

# EIFS BRIEFS



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**Calendar**

*2012 Design-Build Conference & Expo*  
November 7-9  
New Orleans, LA

*NIBS Conference & Expo*  
January 7-11, 2013  
Washington, DC

*International Builders' Show*  
January 22-24, 2013  
Las Vegas, NV

*ASHRAE Winter Conference*  
January 25-30, 2013  
Dallas, TX

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## ADVOCACY UPDATE: CHICAGO

Through research that EIMA accomplished this summer and working with Sto Corp representatives in the Chicago area, restrictions were identified that limit the use of EIFS in the planning and zoning processes of several jurisdictions. As a result EIMA has been continuing to pull data on these jurisdictions, in addition trying to understand what the concerns are that have led to the creations of restrictions, or whether it is simply having to update building codes to include EIFS.

On October 2, EIMA met with representatives from the Chicago City Government departments to discuss the advancements of EIFS over the last decade, agreeing in advance that this would be the first of multiple discussions to come. The meeting focused on a variety of issues from updating codes going into effect nationwide in October 2013 to the durability advancements and testing that the industry has gone through over the last decade.

As a demonstration, Dryvit Systems Inc. provided a sample of EIFS along with a mallet to show the fallacy behind the myth that EIFS can be easily cracked or broken. Each attendee attempted to crack the sample, but it stayed intact after the several hits. In addition, representatives from

BASF Wall Systems and Dryvit Systems Inc. supplied durability videos for the meeting. The videos show more aggressive tests and how EIFS stands up against a sledgehammer, screwdriver and piece of wood being launched at the system. The representatives from the different departments were also im-

pressed with the variety of finishes along with the advancements in moisture and thermal control. Though questions did remain about the system as a whole, and other cities comparable to Chicago where EIFS buildings currently exist, the final comment given by the city was that their previous opinions on EIFS were "evolving".

those in the industry to consultants who had successfully gotten EIFS projects through the city review process. The meetings resulted in a mutual learning experience between all parties about the hurdles that exist, and a pathway for which they can be addressed. Future follow ups will continue to come as these cases continue to progress.



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In addition to the meeting with EIMA, the same city offi-

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the city review process. The meetings resulted in a mutual learning experience between all parties about the hurdles that exist, and a pathway for which they can be addressed. Future follow ups will continue to come as these cases continue to progress.

## TECHNICAL AND RESEARCH STEERING COMMITTEE TACKLES LONG LIST OF TO-DO'S

EIMA's Technical and Research Steering Committee continues addressing a large and diverse list of important issues that will advance the EIFS industry. On October 22nd, the steering committee came together in Atlanta, Georgia to discuss building codes, standards, publications, pending research, and new policy development. The meeting was held on conjunction with the ASTM E 06 Committee on Building Performance.

Following a report by EIMA staff about a very recent visit to the Office of Chief of Engineers of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the committee reviewed the model EIFS specifications that the Department of Defense was using. The committee found them outdated and in need of revision. The committee agreed



that it would defer development of comments on these specifications until a later day but agreed that EIMA should present the National Institute of Building Sciences with a revised introduction to EIFS that is found in the Whole Building Design Guide, which is the preamble to the DoD specs.

The committee also took steps to plan and organize its meeting that will be held on March 19, 2013 during the EIMA Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. The commit-

tee has invited Mr. Steve Beaton, vice president of the International Code Council's Evaluation Service, to speak on a number of topics relevant to EIMA that ICC-ES is working on, including approval of small scale testing for previously accepted assemblies where one component of that assembly has been replaced with one of a similar characteristic. Mr. Beaton has accepted the committee's invitation.

With so many high priority issues pending at one time, the committee agreed that it should prioritize its agenda in order to complete work on some critical matters rather than working on many which slows progress on others. One item that the committee will raise to the forefront is its review of the executive summary of Phase III Oak Ridge National Laboratory research.

## EIMA ATTENDS EVENT ON DEFENSE ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICY

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, EIMA staff attended a Capitol Hill reception that provided a bridge between Pentagon energy efficiency and sustainability policymakers and special interest groups that are focused on green issues. The purpose of the reception, that had the name CleanDef7, was to give Defense Department officials an opportunity to briefly update potential vendors on current initiatives within the military departments to save energy in its operations and

to improve energy efficiency performance at DoD installations. Currently, DoD has a mandate to achieve 25% renewable energy and energy efficiency by 2020. Another purpose of the reception was to preview the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clean Defense Summit on February 12, 2013 at which DoD energy efficiency and sustainability issues will be addressed in depth. The organizer for both the reception and the upcoming summit is the United States Leadership Forum.



