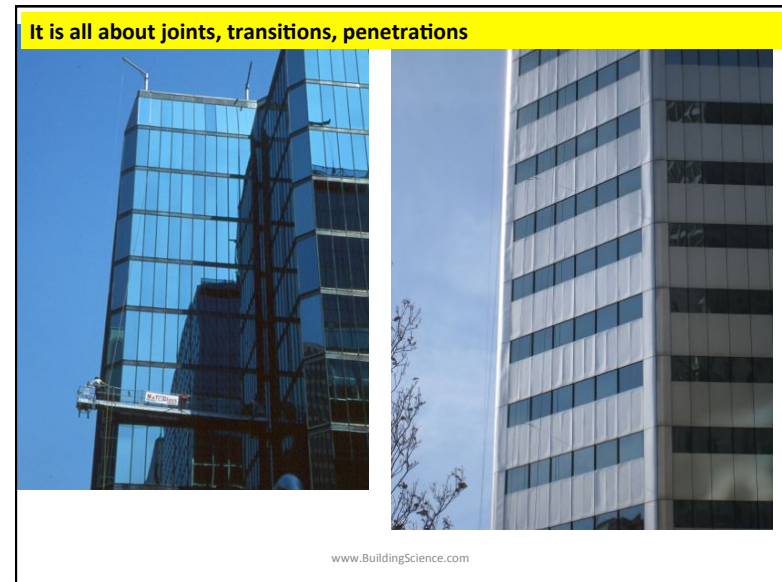
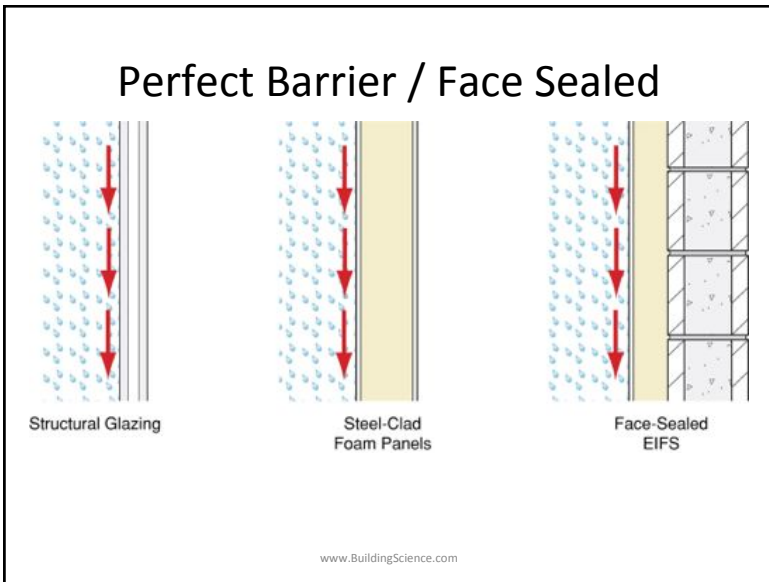
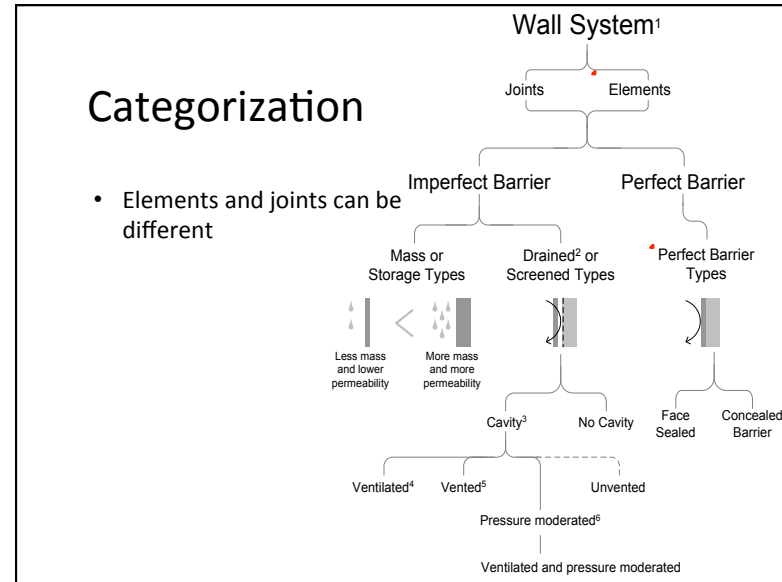
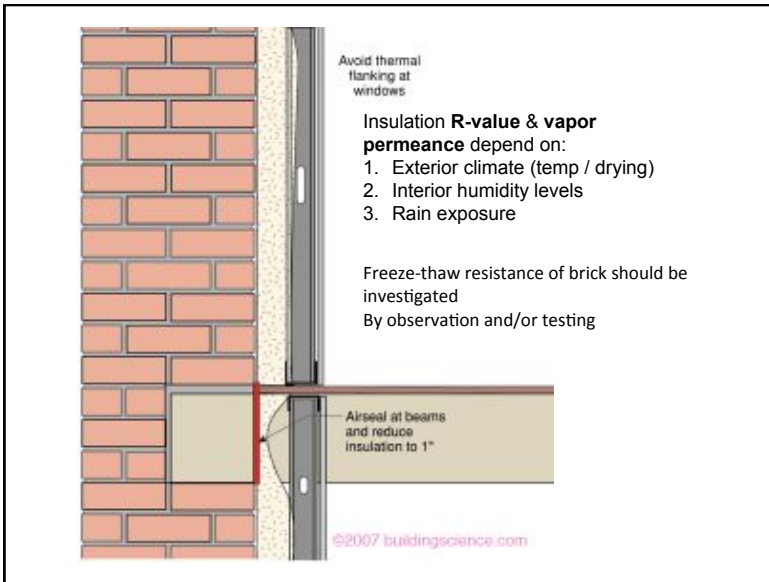
# Surface features such as Overhangs, Drips, etc are important for mass walls



