Introduction to Building Envelope Commissioning

Presented by:

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Takeaways

- Explain what is building envelope commissioning
- Describe some benefits of building envelope commissioning
- Point out common areas that are overlooked during construction

Describe in detail how to functionally test a buildings envelope



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What is Commissioning?

When a building is initially commissioned it undergoes an intensive quality assurance process that begins during design and continues through construction, occupancy, and operations. Commissioning ensures that the new building operates initially as the owner intended and that building staff are prepared to operate and maintain its systems and equipment.

-Lawrence Berkley National Laboratory



Benefits of Commissioning





Building Envelope Commissioning

- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- United State Green Building Council (USGBC)
- American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)
- International Energy Conservation Code (ICEE)
- Association of Architects (AIA)
- American Society of Heating, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration (ASHRAE)
- National Institute for Building Science (NIBS)



What is the Envelope?

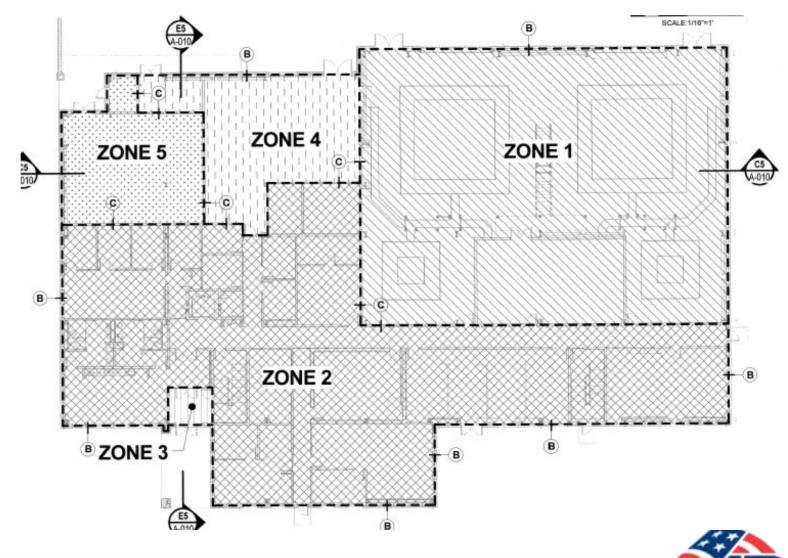
Building Envelope

Physical separator between conditioned and unconditioned

spaces

Weather barrier

