

**FEBRUARY
2002**

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Enthusiasm is contagious. Why not start an epidemic!

News

President's Message

By Bill Lippy, Fi-Foil Company



It's not hard to pick up a column or see a speaker that starts with something about September 11, and for good reason. This is one of those days that you remember where you were on that tragic day.

I was recently given a booklet of front pages from newspapers around the world showing the news. It certainly made me think again of the event as well as the show of emotion and support from people around the globe. So much of the fabric of our country and the world changed that day, and

I again have been so impressed with the perseverance of everyone for something positive moving forward - the human spirit is amazing!

This snapshot reminded me how quickly information flows, and that we are a news-by-the-minute society. The Internet, "Headline News", etc. - communication has vastly changed the world. People thirst for information, and it will only be enhanced when the next generation of cell phones with wireless internet and video capabilities

are market-ready. Can you imagine?

I believe that our industry has something to offer for the future of insulation technology, and I look forward to working with you all this year at RIMA to advance our cause. If you have not already done so, please call your committee chairman. If we all put forth a little "elbow grease" and spirit, we as a group can do a lot. I look forward to seeing you in Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh in April

The next meeting for the Reflective Insulation Manufacturers Association will be held April 13-14, 2002, at the Pittsburgh Hilton and Towers in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

This meeting is being held in conjunction with the ASTM C16 Committee meetings which are held two times

per year. ASTM is using both the Pittsburgh Hilton and Towers and The Omni William Penn hotels. Room rates are \$133 single/double at both facilities and reservations can be made by calling the Hilton at 412/391-4600 or the Omni at 412/553-5100.

Meeting attendance

forms were distributed to all RIMA members in early February. If you have not yet confirmed your participation in this meeting, please contact the RIMA office at 800/279-4123. This is a key gathering for RIMA for 2002, and we will look forward to seeing you there.

Pick A Show for 2002

One of our top priorities for 2002 is for the PR Committee to make some noticeable strides on behalf of RIMA and the industry. One avenue being explored is exhibiting at industry trade shows, and a few such shows have been identified and will be

discussed at the upcoming meeting in April. Members are requested to review the following selections and come prepared with your choice for RIMA participation this year. The candidates are as follows:

- NAHB Show, January 2003, in Las Vegas, Nevada.
- CSI Show, June 27-29, 2002, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

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What's News ?

- It's annual dues renewal time for RIMA members. Your support in helping to grow and expand the industry is vital, and we encourage you to get your renewals in and help us make 2002 our best year yet.
- Our new partnership with Ron Blank & Associates has proven quite successful with nearly 200 architects/ engineers taking part in the test in 2001. With continued promotion and visibility we anticipate a much greater participation this year. The test is now offered in English, French and Spanish, so be sure to put this important link on your company site and help us educate these key industry professionals on the benefits our industry provides. The test can be accessed from our website at www.rima.net (see link at the bottom of the opening page) or by going directly to www.ronblank.com.
- The association bylaws recently underwent some significant changes and are currently in the process of being reviewed by attorney Gary Auman. His recommendations will be reviewed by the RIMA board and presented to the membership at the April meeting.
- A new position paper is now available defining a radiant barrier. For copies of this document, contact the RIMA office at 800/279-4123.
- At the last RIMA meeting in Deerfield Beach, Florida, a new RIMA Vice President was elected. RIMA welcomes Ron Akers of Advanced Foil Systems in Ontario, California, to the RIMA Board serving a two-year term. We thank Ron and all the board members for giving of their time and energy to the association for the benefit of all. Keep up the great work!



COMMITTEE UPDATES

Membership—The Membership Committee is working with several prospective members for 2002. With the potential addition of distributor members, RIMA's membership could grow considerably over the next year. This new category will be finalized with the completion of the bylaw revisions and presented at the April meeting.

Technical—RIMA's Technical Committee continues to work on an updated version of our handbook "Understanding and Using Reflective Insulation, Radiant Barriers and Radiation Control Coatings". This latest version will be available for distribution later this year. It will also be replacing the current version on our website at www.rima.net.

In addition to the handbook, the committee is working on two white papers addressing the use of bubblepack insulations under concrete slabs and the effect of shingle roof temperatures. These two papers will also be presented for vote at the April meeting.

PRMarketing—The Public Relations committee will be expanding its efforts in 2002. Items already being addressed are timely press releases on hot RIMA issues, the latest being the availability of the architect/engineer test on the Ron Blank website followed by the announcement of the completion of our duct testing apparatus (see page 4 for details). With the many technical projects nearing completion, there will be several opportunities to share exciting news within the industry.

We recently completed an article for *Metal Construction News* on the use of reflective insulation in pre-engineered metal buildings. That article ran in their February, issue so be sure to watch for it.

