

#QUARTERLY

SPRING 2014

A PUBLICATION OF THE WALL AND CEILING ALLIANCE




CRAB FEED

PAGE 9

CONTINUOUS INSULATION (CI): MYTH & REALITY?

PAGE 10



We are your manufacturer.
We are your distributor.
We are your experts.

*Four Convenient
Northern California
SCAFCO Locations*

SAN
FRANCISCO
415-852-7974

★ SACRAMENTO
916-624-7700

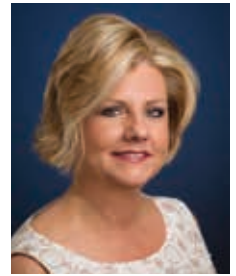
★ STOCKTON
209-670-8053

★ SAN JOSE
408-660-2093

 **SCAFCO**[®]
Steel Stud Company

www.SCAFCO.com

RECONSTRUCTING THE BOX



Nancy Brinkerhoff
Board President

Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality. —Warren Bennis

Why Do People Join Boards?

To make change. To move the group forward by strategic planning and policymaking.

The most successful part of an organization is having a plan, and not just having a plan from the starting gate, but having a plan that continues to be redesigned and adapted to industry changes.

And the Board of Directors draws that map. The purpose of the Board is to create the vision for the organization — to help plan, develop and evaluate. In short, the Board moves everything forward and ensures the goals of the mission statement are met.

WACA's Board of Directors

Each of our Board members brings a collection of individual experiences and skill sets to the industry and the table. Our current Board is composed of experienced senior directors (some who have been on boards for more than 20 years) and directors new to our Board but not to the industry (some have been in the business for more than 15 years). We feel this combined experience brings a balance and a fresh perspective of creative thinking.

It can be seen as a challenge to have a group of competitors sitting at the same table working for a common cause. At the end of the day, we all know we're serving the best interests of the association and the industry by working as a team. Thus far, we have been original in our approach of moving our association forward. With our progressive Board, our plan is to continue to lead the

organization forward and to support the growth of the drywall and plaster industry.

WACA is at the forefront of what's happening in our profession. We're interested in strategic growth, not just thinking outside the box but *reconstructing* the box.

We've determined the association's goals, and, in the most recent Board meeting, we've drawn up a road map to help reach our objectives. The members of the Board of Directors are eager to bring all of their expertise and perspectives to the cause of helping us succeed and serve the industry. We know that working together will bring out the best in ourselves as leaders — on the Board and in our own companies — and make positive changes in the wall and ceiling world.

As the leader of the Board, I intend to do what is best for the industry and my fellow contractors. And I am fortunate to have dedicated officers by my side, Vice President Jim Ruane and Secretary/Treasurer Tim Stiller — who are well known and well versed in the plaster and drywall industry.

Our Board, along with the WACA staff, is working on several projects, both regional and national programs, to advance the training of our workforce as well as offer better opportunities to our membership.

Together with our industry partners, labor and suppliers, we will use our new and combined strengths to be the driving force in our profession.



2014-2015 Board of Directors

Nancy Brinkerhoff, President
Ironwood Commercial Builders, Inc.

Shawna Alvarado
O'Donnell Plastering, Inc.

Steve Eckstrom
California Drywall Co.

Kristen Meiswinkel
RFJ Meiswinkel Company

Jim Ruane, Vice President
Patrick J. Ruane, Inc.

Gregg Brady
Brady Company/Central California

Don Archuleta
Performance Contracting, Inc. (PCI)

Joe Parker
Karsyn Construction, Inc.

Tim Stiller, Secretary/Treasurer
Raymond-Northern California, Inc.

Brandon Davidson
Davidson Plastering Inc.

Roger E. Henley Jr.
Henley & Company

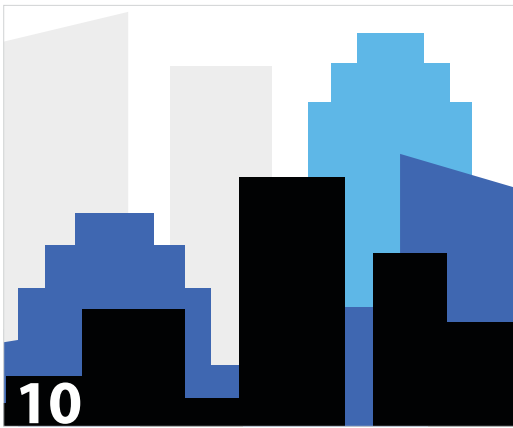
John Sytsma
Anning-Johnson Company

TABLE OF CONTENTS



09

Crab Feed



10

Continuous Insulation (CI): Myth or Reality?

Productive Work Environments	6
Test Your Employment and Labor Law IQ	8
Save the Date: WACA Golf Tournament	15
Mark Your Calendars: Wall and Ceiling Expo	16

The President's Corner	3
WACA 2014-2015 Board of Directors	3
Stay in the Know	8
Calendar of Events	8
Welcome New Members	8
Contractor Member Spotlight	14
Associate Member Spotlight	15
The Technical Corner	16
WACA Members	18



THE QUARTERLY

A publication of the Wall And Ceiling Alliance

Spring 2014
Volume 1, Issue 2

Wall And Ceiling Alliance
5726 Sonoma Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Office: (925) 600-0475
Fax: (925) 600-0618
communications@wallandceiling.org
www.wallandceilingalliance.org

The Wall And Ceiling Alliance (WACA) serves and represents signatory wall and ceiling contractors in Northern California's 46 counties. Our primary goal is to represent and negotiate labor agreements for our contractor members. WACA organizes and steers the committees that negotiate the collective bargaining agreements with the unions.

WACA provides resources that assist members in operating a successful business. Among the services and activities provided are educational forums, technical assistance, government advocacy, labor relations, industry promotion, marketing and networking opportunities.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Carmen Valencia-Castillo
Marketing Director

Frank E. Nunes
Executive Director

Julie Dunaway
Communication Specialist

PUBLISHING TEAM

Innovative Publishing
Publisher

Erin Pinkerton
Editor

Nichole Edralin
Graphic Designer

Shannon Patterson
Operations Manager

Michael Adkins
Copy Editor

Samantha Brown
Advertising Consultant

Innovative Publishing specializes in creating custom publications for associations and businesses. To find out how your organization can have its own magazine, contact Aran Jackson at 502.423.7272 or aran@innovativepublishing.com.

www.innovativepublishing.com

On the cover: Legado de Ravel project, Sacramento, California — 2014 CEA winner, Henley & Company. Photo rendering: Stantec Architecture Inc.



