



REFLECTIVE INSULATION MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RIMA Celebrates 25 Years

The Reflective Insulation Manufacturers Association (RIMA) will be celebrating their 25th anniversary of service to the reflective insulation and radiant barrier industries this year. The association was founded in 1978 by a small group of industry professionals interested in educating building professionals and consumers on the benefits and uses of reflective products promoting the industry. They also took an active role in the American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) by helping write the testing and installation standards for reflective insulation and radiant barriers.

One of the association's first accomplishments was participating in the DOE/FTC 1979 hearings in Washington, DC, that addressed insulation products. At the completion of the hearings, the Federal Trade Commission published what became known as the "R-Value Rule". This rule still governs the way all insulation products and radiant barriers are packaged, tested, and sold.

In the second half of the 1980's RIMA accomplished many of its goals and reflectives made a significant contribution to energy conservation. The process continues at an aggressive pace with efforts directed to gaining greater presence in the marketplace for all reflective products.

Some of RIMA's most recent accomplishments include:

- The establishment of an interactive on-line accredited course for architects and engineers that can be readily accessed at <http://www.ronblank.com/cgi-bin/info.pl?action=course>.
- Ongoing posting of on-line technical bulletins on the www.rima.net website addressing timely product issues and related Industry concerns (recent postings include: *The Effect of Radiant Barriers in An Attic Application on Exterior Roofing Materials*, *Reflective Insulation Materials Used Under Concrete Slabs*, and *The Definition of a Radiant Barrier*)
- Active contribution to the 2002 version 8.0 Manual J release made available in the fall of 2002.
- Successful in gaining inclusion of radiant barriers to Title 24 in California.
- Funded a test apparatus for reflective HVAC duct systems. Product testing proposals can be obtained by calling R & D Services at 931/526-3348.
- Issued new, improved handbook "*Understanding and Using Reflective Insulation, Radiant Barriers and Interior Radiation Control Coatings*". (Handbook available from RIMA members, on the RIMA website at www.rima.net or by calling RIMA directly at 800/279-4123.)

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RIMA members have and are serving on many committees that involve Federal, State, and Manufacturer organizations/societies such as:

ASTM C16.21 Committee – Providing leadership in the development of industry standards for reflective insulation and radiant barrier products.

D.O.E. Insulation Committee – Participating in Federal standards formation. Our efforts contributed to development of an Energy Fact Sheet on Radiant Barriers, and the Energy Handbook on Reflective Insulation, as well as D.O.E. research papers on radiant barriers: Karns, Tenn. houses -- Oklahoma field tests on radiant barriers -- Ft. Benning field test on radiant barriers

Calif. Bureau of Home Furnishings Standards Comm. – Contributing to the Reflective Insulation section of the California standards. Gaining acceptance for sale of reflective insulations and radiant barriers in the state of California.

California Thermal Conference – Contributing two papers on reflective insulation and radiant barriers.

California Energy Commission – Gaining approval for truss mounted radiant barriers.

Florida Power & Light/University of Florida Seminars – Conducting a seminar on radiant barriers.

TVA Radiant Barrier Workshops – Providing speakers, serving as panel members, and presenting papers that furthered work being done by TVA in concert with D.O.E. and Oak Ridge National Labs.

American Institute of Timber Construction Adhoc Committee on Moisture in Wood Roofs – Assisting in the development of standard for installation of all types of insulation, including radiant barriers and reflective insulations, in commercial wood truss roofs.

Insulation Contractors Association of America Tech Committee – Serving as Technical Panel Members and contributing to the development of Bulletin #18 on reflective insulation and radiant barriers. Participating at the regional level -- Atlanta and Orlando Chapters. Writing ICAA Fact Sheet.

Annual International Conference on Thermal Insulation – Presenting a paper on reflective insulations and radiant barriers.

National Frame Builders Association - Contributing two papers and serving as panel members on a number of insulation workshops at annual conventions. Developing paper for publication in Association magazine. Members have also served on their Board of Directors.

Colorado Thermal Insulation Association – Contributing to the Reflective Insulation section of the Colorado thermal Insulation Standards.

Florida Department of Community Affairs – Contributing data that led to approval on radiant barriers.

ASHRAE - DOE - BTECC Conferences – Contributing to the technical program on "Thermal Performance of the Exterior Envelopes of Buildings I-V", sponsored by all three groups.

RIMA members have contributed to articles and information that have appeared in many magazines and newsletters including: *Builders Magazine, Journal of Light Construction, Popular Mechanics, Popular Science, Architecture Magazine, RSI, Energy Design Update, Florida Builder, Contractors Guide, Practical Homeowner, Rural Builder Magazine, Frame Builder Professional, Metal Construction News, Metal Architecture, Roofing Contractor, ProSales, and Construction Canada.*

RIMA continues to work with many of the organizations, societies, associations, and governmental agencies to gain further acceptance of these products and help establish standards that promotes their best use. A current major project is to assist every state in their review of their current energy standards to bring them into compliance with Federal Standards. This effort will further local acceptance of radiant barriers and reflective insulation products.

RIMA welcomes all who are interested in promoting and directing the growth of the industry. For more information about membership or the industry, please contact Executive Director Mary Edmondson at 800/279-4123.