## BALINT TAPS COMMITTEE CHAIRS

EIMA's President for 2012-2014, Peter Balint of Dryvit Systems, has announced the appointment of chairs of EIMA committees during his term in office. Taking the chair of EIMA's Advocacy Committee, which is charged to handle government and industry relations as well as insurance issues, is Buck Buchanan of ParexUSA. Mr. Buchanan succeeds Tony Stall of Dryvit Systems who is assuming the chair of the Communications and Education Committee. The Communications Committee is charged with advancing the image of EIFS

in the media as well as with users of EIFS. He succeeds Jamie Makuuchi of ParexUSA who will now become chair of EIMA's Membership Committee which has responsibility for the recruitment of new members, retention of current members, increasing the involvement of current members, and for maintaining the membership roles. Mr. Makuuchi succeeds Bill Egan of BASF Wall Systems, who is currently on the EIMA Board of Directors. Remaining as chair of EIMA's Technical and Research Committee is Bill Preston of Dryvit Systems.



## ASHRAE CONTINUES WORK ON UPDATED ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARD

ASHRAE Standard 90.1, Energy Standards for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings provides the minimum requirements for the energy-efficient design of most buildings and offers, in detail, the minimum energy-efficient requirements for the design and construction of new buildings and their systems, new portions of buildings and their systems, and new systems and equipment in existing buildings as well as the criteria for determining compliance with these requirements. Due to the reliance that the Department of Energy places on the 90.1 standard to supply the re-

quirements for energy-efficiency in buildings, the committee meets four times a year to expedite its work. Developing the revisions and acting on comments to the proposed revisions is ASHRAE's 90.1 Special Standing Project Committee. The committee's fall meeting was held on October 4-6 in Chicago.

Addressing the exterior of a building is the 90.1's Envelope Subcommittee which meets in conjunction with the full 90.1 committee. This subcommittee had a very lengthy agenda of very complicated topics including thermal bridging, storm windows, new climate data, high speed commercial garage doors, and commissioning to mention just a few.

One of the more important actions was consideration of

the public comments on providing an R Value for air cavities. Currently, ASHRAE 90.1 requires that this air space be at least one half inch and must be enclosed. At an earlier meeting, EIMA questioned whether this space had to be over 1/2 inch and sealed. Rushing in an attempt to finish its long agenda, the subcommittee agreed that air spaces just need to be enclosed on all sides and **not sealed**. This brings back the possibility that EIFS could claim its drainage plane as an enclosed space, particularly since, Dr. Dave Yarborough, formerly of Oak Ridge National Laboratory again cited a study that he did that shows that an enclosed space, no matter how small it is, can contribute to a wall's R value. EIMA will continue to pursue this issue.



## EIMA GAINS SUCCESSES AT ICC FINAL ACTION HEARINGS

The final step in building code development of the International Code Council is the Final Action Hearing. These hearings were held in Portland, Oregon on October 24-28. Of interest to EIMA at these hearings were several proposed code changes that would, in essence, circumvent the requirement for fire resistance testing pursuant to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 285. NFPA 285 provides fire test methods for evaluation of fire propagation characteristics of exterior non-load-bearing wall assemblies containing combustible components.

The proposed code changes would enable building designers to specify non-compliance, untested water resistive barriers (WRBs) in the building envelope. EIMA opposed these proposed code changes and contributed to



their defeat during the initial Code Development Hearings last May. The reasons why EIMA opposed these changes were because the WRBs that the designers want to use are non-compliant and, in some cases, not intended for use in vertical assemblies and because exterior wall assemblies with combustible components need to be tested.

Supporting these code changes were the American Institute of Architects and the National Institute of Building Sciences' Building Envelope Technology and Environment

Council (BETEC). AIA and BETEC offered the code change since designers wanted to provide innovative, untested designs while relying on a revised code with a less than reliable fire safety requirement while accommodating these designs. Also, the proponents said that the requirements for fire testing were very confusing. Methods that the AIA/BETEC alliance advocated to achieve fire safety in lieu of testing were the use of fire blocking and use of sprinklers (During the hearings, it was cited.

Methods that the AIA/BETEC alliance advocated to achieve fire safety in lieu of testing were the use of fireblocking and use of sprinklers (During the hearings, there were varying degrees of reliability of sprinklers cited. Some witnesses said 85% and some said 98% with a few in between.)

