



"STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN"
ADVANCED RATER AND TRADE CONTRACTOR
CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

RESNET CONFERENCE 2004
"Planning for Success, Delivering Quality"
March 1 -3
San Diego, CA

Part of the Solution...One Home at a Time

Obstacles to Developing a Successful Building Science Consulting/Rating Business

Include:

- New Field = Lack of Public Awareness
- Builder/Realtor Resistance to Change
- Energy Star® Program's Fluidity
- Profusion of Confusion – Multiple Utility & Private Programs
- Absence of National Standards to Allow Meaningful Differentiation of Skill Levels



RATER TRAINING – 1 WEEK COURSE

No Past Experience Required

Provides Introduction To:

- Construction Terminology
- Blueprints
- Basic Building Science Concepts
- Initial Experience with Basic Test Equipment



RATER COMPLETES COURSE:
Can Function as a Data Collector

Work In Support Of:

- Large Scale Production Builder
- Utility Company
- Brand Name Program

Still Needs Supervision

BUT

Additional Formal Training NOT Available



Propose Additional Training & Certification

Senior Rater:

- One to Two Years Experience as Rater
- Minimum Number of Performance Tests Required (50-100)
- Additional Class Training Including:
 - Equipment Sizing
 - Duct Engineering
 - Diagnostic Tests
 - Intro to Problem Solving

Upon Completion Can Function As:

- Independent Rater
- Supervise Raters



Applied Building Science Consultant

- Three to Five Years Experience as Senior Rater
- Minimum Number of Performance Tests Required
- Minimum Number of Diagnostic Tests Required
- Demonstrate Skill & Knowledge Level
- Recommended by Current ABSC

Upon Receiving Designation...



SERVICES PROVIDED

Pre-Construction

"Often, you get only one opportunity to do it right!"

- Impartial advice on the selection of systems, methods and products
- Explain the pros and cons
- Develop material and mechanical system specifications
- Duct system design and general review
- Prepare energy related code compliance forms

SERVICES PROVIDED

Post-Construction

"In construction, you get what you inspect, not what you expect!"

Provides assurance that design specifications have been achieved

- Performance Testing
- Certification: e.g. Energy Star® or Green Building Certification
- Quality Control / Commissioning

SERVICES PROVIDED

Quality Control

"The Good, the Bad and the Ugly"

- Uninsulated Attics
- Rooms missing supplies
- Weather-stripping missing from doors
- Improperly charged mechanical systems
- Disconnected flue pipes

SERVICES PROVIDED

Problem Solving

"Reduce Fevers & Cure Chills!"

- Uneven temperatures
- High utility bills
- Indoor Air Quality Issues
 - Allergies
 - Odors
 - Molds
 - Radon

















"One House at a Time Approach"

- Independent Third Party
- Work within the context of the design and budget
- Meet their individual needs to insure comfort, health, durability and energy efficiency.
- Problem Solver

Part of the Solution...One Home at a Time