Building Systems

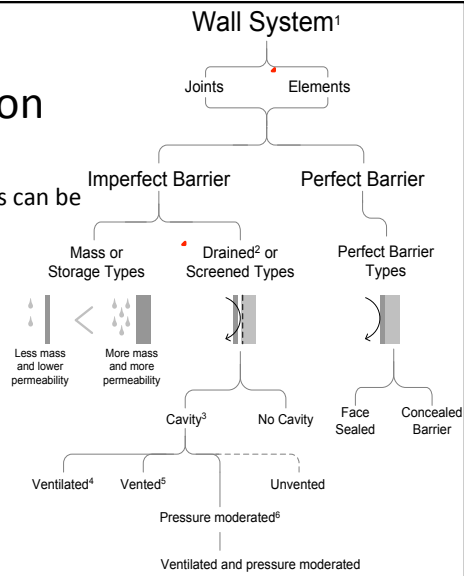
Rain Control 80





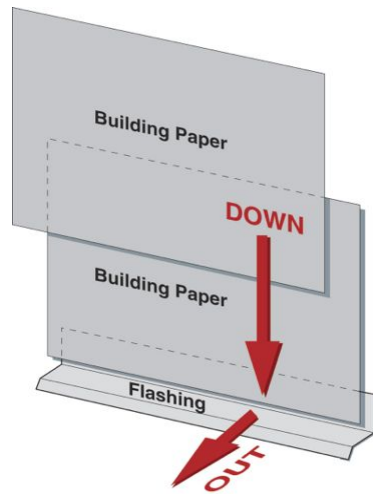
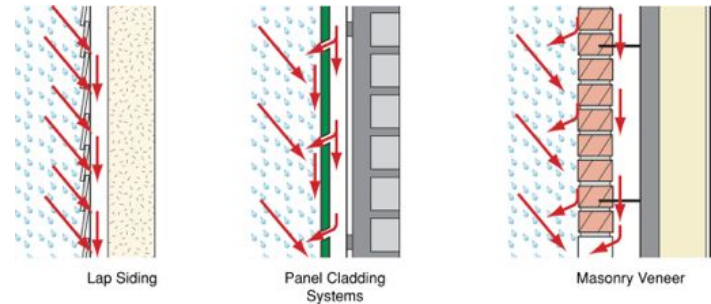
# Categorization

