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#### **Letter From the Chairperson**

Hello RAiNA Community,

I hope your holidays have been happy and healthy!

Q4 was a big one for RAiNA. We had our Fall Conference in Chicago that was a huge success. The programing and networking was very well received and it was excellent to have a sold-out event. We had over 140 attendees including a number of new faces. It's great to see the organization continue to grow (up to 118 member companies in 2024, and there are 8 new companies who have already signed on for 2025).



After our Conference in November, I had the pleasure of attending the IFD World Congress in Innsbruck, Austria. This international organization is dedicated to the development of training and education for young contractors in both the roofing and façade trades. I got to witness their World Championship of Facades (which occurs every two years) and see the energy and excitement that these contractors put into their work, competing against the global best when it comes to ventilated façade installation. It was an inspiring week that had "Olympic" energy, motivating me to pursue having RAiNA be involved in the 2026 competition in Warsaw Poland. It would be amazing to help field a team from North America to compete on this stage. While at the Congress, I presented to the audience on the progress we have made within RAiNA and was met with high praise. There are certainly synergies for us to work together and continue to strengthen the position of rainscreen assemblies across the globe. More to come on that in 2025.

Operationally, our committees have continued to stay very busy as we develop our Division One Specification for Rainscreen Assemblies (Performance Committee), agreed upon four new definitions including Rainscreen Retrofit and Rainscreen Reclad (Definitions Committee), finalized a case study template for retrofit rainscreen (Retrofit Committee), and finalized installation details for residential rainscreens (Residential Committee).

2025 should be another outstanding year for RAiNA as we continue to grow, influence the industry, and develop tools and strategies for improving the built environment with rainscreen assemblies.

A big thank you to all of our committee chairs and active members for the time and commitments they have made to grow this organization. It's a team effort that we should all be proud of. All the best in the new year,

Todd Kimmel Chairperson

#### **Members In Action**



Antoine Habellion, P.Eng, M.Eng., M.S., (ROCKWOOL) and Steven Gaynor, MBA (Pivoth Corporation), co-authored an article in 2024 on Exterior Cavity Fireblocking: Exceeding Fire Performance, published in The Construction Specifier.

This article went on to be selected for the 2024 Construction Specifications Institute Article of the Year Award.

#### Exterior cavity fireblocking: Exceeding fire performance

June 25, 2024

By Antoine Habellion, P.Eng., M.Eng., M.S., and Steven Gaynor, MBA

N ew York City recently became the first jurisdiction in the country to reject and rewrite major sections of the International Building Code's (IBC's) language around fire protection in exterior facades. Aiming to enhance the fire safety standards in exterior walls, fireblocking is now mandatory behind ventilated cladding, with few exceptions.

The approval of what would be known as the 2022 Construction Codes (New York City Building Code), came into enforcement in late 2022. The building community quickly recognized the seemingly inadvertent, but effective ban on the use of previously accepted ventilated facade assemblies.

Without the use of ventilated facades, designers face the challenge of creating exterior walls that effectively manage water over the building's lifespan, while providing the thermal performance needed to meet energy requirements, such as those outlined in the *New York City Energy Conservation Code* (*NYCECC*) and NYC's *Local Law 97*.

Ventilated facades and the high-performance materials utilized in their construction are critical tools in the design and performance of buildings, ensuring they meet the ever-evolving performance needs of exterior wall assemblies.

For decades, buildings have relied on intumescent materials for fire control. These applications range from fireproofing of structural steel, through-penetration firestopping of mechanical and electrical service, perimeter edge sealing of fire doors, to joint and gap sealing to limit fire spread.

These materials have also been used in the exterior cavities of facade assemblies globally for more than two decades. However, they are currently not included in the list of fireblocking materials prescribed in the New York City Building Code.

Intumescent materials, which expand when heated, provide a critical barrier against heat and flame during fire events. These materials have not only proven to be an effective fireblocking solution, but tests have demonstrated they can also outperform traditionally accepted materials.

This article posits intumescent fireblocking is a simple, safe, and effective fireblocking material and right now, it may be the only tested option which can provide the intended protection during a fire event and maintain rainscreen principles continuously throughout the exterior wall covering. Simultaneously, it enables the design of exterior walls which can meet the other stringent performance requirements imposed on today's buildings.

