



BUILDINGENERGY BOSTON

WTF PSA Tape Testing: Round Two



Dave Gauthier, WTF CEO

Peter Yost, Chief Wingnut



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Wingnut Test Facility:
Common Sense, Real World Testing
of Building Materials



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WTF

Context - Caveats

- We are, after all...wingnuts
- Sample sizes of two are anecdotal, not statistically significant
- Our results are contextual and we ask that you not generalize them...
- To date, we have been driven by a sort-of PSA Holy Grail: one tape that does everything
- Our mission statement: cajole adult supervision...

It all started innocently enough...

Bird's-Eye View **Key Materials** Builder Tips

ADHESIVE/SEALANT

Low-VOC construction adhesive [more](#)

BRICK VENEER

Brick is like a big hard sponge — let it dry, and everything is OK [more](#)

RIGID INSULATION FOR WALLS

Types of rigid insulation [more](#)

SHEATHING DRAINAGE MAT

Alternatives to sheathing drainage mat [more](#)

SILL SEALERS

Thicker sill sealers are better [more](#)

SILL SEALER

Sill sealer keeps sills or bottom plates away from concrete [more](#)

CONTINUOUS BEAD OF SEALANT

Which caulks and sealants works best, and where? [more](#)

CAVITY INSULATION

Which insulation is greenest? [more](#)

1/2" GYPSUM BOARD

Greener choices exist [more](#)

INTERIOR FINISH

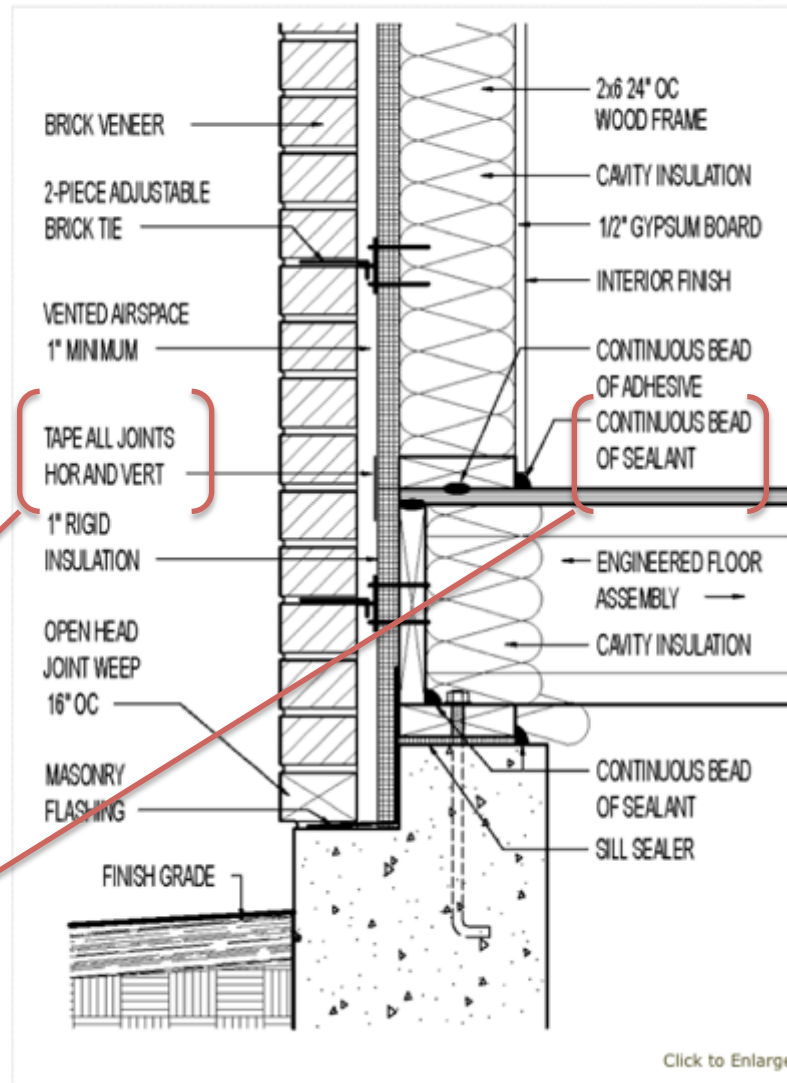
Let interior finishes let the walls dry [more](#)

2-PIECE ADJUSTABLE MASONRY TIE

Two-piece ties hold better; stainless steel lasts longer [more](#)

DRAWING DETAIL

Download: PDF | DWG



“TAPE ALL JOINTS HOR AND VERT”

“CONTINUOUS BEAD OF SEALANT”