- Elements and joints can be different



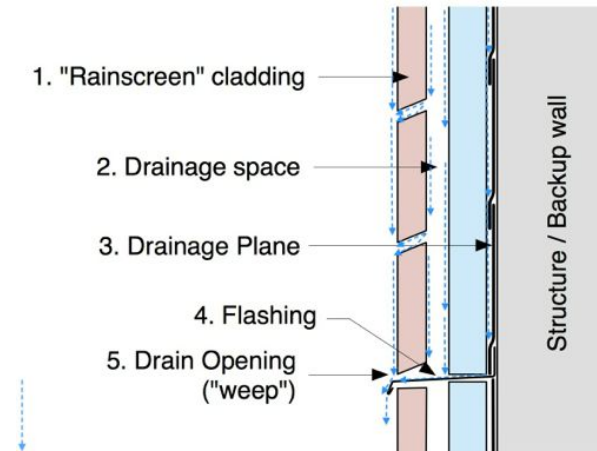
# Drained Walls

- “Pressure Equalized Rainscreen” are a fictional subset of drained walls

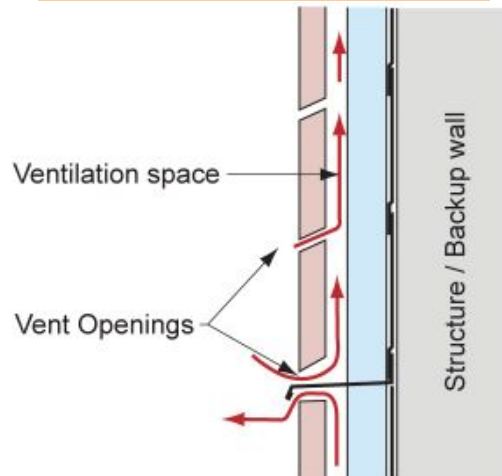


## Requirements for a Drained Enclosure

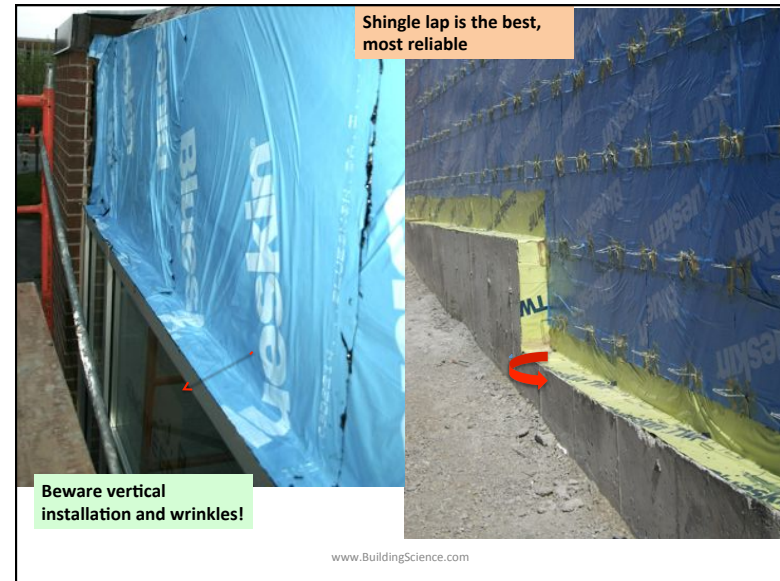
1. "Rainscreen" cladding
2. Drainage space
3. Drainage Plane
4. Flashing
5. Drain Opening ("weep")



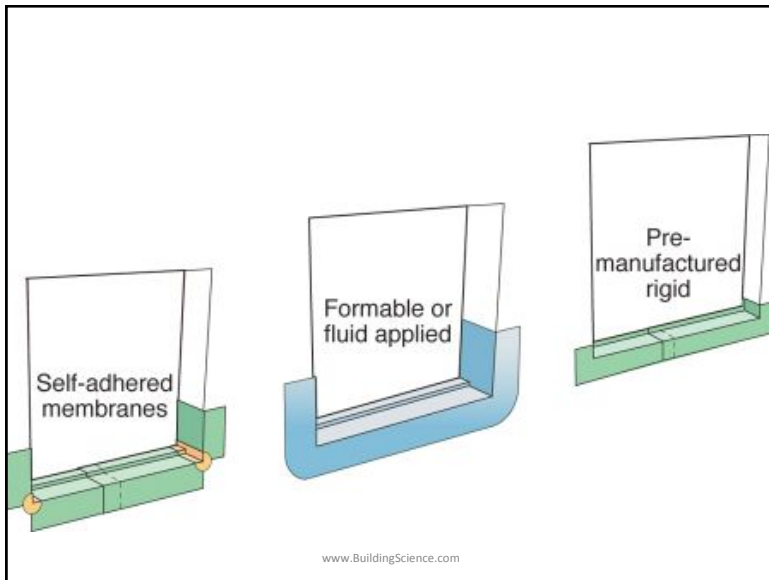
### Requirements for a Ventilated Enclosure



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## Air-Water-Vapor

- Often thin layers
- *Can be*
  1. Water control (vapor permeable, not airtight), **or**
  2. Air & water control (vapor permeable), **or**
  3. Air, water & vapor (vapor impermeable).
- Examples
  - Building paper, untaped housewrap, sealed and supported housewrap, fluid applied, peel and stick

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## Air-Water Control Layers

Sloped and complex surfaces demand very high performance. LAPPING very Important

com



Fluid-applied products avoids laps

## Details

- Air & water & vapor transition membranes



ing Science.com

Airflow Control No. 95/79

Non-adhered, vapor permeable =modest performance

**Supported flexible membrane is better**



## Fully-adhered air-water barrier

Vapor Permeable!



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## Mixed membrane + fluid-applied



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## Spray/Trowel Applied Air/water

- Semi-permeable



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99

Closed-cell spray polyurethane foam: ccSPF

- Rain control
- Air Control
- Thermal Control
- Vapor Control





## Continuity is key!

- Must ensure no rain leaks
- Airflow control should be as continuous as practical
- Thermal control
  - We live with penetrations
  - Minimize steel and concrete to small local
- Vapor control
  - Not that important to ensure continuity

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## Air Flow Control

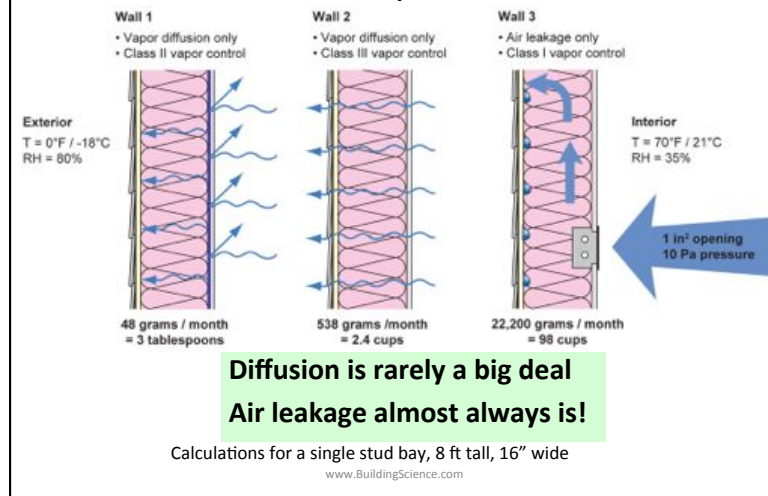
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## Air Barrier Systems

- Need an excellent air barrier in all buildings
  - Comfort & health
  - Moisture / condensation
  - Energy
  - Sound, fire, etc.
- Can't make it too tight.
- Multiple air barriers improve redundancy

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## Air moves more vapor than diffusion!