## ANSI APPROVES EIMA'S STANDARDS PROCESS—PARTICIPATION SOLICITED

EIMA will be moving its standard on EIFS through the consensus approval process prescribed by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). This proposed standard is an update to the previous ANSI/EIMA American National Standard on Exterior

Insulation and Finish Systems, 99 A 2001 that expired in June 2011. The new, proposed standard will update the previous standard and will include provision for EIFS with Drainage. Already, EIMA has received ANSI approval on its updated standard develop-

ment procedures, and EIMA also has filed the required form with ANSI, which announces the initiation of this project. Anyone with an interest to serve on the task force balloting this proposed standard is invited to contact Dave Johnston at EIMA.

## EIMA PARTICIPATES AT ASTM MEETINGS

EIMA was in Atlanta on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> for both ASTM Committee meetings and also a meeting of the EIMA Technical Committee. Representatives and members of EIMA attended several of the meetings including E06.41 .05 on Air Barrier

Systems. The E06.58 Committee on Performance of Buildings met earlier in October via conference call; Bill Egan of BASF Wall Systems chairs the committee.

## VELA INSURANCE STEPPING UP FOR EIFS



EIMA continues to work with Vela Insurance Service, LLC, on providing affordable insurance for the EIFS industry. As you may recall Vela was the

2012 sponsor of the EIMA golf tournament and is the sponsor of both this *EIFS Briefs* and the EIMA Insurance webpage. Vela has been very

supportive of the future prospects of the EIFS industry, and EIMA continues to provide their representatives with updated information on both the industry and the advancements in the system as well. As part of a recent trip to Chicago, EIMA supplied Vela with information on different finishes and durability information, as part of the information sharing process.

For more information on Vela, please visit their website at [www.veila-ins.com](http://www.veila-ins.com).

## BUCHANAN MAKES PITCH TO ZURICH

Former EIMA President, Buck Buchanan, met with Zurich Insurance Company in early September to discuss the expansion of insurance coverage for EIFS projects. Zurich was very receptive to the presentation and recognized the value of EIFS from an energy point of view, as they continue to see that as a growing interest of their cus-

tomers. At the current time, Zurich likes to evaluate the projects on a case by case approach, and currently has a Risk Engineering Recommendation for EIFS in writing. More discussions will follow with Zurich, and other insurance companies as EIMA seeks the inclusion or expansion of EIFS into their coverage.



## ICC MEETS WITH EIMA AND INDUSTRY TRADE GROUPS

The purpose of the International Code Council's Industry Advisory Committee (IAC) is to provide a forum for design and construction industry trade group representatives to address procedural issues in the ICC code development process. At its meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup>, the most significant issue that the committee considered was a new

way ICC would develop its building codes. ICC is proposing that it will adopt remote voting for its members who are not in attendance at code hearings. This prospect concerns design and construction industry groups because of the likelihood that those who are voting remotely will be without benefit of hearing debate on a given issue.

The IAC voted to ask ICC to revisit its proposal and make adjustments to improve ways that those who vote remotely have benefit of all details presented during debate on a code change proposal. EIMA expressed its support for the revision of the proposed procedures.

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**EIMA**

EIFS INDUSTRY  
MEMBERS  
ASSOCIATION

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and Twitter pages!



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## WELCOME NEW EIMA MEMBERS

EIMA extends a most cordial welcome to its new members. We thank you for your support of the EIFS Industry.

### Contractors

**Allstate Plastering, Inc.**  
Franklin, TN  
*Keith F. Jones*  
*Brent Jones*

**Fleck Exterior Systems, Inc.**  
Tallahassee, FL  
*David M. Fleck*  
*Gerrie Fleck*

**Romesburg Plastering, Inc.**  
St. Joseph, MO  
*Jay L. Romesburg*

### Distributor

**Specified Products, Inc.**  
Dallas, TX  
*Carter Lyon*

### Architect

**Lighthouse Architecture**  
Philadelphia, PA  
*Peter J. Porrette*

For contact information on new EIMA members, please visit our online Directory of Members at [www.eima.com](http://www.eima.com).

## SAVE THE DATES! EIMA ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 19-20, 2013 SAN ANTONIO, TX

A Sneak Peek at the Agenda:

### Tuesday, March 19

- ◆ Committee Meetings
- ◆ Cocktail Reception

### Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

- ◆ General Session
- ◆ Golf Outing at The Quarry