- Air barrier
- Thermal barrier
- Vapor barrier



Stages of Envelope Commissioning

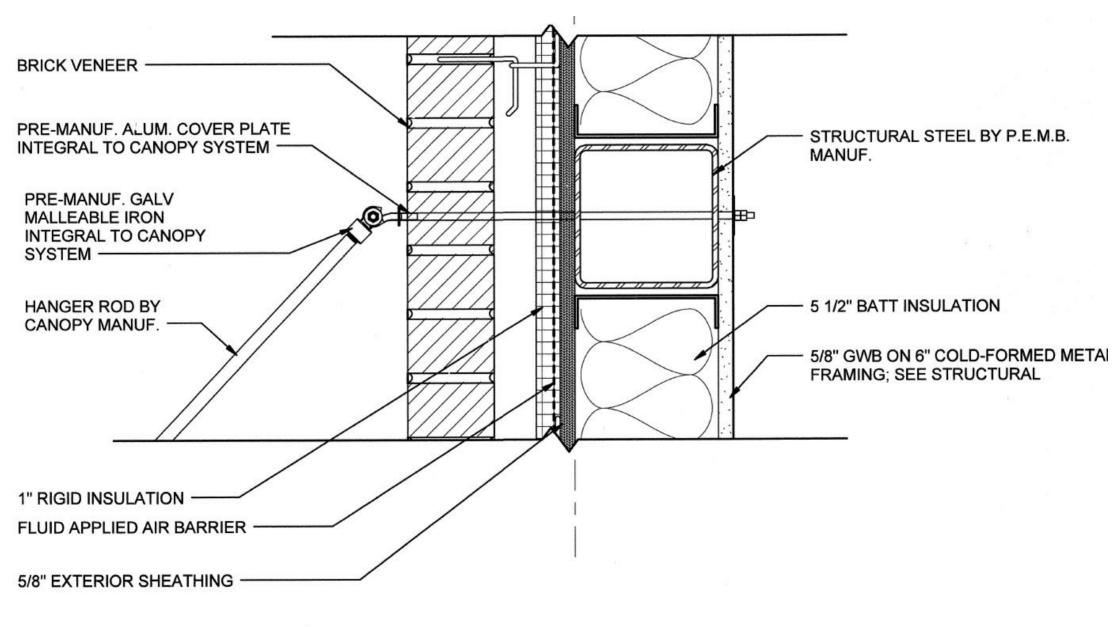
Pre-Design

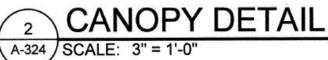
Design

Construction

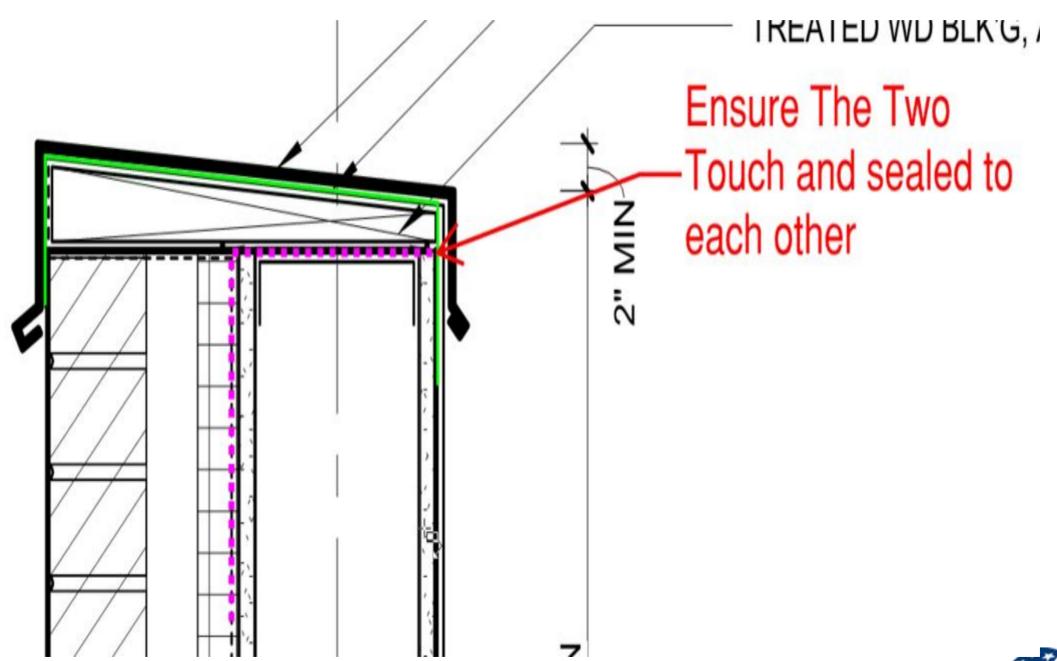




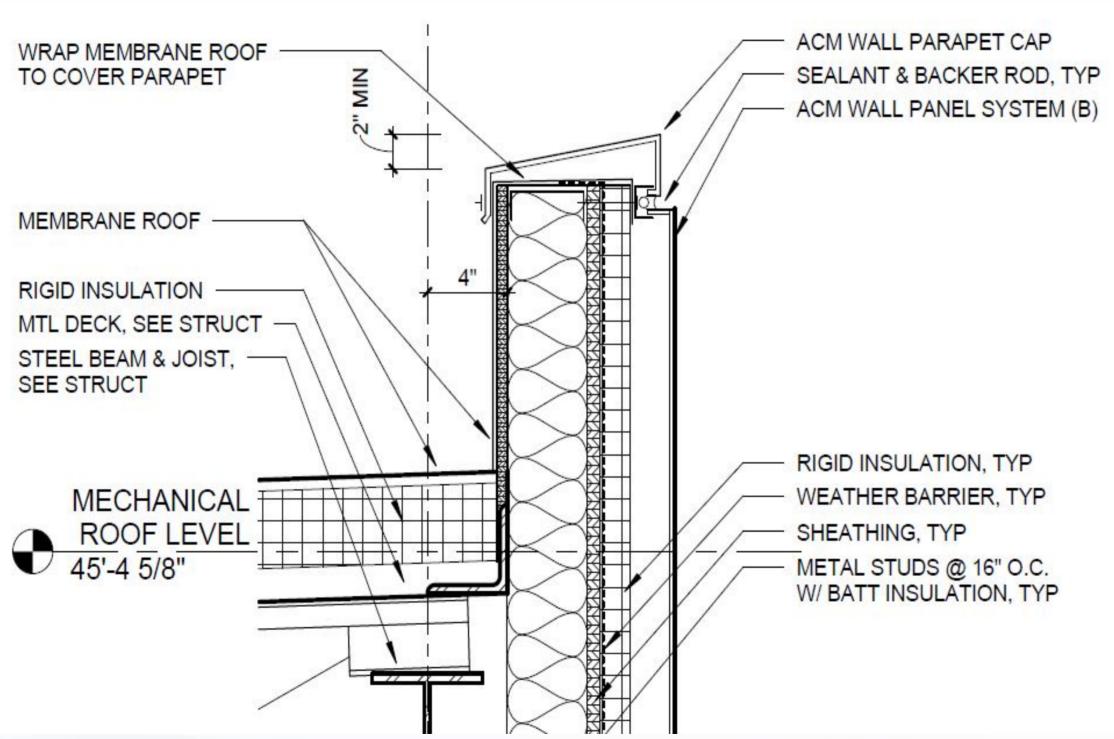




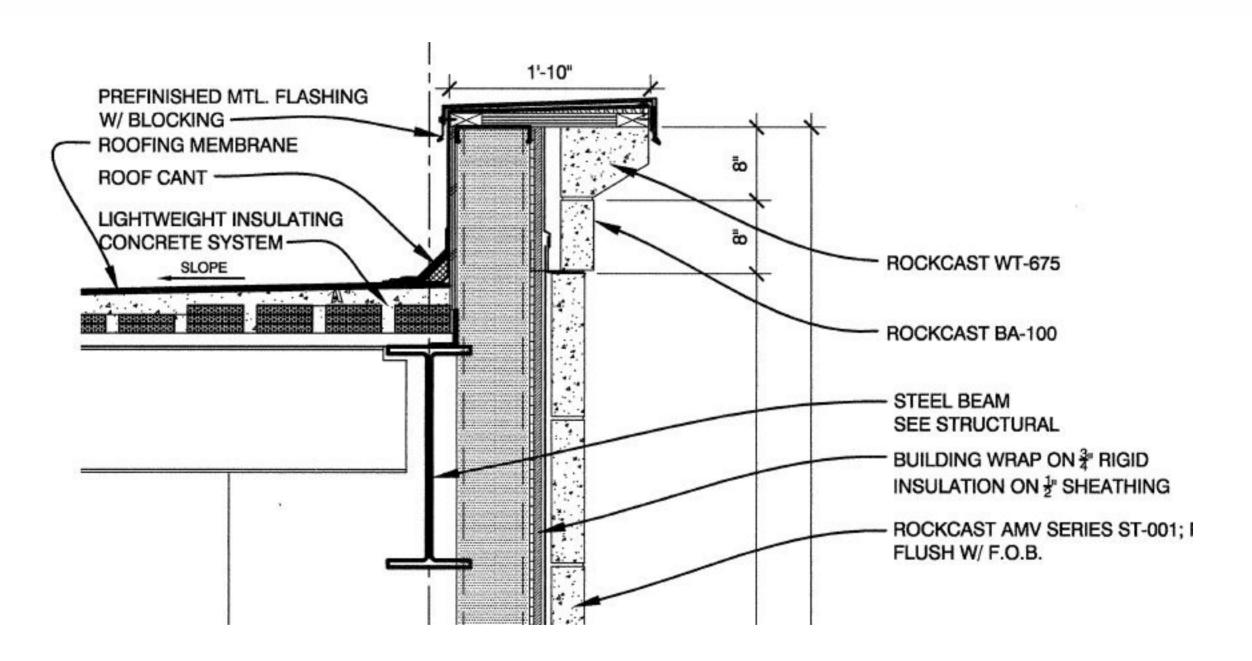




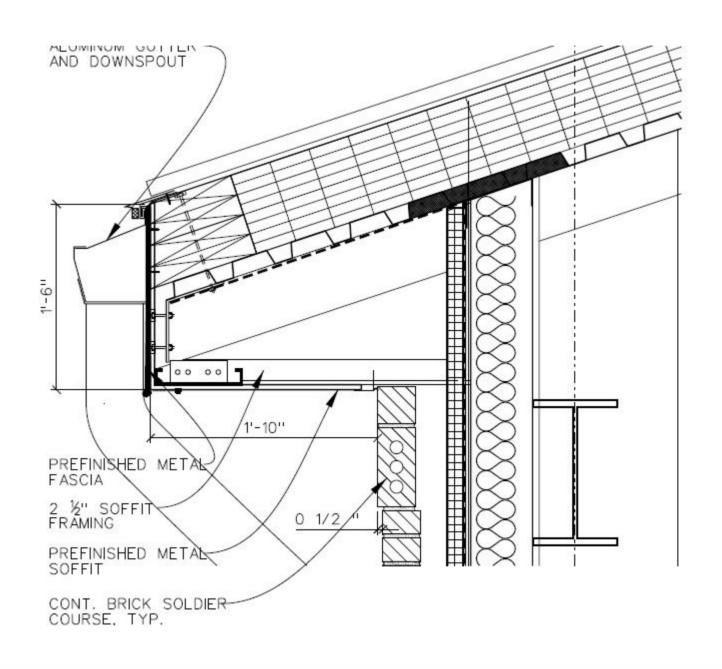




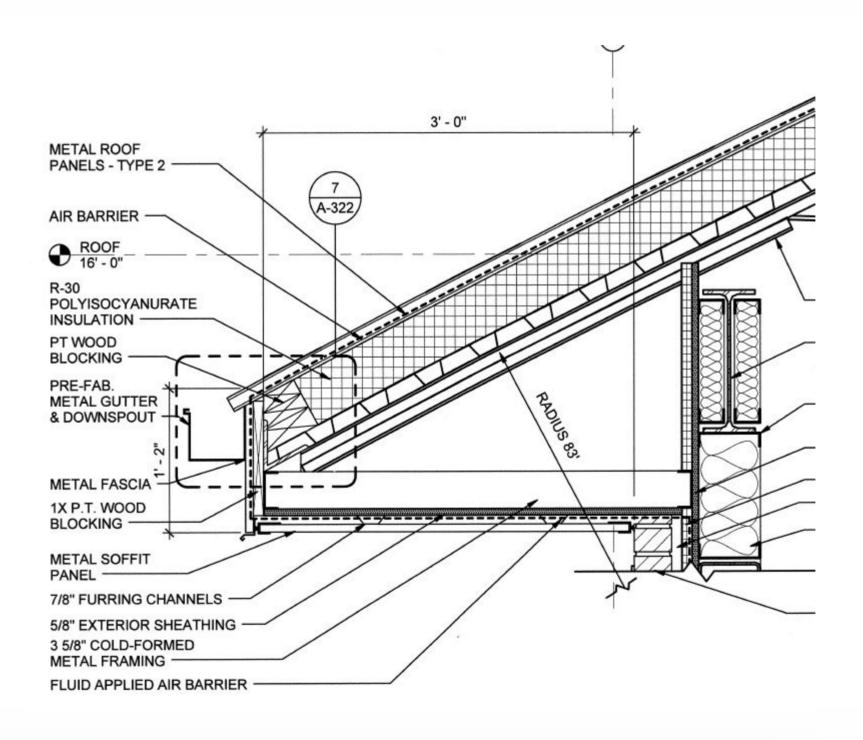




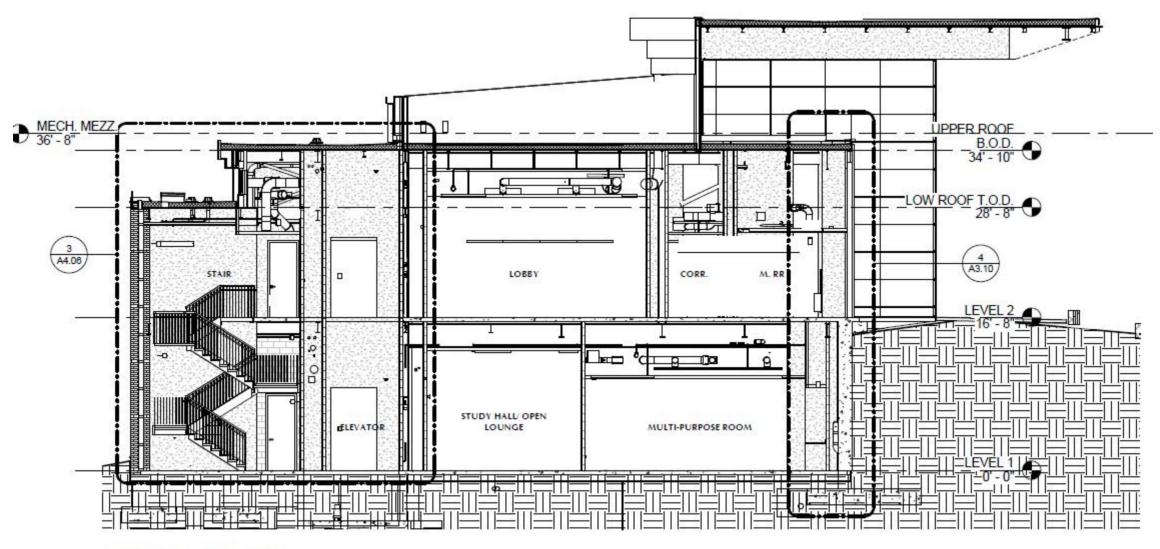