## Air leakage

- Hard to save energy with the door open
- Buildings getting tighter, but . . .
  - Many still leak way too much
  - We can't identify the leakers
  - Need to test! Commission!
- Ventilation: Many try to improve air quality by increasing quantity
  - Target good air when and where needed

105/175

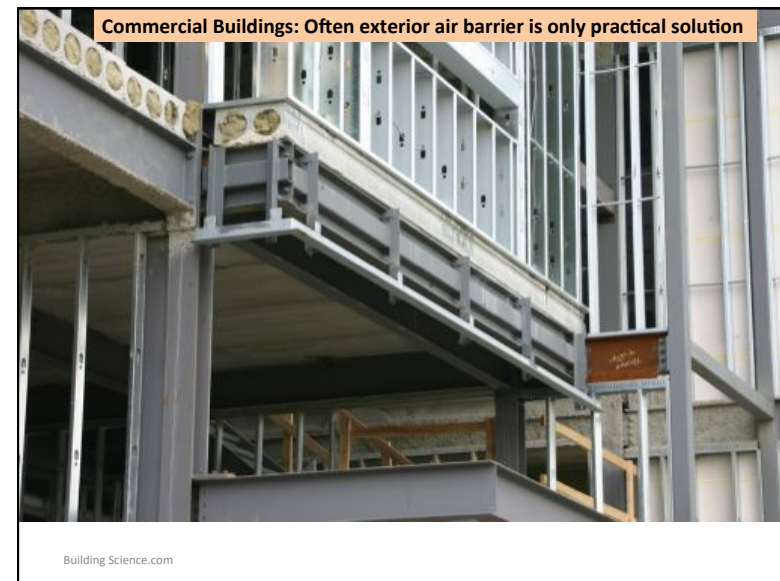
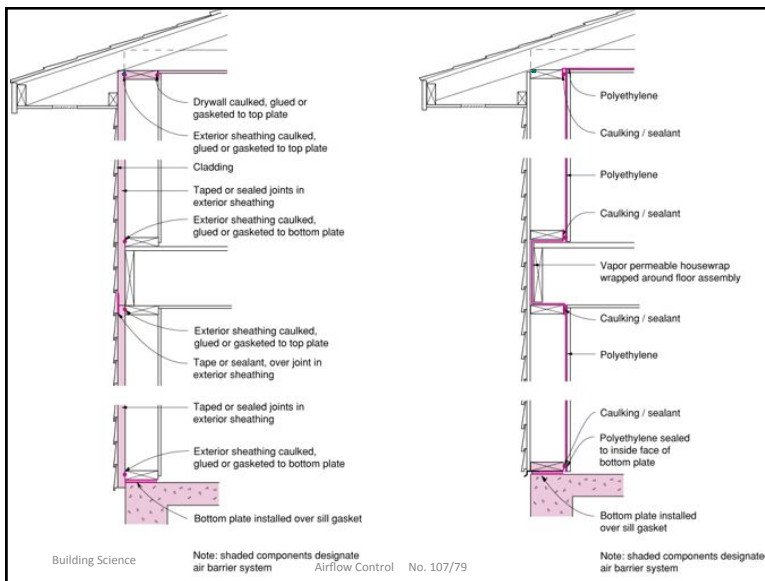
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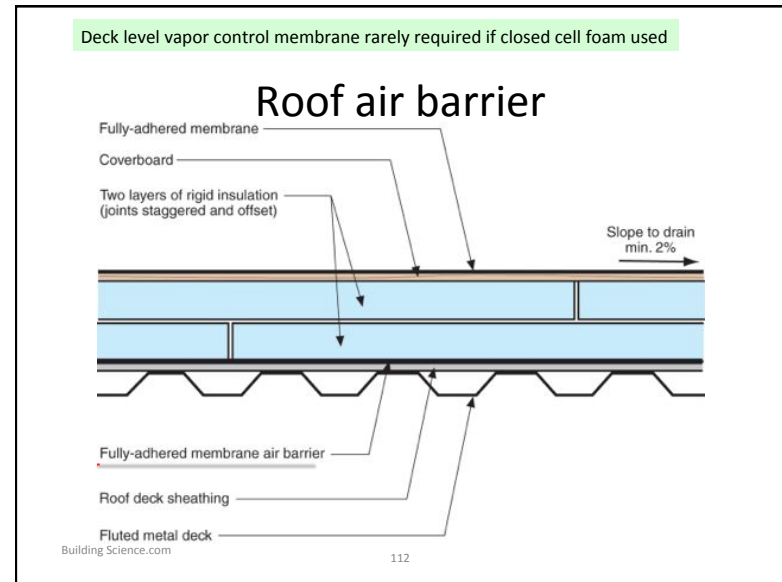
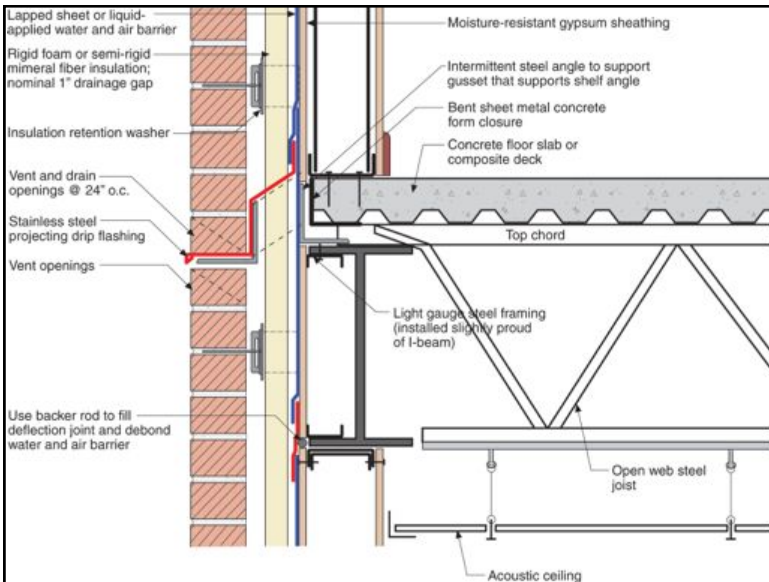
## Air Barriers and Energy

