

EIFS BRIEFS

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Calendar

- ASTM E 06.58, EIFS & Related Products Cmte. November 1, 2011 Tampa, FL
- EIFS-Doing it Right November 7-8, 2011 Las Vegas, NV
- 31st IRMI Construction Risk Conference November 13-17, 2011 San Diego, CA
- EcoBuild December 5-9, 2011 Washington, DC

INSURANCE ISSUES CONTINUE TO BE FOCUS OF EIMA INITIATIVES

Obtaining insurance coverage for many in the design and construction industry is a challenge from time to time. Despite improved performance and increasingly lower losses, this situation is true for many in the EIFS industry. The lack of widely available insurance coverage for EIFS including that for EIFS contractors, applicators, project owners and home owners and buyers is a huge challenge, impeding advancement of markets. That is why EIMA representatives will attend the 31st IRMI Construction Risk Conference which will be held on November 13-17. As part of its mission, EIMA will encourage insurance interests to review their underwriting procedures for EIFS to facilitate more coverage at reasonable prices.

The IRMI Construction Risk Conference is attended by over 400 representatives from the insurance industry along with over 500 general contractors and project owners and is an excellent venue

for making this appeal. Also, EIMA will point out that EIFS, the 'original' continuous insulation, promises to make a very large contribution toward the U.S. achieving its energy conservation goals. EIMA will note that with building codes and energy efficiency standards requiring increased thermal performance in the building envelope, the new EIFS is one of the few systems that will be able to achieve these ever-increasing requirements.

Since many general contractors will be in attendance, EIMA will signal that EIMA members are strong partners within the construction industry for the advancement of technology and quality construction.

Attending this event will be only a part of EIMA's overall initiative to improve the availability of insurance for EIFS. EIMA has already developed a list of insurance brokers and agents that have access to insurance markets for EIFS

(see EIMA website). EIMA will continue to seek meetings with influential insurance companies to inform them of advances that have been made in EIFS over the past decade (the wide use of EIFS with Drainage) and the improved performance of EIFS resulting with few claims and losses.

DOE ASSESSES ENVELOPE PRIORITIES

The Department of Energy is assessing steps that will better enable owners of light commercial buildings to overcome the challenges of retrofitting their buildings to achieve the goal of increased energy efficiency, particularly for the building envelope.

This move follows a meeting that DOE conducted last summer to obtain the views building owners and building product and systems suppliers to advance this goal. EIMA was represented at this meeting and encouraged development of retrofit case studies to

provide practical examples to owners of how to use existing technology, such as EIFS. DOE is currently soliciting additional views on this and other comments that were made at the meeting. For more information, check this website: www.ornl.gov/btrc

EIMA

 EIFS INDUSTRY
MEMBERS
ASSOCIATION

EIMA PRESIDENT SPEAKS AT THE GLOBAL FORUM OF ICC

EIMA President Buck Buchanan addressed the International Code Council's Global Forum on October 31st in Phoenix, telling the audience of several hundred that EIFS benefitted greatly by the existence of the ICC code process. President Buchanan informed the center-piece gathering of ICC's Annual Meeting, that EIFS is the most energy efficient exterior wall cladding as proven by U.S. government testing.

The purpose of the ICC Global Forum was to illustrate to the multi-national audience about the benefits of having strong building codes that are widely adopted by localities as

well as having a strong, credible process that develops these codes. The ICC extended the invitation to EIMA to speak to provide an example of how an innovative building system can proceed through the ICC approval process, first starting with the ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) and the filing with ICC-ES of evaluation reports for the system or product. ICC regards EIFS as one of its best examples of how this is done.

In addition to the energy-savings attributes of EIFS, President Buchanan also pointed to the durability of EIFS and how 'green' a construction system it is. He en-



couraged those in attendance to adopt the ICC codes and to embrace its process as EIMA members count on inclusion in the code to ensure proper installation of EIFS. Mr. Buchanan was joined on the panel by representatives of several other nations.

SAVE THE DATE!

*EIMA's 2012
Annual Meeting*

*April 15-18, 2012
Charlotte, NC*

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ISSUES

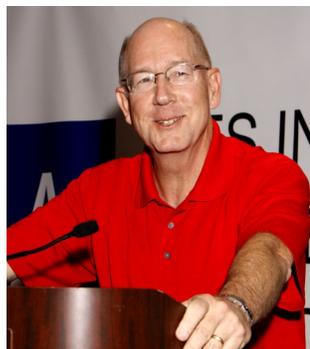
The EIMA Technical and Research Committee is continuing to make progress on a number of issues, including the development of new and revised standards for EIFS, review of fire test procedures for EIFS, development of policy statements directed at the integrity of the EIFS system, and monitor the development

of codes in the International Code Council (ICC) arena.

The committee is reviewing and commenting on an inspection standard that has been long pending within the ASTM Subcommittee on EIFS and related products. Also, the committee is in the final stages of revising ANSI/EIMA 99 A-2001.

The committee has spent considerable time reviewing fire test procedures for EIFS that have been developed by the Tianjin Fire Research Institute. This review is being accomplished at the request of ICC, and EIMA is assisting ICC to illustrate to the TFRI the benefits of the adoption of ICC codes and standards.

BUCHANAN SPEAKS AT THE DOE NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION



Representing EIMA, EIMA President Buck Buchanan spoke to the National Nuclear Security Administration about EIFS and how buildings can be repaired and retrofitted with this system. The NNSA has 9 locations in the U.S. with a number of buildings at each research location. The audience included dozens of facility managers responsible for

the care of buildings at each of the NNSA locations. Given the age of the NNSA building stock, the facility managers are concerned about the energy performance of the buildings which is why NNSA extended the invitation to EIMA. NNSA is also considering how it can develop a program to arrange for model EIFS specs, negotiation of EIFS contracts, etc.