Steel Framing and Metal Lath

DIAMOND<>FURR® PAT

The Only Complete Lathing System

Eliminate Fastener Penetrations

For decades the plastering industry has put their faith in building paper, and has advocated the use of several layers of waterproofing materials at termination points. Even with their best efforts, installers still have to screw, nail, or staple through these weather barriers to attach the lath. These punctures are the leading cause of moisture infiltration beyond the protective layer of paper. The swelling and contraction that occurs can cause the plaster to crack, which results in more potential moisture intrusion. The cycle then repeats.

Brand X Metals, Inc. has developed the **Diamond<>Furr®** SYSTEM to stop this cycle and provide a true 7/8" plaster depth. Diamond Furr Trims provide a sheet metal flashing at the termination points, and completely eliminate the penetrations in the moisture barrier around these critical areas. If there are no penetrations there will be no leaks when properly installed. In addition, Diamond Furr Trims eliminate the need for peel and stick membranes, therefore removing the unnecessary buildup to provide a full 7/8" for three coat plaster.

- The only complete lathing system that complies with the new energy codes
- Eliminates 100% of penetrations through the moisture barrier at all termination points
- Provides continuous furring which results in full lath embedment
- Trim, Flashing, Furring and Lath Attachment in one step
- Lath never comes in contact with moisture barrier eliminating potential tears
- Flexible lath attachment reduces potential cracking
- Eliminates the need for additional petroleum based peel and stick products
- Eliminates the scratch coat so the brown coat can be applied in a single pass
- Glass mat sheathing can be eliminated when ECO-MAX ridged foam insulation is installed



Diamond<>Furr® is an economical and logical solution to the problems that have been plaguing the industry for decades. We ask that you compare the costs on your next job and think you will agree that the Diamond<>Furr® SYSTEM is the right choice for all your plaster projects. Call 888-856-5434 or visit www.cemcosteel.com for more information

Demand Diamond<>Furr®
By
CEMCO

Productive Work Environments

It's Not About the Software . . . or the Gadget

by Maria Acuna, Principal, Ariam Consulting LLC



Today's wall and ceiling subcontractors are managing and building projects in an era of increasing complexity. The latest technology and related software applications have created an environment where Wi-Fi, smartphones, tablets and specialized software are considered essential tools of the trade.

With these new advances and additions to the trade, all companies on a job site are increasingly expected to improve their collaborations. Wall and ceiling subcontractors are expected to meet the increasing demand for faster response times to job site issues placed on them by general contractors.

For the best wall and ceiling subcontractors, investments in software applications and tools have created a significant competitive advantage over their competitors. For others, investment in technology has caused confusion and frustration among employees. Sometimes this investment has even falsely provided a perception that "techie" employees are more productive and effective than the "non-techie" staff members. More traditional "pen-and-paper" or "spreadsheet" project managers and superintendents may have become disengaged, or a company may have had to hire another person to perform data entry on their behalf.

Still, when a technology investment is appropriately scaled to the need and characteristics of the organization, the benefit can be significant for small or large subcontractors.

To maximize the benefits of a new technological investment, key steps to follow before buying *anything* should include:

1. Understand the day-to-day operations of what your people do and why.
2. List what kind of information your people track for themselves and what information they track for others.
3. Gauge the "technology acuity" of your staff members.
4. Ask your employees what technology tools they use to make themselves more productive. Genius deployments of technology may already exist within your organization! Often, many of your employees may take it upon themselves to individually deploy a solution.
5. Document what technology you already have in place. Many subcontract organizations have industry-specific ERP systems that are only partially deployed, such as accounting only. If the system has been upgraded regularly, new features and functionality might prove useful to your organization.

The following applications have been well received by many subcontractors. Based on your current needs, one or more may prove beneficial to your company.

"Dip Your Toe" and "Autonomous" Field Mobile Tools

Perfect for introducing technology to the construction field, reducing paper reports from the field and improving field-to-office communication.

For subcontractors that would like to get their field staff members acquainted with technology in a non-intimidating way, the following applications are easy to use and, when deployed effectively, deliver powerful information back to the home office.

Photo Pen

itunes.apple.com/us/app/photopen/id478887640?mt=8

Sometimes a picture is worth a thousand words. This free app, made by the makers of PlanGrid, allows users to mark up photos easily and email them back to the home office. Built-in tools allow the user to circle problem areas and mark them up to identify potential problem spots. Rated more than four stars by most users, the application is widely regarded as extremely simple to use.

Construction Superintendent

www.constructioncentrics.com/productsMain.html

Reduce field paperwork, and consolidate it into one useful application. This application manages daily logs, safety inspections, time, material tags and RFIs. Be aware that this tool still does not integrate with any other systems.

"Unique Processes" or "Crawl, Walk, Run" Software System Tools for Project Managers and Field Collaboration Document Storage

Perfect for subcontractors that want to build custom applications or take advantage of simple pre-existing database applications. Your organiza-



...when a technology investment is appropriately scaled to the need and characteristics of the organization, the benefit can be significant for small or large subcontractors.

tion may document much of its project data in spreadsheets and word-processing documents. These tools work best when there is a dedicated database-savvy resource or when using a contractor to help you build or make the most of your system.

QuickBase

www.quickbase.com

With this powerful, cloud-based, do-it-yourself application builder, a subcontractor has the ability to develop a robust project management and field management application, one module or tab at a time. Built-in features, such as event-based alerts and report subscriptions, make communication and supporting a subcontractor's business processes simple. There are also myriad add-on products for affordable document storage, formatted template building or integration with Microsoft Outlook or Google Apps.

Zoho

www.zoho.com

Zoho offers a suite of more than 25 applications for organizations looking to quickly and effectively replace their paper- or spreadsheet-driven processes with easy-to-use applications. Most applications offer integration

with Google Apps, making document storage and sharing online accessible from the field offices.

"The Full Enterprise System" for Companywide Collaboration

Perfect for subcontractors with established policies and processes looking to revamp a number of integrated or stand-alone systems into a single centralized system. Your organization should have at least one full-time resource available to support conversion and manage change. These tools work best when a subcontractor has dedicated resources for companywide change and when the majority of staff members are comfortable with using estimating and project management software applications.

Plexxis

www.plexxis.com

This all-in-one ERP, specifically made for the wall and ceiling industry, is likely to be the predominant system in use for many of the larger subcontractors for the region. The ERP system offers a wide range of assistance, from fully integrated accounting to estimating to project management software, and also mobile applications for easy collaboration between field and office.