**READ THE FULL ARTICLE** 

#### **RAiNA in Action**

JLC Live Residential Construction Show March 27-29, 2025 | Providence, RI

#### **Member Opportunities**

Add your company's webinar/presentation to RAiNA's event calender via the member portal. Email hhowell@rainscreenassociation.org for more info.

Become a co-chair for the Education & Training committee. **Click here to learn more and apply.** 

Write a column for the RAiNA Report - share research and recent developments in the rainscreen industry. Email hhowell@ rainscreenassociation.org for more info.

#### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

NOVA USA WOOD PRODUCTS

**JAMES RIVER STUCCO, INC** 

INSTITUTE FOR ARCHITECTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (IAST)

LIBERTY PLASTICS, INC

#### **RAINSCREEN RESOURCES**

#### **Rainscreen Presentations**

Enrich your knowledge base with RAiNA's AIA-accredited presentations. **See all available presentations.** 

#### Glossary

Intended to provide standardized terms and definitions for the rainscreen industry and associated systems, assemblies, sub-assemblies, accessories, materials, and products. **View the Glossary.** 

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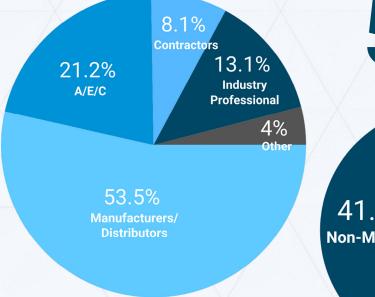




## **27** States **5** Countries







**5** presentations **Download here**.

41.7% Non-Members

58.3% Members



Our members are architects, design professionals, building owners, contractors, and manufacturers that work together to further rainscreen wall assemblies in North America.

### **RENEW/JOIN**

#### NETWORK & RECOGNITION INFLUENCE THE INDUSTRY STAY INFORMED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPEMENT

475 High Performance Building Supply A. L. Harding & Co. LLC - Architectural Products

Accurate Builds Advanced Architectural Products Advanced Building Products, Inc. Air Barrier Association of America AlBuild Systems Altenloh, Brinck & Co. US, Inc American Metalcraft Inc

Architectural Facade Systems LLC ARMATHERM Thermal Bridging Solutions Association of the Wall and Ceiling Industry

Atlas Roofing Corporation Bonitz Brick Industry Association (BIA) Bricklayers & Allied Craftsmen Union Local 3 Brookpark Design Builders C. F. Robb Consulting Services Cameron Building Envelope Specialists LL

Carlisle Construction Materials, LLC Cascadia Windows & Doors CENTRIA, Inc. CLADIATOR

#### ClarkDietrich

Construction Ahead Exteriors, Inc Copeland Architectural Systems Copper Development Association Cosentino North America Curtain Wall Design & Consulting, Inc. Dörken Systems Inc.

DuPont

East Coast Metal Systems, Inc ECO Cladding

EJOT Fastening Systems L.P.

Lavada Inc Lawrence Exterior Restoration Corp.

LP Building Solutions

Siderise Insulation Ltd Sika Corporation

Simpson, Gumpertz & Heger (SGH)

stries

#### 2020 – 68 Member Companies

Facades Northwest

Fairweather Masonry, Inc. Fenestration and Glazing Industry Alliance (FGIA)

Forst Consulting and Architecture, PLLC

G. M. Diemert Architect Inc. General Insulation Co. Genna Drafting Gibraltar Industries Global Wall Panel Group

Knight Wall Systems Inc.

MillerClapperton Mitsubishi Chemical Composites America (Alpolic) Morrison Hershfield Nichiha USA North American Modern Building Alliance (NAMBA) Northern Facades Ltd. NW Wall & Ceiling Bureau Owens Corning PCC Construction Components, INC Pillar Construction Inc. Tamlyn TC Glass Distributor, Inc.

Technoform Tenmat Inc. tesa tapes

The Holt Weston Consultancy TILE EZE INC. Tremco CPG Trespa Triumph Aluminum and Sheet Metal 2000 Inc

#### 2024 – 118 Member Companies 73% growth in 5 years

International Masonry Institute International Training Institute International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers ISAarchitectural ISD Group USA Inc. Keene Building Products KEIL Undercut Anchors

ROCKWOOL RWDI SFS Group USA Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors National Association (SMACNA) Shildan

Rainscreen Solutions LLC

**RDH Building Science Inc.** 

Raths, Raths & Johnson, Inc

, LLC

poration

iling Bureau oore and Associates, Inc.

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. York Flashings