

Construction/Installation Checklist

- ✓ Prior to the installation of air barrier system components, coordinate an air barrier system preconstruction meeting with the general contractor, designer(s), and the trade/subcontractor responsible for the installation of the air barrier system as well as all additional trades whose work may interface or penetrate the air barrier system (e.g., window installers, framers, siders, mechanical, etc.). Clarify the responsibilities of all parties involved with the air barrier system installation and review installation requirements and limitations of the system as well as any details/installations that will require significant coordination efforts to implement.
- ✓ Use installers who are experienced with the specific air barrier system installation to perform the installation of air barrier components. For example, if the primary air barrier strategy is a sealed sheathing approach, using an installer with experience installing sealed sheathing can increase the likelihood for quality air barrier installation.
- ✓ Designate an air barrier system/building enclosure supervisor or superintendent from the construction team to oversee all trades involved in installation related to the air barrier system.
- ✓ Build freestanding mock-ups of all project-specific typical and unique air barrier system details. Retain building mock-ups for training and reference purposes throughout construction.
- ✓ Perform qualitative diagnostic air leakage testing of mock-up installations to identify deficiencies. Correct deficiencies and retest to demonstrate that deficiencies have been resolved. Refer to ASTM E1186²³ for air leakage site detection practices.
- ✓ Implement a quality control program. Develop a checklist of items that need to be reviewed before the air barrier system is covered with additional elements such as exterior insulation and cladding.
- ✓ Provide third-party quality assurance reviews of installed air barrier detailing and provide periodic diagnostic air leakage testing to ensure airtight transitions, especially at roof-to-wall and wall-to-foundation transitions and at the floor line and window perimeter details.
- ✓ Execute whole-building air leakage testing prior to covering, when possible. This limits the need to remove building elements (such as cladding) to correct deficiencies.

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