Test methods adhesives

Adhesives ASTM Standard test methods	Method
Resistance of Adhesive Bonds to Chemical Reagents	D896-97
Tensile Properties of Adhesive Bonds	D897-95a
Applied Weight Per Unit Area of Dried Adhesive Solids	D898-96
Peel or Stripping Strength of Adhesive Bonds	D903-98
Exposure of Adhesive Specimens to Artificial Light	D904-99
Strength Properties of Adhesive Bonds in Shear by Compression Loading	D905-98
Strength Properties of Adhesives in Plywood Type Construction in Shear by Tension Loading	D906-98
Standard Terminology of Adhesives	D907-99
Impact Strength of Adhesive Bonds	D950-98
Apparent Shear Strength of Single-Lap-Joint Adhesively Bonded Metal Specimens by Tension Loading (Metal-to-Metal)	D1002-99
Cleavage Strength of Metal-to-Metal Adhesive Bonds	D1062-96e1
Standard Test Methods for Viscosity of Adhesives	D1084-97
Determining Strength Development of Adhesive Bonds	D1144-99
Effect of Moisture and Temperature on Adhesive Bonds	D1151-90
Resistance of Adhesives to Cyclic Laboratory Aging Conditions	D1183-96e1
Flexural Strength of Adhesive Bonded Laminated Assemblies	D1184-98
Storage Life of Adhesives by Consistency and Bond Strength	D1337-96
Working Life of Liquid or Paste Adhesives by Consistency and Bond Strength	D1338-99
Standard Specification for Adhesive for Acoustical Materials	D1779-98
Conducting Creep Tests of Metal-to-Metal Adhesives	D1780-99
Climbing Drum Peel for Adhesives	D1781-98
Atmospheric Exposure of Adhesive-Bonded Joints and Structures	D1828-96
Peel Resistance of Adhesives (T-Peel Test)	D1876-95
Preparation of Surfaces of Plastics Prior to Adhesive Bonding	D2093-97
Preparation of Bar and Rod Specimens for Adhesion Tests	D2094-91
Tensile Strength of Adhesives by Means of Bar and Rod Specimens	D2095-96e1
Creep Properties of Adhesives in Shear by Compression Loading (Metal-to-Metal)	D2293-96
Creep Properties of Adhesives in Shear by Tension Loading (Metal-to-Metal)	D2294-96
Strength Properties of Adhesives in Shear by Tension Loading at Elevated Temperatures (Metal-to-Metal)	D2295-96
Standard Guide for Preparation of Metal Surfaces for Adhesive Bonding	D2651-90
Durability Assessment of Adhesive Joints Stressed in Peel	D2918-99
Determining Durability of Adhesive Joints Stressed in Shear by Tension Loading	D2919-95

Lab Test Conditions

- Stainless steel substrate
- Clean substrate
- Warm (70 F)
- Dry (including 50% RH)

Clean trimmed fingernails

Surgical scissors instead of utility knife?