Allied Fund
ADMINISTRATORS

and the

**California
Labor Community**

**Proudly serving the men and women
of the California labor force for over 60 years
1953 – 2014**

Introducing

TOTAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT - a health care program for Trusts to rein in benefit costs and expand access to high quality care through:

- Robust participant wellness tools
- Administrative excellence, provided by Allied's California based union staff
- Largest PPO Network Partnership in California

Contact us directly at (415) 398-2655 to learn more about the Total Health Management program and what Allied Fund Administrators can do for you and your members.





TEST YOUR EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR LAW IQ

by Richard N. Hill, Shareholder, Littler Mendelson

The following true-or-false questions involve basic issues of California employment law and federal labor law. For the answers and the scoring system, turn to page 17.

1. Employees may combine their 30-minute meal period and their 10-minute afternoon rest period in order to have a longer lunch break.
2. A policy that prohibits employees from making disparaging or defamatory comments about their employer or a fellow employee is unlawful.
3. A charter city may establish a prevailing wage rate for public projects that is less than the applicable state prevailing wage rate.
4. An employee who is discharged for cause is ineligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits.
5. When HR representatives conduct workplace investigations, they should always instruct employees to keep the investigation and the facts of the case completely confidential.
6. An employer and a union may agree to an overtime rate of less than time and one-half (1.5) for hours in excess of eight in a day.
7. It is unlawful for a union to engage in handbilling asking an owner or a general contractor to stop doing business with a subcontractor with which the union is involved in a labor dispute.
8. As of January 1, 2016, an employee must earn at least \$20 per hour in order to be required to provide his or her own hand tools and the equipment of the trade.
9. A policy that prohibits employees from discussing private matters, such as wage rates, fringe benefits, leaves of absence and workers' compensation injuries, with other employees is lawful.
10. If WACA is involved in collective bargaining negotiations with a union and, in response to the union picketing of one WACA member, WACA instructs all other WACA members to lock out the members of the same union, the employees who are locked out are eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits.

STAY IN THE KNOW

Bayside Interiors celebrated its 30-year anniversary on February 24, 2014, and a party was held at the Blackhawk Auto Museum in Danville to celebrate the occasion.

The Northern California Carpenters Apprenticeship Committee has elected to move forward with construction of its new Fairfield training center.

If you have news you'd like to share with WACA members and have included in the Stay in the Know corner, please email Julie Dunaway at julie@wallandceiling.org.

2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 25

WACA Golf Tournament

Wente Vineyards
Livermore, California

AUGUST 14

Wall and Ceiling Expo

Alameda County Fairgrounds
Pleasanton, California

City Mix, Inc.

**Standard
Drywall, Inc.**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

CRAB FEED



On February 12, WACA hosted nearly 150 distinguished guests at Castagnola's restaurant for our annual Crab Feed. It was our first members meeting of the year, and, as our executive director, Frank Nunes, noted during his welcome speech, this special event was held in San Francisco for the first time due exclusively to our members' input. We told our members we're listening, and we are!

Our appreciation was extended to Plexxis and Great Western Building Materials for sponsoring our event's dinner wine. Brent Fisher graciously spoke to the gathered crowd, providing the industry introduction. This industry talk is a popular tradition also being brought back due to our members' feedback, and we look forward to hearing the expert speakers for all our members meetings.

While members feasted on buckets of fresh Dungeness crab and enjoyed cold beers, three great prizes were given away for the dinner raffle. The first prize was a \$50 gift card, followed by an even larger sum

of \$100 for the next winning ticket holder. The "big dog" grand prize was a pair of tickets to a Giants game, which left the winner grinning widely from ear to ear!

When evening fell, the guests were treated to the city lights of San Francisco. WACA was glad to be able to offer our members the famous nearby Pier 39; renowned attractions such as the entertaining Ripley's Believe It or Not! and Ghirardelli Square; and the historic Fisherman's Wharf at sunset for this year's annual Crab Feed and the first members meeting of the year.

SPONSORS



CONTINUOUS INSULATION (CI):

Myth OR REALITY?

by Bryan Stanley, CSI, CEP, Technical Advisor,
Technical Services and Information Bureau

A question asked more and more frequently is, “You’ve been telling us about the energy codes for almost four years now. But I’m still not bidding or seeing many, if any, projects incorporating CI. If it’s part of the code, why aren’t we seeing more?”

At the time of writing this article, I am preparing for a panel discussion entitled “Continuous Insulation Projects Are Heating Up.” The panel’s goal is to provide to the wall and ceiling community a better understanding of what’s driving the need for continuous insulation and what are the common issues facing the construction community today. With national and California energy codes becoming more stringent on paper, the 2008 California Energy Code enacted in January 2010 was to have a direct impact on exterior cladding systems on commercial construction. To cut to the chase, continuous insulation would be specified — particularly on metal-framed exterior walls. Now, with the 2013 Energy Code set to go into effect July 1, 2014, low-rise residential construction will also be affected.

As a passionate student of the energy codes (sounds silly, but I really like studying this stuff), allow me to start with the basics or at least what I feel is a necessary understanding for the wall and ceiling contractor.

Two baseline concepts to start with are U-factors and climate zones. Once they are discussed, then we can tackle the world of CI.

U-FACTOR VERSUS R-VALUE

Most of us in the construction business are aware that an R-value is a measurement of a product’s (insulation) performance or how it slows down heat flow. *The higher the “R,” the better the performance.* The U-factor (opposite of R-value) measures the performance of a wall assembly and how much energy (heat) flows through it or is lost. This means that the lower the U-factor, the better performance of the assembly.

CLIMATE ZONE

We need to know U-factors because every climate zone in the state has been assigned a maximum U-factor. National energy codes have placed the country into eight different climate zones. Every climate zone is assigned a maximum U-factor. For example, a wall built in National Climate Zone 3 must have a U-

factor not to exceed .084.¹ Many climate zones in colder areas have a more stringent U-factor of .064² (*remember: the lower the number, the better the energy efficiency*).

Now, when dealing with energy codes in our beloved state (yeah, it’s a mess, but I wouldn’t live anywhere else), the California Energy Code has assigned the state our own 16 climate zones. *If you are not yet confused, then give me a minute.* If you are doing a federal project in California, then you are adhering to the International Energy Conservation Code.