The PR mailing list is also being expanded and updated. If you have any industry publications you feel should be included, be sure to forward that information to the RIMA office. In addition, RIMA is working to increase its visibility on other industry-related websites. We recently expanded the RIMA listing on 4specs (www.4specs.com) and are contacting several other organizations that offer industry links on their sites requesting to be added. Again, if you know of a site where RIMA should be listed, be sure to share that information with the RIMA office.

RIMA will also be taking a new step by exhibiting at an industry trade show in 2002. Members will vote on their show of choice at the April meeting.

Pick A Show for 2002 (continued...)

- AHMA's National Hardware Show & Building Products Expo, August 11-13, 2002, in Chicago, Illinois.
- AIA Show, May 9-11, 2002 in Charlotte, North Carolina.
- Metalscon Show, October 2-4, 2002, in Rosemont, Illinois.

If there are other shows you feel should be considered, please forward the names/dates/locations to the RIMA office either via e-mail (rima@rma.net) or fax (480/513-4740) by May 15, 2002. If you are interested in participating in the selection of this year's show, plan to attend the PR Committee meeting on Saturday, April 13th at 4 p.m. in Pittsburgh.

This is an exciting new venture for RIMA and we look forward to your input on this important decision.

Important Industry Updates

By Roy Akers,
President Advanced Foil Systems, Inc.
C16.21 Sub-Committee Chairman

ASTM STATUS REPORT

At the last meeting of ASTM, in Deerfield Beach, the following actions were taken by C16.21 on reflective insulations and radiant barriers:

1. Tom Miller's C727 Task Group (TG) met and discussed the recent concurrent ballot at which they received no negatives. This document was balloted for a new date, which will extend its life by five (5) years and passed, even though there were some minor changes made to update the document. Tom was really lucky for a guy who only had two TG meetings - It took almost twelve years to get the C1224 document approved!
2. Monty's TG C1158 won't have to meet for a while either. They received one negative on their ballot and it was withdrawn. Therefore, C1158 will also get a new date.
3. Roy's C1224 TG also will get a new date, but they will have to continue meeting because of one suggestion for a metal building calculation method for evaluating the frame assembly in the r -value testing, in a guarded hot box. Presently, the only calculation methodology is for that of qualifying the value of a wood frame. It will probably be easier to use most of the existing criteria in the present C1224 and deal primarily with rewriting the section on the metal frame r -value determination. At the next meeting, in Pittsburgh, the TG will concentrate on doing just that, as well as exploring the other issue of writing a "precision & bias statement", required on one of the test criteria in C1224. We are going to attempt to do this without having to do "road robin" testing, by the labs that are approved to do this test. If we have to do the tests, it will take a long time and be costly to industry members. No one is going to pay for this but those of us in the industry that uses the document!
4. Ken Wilke's (DOE) TG C1340 on heat gain & loss of an attic mounted RBS, by computer modeling, is an ongoing affair. This TG will continue meeting until all the applicable data has been evaluated, such as the current methods used by the states of Florida and California, and compiled into a finished DOE program. This program is available at this time but is difficult to run, as I understand it! I'm not that computer literate so it may not be as difficult as I'm implying! Roy Akers and Bill Lippy are also working on the collection of info for Ken.
5. I saved the most important until last! Monty formed a new TG, presently entitled C16.21.01, and they met for the first time at Deerfield Beach. This group is writing a practice on "Use and Installation" of reflectives as an exterior duct wrap. There were 13 people present, many of them from the fiberglass industry, which has much to lose once this document is in place. The next meeting of this TG, which will be in Pittsburgh in April, is very important to all RIMA members. Monty needs all the support that he can get from our association. In the past, we have let others write our standards. We don't do that anymore! Remember, it does not matter if you are presently selling or marketing in this area. However, you may at some time. You are a member of this industry and your ideas, as well as your votes, are needed if we are going to move our industry forward.

The following is a schedule of the C 16.21 TG meetings in Pittsburgh April 14-17:

- * C1224 (Std. Spec. on Reflect. Insul.) - Mon. @ 9:00-10:00am
- * C16.21.01 (Use & Install. of Reflect. Insul. on Ext. Ducts) - Mon. @ 10:00-11:00am
- * C1340 (Calc. of RBS Heat Gain or Loss by Computer) - Mon. @ 3:00-4:00pm

If you have any questions on the work of the task groups, or the status of a specific document, please e-mail me at roy@afs-foi.com or call me at (800) 360-5125.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

As it stands right now, the CEC has made no additional changes to the current Title 24 standards that really help the reflective industry. The hearings that took place at the end of last year, specifically October and November, were the first of a long uphill battle on the 2005 building standards. When I say uphill battle, I mean that the CEC has a limited budget when it comes to energy efficiency standards that evolve around radiant barriers.