Bare soft hands



Job site conditions

- Cold
- Dirty
- Wet



Demo – PSA “Lab” testing

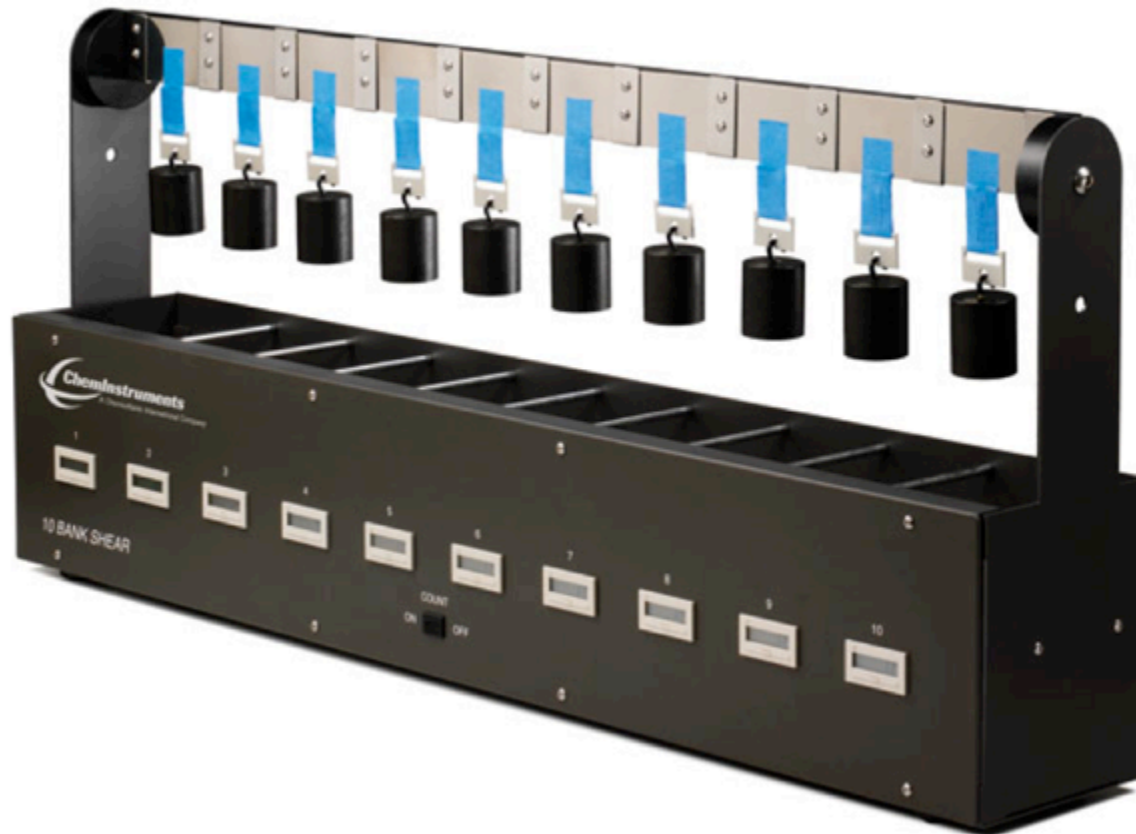


Modes of failure

- Adhesive
- Backer
- Substrate

Round Two

ASTM D3654 – Method A







The role of primer...

...mandatory on masonry.



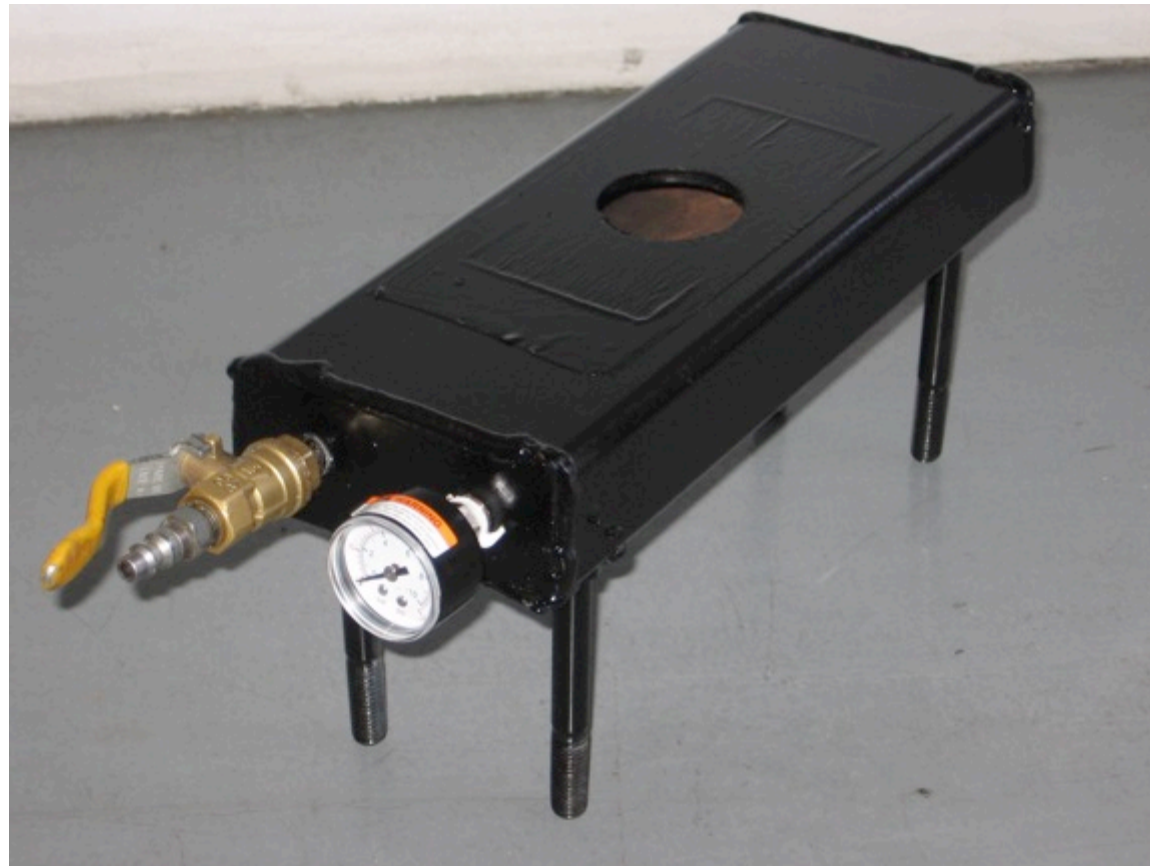
What forces do tapes really “see?”