The good news is you don’t have 16 different climate zone requirements to deal with. We’re going to simplify things by referring to the technical bulletin 1.002, “California Climate Zones & Prescriptive U Factor Assemblies” by the Wall and Ceiling Conference (WCC). The website is www.wccinfo.org. This 1.002 bulletin is a quick reference “cheat sheet” allowing you to quickly get the required maximum

U-factor for each project's location. Technical bulletin 1.001 will help regarding federal projects or any projects outside of California.

CONTINUOUS INSULATION – PER THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY CODE

Continuous Insulation: insulation that is continuous across all structural members without thermal bridges except fasteners and service openings. It is installed on the interior or exterior, or is integral to any opaque surface of a building envelope.

Sounds pretty straightforward, doesn't it?

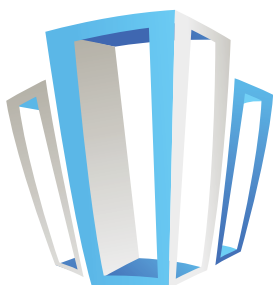
TWO METHODS OF COMPLIANCE: THE PRESCRIPTIVE AND THE PERFORMANCE METHOD

The method of complying with a maximum U-factor in a climate zone is known as the prescriptive method. The Energy Code supplies baseline U-factor requirements. With framed walls, the U-factor is achieved by using a combination of cavity insulation and continuous insulation.

A companion to the Energy Code Reference Appendices gives you options or combinations of cavity insulation and CI to achieve the U-factor. Table JA4.3.1, "U Factors of Wood Framed Walls," and Table JA4.3.3, "U Factors of Metal Framed Walls For Non-Residential Construction," are particularly helpful. The California Energy Code and Reference Appendices can be found (free download) at www.energy.ca.gov/title24/2013standards/. The R-values listed in the tables "shall be equal to or greater than the R Value published. ... No interpolation is permitted. ..."³

The performance method is more complicated and normally performed by a mechanical engineer. However, this "alternative calculation" allows tradeoffs when we compare the overall performance of a project.

In plain English, the engineer uses California Energy Code-compliant software (CEC-compliant software can be found at www.energy.ca.gov) and compares the energy use of the different building components. This comparison allows for tradeoffs to occur.



Energy code changes are forcing the design community to re-evaluate EIFS.

For instance, the building HVAC system may be two or three times more efficient than the prescriptive requirement. The computer software basically averages out the energy use of the building, which may allow for a less energy-efficient wall envelope design.

WHAT'S COMING JULY 1, 2014?

There are significant changes in store with the implementation of the 2013 California Energy Code. Fortunately for the wall and ceiling contractor, only three changes will affect our scope of work:

1. Mandatory insulation requirements
2. Air barrier requirements
3. Low-rise residential U-factor requirements

1. Mandatory Insulation Requirements

Insulation requirements will now be required on commercial and residential walls regardless of what climate zone the project is in.

Residential mandatory rules are straightforward. A minimum of R-13 cavity insulation shall be used with walls built with nominal 2-by-4 wood framing. R-19 insulation is required when nominal 2-by-6 wood framing is used (this information can be found in section 150.0.c in the California Energy Code).

High-rise residential and commercial requirements are a little tricky, so I will try to simplify it (actual definitions can be found in California Energy Code Section 120.7). All wood-framed construction requires a minimum R-11 cavity insulation. Metal-framed walls will require R-21 cavity insulation and R-4 CI.

2. Air Barrier Requirements

The California Energy Code has established a maximum air leakage rate (0.04 cfm/sf) in climate zones 10-16 for high-rise residential and commercial construction. For more information, please refer to Technical Bulletin 1.003 on the WCC website (www.wccinfo.org).

3. Low-Rise Residential U-Factor Requirements

The good news (*there is some, finally!*) is that the California Energy Code Counsel has made a statewide prescriptive U-factor requirement of .065. This is where the good

news ends. According to Table JA4.3.1, in the Reference Appendices, there are three ways to comply. The first two require cavity insulation and CI R-13 + R-5 CI or R-15 + R-4 CI. The third option does not use CI, but there is a catch. Nominal 2-by-8 wood studs with R-19 insulation will achieve the .065 U-factor. A 2-by-6 wood stud with R-19 cavity insulation 16 inches on center only achieves a U-factor of .074. Surprisingly, R-21 insulation and 2-by-6 wood studs just miss the mark with a U-factor of .066. "CEC approved compliance software, however, may determine the U-factor for any amount of continuous insulation or for unusual construction assemblies."⁴ The statement means that systems such as "advanced framing" can be verified to meet energy compliance.

WHAT'S THE QUESTION AGAIN?

Now that you have read everything about the energy codes that you didn't want to know, let's go back to the question of "Why aren't we seeing more projects with continuous insulation?" My response is what I call "The Perfect Storms" (NOT a reference to my least-favorite movie of all time).

Storm 1: The Great Recession

At the time of the new energy code enactment, we were in a severe recession; countless projects were put on hold. To this day, some projects are still being built under the 2007 Building Code. The recession also affected code-enforcement groups. For instance, for CALBO (California Office of Building Officials), membership was severely diminished. Local jurisdictions suffered with hundreds of layoffs, and workloads for the remaining officials jumped. Then the lack of funds meant a lack of training. State building codes may change, but it's still up to the local building official to enforce the code — but without the proper training, how could the code be enforced? Attempts to fix this problem didn't have the intended effect, which can be seen in the midst of...

Storm 2: The Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

One intention of this act was to pump money back into the system in an effort to boost the economy and deal with sky-high unemployment rates. The act also included a federal incentive-laden program to promote states to increase their energy codes. Coincidentally, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger went on to mandate the 2008 Energy Code to go into effect by January 1, 2010. Software programs were not finished, and very little training at the local enforcement level took place. This situation leads us to finally ask, "What's more important — saving energy, or addressing life safety issues?"

At the time of the new energy code enactment, we were in a severe recession; countless projects were put on hold. To this day, some projects are still being built under the 2007 Building Code. The recession also affected code-enforcement groups.

The Issue: Life Safety Versus Saving Energy

I believe most of us would agree with this statement unless you like to tie yourself up to a tree for two months to save it. Let's face it, if we find ourselves in the unfortunate circumstance of being immobile in a hospital, we would all agree we would want that hospital built to withstand earthquakes and protect us in case of a fire. It may be another coincidence, but most California projects labeled "institutional" are exempt from the energy codes. If an institutional project has a bed in it, then it's exempt. This includes hospitals and even prisons.

WHAT CI OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE PLASTERING CONTRACTOR?

