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Cold Weather Construction & Considerations

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MN

There is no such thing as bad weather, only inappropriate clothing.



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INAPPROPRIATE MATERIALS

UNFORTUNATE TIMING

INAPPROPRIATE DETAILING





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Cast stone, concrete block, and limestone veneer are consumables for deicing salts and constant wetting







INAPPROPRIATE MATERIALS

UNFORTUNATE TIMING

INAPPROPRIATE DETAILING





INAPPROPRIATE MATERIALS UNFORTUNATE TIMING

INAPPROPRIATE DETAILING



CURTAINWALL



- Can span multiple floors
- Water is managed at glazing pocket
- Hollow vertical frames extends from bottom of rough opening to top

STOREFRONT



- Can only span one floor
- Water is managed at frame







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Kawneer

SHADOW BOX DETAIL

















Spandrel Condensation Monitoring























Data at Existing Condition











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OPE - FORGOT ABOUT WINTER!









Designing for Winter









Dial in the Specification

- Consider an enclosure system specification section
- Include low temp basis of design materials
- Avoid language prohibiting silicone sealant installation below 40 degrees
 - Consider additional destructive and non-destructive testing to validate installation.
- Ask for a cold weather enclosure plan.
- Require chain of custody in shipping and storage.
 - $\circ\;$ Tattle tails or monitoring.







Develop a Cold Weather Enclosure Plan - GC

Hint: Low temp requirements typically start at 40 degrees (Air and Surface) Schedule review

- What enclosure work is happening between October and May?
- What interior work is happening during temp protection

Detail review – Complete a pencil test and BIM overlays

 Look for gaps in any layer of the enclosure system: Air, Vapor, Water, and Thermal Material review

Material Storage Temporary Heat and Protection Enclosure consultant Review Chain of custody





Material Review – Low Temp Products Must Be Included

- Contractor should always submit the low temp version
 On't assume the plan and weather will go perfectly
- Review installation requirements
- Are there additional steps for the low temp materials?
 - Some low temp products require additional detailing and primers.
 - Does the install schedule account for the extra steps?
- Make sure products meet NFPA 285, when required.
- Low temp materials often won't meet low VOC requirements





Material Review – Understand the Different Systems

Product Examples

- GCP Perm-a-barrier VPL-40 degrees versus VPL LT-20 degrees (spray applied)
- Carlisle CCW 705-40 degrees versus CCW 705 XLT-15 degrees (peel and stick)
 CCW 705 HT-40 degrees (higher in-service temp)
- 3M 3015VP good down to 0 degrees (peel and stick)







Temporary Heat and Protection

- Understand the duration.
- Avoid adding moisture into the temp enclosures, ie gas heaters.
 O Use electric or exchangers
- Evaluate the planned construction activities during temp heat. Drywall, concrete.
- Do you need to tent the entire building.
- Evaluate the process to terminate temp heating.



Typical Temp Enclosure



Insulated Temp Enclosure



Risks of Temporary Heat

Move of Temporary Hear



Vapor drive through uninsulated walls and building components



Moisture Drive through CMU

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Moisture Drive through Sheathing

INFORME DUAC MUCH





Get help from an Enclosure Consultant

- Use WUFI model to evaluate the vapor pressure during construction.
- Find max allowable humidity to avoid damaging vapor drive.
- Monitor the temp and humidity in the temporary enclosure. Dehumidify as required.



Relative Humidity at Sheathing (Time-Average)



Consider Prefabricated Exterior Wall Panels

• Use to solve for vapor drive during winter construction.

- Significant schedule savings.
- Must be baked into the design. Schematic Design decision.







Winter Protection



Waterproofing Damage



Waterproofing Damage



Roofing Night Seals



Testing Requirements

What water-based testing is required in the specification?

- Flood and/or spray testing
- Must be administered above freezing





AAMA 501.2 Hose Test

Low Temp Install Problems



Low Adhesion – Asphaltic Products



Condensation



Thermal Bridging

Protection of building components that bridge the transition between the winter cold and the occupied spaces within

General Contractor VDC Trick

- Turn off everything except structure and enclosure models.
- Highlight all the parts that penetrate the enclosure.



Construction Administration – Trust but Verify

- Know the storage requirements.
- Know the installation requirements.
- Note the temp, humidity, dew point and weather conditions.
- Get surface temp readings on walls where products are being installed.
- Indicate temp and humidity levels in the temp heated spaces.
- Ask about material cure times
- Look for areas of potential thermal transfer.
 - $\circ~$ Start at the end of summer







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To increase awareness of building enclosure design as a critical aspect of the successful construction of buildings and to foster the education of building industry professionals regarding proper design, construction, and maintenance of building enclosures.

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