# **Building America Opportunities for Raters**

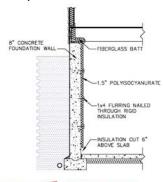
RESNET Conference February 28, 2006

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## **Building Systems Research**

- Cambridge Homes, Chicago
- Moisture & thermal performance





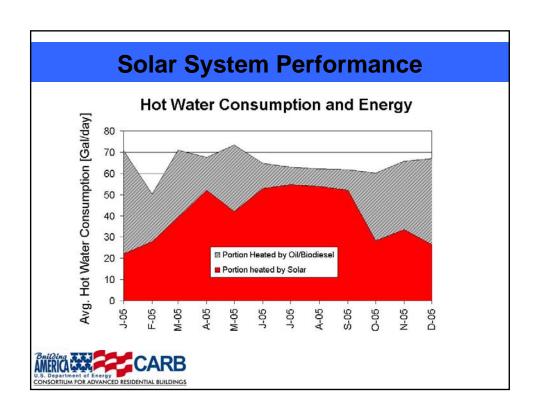


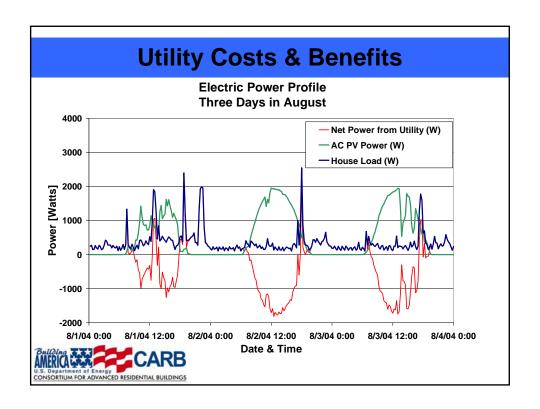
#### **Solar Homes**



Partnership with Western Massachusetts Electric Co.

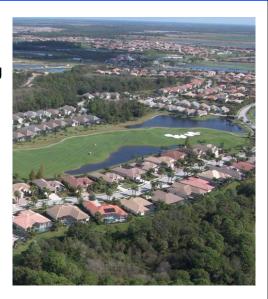






#### Lakewood Ranch, Sarasota, FL

- Helped design & implement "green" development and building standards for community.
- 30,000 Homes over 15 years
- All Energy Star
- All "Green" per FGBC Standards





#### Veridian Homes: Achieving 40% Goal

#### **Based upon Previous Prototype**

- Advanced Framing
- Engineered Duct System
- Basement Insulation to Sill (R-5 minimum)
- R-40 Attic Insulation
- Vinyl, Double Pane, Low e windows
- Air Sealing to Reduce Infiltration
- All Ducts in Conditioned Space & Tightly Sealed
- Direct- or Power- Vented Mechanical Equipment

#### **Added Features**

- Blown-In Insulation (R-23)
- Solar Water Heating System
- 100 % Fluorescent Lighting
- ECM Motor on Furnace
- Energy Star Appliances
- Home Energy Monitoring System





#### **Blue Sea Construction**

- CARB project in 2001: **Develop specifications** for affordable Energy Star homes.
- 375 units in NYC, 79 more in 2006





## Simpler QA

- Blower Door Testing
- Duct Blaster Testing
- Balancing









## **Ventilation Commissioning**

- Check flow of Exhaust Fans
  - Flows often <50% of rated flows



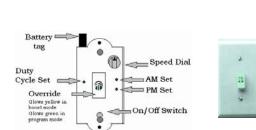






#### **Ventilation Commissioning**

- Check Controls
  - Timer settings
  - Other specialized controls









#### **Ventilation Commissioning**

#### Proper

- Operation
- Installation
- Ducting









# **Combustion Testing**

- Combustion Efficiency
- Safety
  - CO levels
  - Proper draft
  - Spillage





## **Refrigerant Charge**

- Necessary for proper capacity and efficiency
- EPA Certification







# **Solar Systems**

• Still not common, but commissioning is key.





#### **Contact Information**

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