Exterior Insulation Finish Systems (EIFS)

On the surface, EIFS is the perfect continuous insulation system. Introduced to the United States back in 1969, the national commercial industry grasped the lightweight and design-friendly system (a great example is the Las Vegas Strip). The eastern United States turned to EIFS as an alternative to brick and Portland cement plaster on residential projects. However, home failures in the Southeast back in the mid-1980s triggered massive lawsuits and turned EIFS into a bad four-letter word. Insurance companies were not providing liability insurance, and the design community treated EIFS like it was the "Great Plague."

Energy code changes are forcing the design community to re-evaluate EIFS. Look at the improvements: thousands of hours of testing, and, as of 2012, EIFS is now part of the International Building Code. EIMA (EIFS Industry Manufacturers Association) has rebounded from decades of defending EIFS to promoting it "as the only true CI system."

Insulated One-Coat Stucco System

One-coat stucco is another option for designers and contractors to consider for energy-efficient claddings. One-coat stucco has been a popular and successful cladding for residential construction throughout the Southwestern United States for over 40 years. This system was developed in the southwestern United States during the 1970s energy crisis. New requirements for more R-value in the exterior wall cavity meant builders needed to go from traditional 2-by-4 studs to 2-by-6 studs in order to make room for thicker insulation. The plaster industry responded to the need and created the one-coat stucco system, which allowed builders to continue using the 2-by-4 wood studs and meet the higher R-Values set by the energy code. The one-coat stucco system was initially designed to be placed over 1 inch of tongue-and-groove rigid foam. The rigid foam added the required R-value.

One-coat stucco is a proprietary system incorporating blended cement typically applied over a rigid EPS foam sheathing board. The

systems are generally considered more appropriate for residential and low-rise commercial projects by plaster bureaus. One-coat stucco has had good success when applied per manufacturers' recommendations and with an approved finish coat. For more information about one-coat stucco, visit www.nocsa.org.

Specifying Insulated One-Coat Stucco

The one-coat system is actually a two-coat process: the base coat and the final or "finish" coat. Acrylic or elastomeric finishes can be used to add performance and crack reduction. The system is generally less in cost per square foot than EIFS and can be less than conventional three-coat stucco (in the right market). The following are recommendations when specifying one-coat stucco:

- One-coat stucco is not recommended for smooth or fine sand finish textures
- 1.5-inch-by-17-gauge woven wire is preferred over the minimum 1-inch-by-20-gauge woven wire
- One-coat stucco should be limited to Type V construction
- The nominal thickness of the one-coat base should be a half-inch, rather than the code minimum three-eighths of an inch
- One-coat stucco may be applied over gypsum sheathing, rigid foams or wood-based sheathings
- Follow all manufacturers' recommendations
- A water-resistant barrier (WRB) compliant with the manufacturers' recommendation should be placed behind the rigid foam sheathing
- A water-resistant barrier (WRB) compliant with manufacturers' recommendations should be placed over gypsum and wood based sheathings
- Attach lath/wire approximately six to seven inches on center along framing supports

Detailing for one-coat stucco is similar to conventional three-coat cement stucco. Flashings



must be designed and installed to minimize water entry and allow for incidental moisture to “weep.”

The degree and type of flashing will depend largely on the type of building, region of the country and exposure to water. It is advised to contact a local reputable source for best practices in that region of the country with regard to one-coat stucco. This would include plaster bureaus, suppliers, manufacturers and established contractors with a proven track record.

One more thought about one-coat stucco: The state of California has modeled its energy code requirements for metal- and wood-framed walls with one-coat stucco as the cladding.

Insulated Three-Coat Plaster/ Stucco Assembly

Back in 2010, when the 2008 California Energy Code went into effect, there was a genuine fear that three-coat plaster over metal stud framing would go the way of the dinosaurs. If and when the energy codes were enforced, generic three-coat would be in jeopardy. The WCC published a brochure called “The Energy Code and Plaster Assemblies.” The brochure offered three different generic assemblies using CI with three-coat plaster. The options

were introduced to offer a “stopgap” until new systems could come on the market.

Stucco, EIFS, insulation and even plaster accessory manufacturers are introducing new systems that are tested and meet fire codes. However, if a system or assembly deviates from the code, the system should have a code-approved evaluation report.

**As we have seen,
CI does exist. It is a
complicated reality,
but it is not a myth.**

It remains to be seen what system or assembly will be the most prevalent. Two concerns will be addressed: *complexity* and *cost*. Regarding *complexity*, the system should be as simple as possible in order to cut down on installation errors. *Cost* will be the ultimate factor. Among its many positive features, three-coat plaster has always been a very

cost-effective cladding. The rising costs of a three-coat plaster and stucco systems take away from this advantage.

KEEP PLASTERING CONTRACTOR BUSY AND OUT OF TROUBLE

The last item to leave you with is: “What does the plastering contractor do if he or she knows the project doesn’t meet the energy code?”

If the project is design-build or design-assist, the contractor should raise the question through the RFI process and proceed as directed. The verdict is still out when it comes to plans and specs projects. However, this is just one of many future issues with the energy codes yet to be resolved.

As we have seen, CI does exist. It is a complicated reality, but it is not a myth. And only by continuing to educate ourselves and further understand the options available to plaster contractors are we able to use these options to the best of our abilities to benefit our clients and our communities.

References

1. 2009 International Efficiency Conservation Code
2. Ibid
3. 2013 Reference Appendices Table JA4.3.1
4. Reference Appendices: Table JA4.3



WESTSIDE BUILDING MATERIAL

Westside Building Material is proud to be your supplier of choice. Our team of reliable and dedicated employees have unparalleled industry know-how, experience and enthusiasm. We always pledge to deal with our customers and suppliers with honesty, fairness and professionalism.

SERVICES

- Full-service job site delivery by dedicated Westside personnel and vehicles
- Job site stocking and scattering, crane services, after-hours and certified flagmen available upon request
- Tool repair
- Quick and efficient will-call
- Protected project pricing
- In-house acrylic product tinting
- Brake-press metal shapes, clips (up to 1/4" thick), variety of coatings
- Radius wall products

THE BAY AREA'S ONLY UNION STOCKING CREW

510-532-2582 | www.westsidebmc.com | OaklandSales@westsidebmc.com

California Drywall Co.

by Greg Eckstrom, Vice President



In 1946, my grandfather Leonard Eckstrom was selling for USG. In a bold pioneering move for the industry at the time, he took a great leap forward to start a company specializing in drywall.

California Drywall was founded that year in the Santa Clara Valley, installing and finishing drywall for residential properties.