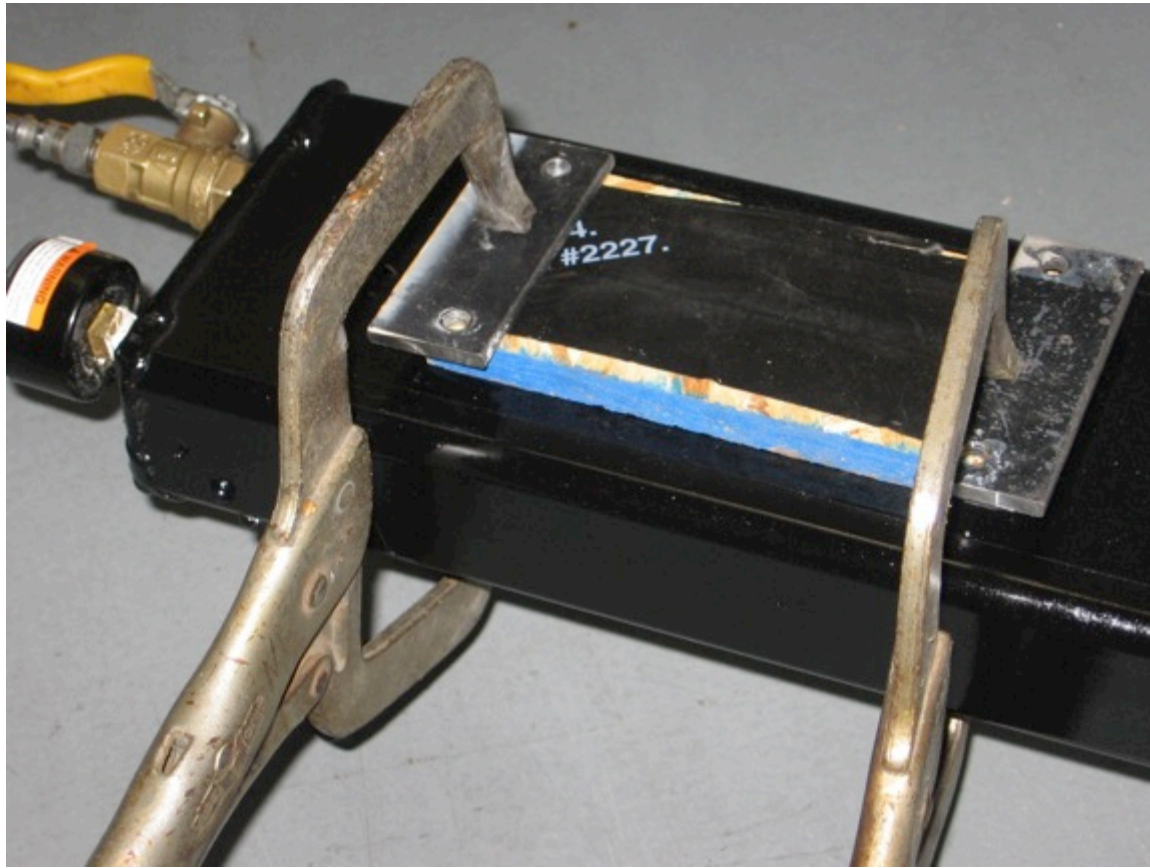
What forces do tapes really “see?”