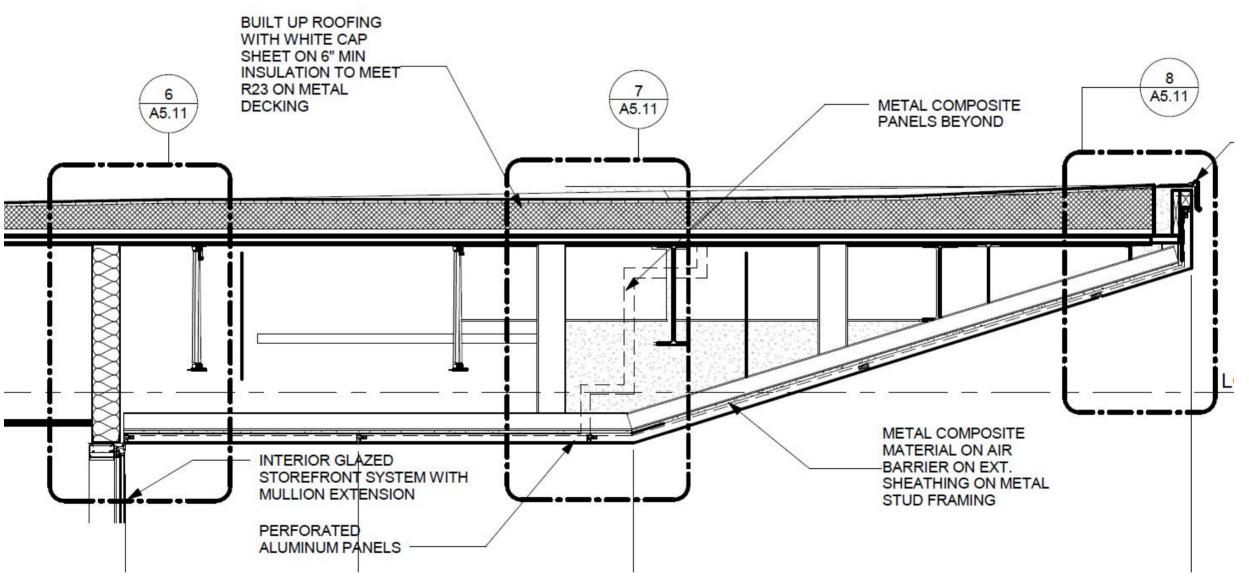




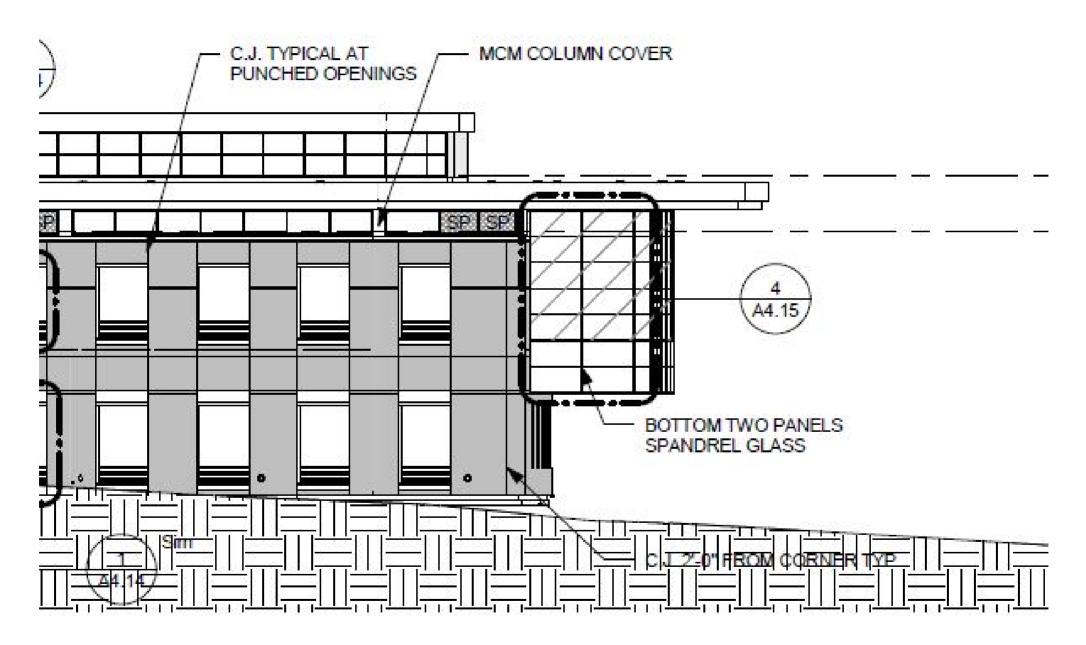




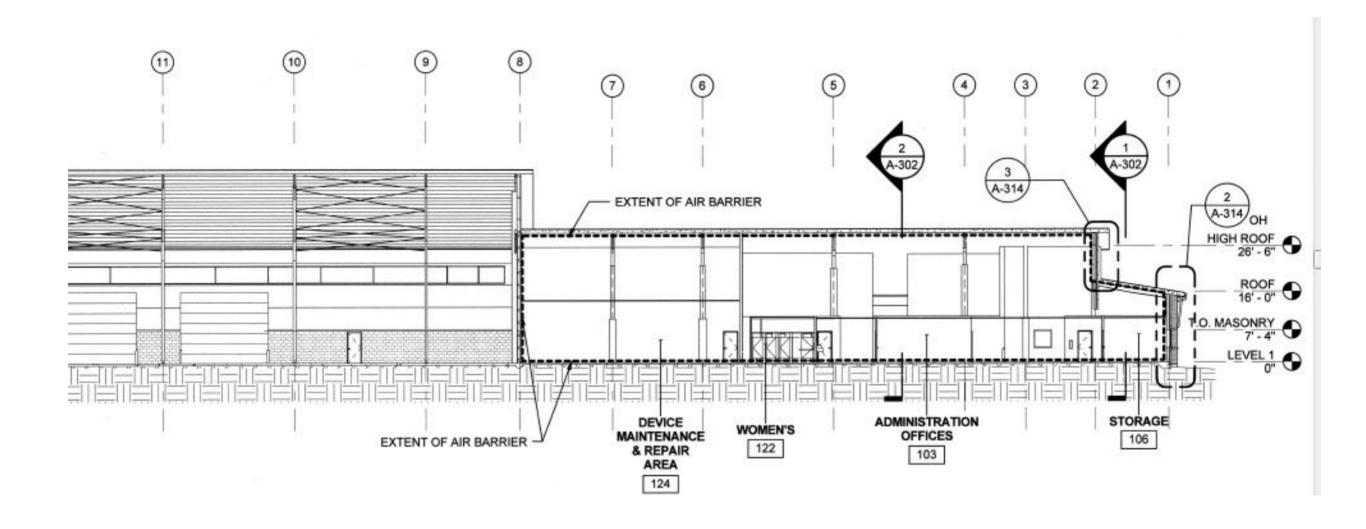






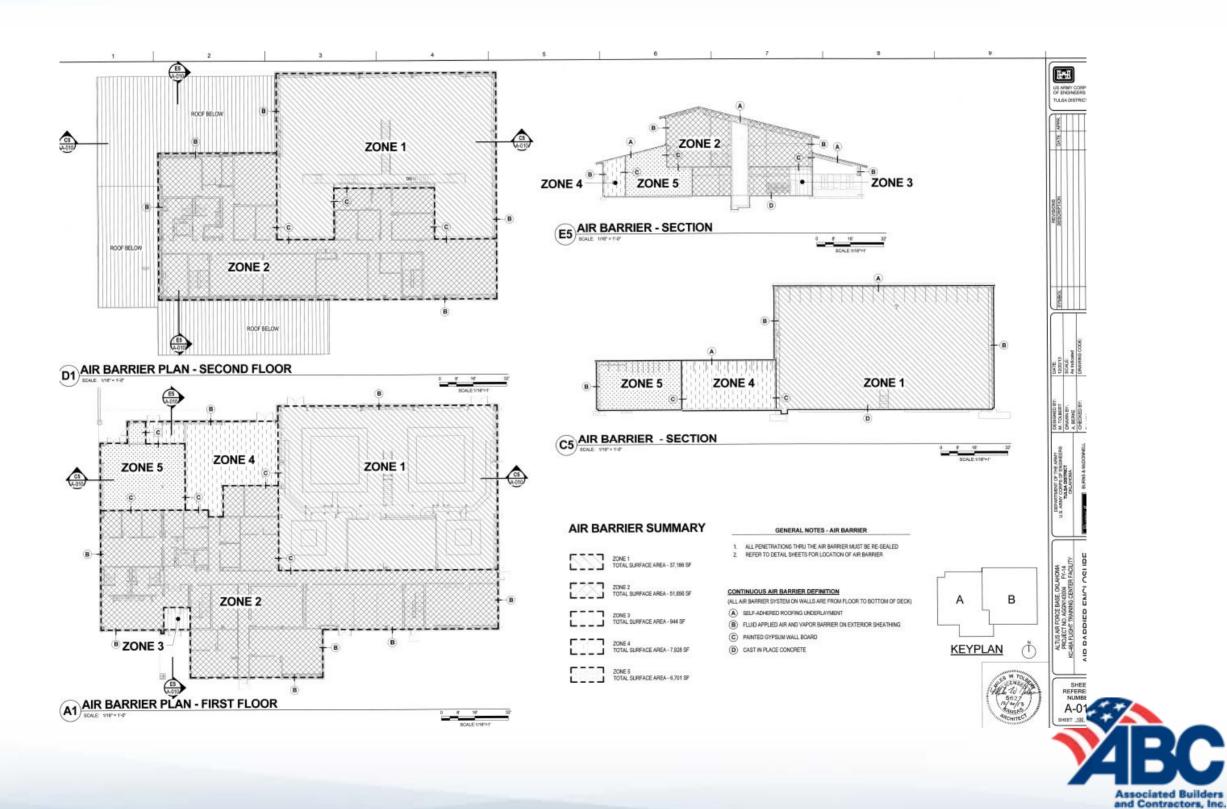


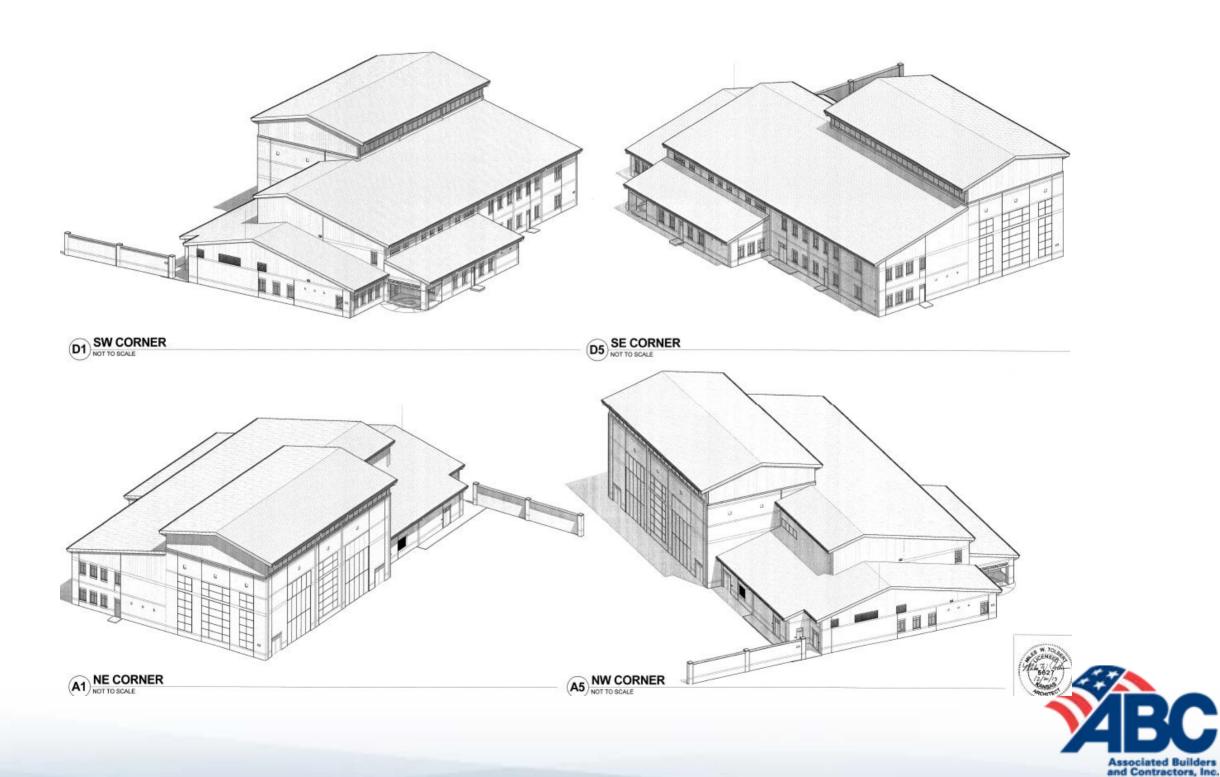




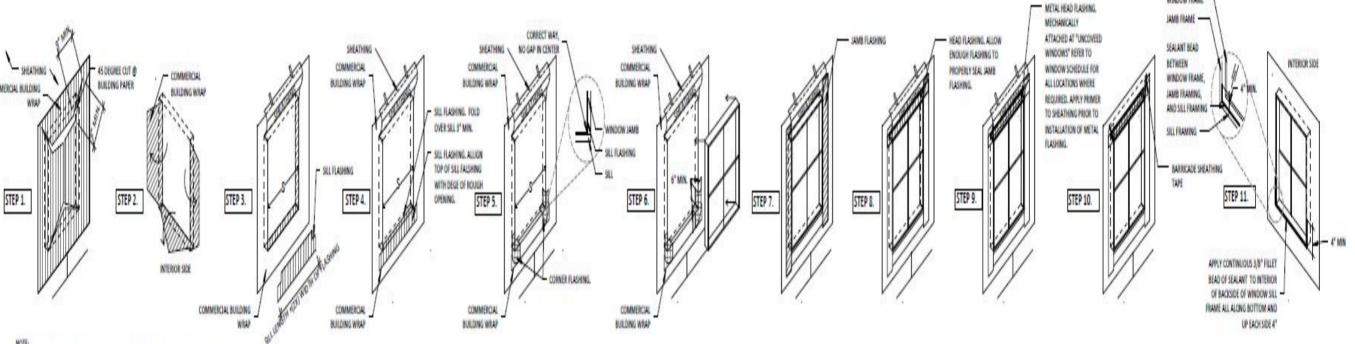












- APPLY PRIMER TO SHEATHING ANYTIME PEEL AND STICK MEMBRANE IS APPLIED DIRECTLY TO SHEATHING.
- WATERPROOFING FLASHING TO BE A MINIMUM OF 9" WIDE.
- WHEN TEMPERATURES ARE BELOW 40 DEGREES F, USE APPROPRIATE FLASHING SEE SPEC.