Our company has been in business now for almost 70 years, and it remains a family business. The third generation is at the helm, and we now have at least three fourth-generation family members working at the company. With our principals of quality, service and value, and our commitment to exceed our customers' expectations, the company has not only survived but thrived and achieved many accomplishments in the industry.

While we started with framing and drywall, our services have grown to include lath and plaster, fireproofing, and acoustical and specialty ceilings. We are also one of the top technical builders in the region and the country. We believe in making use of evolving technology. We bring significant design-assist and design-build capabilities to our clients' projects. By leveraging our in-house engineering, BIM, preconstruction and construction expertise, we are able to make the best decisions in the design and construction phases of our projects.

We run 400 to 500 men in the field and have more than 50 in the office and field supervision. Our work is performed throughout Northern California, including Monterey Bay and the Central Valley.

As large and successful as we are, business has been a challenge for the past five years or so. The downturn in 2007 hit everyone in our industry hard. While it wasn't pleasant, we looked at the downturn as an opportunity to improve and strengthen our organization and operations. With the construction economy recovering, there's a nice rebound happening, which is opening up a lot of opportunities.

We cultivate an entrepreneurial, collaborative environment where people are allowed to grow and contribute, no matter what their

position is within the company. Our culture encourages communication, collaboration, and embracing new technology and change. We pride ourselves in the fact that many of our estimators and project managers started in the field with us and have grown into some of the best professionals in the industry.

Our commitment to our people, our clients and a quality product is what we believe sets us apart. This commitment to employees extends to a safe work environment both for our employees and those we work alongside. Safety is a value, not an objective for us. We want each employee to go home safe at the end of each workday. Our industry leading EMR of 0.40 is just one indication of our follow-through on this value.

Strong client relationships are also part of who we are. Since our beginning in 1946, California Drywall has taken pride in developing strong partnerships and earning the trust of our clients. These key principles guide our efforts.

One current project we're bringing these strengths to — and it's my great pleasure to say this — is the new San Francisco 49ers stadium in Santa Clara. It will be 1.8 million square feet, with 68,000 seats, including 165 luxury suites.

Our non-drywall divisions are also taking off, demonstrating our outstanding abilities in these areas as well. We're the ACT contractor for the new Santa Clara Family Justice Center, are fireproofing the new air traffic control tower at San Francisco International Airport, and have about 20 different projects underway in our plaster division.

We value WACA for the many benefits it's brought us in such a short period. The networking opportunities, industry news and continuing education that WACA offers have helped our staff members to expand their professional horizons, which in turn helps us

as an organization. From a company standpoint, while we compete with our competitors ferociously to bid and win projects, WACA is our advocate on the common issues that affect all of us, including labor relations, government advocacy, coordinating efforts with other trades and technical assistance. This support is invaluable.

I'm proud to note a few of our recent accomplishments below:

- Recipient of the Association of the Wall and Ceiling Industry (AWCI) Excellence in Construction Quality Award. This national award recognizes a wall and ceiling contractor for excellence in construction quality for complicated and challenging projects. We've received this particular award twice in three years. In 2012, California Drywall won it for the Nokia R&D Center for Excellence project in Sunnyvale.
- Recipient of *Engineering News Record (ENR)* magazine's Best of the Best – Specialty Subcontracting award. The national honorees were selected from regional winners of McGraw Hill Construction's network of regional publications. Nearly 700 projects were submitted for regional awards, yielding 166 regional winners, from which the panel chose Best of the Best in 19 categories.
- Golden Gate Partner Recognition by CAL/OSHA, which recognized California Drywall's efforts in implementing and maintaining an effective injury and illness prevention program at the Foundry Square III project.
- 2013 Construction Excellence Award for Best Institutional Exterior, Best Institutional Interior and Project of the Year, both Interior and Exterior, by the Wall And Ceiling Alliance (WACA).

I would like to congratulate and thank every employee at California Drywall for helping us achieve all of our accomplishments. I'm looking forward to seeing what we achieve next!

Great Western Building Materials

by Richard Groen, Manager



Great Western Building Materials (Great Western) began as a small lumberyard known as Oxnard Lumber and Supply in 1926 in Oxnard, California, and has grown into an industry leader in building material distribution. The business has been family-owned for 50 years and currently has six locations in California — San Francisco, Oxnard, Pico Rivera, Riverside, San Diego and Hayward — and three in Arizona, specifically Phoenix, Avondale and Tucson. Great Western has come a long way from its humble beginnings.

We've built our business on long-lasting professional relationships with our contractor customer base and our team of dedicated employees, many of whom have been with our company for more than 20 years. Our core values are honesty and integrity, professionalism and excellence, profitable growth and sustainability, value and respect for our employees, teamwork, and safety. I feel, as a manager at Great Western, that these values have everything to do with our high employee retention and our valued professional relationships with our customer base. This customer base includes such specialty contractors as drywall, plaster, metal framing, ceiling and tenant improvement, as well as general contractors and developers.

We are dedicated to providing our contractors, builders and manufacturers with the industry's best overall value chain. We offer the finest products, communication and service for our customers with a focus on our core values at all times. Our top-of-the-line products include: gypsum wallboard products, acoustical ceilings, metal framing, lath and trim products, stucco and plaster, tools, insulation, access panels and the full Sto product line, to name a few. Also, we are proud to say that we have the most experienced drywall stocking crews in the business, with the advanced equipment necessary to get the building materials promptly to our customers.

We are fortunate to have well-trained, experienced staff members at all locations who focus on providing excellent customer service, whether in our branches or on job sites. Specialists are on hand in all our locations to provide assistance. Our staff is constantly working on adding value to customers and their companies.

Great Western is not just a corporation that has survived the challenging economic cycles of our industry. It is a family-owned business, still owned and operated by Larry Rogers (son of Great Western's founder William Rogers), who is actively involved in running the company. Having a company that is family-run, rather than being publicly traded or owned by a financial company, allows us to treat our employees and customers as individuals and cater to their specific needs immediately without the bureaucracy that can plague other companies. In other words, Great Western's family ownership allows us to treat our employees and customers like family as well.

Since we joined the Northern California market in 2011, we have moved and expanded our San Francisco location in order to make room for our new product lines and stocking equipment — always with our eye on future growth. With our WACA affiliation, we've gone from being the "new guy" on the block to the "go-to guy" in Northern California. WACA has provided us the opportunity to connect with and support the customers that support us. We are now very proud to announce the grand opening of our newest facility in Hayward, increasing our presence and service capabilities in the Northern California region. Boasting a combined total of more than 70,000 square feet of warehouse capacity in Hayward, we're now prepared more than ever before to service customer needs anywhere, at any time. Our company is always interested in new opportunities, improving service and relationships, and ready to find solutions to any challenges that come our way.