“Bellowing” - WTF Pressure Pig



“Bellowing” - WTF Pressure Pig



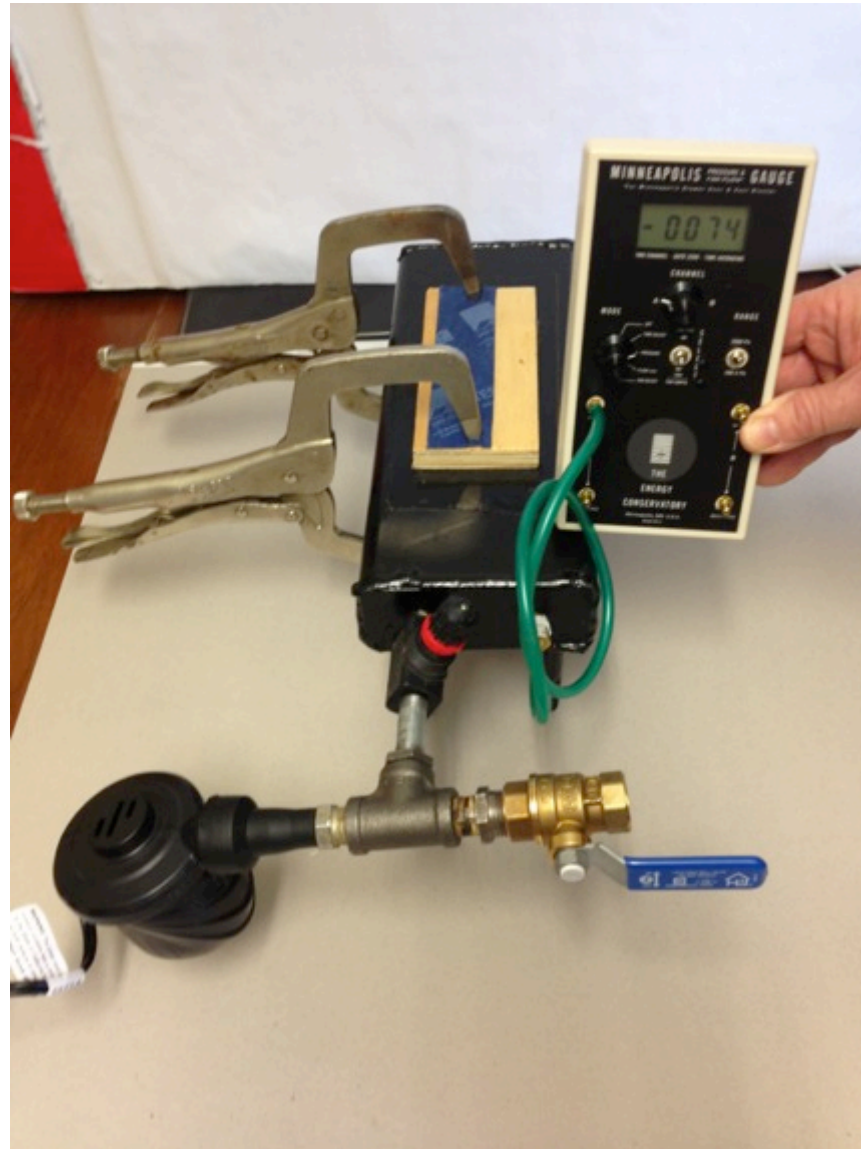
Earth air pressure extremes

- Difference between “normal” and extreme (hurricane and tornado) is about 3 psi
- Tape failure on WTF “pressure pig” was about 3 psi
- WTF Conclusion? Tapes will fail in hurricanes and tornados
- PSI vs Pascals?
- Real world?

Pressure relationships

- Pressure = Force divided by area
- 1 Newton = 1 Pascal per square meter
- 1 psi = 6895 Pa
- 70 mph wind = (about) 450 Pa

“Bellowing” - WTF Pressure Pig



“Bellowing” & the WTF “Pressure Pig”



Show pressure pig demo video...

A New Wingnut PSA tape test



Wingnut Math and Physics

- Since 1 Pascal = 1 Newton per square meter, then
- 75 Newtons/sq m = 16.8 lbs.
- Tape sample is 2.25 inches by 6 inches = 13.5 sq in.
- 13.5 sq in = .009 sq m
- 16.8 lbs * .009 sq m = 0.15 lbs
- 1 lb on 13.5 sq in is about 6 times greater than 75 Pa...

New testing protocol circulated to key manufacturers for their review...

- Huber ZIP Wall
- Siga
- Pro Clima
- ZIP tape manufacturer

[Show protocol pdf...](#)