EIFS DOING IT RIGHT CURRICULUM COMMITTEE TO UPDATE COURSE

The AWCI EIFS Curriculum and Examination Committee met on September 14th during the AWCI Industry Executives Conference. The committee discussed at length the benefits of updating the cur-

riculum and the advantages that it would bring to all parties related to the curriculum and involved in the EIFS industry. The update would not be a full revision of the curriculum, but it would change

those sections of the course that are obviously out of date with current practice.

The updating process will begin at the end of November.

Almost 7 thousand individuals have taken the 'EIFS-Doing it Right' course

since it was first introduced. Another one thousand have taken the self-study course to gain the valuable education contained in it.

The committee also discussed the development of a one day EIFS course that was intended for architects, general contractors, and project owners. Details for this course are not final, but the participation of EIMA is strongly being considered.

Pictured at left are Committee Chair Mark Nabity, center, and Annemarie Selvitelli (on Mark's right), recording committee secretary and AWCI Director of Education.



EIMA PREPARES FOR ICC IGCC

EIMA is preparing for the code hearings of the ICC International Green Construction Code (IgCC) which will be held on November 2-6 during the ICC Annual Meeting in Phoenix. It is ICC's intent that the IgCC will be an 'overlay' code, one that will enhance the existing codes to make them 'greener' and to establish a

'reach' green code.

Of major concern are code proposals that would alter how life-cycle cost analyses, now required in the draft code, would be handled for construction products and systems. Some advocates are proposing code language that will, if adopted, greatly restrict the contents of exist-

ing construction products and systems when these systems are specified, thus banning them because they could be viewed as hazardous.

Construction product manufacturers, including EIMA, are closely monitoring the code change proposals and will testify against them at the hearings.

*Go to www.EIMA.com
for a comprehensive
nationwide list of EIFS
Insurance Providers.*

AWCI INDUSTRY EXECUTIVES CONFERENCE-EIFS AND RELATED PRODUCTS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETS

The AWCI EIFS and Related Products Subcommittee of the Technical Committee met on September 16th. The subcommittee received updates on the 'EIFS-Doing it Right' course, an update on the activities of EIMA provided by EIMA's executive director, Dave Johnston (pictured at right), an update on the activities of the EIFS Council of Canada (ECCO given by the president of ECC, John

Garbin), and discussed briefly the depth of liquid-applied water-resistive barriers.

Both Dave Johnston and John Garbin reported on and explained the research that the respective organizations were sponsoring along with the expected results. They both briefly reported on market conditions and the energy code revision processes that both organizations are monitoring.



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**EIMA IS ON THE
WEB!
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Take a look at EIFS, now.



About EIMA

The EIFS Industry Members Association (EIMA) is a national non-profit technical trade association comprised of leading manufacturers, suppliers, distributors and applicators involved in the exterior insulation and finish systems (EIFS) industry. EIMA is the recognized authoritative source for information about exterior insulation and finish systems (EIFS) and provides industry representation for its members.

For information on joining EIMA, please contact Dave Johnston at (703) 538-1616,

EIFS DOING IT RIGHT—NOV. 7-8—LAS VEGAS

AWCI has announced its EIFS—Doing It Right® course schedule for 2011-2012. The first course in the series will take place in Las Vegas on Nov. 7-8. Designed to “raise the bar” in the EIFS industry, the EIFS—Doing It Right® education and certificate program has been educating individuals for 13 years about industry-accepted standards and best practices for EIFS installations. Currently, over 3,000 individuals are certified through the program as EIFS Mechanics, EIFS Industry Professionals or EIFS Inspectors.

Topics covered during the two-day course include material storage and temporary protection; substrates and efflorescence; EPS board,

mesh, basecoat and finish coat; joints, sealants and repairs; EIFS with drainage and flashing; and inspection and design considerations. Those who meet the pre-qualifications, attend the class sessions and pass the national exam are awarded certification for either a five-year (Industry Professional and Mechanic) or three-year (Inspector) period. For additional information and to register, go to www.awci.org/eifs or contact Sue Dolan at 703-538-1612 or eifs@awci.org.

If you can't make the November class, additional courses will be offered in San Diego on Feb. 13-14 and Orlando on Mar. 19-20.

EIMA HELPS ICC TO ADVANCE BUILDING CODES IN CHINA

Last spring, EIMA was invited by the International Code Council (ICC) to join it in explaining how building codes were used in the U.S. The presentation was to be to the Tianjin Fire Research Institute (TFRI) in the People's Republic of China. The purpose of the meeting was to assist the ICC in its efforts to have its building codes adopted in China. EIMA was invited to accompany this delegation to explain how an innovative construction system was adopted into the building code by going through the entire ICC approval process.

The meeting was part of a larger meeting, the purpose of which was to expose senior TFRI staff to U.S. building codes and was titled Sino-U.S. Building Fire Code Development & Management Technical Exchange. On the first day of the exchange, ICC explained what it was and how



the approval processes at the various entities of ICC operated. ICC also explained the content of the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Fire Code (IFC), noting in detail several of the provisions of most interest to TFRI. Following the ICC presentations, TFRI reported on its codes and standards approval process. TFRI noted the history of developing these codes, noting that its first

formal iteration mostly originated in the U.S.S.R.

On the following day, EIMA reported briefly on a few aspects of its organization, provided an overview of how EIFS were contained in the ICC codes and how they attained that status, and reported on the fire tests that are required for EIFS. EIMA is now in process of commenting on the TFRI fire test procedures for EIFS.