- Requirements
  - **Continuous (most important)**
  - **Strong**
  - **Stiff,**
  - **Durable,**
  - **Air Impermeable (least important)**
- Easily 1/3 of total heat loss is due to air leakage in well-insulated building

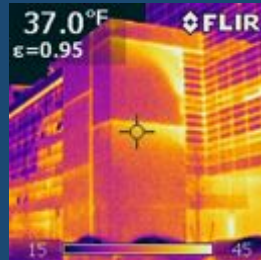
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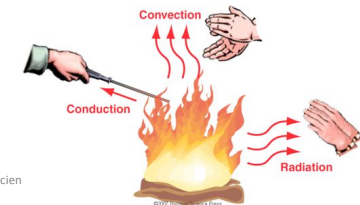
# Thermal Control



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## Thermal Control

- Insulation
  - Slows heat flow in and out
- Windows
  - Slow heat flow in and out
  - Control solar gain : allow or reject?
- “cool” roofs
  - Reduce solar gain
- Radiant barriers



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## Thermal Insulation

Insulation	R-value/inch	k (W/mK)
Empty airspace 0.75"-1.5" (20-40 mm)	R2.0 - 2.75	0.36 - 0.50 W/m <sup>2</sup> K
Empty airspace 3.5"-5.5" (90-140 mm)	R2.75	0.50 W/m <sup>2</sup> K
Batt (mineral fiber)	3.5-3.8	0.034 - 0.042
Extruded polystyrene (XPS)	5.0	0.029
Polyisocyanurate (PIC)	6.0-6.5	0.022 - 0.024
Expanded polystyrene (EPS)	3.6-4.2	0.034 - 0.040
Semi-rigid mineral fiber (MFI)	3.6-4.2	0.034 - 0.040
Spray fiberglass	3.7-4.0	0.034 - 0.038
Closed-cell spray foam (2 pcf) ccSPF	5.8-6.6	0.022 - 0.025
Open-cell spray foam (0.5 pcf) ocSPF	3.6	0.040
Aerogel	8-12	0.012-0.018
Vacuum Insulated Panels (VIP)	20-35	0.004-0.008

## How much Insulation

- Heat Flow =  $\frac{\text{Area} * (T_{\text{inside}} - T_{\text{outside}})}{\text{R-value}}$
- Double R-value, halve heat flow. Always.
- Optimum depends on
  - Cost of energy over life of building
  - Cost of adding more insulation
  - Savings in mechanical equipment, controls

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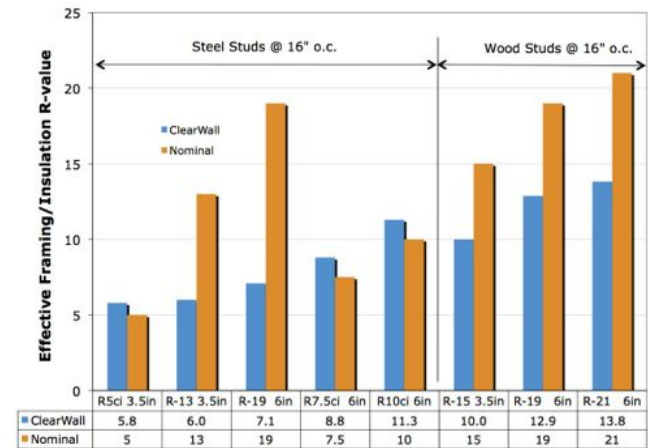


## Thermal Continuity

- Some short circuiting is normally tolerated.
- High-performance walls tolerate few
- Major offenders / weak spots
  - Penetrating slabs (<R1)
  - Steel studs (<R1)
  - Windows (R2-R3)
- Area and low R matter to overall significance

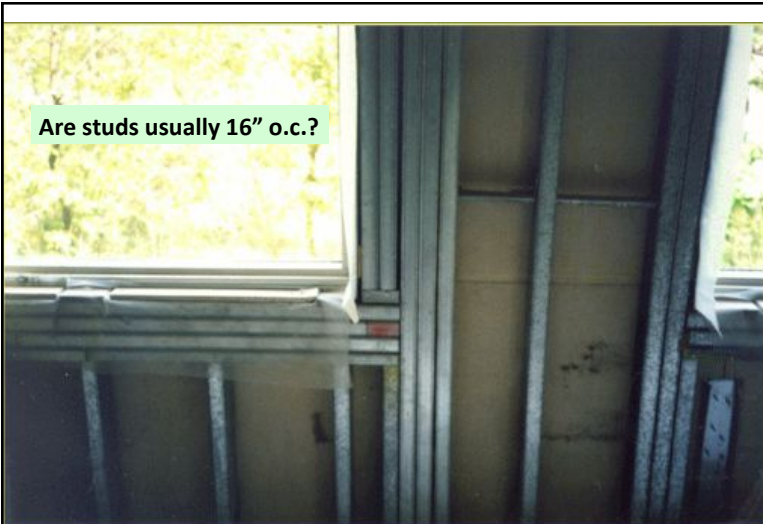
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## Best-case R-values for stud walls



Source: ASHRAE 90.1-2007, Table A9.2B. ci denotes a layer of continuous insulation with no framing penetrations

Are studs usually 16" o.c.?