ARBEK

10-10-09

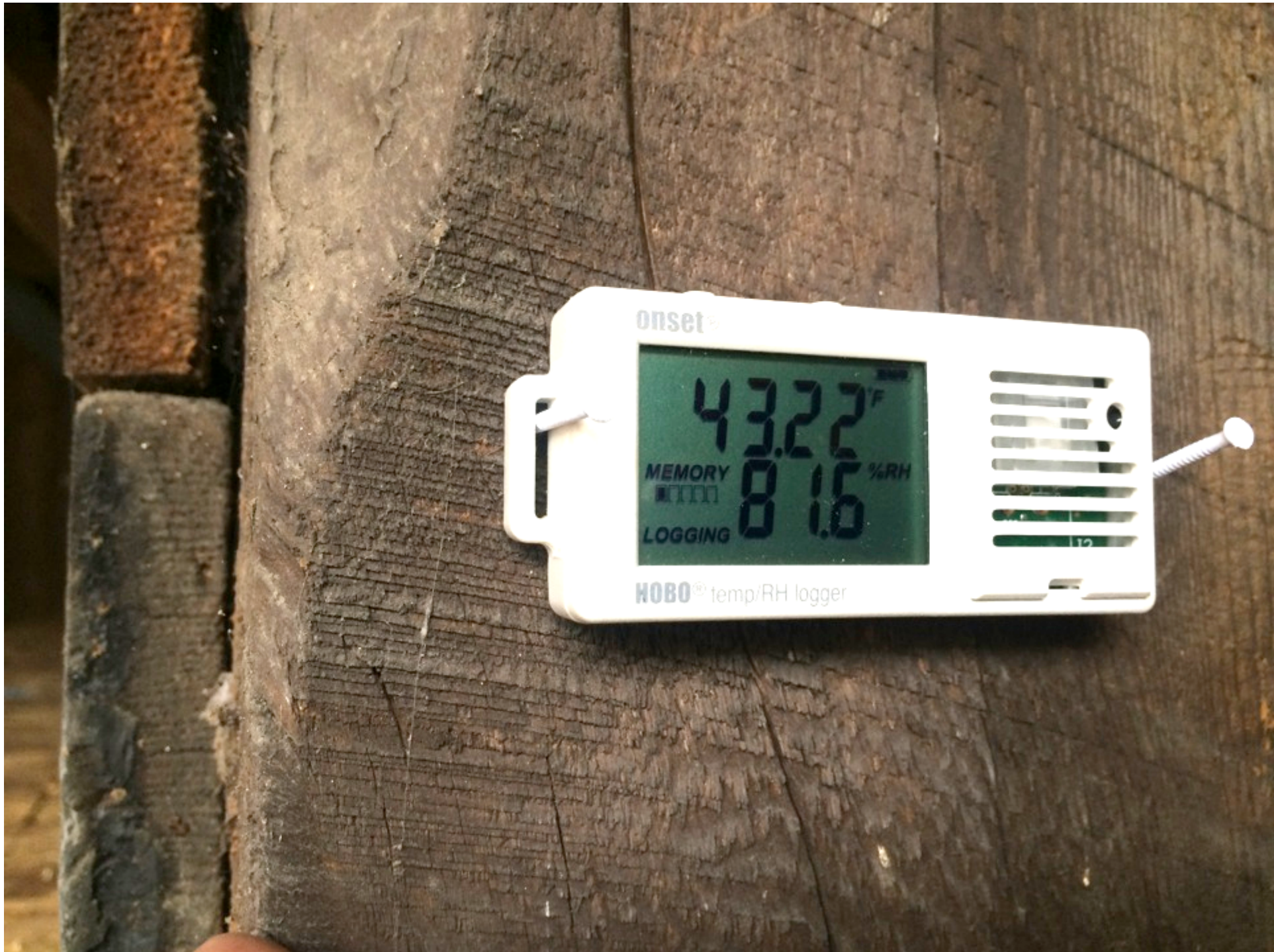












onset

43.22°F

MEMORY

■■■■

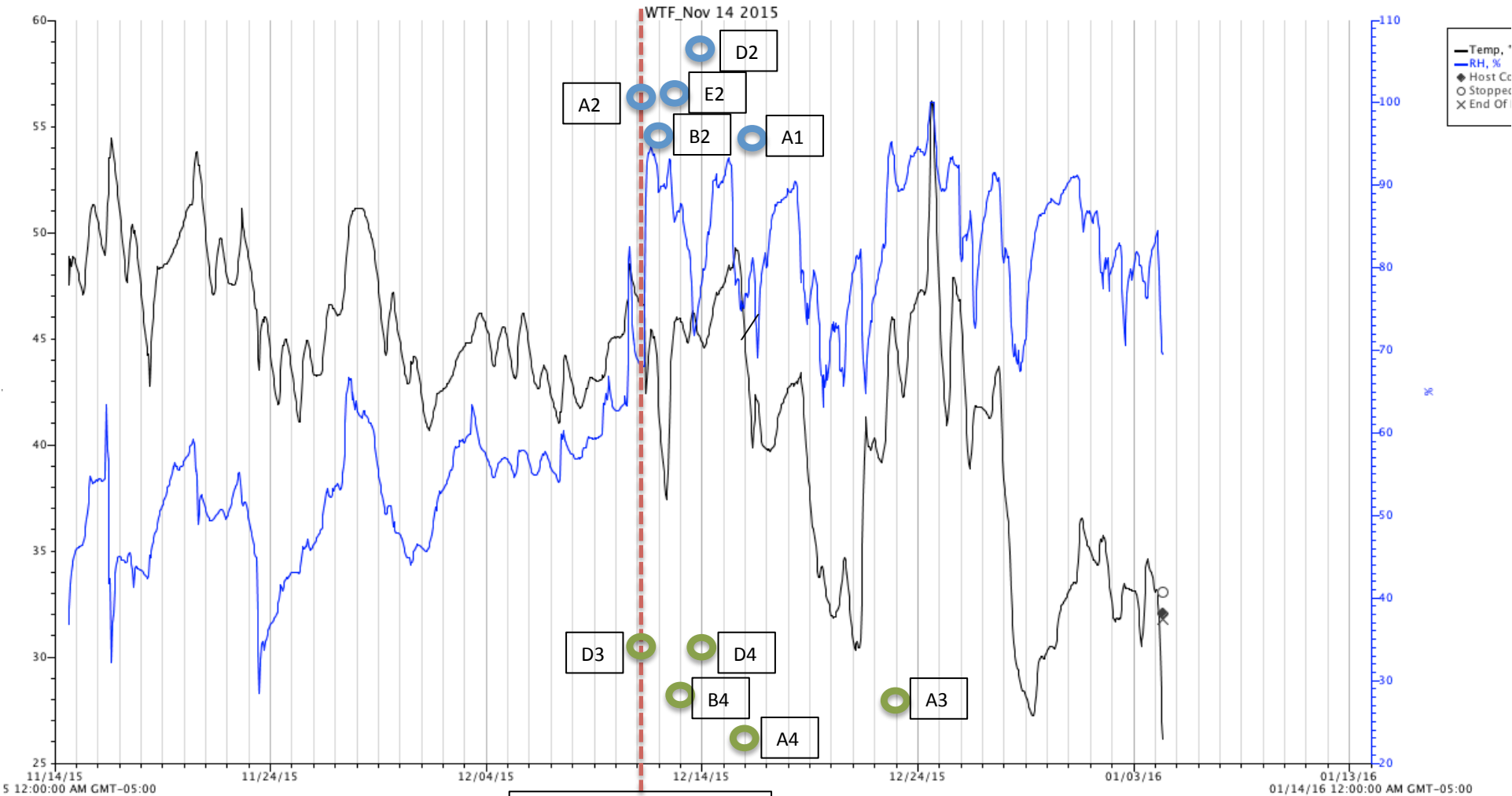
LOGGING

8.16%RH

HOBO® temp/RH logger

WingNut Test Facility								
Tape Test 4								
As of	1/22/16							
Flange		Primed Vana A	Wigluv B	Zip C	Primed Vana D	Wigluv E	Zip F	Test Condition
Vinyl	1	12/17/15			1/22/16			WETTED
Metal	2	12/11/15	12/12/15		12/14/15	12/13/15		WETTED
Vinyl	3	12/23/15			12/11/15			DRY
Metal	4	12/16/15	12/13/15		12/14/15	12/13/15		DRY