Len Zola and I both submitted energy efficiency measures (templates) which in some ways were similar and in other ways different. We worked closely together on the templates in order to provide the CEC with the best information as possible. Bottom line was to propose changes to the current standards that would make radiant barriers more appealing in the 2005 standards. This, in itself, is not an easy task. Keep in mind that the reflective industry is up against the glass industry when it comes to overall energy efficiency credits. The lobbying effort on behalf of the glass industry is strong. Whereas, the reflective industry has little, or no, foothold within the CEC at this time. It's not that our products don't work, if truth were known we would be heroes. It's more of the fact that we are still considered the new kids on the block when it comes to energy efficient building standards.

On a positive note, it appears that the fiberglass industry will work with us, when it comes to California building standards. Discussions that took place between us, in Sacramento, suggest somewhat of a coalition of sorts. My comments to David Ware, the NAIMA representative as well as Owens Corning's head of codes and standards, was that we, the reflective industry, were not out to get rid of mass insulation but rather enhance its performance. Our concerns, of intense radiant heat gain, and mass insulations reduced ability to address it, specifically during peak load times, was addressed before the CEC and no negatives came from the floor, which included NAIMA.

Now that we have presented our position on radiant barriers, we have to wait and see if we make the cut. Over 130 measures were presented to the CEC and only a handful will be accepted. There are no scheduled meetings this year as of yet on energy efficiency. In the meantime we will keep pushing forward to gain acceptance.

I will keep the membership posted of any further activity with regards to the CEC.

RIMA Board

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Duct Insulation Test Apparatus Completed

By Dr. David Yarbrough



R&D Services, Inc. reported the completion of a duct insulation test apparatus to RIMA in December of 2001. A copy of the report can be obtained from Mary Edmondson at the RIMA Office or R&D Services, Inc. (rdserv1@charter.net). The duct insulation test apparatus conforms to the principles of the pipe insulation standard ASTM C 335. R-values are obtained from steady-state data for temperatures and heat flows across the insulation.

Duct insulation test material is installed on a seven-foot-long test section in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Electrical strip heaters and fans heat and mix the air inside the duct. Thermocouples on the inside surface of the duct, on the outside surface of the insulation system, and in the air surrounding the insulated duct provide temperature data over a 24-hour-long test period. Averages of the temperature data over the final eight hours of the test period are used to calculate the thermal resistance of the duct insulation. The steady-state temperature of the air inside the duct is controlled by the amount of electrical power fed to the heaters inside the duct. Results are routinely collected for duct-air temperatures in the range 100 to 200 °F and reported at selected temperatures.

The thermal data provide thermal resistances (R-values) for the duct insulation alone or for a system that extends from the surface of the duct to the surrounding air. The latter R-value includes the effect of the low-emittance exterior surface that is commonly part of a duct-insulation system.

Measured R-values for a bubble pack reflective insulation product installed around the test apparatus without spacers were in the range 2-3 ft²·h·°F/Btu. Measured R-values with a 0.625-inch air gap between the outside duct wall and the insulation were in the range 4-5 ft²·h·°F/Btu. In both cases, the effect of the effect of the outside low-emittance surface is included in the reported R-values. The test apparatus is now available for developmental work or routine testing.

Just For Laughs



A man is in bed with his wife when there is a rat-a-tat-tat on the door. He rolls over and looks at his clock, and it's half past three in the morning. "I'm not getting out of bed at this time," he thinks, and rolls over. Then, a louder knock follows. "Weren't you going to answer that?" asks his wife. So he drags himself out of bed and goes downstairs. He opens the door and there is a man standing at the door. It didn't take the homeowner long to realize the man was drunk. "Hi there," slurs the stranger. "Can you give me a push?" "No, get lost. It's half past three. I was in bed," says the man and slams the door. He goes back up to bed and tells his wife what happened and she says, "Dave, that wasn't very nice of you. Remember that night we broke down in the pouring rain on the way to pick the kids up from the babysitter and you had to knock on that man's house to get us started again? What would have happened if he'd told us to get lost?" "But the guy was drunk," says the husband. "It doesn't matter," says the wife. "He needs our help and it would be the Christian thing to help him." So the husband gets out of bed again, gets dressed, and goes downstairs. He opens the door, and not being able to see the stranger anywhere he shouts, "Hey, do you still want a push?" And he hears a voice cry out, "Yeah please." So, still being unable to see the stranger he shouts, "Where are you?" And the drunk replies, "I'm over here, on your swing."

Reflective Insulation Manufacturers Association

4519 E Lone Cactus Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85050

Phone: 800/279-4123 F Fax: 480/513-4749

Home Page: <http://www.rima.net>

E-mail: rima@rima.net