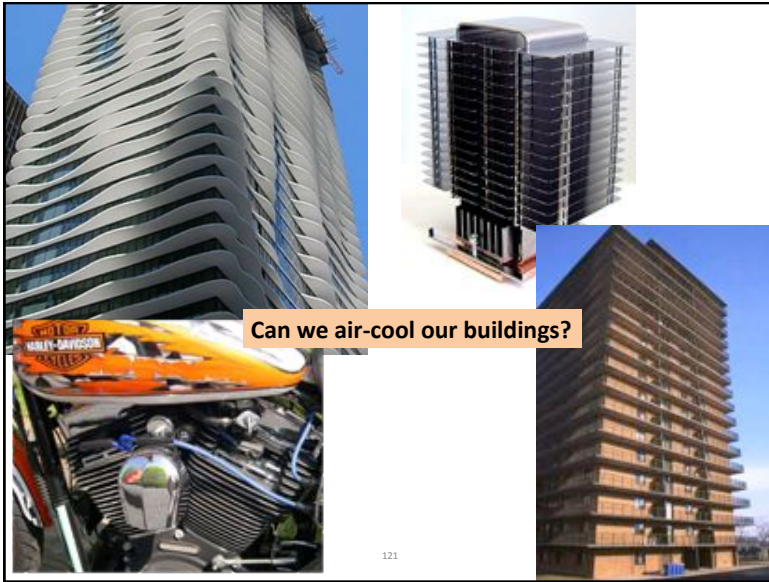
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Are the studs within a heavier structure?

Building Science.com





07/13/2011  
**Schöck Isokorb®: Thermally protective and load-bearing** From: [www.schoeck-canada.com](http://www.schoeck-canada.com)

Free cantilever balconies are, and have always been, an important asset to any construction project, helping obtaining a higher quality of living. When a balcony slab without a thermal break at the perimeter is cast, it creates a thermal bridge.

The Schöck Isokorb® can eliminate this "Weak Link" in the building envelope. Effective thermal insulation of the Schöck Isokorb® reduces the risk of condensation, mold formation and associated damage caused by this effect.

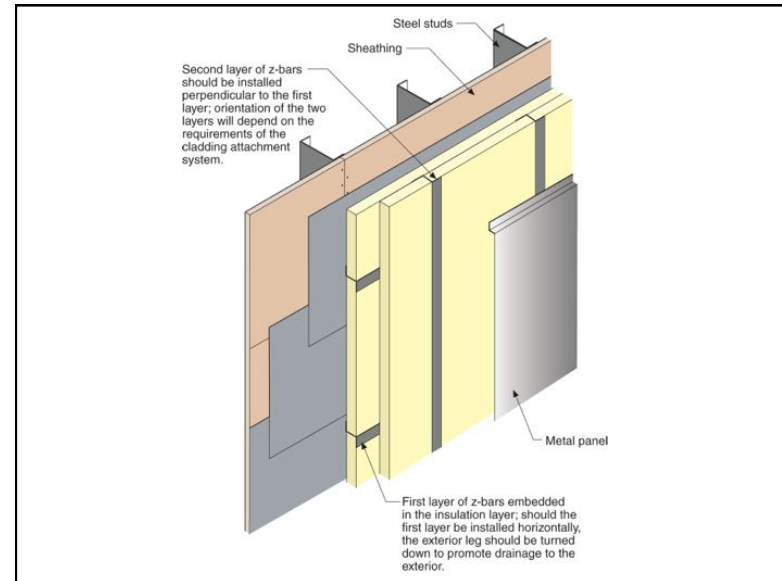
Thermal leakage and energy loss is minimized with Isokorb®. The optimum thermal insulation of Isokorb® is found in the highly effective HCFC-free insulation layer made from Polystyrol foam, used together with stainless steel load transferring members.