High Performance Acrylic Tapes



○ = dry drop

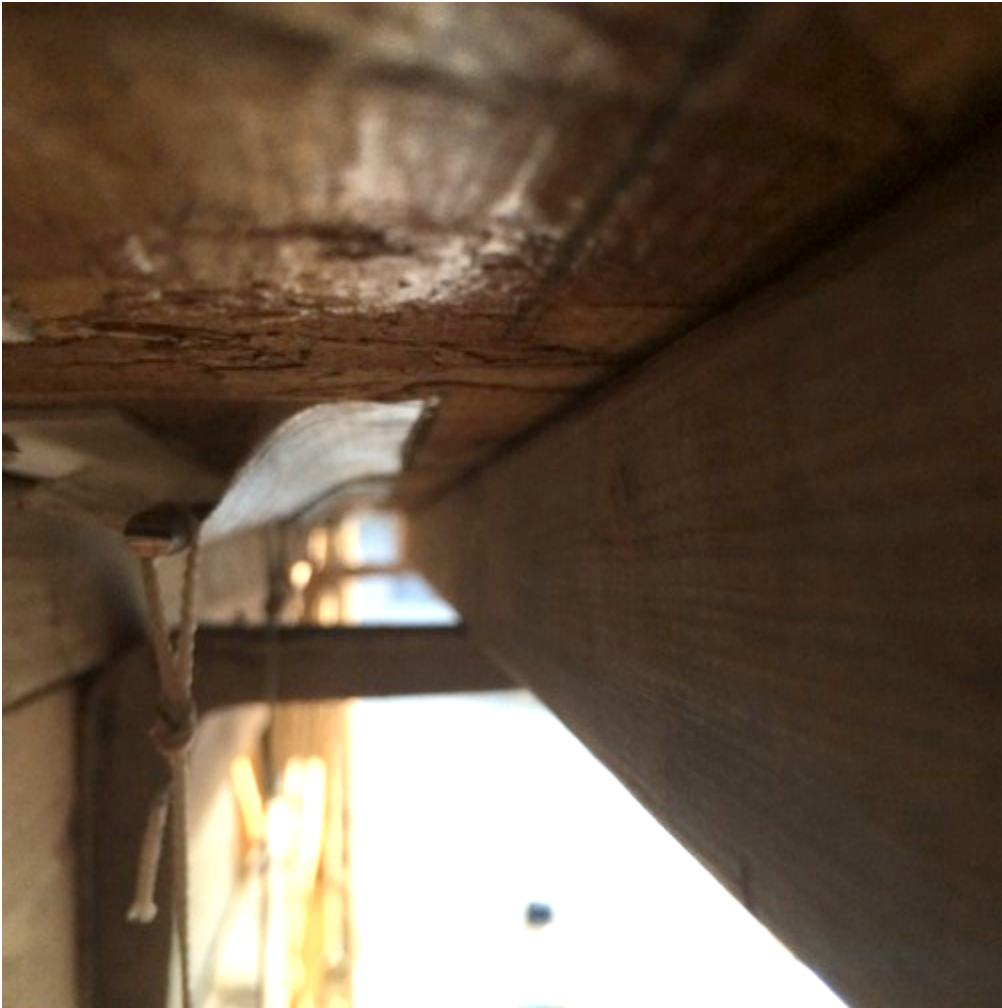
○ = wet drop

12-11: Moved to shed

2s/4s= metal flange

1s/3s= PVC flange

Latest drop (3-6): B4 Siga on PVC flange



What have we learned

- This test has passed muster with major manufacturers
- Butyl tapes we tested don't like low temps or "tougher" substrates
- Off the shelf "high performance" tapes did not make the cut
- Only one tape has held regardless of substrate and wetting (so far...)

WTF has been “admired”

Prof. David NiCastro University of Texas – Austin
Construction Durability Lab
(JJ Pickle Center)



From Matt Reisinger's blog...



<http://mattrisinger.com/fluid-applied-wrb-testing/>



<http://mattrisinger.com/fluid-applied-wrb-testing/>

So, what's next for WTF?

- Run current tests through at least a full summer plus this past winter
- Look at negative side basement waterproofing
- Simple test for PI dependent R-value?
- Siloxane testing?

So what is next? WTF 2.0?



Keep tabs on WTF on the buildinggreen.com blog



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Sticky Business

3 New Ways to Learn Building Enclosure Commissioning

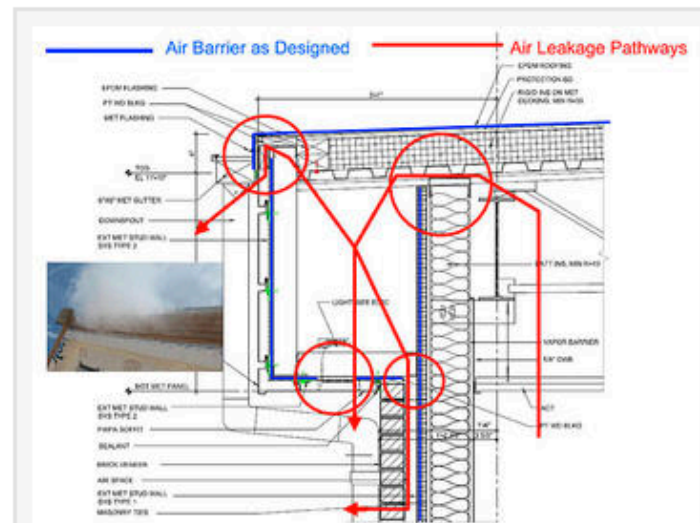
Posted November 11, 2013 2:03 PM by Peter Yost

Related Categories: [BuildingGreen's Top Stories](#), [Sticky Business](#)

With the need for BECx rising, the industry is working to train designers and other specialists to do the job.

Recent BuildingGreen resources give a pretty good picture of just what [building enclosure commissioning \(BECx\)](#) is and how its use is on the rise in high-performance buildings. But a logical follow-up question I get asked a lot is: how can I get the necessary education to become proficient in BECx—or actually get credentialed or certified as a BECx agent or expert?

There are several questions wrapped up here, and I want to take them one at a time to keep this complex topic at least somewhat straight.



This elementary school assembly could have been air-sealed at the top of the wall, simplifying the assembly and providing air-barrier continuity. BECx would have found a mistake like this early; as its prominence grows, the industry is struggling to meet demand for this expertise. When a fogger was used to identify where the

FUNDAMENTALS OF High-Performance Building Assemblies

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Recent Comments

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Lawrence Lile says, "

A fellow was trying to convince me that this EPS insulation behind the vinyl would add R-10 to a building. I had considered using his...

" More...

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