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Working together to reach new heights of
Quality Assurance for the Air Barrier industry.

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ABOUT NABA

Who is NABA?

The National Air Barrier Association (NABA) is a national non-for profit trade association who promotes knowledge transfer and quality assurance for the Canadian air barrier industry.

NABA has been managed by Building Professionals since the association's inception in 1985. Building Professionals is a company that specializes in the training, certification and quality assurance of the construction industry.

Vision

The National Air Barrier Association (NABA) is your sole source for quality assurance for the air barrier industry.

Mission

To work together with our members, industry and trade to be the recognized voice for air barrier industry.

ASSOCIATION OBJECTIVES

- Promote building performance and durability
- Develop air barrier standards and specifications
- Coordinate the interests of Specifiers, Building Envelope Consultants, Design Professionals, Air Barrier Contractors and Manufacturers
- Develop training and transfer of knowledge for the air barrier industry on the benefits of properly designed and installed air barriers
- Advocate the advantages and benefits of air barrier installation by trained and certified personnel

ABOUT THE NABA QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM

What is the Quality Assurance Program (QAP) and how is it administered?

The NABA Quality Assurance Program (QAP) is a program that has been developed by Building Professionals on behalf of the Air Barrier Contractors NABA members and industry to always ensure the QAP reflects the needs of the industry.

The QAP encompasses a variety of initiatives that include pre-qualification requirements of Air Barrier Contractors and Air Barrier Installers to ensure they have a certain amount of experience to complete this type of work. Air Barrier Contractors must also meet minimum requirements for insurance, bonding and sign a Licensing Agreement dictating professional conduct.

The QAP developed by Building Professionals is updated on an on-going basis in order to streamline processes or enhance the

NABA requires all Air Barrier Contractors to submit an air barrier contractor bid form and an awarded job notification forms to the NABA office. By knowing where the NABA-specified projects are taking place, NABA will strive to ensure that only NABA-Certified Air Barrier Contractors are awarded the projects.

What do I get when I specify NABA?

When you specify NABA and the contract is awarded to a NABA-Certified Air Barrier Contractor, you will receive a level of comfort that the work will be performed in a quality fashion by NABA Trained and Certified Installers.

Every NABA specified project is audited by a third-party NABA Licensed Auditor. A NABA audit report is sent to all parties involved in the project including the General Contractor, Air Barrier Contractor, Material Manufacturer and Design Professional. The audits ensure the air barrier assembly is installed as per project specifications, and the materials are installed as per manufacturer's instructions and specifications. The number of audits is dependent on the size of air barrier contract in accordance with the requirements of the QAP manual and master specifications.

Specifying NABA is a win-win for all parties involved in the project including Building Owners, Air Barrier Contractors, Building Envelope Consultants, Air Barrier Manufacturers, Design Professionals, Air Barrier Material Distributors and General Contractors.

On the job

On a daily basis, NABA Air Barrier Installers perform adhesion testing, thickness testing (if applicable) and density testing (if applicable) to ensure the qualitative assurance installation practices of the air barrier material and record it on the daily job site reports.

Once the projects are complete, all daily job site reports are submitted to the NABA office for tracking and review by Quality Assurance Administrators.

Conflict resolution

If there is a concern on a project, NABA will act in a timely and professional manner to resolve the concern with any of the contractual parties. We will ensure the Design Professional receives the services that they specify. For example, if a air barrier contract was awarded to a non-NABA Air Barrier Contractor, we will contact the Design Professional to inform them of this if the Air Barrier Contractor informs us of this in due time.

Reaching new heights by specifying NABA

Building Owners

- Level of comfort in quality of workmanship
- Decrease in chance of high building envelope repair or retrofit costs due to premature degradation of the building envelope from air and water infiltration
- Increased indoor air quality by isolating indoor and outdoor environments
- Increased energy efficiency
- Increased durability of building envelope
- Improve acoustical isolation

Air Barrier Contractors

- Level playing field for quality of work
- Reducing liability and call backs
- Increased education and technology transfer to Air Barrier Installers

Design Professionals

- Pre-qualified Air Barrier Contractors
- Increased level of comfort in installation of air barrier assembly
- Reduce liability of building envelope failures
- Provide best practice solutions for your clients
- Documented installation records
- Assistance with concerns and conflict
- Documented third-party audits
- Provide non-biased technical resources and non-proprietary master specifications

Manufacturers

- Ensuring correct installation of their materials
- Training systems in place for their materials and assemblies

What else does NABA do?

NABA constantly strives to provide educational programs with relevant content to Air Barrier Installers and the design community to ensure the constant growth of the industry. NABA can deliver design workshops for Design Professionals, General Contractors and other industry professionals on a variety of air barrier related topics.

NABA works with such groups as the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) and Canadian Construction Materials Centre (CCMC) on various industry issues and research projects in the air barrier industry.

NABA members are working on contributing their time and knowledge on the development of national ULC standards for the testing and installation requirements of air barriers, and the inclusion of air barriers in national energy and building codes.

NABA provides technical support to all members of the construction industry such as Design Professionals, Air Barrier Contractors and Code Officials. This technical support also includes the development of non-proprietary master specifications.