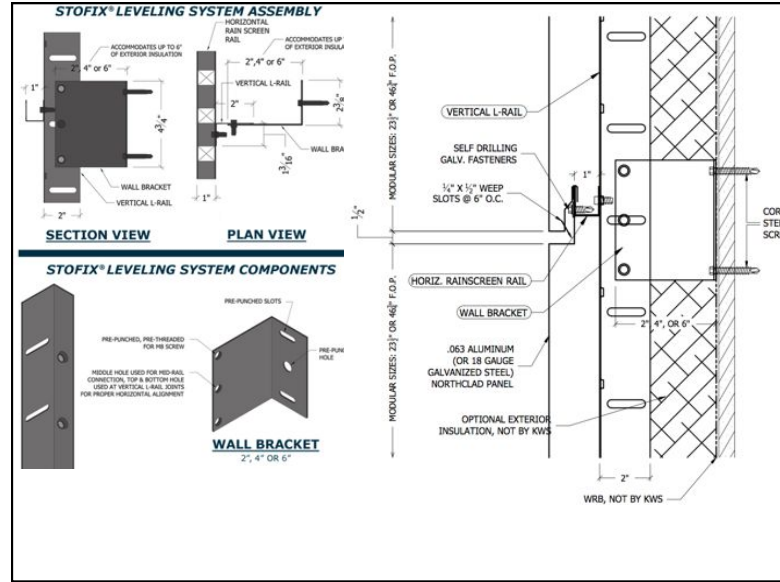
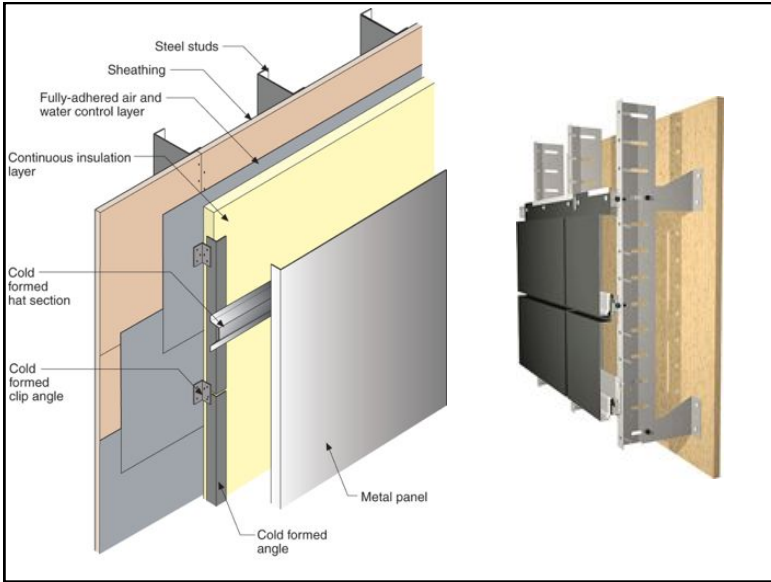
**Award-winning Aqua Tower**

Auto  
 °C 0.3  
 ~11.3  
 -30.0  
 0.95 BG 22.0 T 100% 00:23:14

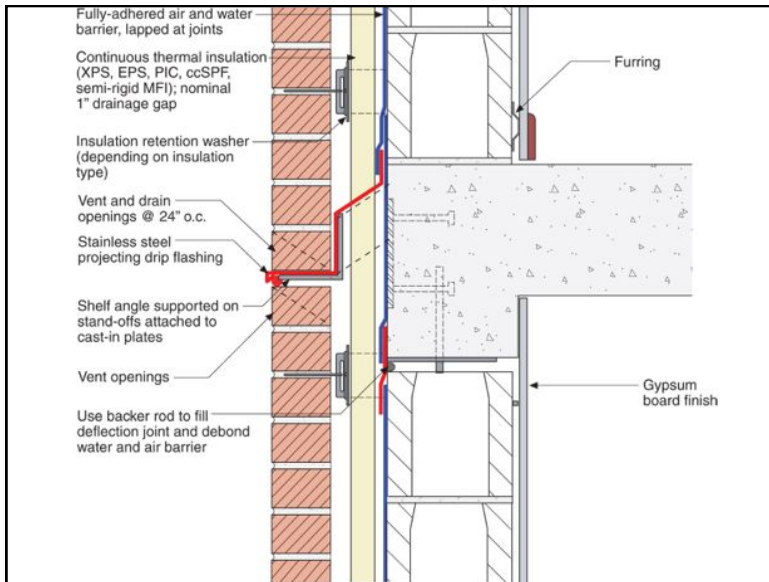
## Thermal Bridge Examples

- Balconies, etc
- Exposed slab edges







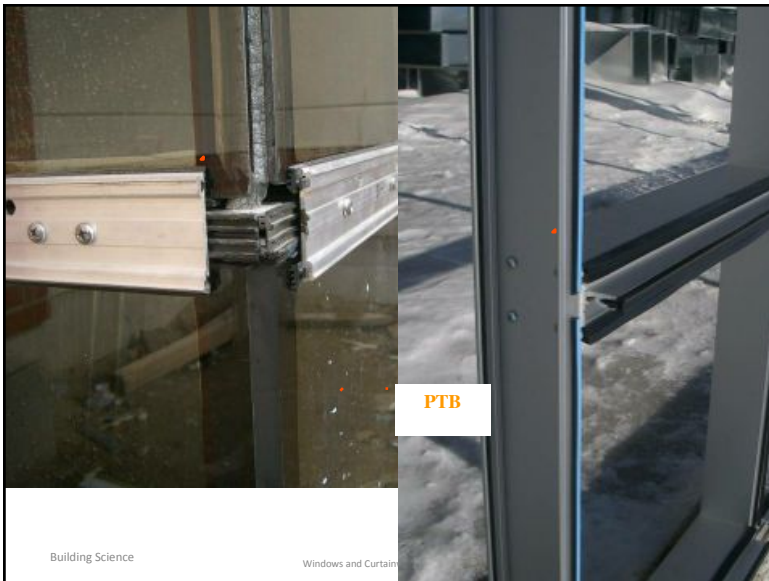
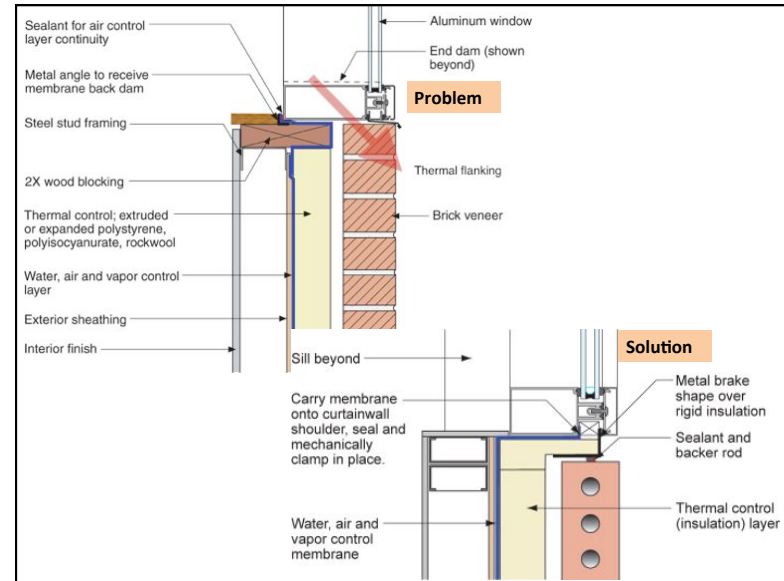
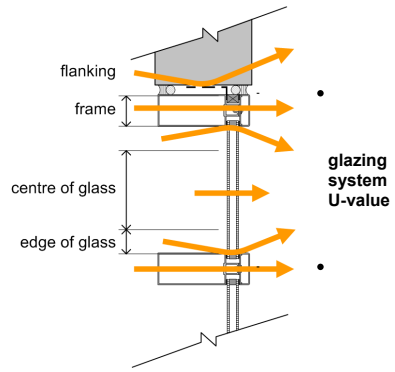