Our outlook for the Bay Area is brighter than ever, and we are excited to be part of the growth in this great community.

SAVE THE DATE

WACA Golf Tournament

July 25, 2014

Wente Vineyards | Livermore, California





WCB AND WCC PARTNERED UP FOR THEIR FIRST SEMINAR TOGETHER

Congratulations to the Wall and Ceiling Bureau (WCB) and Wall and Ceiling Conference (WCC) on a successful first seminar!

On February 27 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the WCB office in Pleasanton, the seminar drew in over 100 attendees. The class was so popular that additional chairs were brought in that morning to accommodate last-minute attendees, leading WCB to consider a new possible location for the next class. WCB Technical Director Ben Duterte and WCB Technical Representative Mike Nonn led the seminar.

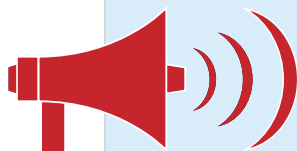
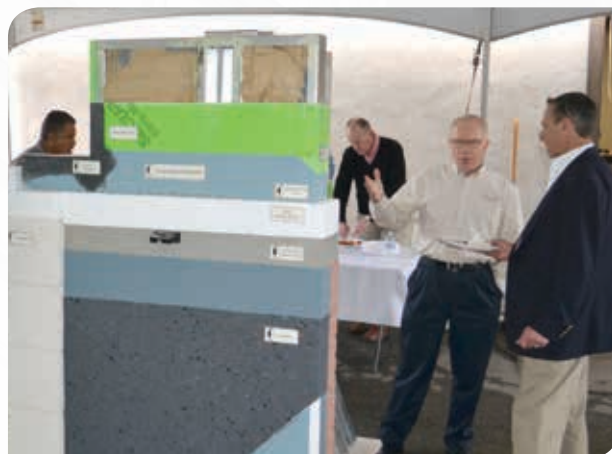
Entitled "Code Changes: Continuous Insulation (CI) and Air Barrier Systems," this program featured eight guest speakers. The eight speakers were as follows: Lynn Walters, STS Coatings, Inc. and Division 7 Solutions, Inc.; Brent Fisher, business development manager, Dryvit Systems, Inc.; Bryan Stanley, CIS, CEP, technical advisor, Technical Services Information Bureau; John Coburn, president, vice president of sales, City Mix, Inc.; Patrick Thompson, director of architectural marketing, Brand X Metals, Inc.; Terry Kastner, technical consultant, Northwest Wall and Ceiling Bureau; Stephen Bronze, Northern California and Northern Nevada sales representative, Sto Corp; and Casey Peoples, construction and sales professional, Parex USA. These leaders in the wall and ceiling industry reviewed code changes relating to CI and air barrier systems.

Five mock-ups, performance testing and proper installation of an air barrier system were demonstrated. Participants were able to gain a better understanding of CI and how it's related to code changes. Participants also gained a better understanding of air barriers and how they're installed, as well as how they make buildings more energy-efficient. In addition, participants were instructed on and allowed to discuss the effects on buildings when CI is provided.

With the attendees being industry professionals such as contractors, labor, architects, specifiers, designers, building code professionals, energy specialists and building envelope consultants, the WCB attracted a diverse crowd for this course.

For more information on the next technical class, contact Ben Duterte, technical director at WCB, at (408) 500-2309 or ben@wcbureau.org, or Mike Nonn, technical representative at WCB, at (925) 337-9706 or mike@wcbureau.org.

WCB congratulates everyone who helped make this first seminar a resounding success!



**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS!
AUGUST 14**

WALL AND CEILING EXPO 2014
Exhibitions, Demonstrations and Speakers

FREE ADMISSION!

Alameda County Fairgrounds, Pleasanton, California

To participate, email Mike Nonn at mike@wcbureau.org.



Continued from page 8

ANSWERS TO EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR LAW IQ TEST



1. **False.** Rest periods should be taken close to the mid-point of the work period, i.e., the period of time between the lunch break and the end of the day.
2. **True.** See *Costco Wholesale Corporation*, 358 NLRB No. 106 (2012).
3. **False.** The Supreme Court's decision in *State Building & Construction Trades Councils of California v. City of Vista* was effectively overturned by the Legislature in 2013.
4. **False.** Only employees who are terminated for "willful misconduct" are disqualified from receiving unemployment insurance benefits.
5. **False.** See *Banner Health System*, 358 NLRB No. 93 (2012) (a balancing test must be employed in determining whether confidentiality can be required).
6. **True.** See Labor Code §514.
7. **False.** Handbilling alone, unaccompanied by picketing or similar activities, is not considered "coercive" activity, and the secondary boycott laws do not apply.
8. **True.** This is the combination of the minimum wage rising to \$10 per hour in 2016 and Wage Order 16, Section 8(B).
9. **False.** See *Costco Wholesale Corporation*, 358 NLRB No. 106 (2012).
10. **False.** This is Unemployment Insurance Code §1256 in conjunction with the WACA Bylaws.

Scoring System

9 or 10 – You should have gone to law school.
7 or 8 – You can sleep at night.
5 or 6 – Take an employment law seminar in 2014.
4 or fewer – Hire a good HR professional.

Firmwide: 126310043.1 068982.1000

www.edwardjones.com

Your Business Deserves the Same Respect You Give Your Customers

At Edward Jones, you'll get more than respect. We can help your business gain a financial advantage. Together, we can design an individual program for your business, with the kinds of tools and options you'll really use, such as:

- Business Credit Card with Rewards
- 401(k)s and Other Retirement Plans
- Insurance Strategies for Business Continuation
- Wide Range of Investment Options and Strategies

Call or visit today.

The creditor, issuer and service provider of the Edward Jones MasterCard is Elan Financial Services, pursuant to a license from MasterCard International Incorporated. MasterCard is a registered trademark of MasterCard International Incorporated. © 2013 Elan Financial Services. All rights reserved.

Edward Jones operates as an insurance producer in California, New Mexico, and Massachusetts through the following subsidiaries, respectively: Edward Jones Insurance Agency of California, L.L.C., Edward Jones Insurance Agency of New Mexico, L.L.C., and Edward Jones Insurance Agency of Massachusetts, L.L.C.

Ryan C Higgins, CFP®, AAMS®, Financial Advisor
1854 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek, CA 94595 • 925-938-3411

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

357-547-1111

Member SIPC



UPGRADE YOUR SMOOTH COAT STUCCO WITH...