SCALE: N.T.S.



Contractor Training

Envelope Commissioning

Test plan



• What to look for?

How to address issues?

Follow-up







































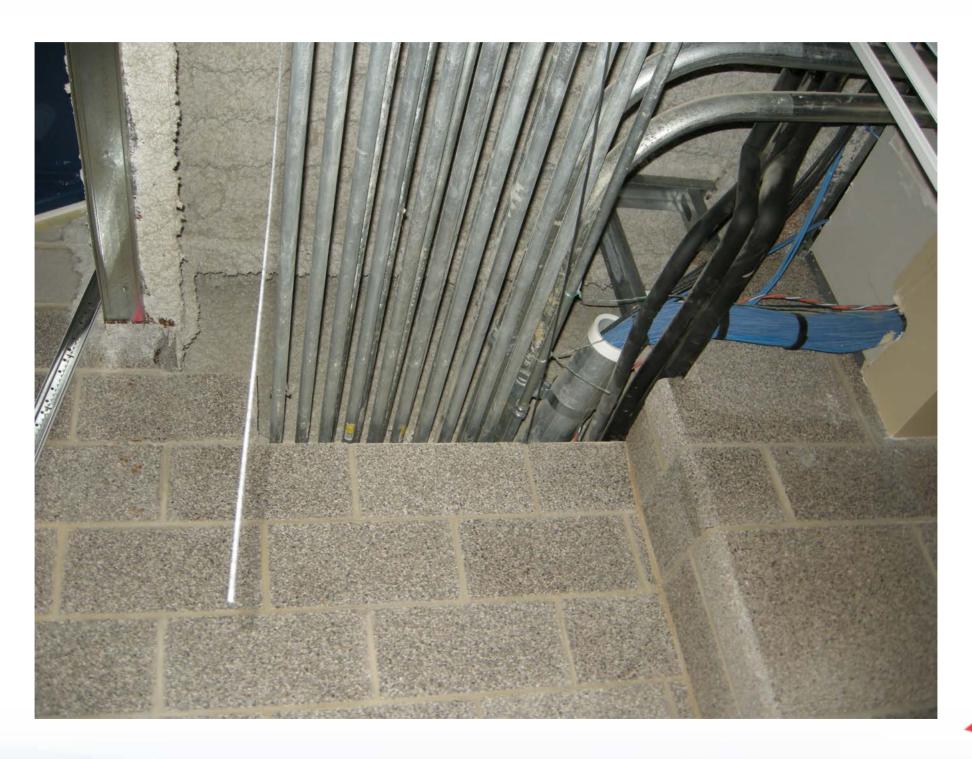




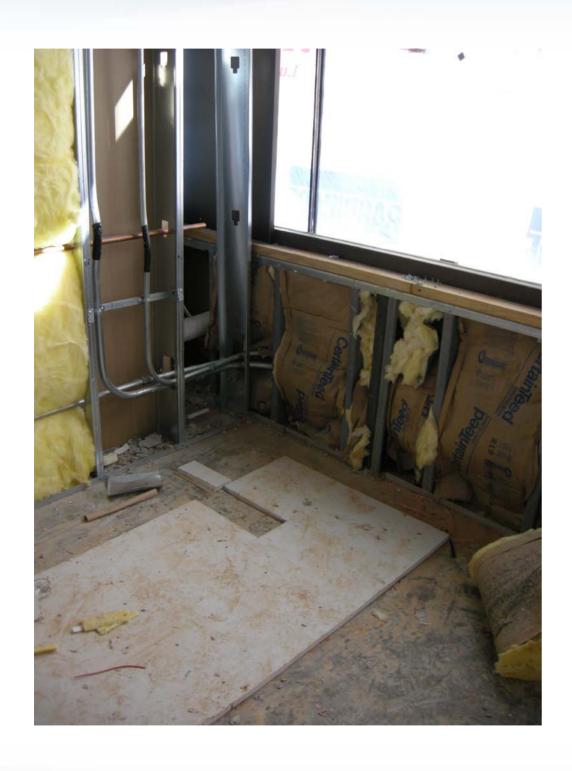


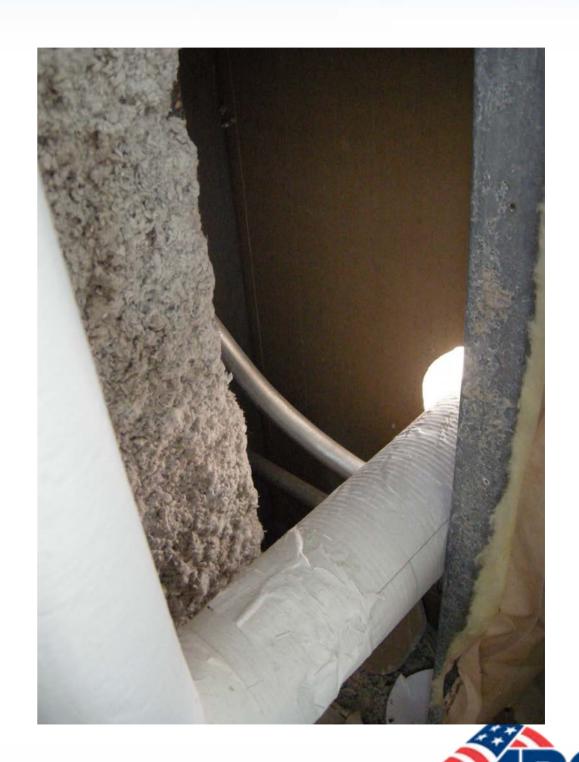












- Building prep
 - Seal all "intentional" openings
 - Plumbing traps filled
 - HVAC shutdown
 - Combustion equipment turned off or pilot
 - Interior doors open, exterior doors closed
 - If ceiling tiles have been dropped, some will need to be removed
 - Weather conditions
 - Power requirements
 - Door Closer



