Subject: Building Enclosure News #14
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Hi all, Richard here ...

As I know you're interested in Building Envelope issues, I'm sending you my "monthly" newsletter. As always, I'd be glad to discuss your concerns and comments on these issues.

News of the Month

I am writing just to let you know that I am wondering if there is any way that I can help your team on one of your projects.

In addition to the usual peer review of architectural drawings with an emphasis on the building enclosure, I'd like to offer another kind of service that I have done in the past for Kyu Sung Woo Architects; the development of critical details at the design development level or any other useful point in the process. I would come into the office for a (few) week(s) and hand draw the typical details or particularly difficult details, such as expansion or seismic joints. This is especially helpful when I can do the typical details for a project, getting the team off on the right track. This avoids lots of redrafting at a later time.

So, please give these possibilities some thought. Thanks!

Tip of the Month

I have attached a remarkable graph prepared by Keith Boyer of Centria.

At the left side is total wall R-value. at the bottom is the % of glass. You can see from this graph that the lower performing element tends to govern the performance of the wall as a whole. In other words, a wall with R-14 opaque wall and R-2 glass which is 50% glass does not have an overall R-value of R-8 as one might expect, but actually has an overall value of R-3.5!

So, increasing the insulation of the opaque wall will not measurably improve the performance of the overall wall; one must improve the R-value of the glass to do that.
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Richard

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