**ATTENTION CBIA REMODELERS**

The 6th edition of the building codes provides an exemption on testing for additions.

However, this does not go into effect until the 6th Edition is implemented. The discrepancy lies within the current (5th edition) Building Codes which require the testing for residential additions.

**R402.4 Air leakage (Mandatory)**. The building thermal

envelope shall be constructed to limit air leakage in accordance

with the requirements of Sections R402.4.1 through

R402.4.5.

**Exception:** Dwelling units of R-2 Occupancies and multiple attached single family dwellings shall be permitted to comply with Section C405.5.3.4.

**R402.4.1 Building thermal envelope.** The building thermal envelope shall comply with Sections R402.4.1.1 and

R402.4.1.2. The sealing methods between dissimilar materials

shall allow for differential expansion and contraction.

R402.4.1.1 Installation. The components of the building

thermal envelope as listed in Table R402.4.1.1 shall

be installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s

instructions and the criteria listed in Table R402.4.1.1,

as applicable to the method of construction. Where

required by the code official, an approved third party

shall inspect all components and verify compliance.

**R402.4.1.2 Testing.** The building or dwelling unit shall

be tested and verified as having an air leakage rate not

exceeding seven air changes per hour in Climate Zones

1 and 2, and three air changes per hour in Climate

Zones 3 through 8. Testing shall be conducted in accordance

with ANSI/RESNET/ICC 380 and reported at a

pressure of 0.2 inch w.g. (50 pascals). Testing shall be

conducted by either individuals as defined in Section

553.993(5) or (7), Florida Statutes, or individuals

licensed as set forth in Section 489.105(3)(f), (g) or (i)

or an approved third party. A written report of the

results of the test shall be signed by the party conducting

the test and provided to the code official. Testing shall be performed at any time after creation of all penetrations

of the building thermal envelope.

**Exception:** Testing is not required for additions,

alterations, renovations, or repairs, of the building

thermal envelope of existing buildings in which the

new construction is less than 85 percent of the building

thermal envelope.

During testing:

1. Exterior windows and doors, fireplace and stove

doors shall be closed, but not sealed, beyond the

intended weatherstripping or other infiltration

control measures.

2. Dampers including exhaust, intake, makeup air,

backdraft and flue dampers shall be closed, but

not sealed beyond intended infiltration control

measures.

3. Interior doors, if installed at the time of the test,

shall be open.

4. Exterior doors for continuous ventilation systems

and heat recovery ventilators shall be closed and

sealed.

5. Heating and cooling systems, if installed at the

time of the test, shall be turned off.

6. Supply and return registers, if installed at the time

of the test, shall be fully open.