Building Prep





Building Prep



- Blower door
- Communication cables
- Pressure tubes
- Power
- Weather





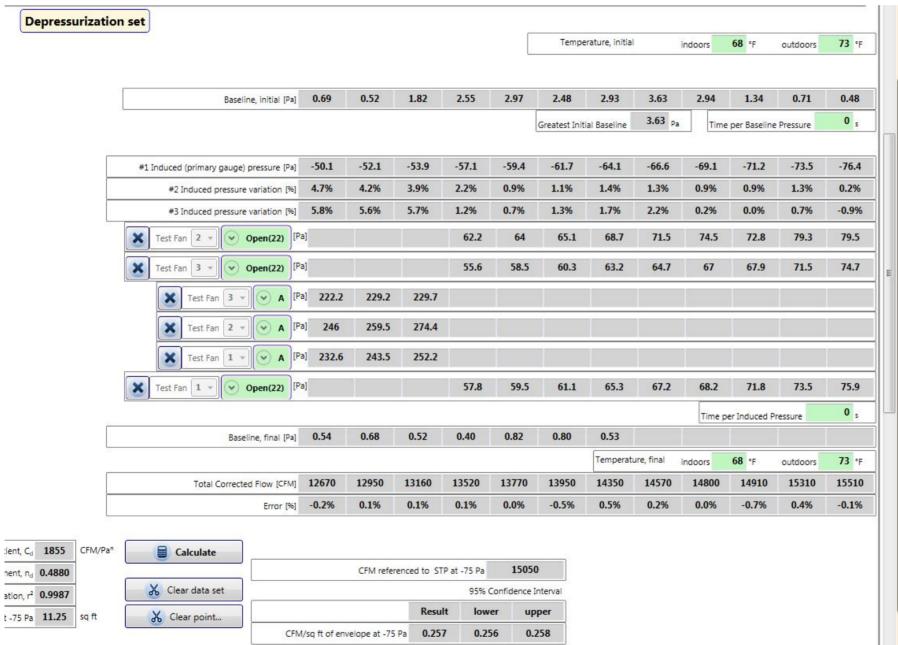


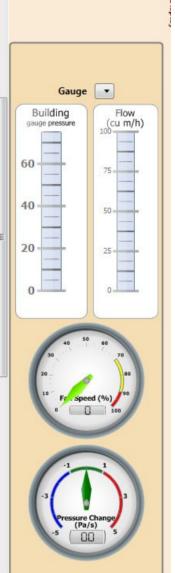
- Pressurize
- Depressurization





Software









Thermal Images



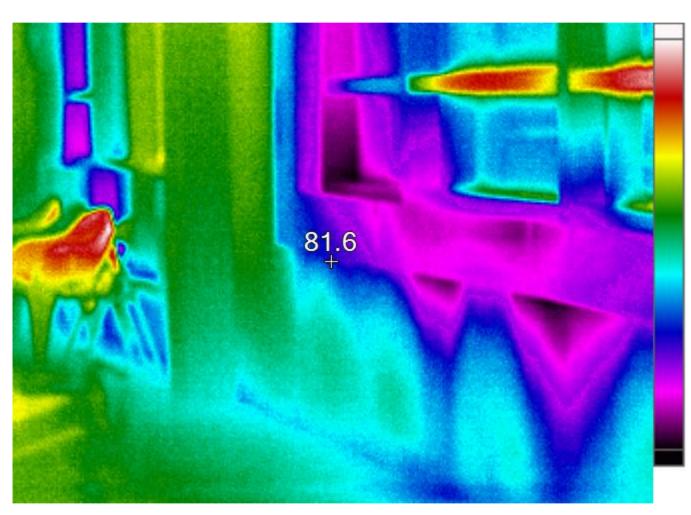
Tracer Smoke





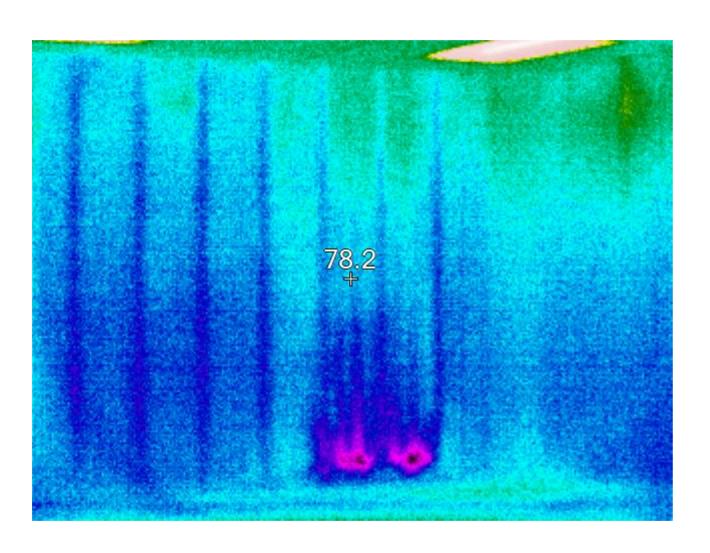
Smoke Testing