BaseX

A NEW APPROACH TO REDUCING CRACKS

- Uses base coat and embedded mesh over brown coat
- BaseX is a polymer-modified, fiber-modified base coat especially designed to minimize cracking in smooth-troweled finishes
- Apply 16/20, 20/30, or ideal on smooth Santa Barbara Finish as required or specified
- Advantages:
 - Drastically reduces cracking in smooth finishes up to 90%
 - Improved impact-resistance and weather-resistance
 - Gives ideal balance of flexibility for crack-resistance and suction for bond
 - Contains 10% post industrial recycled content
 - Minimizes customer callbacks and complaints



Watch the Stucco Crack
Reduction System -
Base and Mesh Video





MAIN PLANT
2911 N. Orange-Olive Rd.
Orange, CA 92665
Phone: 714.637.1700
Fax: 714.637.4865

WAREHOUSE LOCATIONS
8707 San Leandro St. Oakland 94621 (510) 568-1300
11222 Bradley Ave. Pacoima 91331 (818) 834-9200
11436 Sorrento Valley Rd., Bldg. 2 San Diego 92121 (858) 704-4020

www.merlex.com



WACA MEMBERS

CONTRACTOR MEMBERS

Aderholt Specialty Company, Inc.
Allen Specialties, Inc.
Allstate Drywall
Anning-Johnson Company
Basco Drywall & Painting Co.
Bayside Interiors, Inc.
Berger Bros., Inc.
Boyett Construction, Inc.
Brady Company/Central California
California Drywall Co.
Coast Building Products
Component West
Custom Drywall, Inc.
Daley's Drywall & Taping, Inc.
Dasco Construction & Drywall, Inc.
Davidson Plastering Inc.
Decorators, Inc.
Denham Contracting, Inc.
Elite Plastering, Inc.
Eric Stark Interiors, Inc.
Excel Lathing, Inc.
Fisher Lath and Plaster, Inc.
Freas Plastering
Frey Plastering, Inc.
G & S Drywall, Inc.
Giampolini Contractors
Golden Gate Drywall
Halstead Drywall, Inc.
Harrison Drywall, Inc.
Hartley Construction, Inc.
Henley & Company
Ironwood Commercial Builders, Inc.
Ironwood Plastering Company Inc.
J & J Acoustics, Inc.
J.F. McCray Plastering, Inc.
Karsyn Construction, Inc.
KHS&S Contractors
Kirk Builders
Levy Drywall, Inc.
Magnum Drywall
MGM Drywall, Inc.

North Counties Drywall, Inc.
O'Donnell Plastering, Inc.
Pace, Inc. dba Pace Drywall
Pacific West Lath & Plaster, Inc.
Patrick J. Ruane, Inc.
Performance Contracting, Inc. (PCI)
Pro-Wall Systems Inc.
Psi3g, Inc. (Partition Specialties, Inc.)
Raymond Guaraglia Drywall Finishing, Inc.
Raymond-Northern California, Inc.
RFJ Meiswinkel Company
Robert Boeger Plastering, Inc.
Service Plastering, Inc.
Standard Drywall, Inc.
Stockham Construction, Inc.
Surber Drywall Construction, Inc.
Thomas Interiors, Inc.
W.F. Hayward Co.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

A.M.S. dba Allied Building Products
Ames Taping Tools
Amico
Ariam Consulting LLC
Bear River Sales Co. Inc.
Bear Scaffold
BlazeFrame Industries
BMI Products
CALPLY dba L&W Supply
CEMCO
City Mix, Inc.
ClarkDietrich Building Systems
Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, Inc.
Consolidated Fabricators Corp.
Davis Wire
Dryvit Systems, Inc.
DuPont Tyvek
Edward Jones Investments
Fortifiber Bldg. Systems Group
Foundation Building Material
FreightCenter.com
Fry Rieglet

Gallina LLP
GC Products, Inc.
Georgia Pacific Gypsum
Grabber Construction Products
Great Western Building Materials
Gypsum Drywall Supply Co.
Hilti, Inc.
ISU Sander, Jacobs, Cassayne Insurance Services
Leonidou & Rosin
Lhoist North America
Littler Mendelson
Maverick Networks Inc.
Merlex Stucco, Inc.
Michael H. Casey Designs
National Gypsum Co.
Omega Products
OrePac Building Products
PABCO Gypsum
Parex USA Incorporated
Peninsula Bldg. Materials Co.
Plexxis Software
Quikrete
Radius Track Corporation
Rivers Del Rey
Salsbury & Associates Insurance Services, Inc.
San Francisco Gravel Company
SCAFCO Steel Stud Mfg. Co.
Serious Energy-QuietRock dba PABCO Gypsum
Simpson Strong-Tie
Specified Technologies Inc. (STI) dba Firestop
Starr's Building Supply
Steeler Inc. (Newark Division)
Sto Corp.
Summit Financial Group LLC
Sweeney, Mason, Wilson & Bosomworth
Syntheon, Inc.
The Mau Law Firm
The Pendelton Co., Inc.
TrakLoc Steel Framing
United States Gypsum, Inc.
Westpac Materials
Westside Building Material Corp.
Wright Bros. Supply



We are your manufacturer.
We are your distributor.
We are your experts.

SCAFCO's manufacturing facility in Northern California is committed to providing prompt turn-around on all steel framing products including specialty curved products, header and jamb systems, as well as custom clips and connectors. SCAFCO has proven to deliver efficient booming and stocking services on many high profile projects, and our focus is helping contractors profit by saving them money on the job site. We offer four convenient Northern California SCAFCO locations to buy quality steel products direct from your manufacturer.

www.SCAFCO.com



Four Convenient Northern California Locations


San Francisco
415-852-7974

San Jose
408-660-2093

Stockton
209-670-8053

Sacramento
916-624-7700

Wall And Ceiling Alliance
5726 Sonoma Drive
Pleasanton, CA 94566



We are your manufacturer.
We are your distributor.
We are your experts.

SCAFCO's Engineering Team

is committed to working with contractors to help reduce project costs by eliminating excessive material and time consuming labor. As a customer, you can work directly with our engineering experts throughout your projects to assist with any technical questions that may arise from the inspector, engineer, or architect. Our Engineering Team can also provide product substitution information, submittal packages, and design deficiency solutions.

www.SCAFCO.com



Value Engineering • Problem Solving • Labor Saving

Contact SCAFCO Technical Services: 509-343-9000 | technical@SCAFCO.com