## Windows

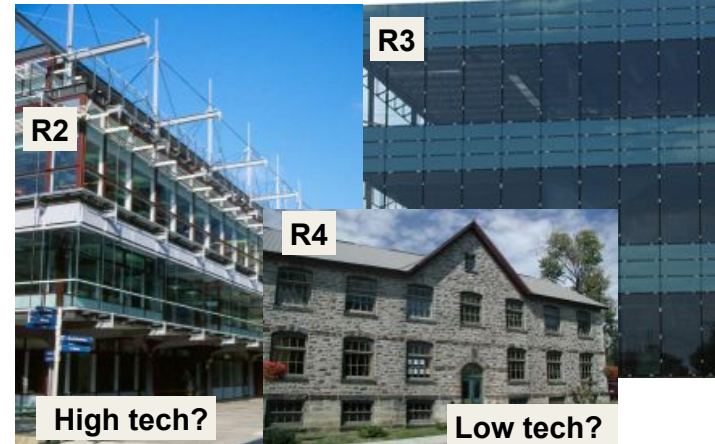
- Our most expensive thermal bridges
- Aluminum is 4-5 times as conductive as aluminum
- Difficult to buy commercial aluminum windows / curtainwall over R3.
- Allow solar heat in
  - Useful in cold weather
  - Requires cooling in summer

# Total Heat Flow

## Curtain Wall Plan View



# Full-Frame R-values



# Thermal Break

- Critical for alu windows
- 1/2" should be min thermal break

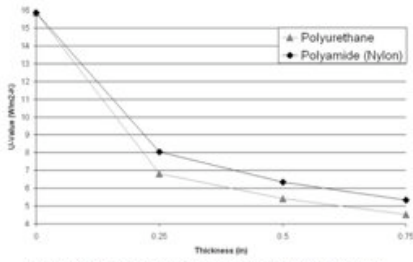
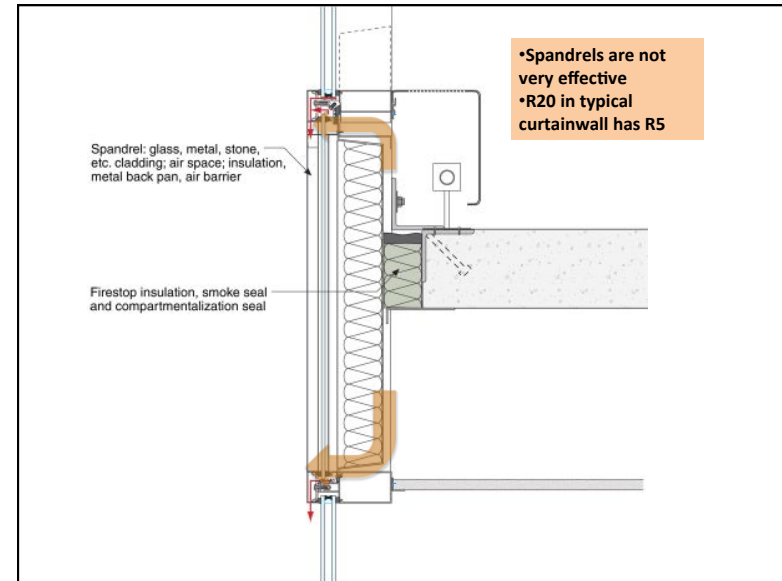
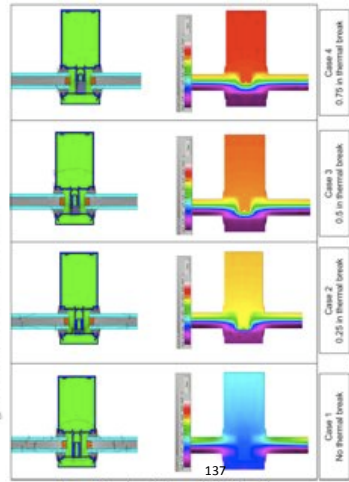


Figure 4: Frame U-Value vs. thermal break thickness.

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# High Performance

Getting better . .