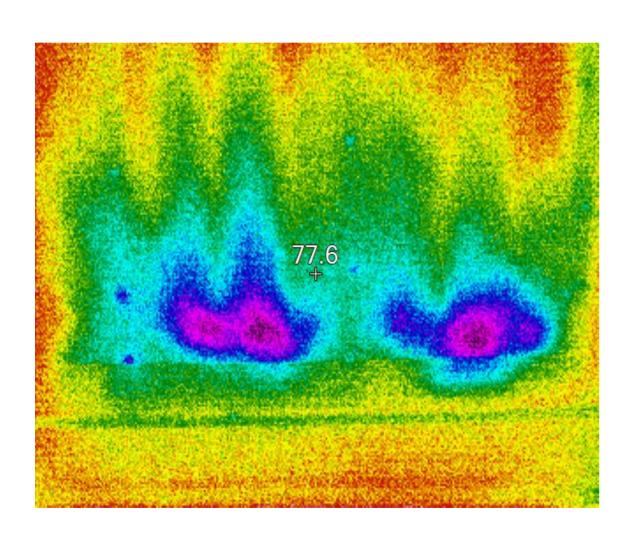






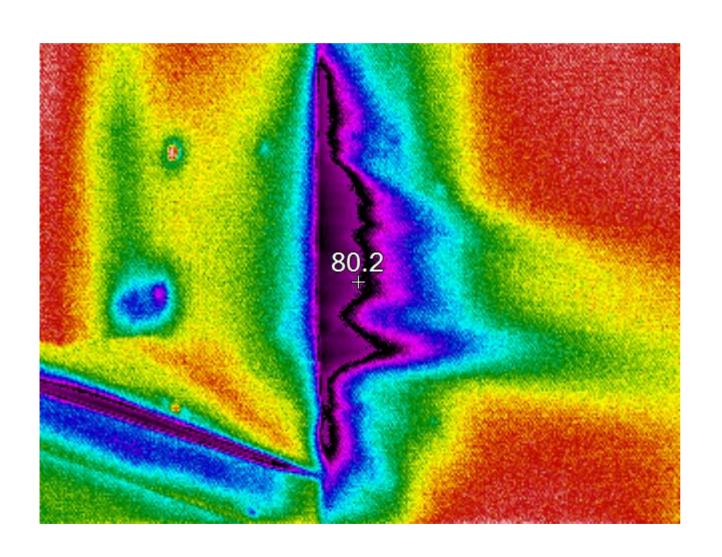


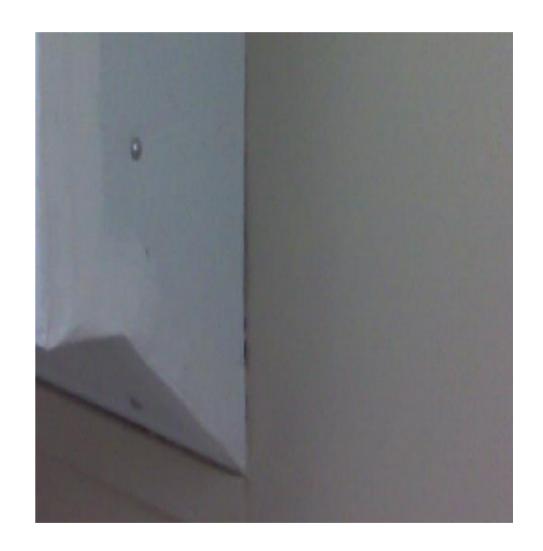




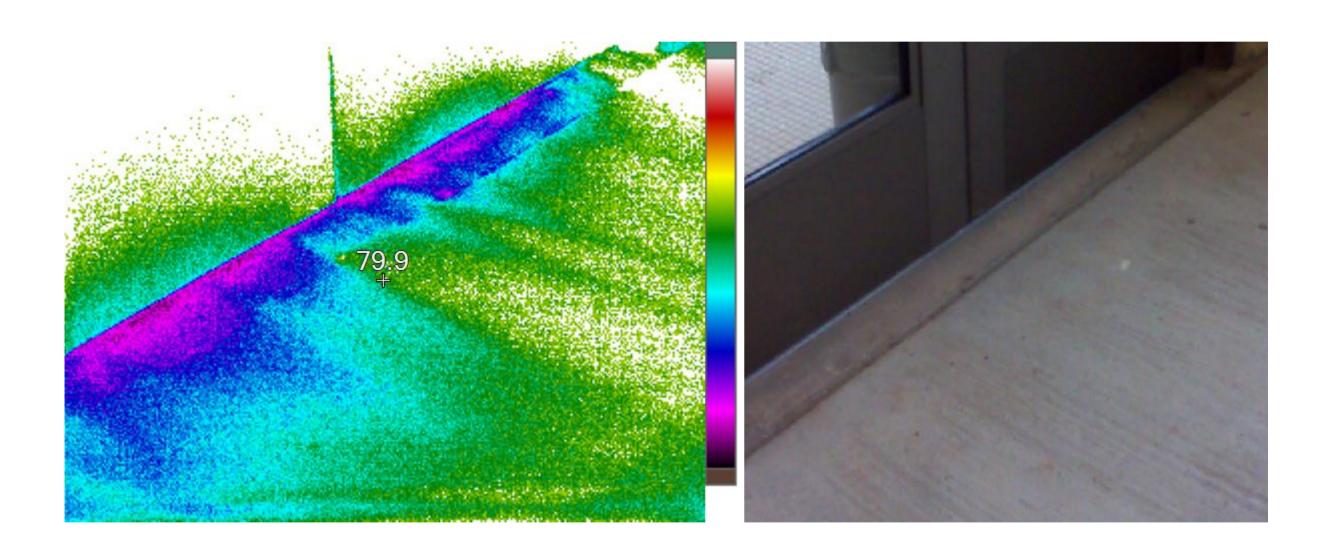




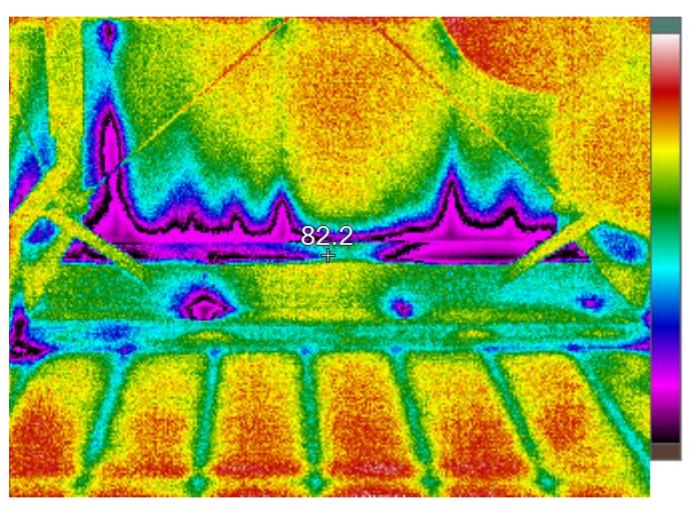






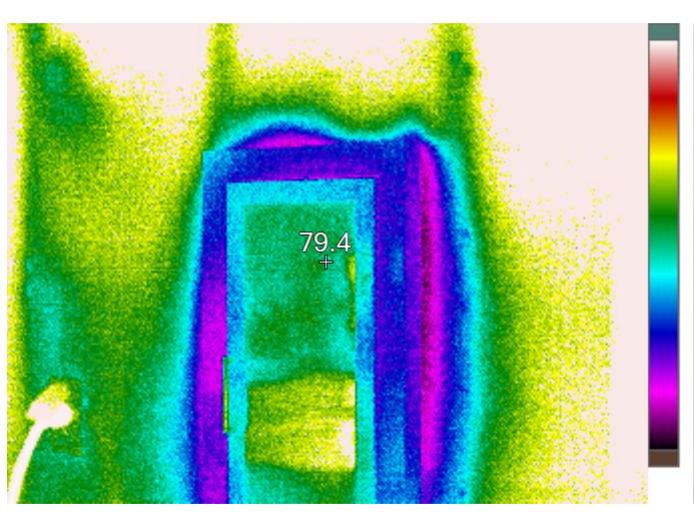


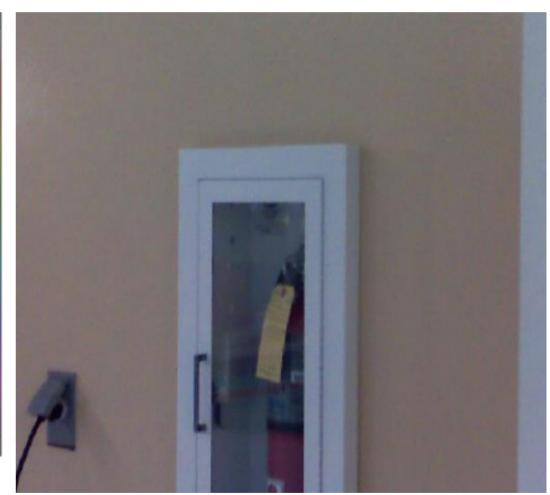














Questions?



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