

Residential Policy

Why BASF Wall Systems Requires Water-Drainage Wall Systems for One- and Two-Family Framed Residential Construction

TECHNICAL BULLETIN
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In August 1998 Senenergy® adopted an industry-leading policy requiring the use of water-drainage wall systems on all one and two family wood or steel framed residential construction. This technical bulletin summarizes the situation that precipitated this position and the manner in which Senenergy addressed it. Since July 2006, Senenergy has been a brand of BASF Wall Systems.

BACKGROUND

Senenergy was a pioneer in the EIFS industry and continues to be an innovative force. Senenergy's reputation is built upon reliable products backed by sound technical expertise and customer support. Senenergy extended those strengths into new areas, becoming a supplier of a variety of Architectural Wall and Finish Systems that include Stucco Wall Systems, Cement-Board Stucco System, Surfacing Systems for Insulating Concrete Forms and SIPS.

We have always been true believers in the technology that we deliver to the marketplace. Senenergy has enthusiastically promoted durable, beautiful and highly adaptable EIFS wall systems since 1979. Our first water-drainage system was offered in 1993 and our first Senturion residential water-drainage system was introduced in 1996.

TIMES CHANGE AND WE CHANGE WITH THEM

Today's residential construction has changed significantly since we first began supplying the stucco look. The systems we offer today address evacuation of incidental moisture from walls. In all one- and two- family frame construction we require that every wall system must incorporate a means of evacuating incidental moisture — it is simply the prudent course when you consider that:

- Many homes are built without the involvement of a design professional who might otherwise tie together all the wall assembly components with proper detailing
- Some homes are built without expert, on-site supervision
- Building inspectors in many locales are overwhelmed by the housing boom and may not include the inspection of the cladding in their protocols
- In too many cases, low quality components, including windows, are used in construction
- Improper or inadequate attention to flashing, sealants and other design considerations
- The use of water-sensitive OSB sheathing now predominates housing construction
- Negative publicity grossly overstated the extent of the problems with barrier EIFS, but served to create a demand for water-drainage systems that provide the same desirable look and benefits as classic EIFS
- Code changes on regional, state and national levels increasingly require that the wall system be designed to evacuate incidental moisture

OPTIONS RESPOND TO GROWING DEMAND FOR THE *STUCCO LOOK*

Since the introduction of our first water-drainage EIFS, we have assembled a complete line of residential wall and finishing systems that are compatible with existing realities and deliver the sought after "look" that the marketplace wants. We now offer variety that responds to differing needs based upon:

- Budgets
- Warranty expectations/requirements
- Code requirements
- Performance criteria
- Wall construction innovations

In 1999 Senenergy® integrated the concepts used in water-drainage residential systems and added other tested approaches to water-drainage commercial EIFS design options. Measures range from simple flashing of openings, to drainable systems that are suitable for high rise construction, to pressure equalized EIFS design options.

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Since 2000 Senergy has introduced the Senergy® Stucco Wall System, Senergy® Cement-Board Stucco™ System, and Senergy® Surfacing Systems for Insulated Concrete Forms (ICFs) and SIPS as a means of providing the popular look of stucco for other types of wall construction.

Today you can pick from the following water-drainage options when you want the stucco look for your one- or two- family residence:

- Conventional stucco with Senergy Finish
- Senergy Stucco Wall Systems
- Senergy Cement-Board Stucco 1000
- Senturion™ I
- Senturion™ II
- Senturion™ III
- Commercial Senerflex® with water-drainage design options
 - a. Channeled Insulation Design
 - b. Channeled Adhesive Design

Few companies have responded to the changing needs of the marketplace like BASF Wall Systems has with our commitment to the continued supply of beautiful and durable wall systems.

Note

BASF Wall Systems is an operating unit of BASF Construction Chemicals, LLC. (herein after referred to as "BASF Wall Systems")

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On one and two-family residential framed construction, BASF Wall Systems requires that the wall system selected be one that includes provisions for water drainage. The choices include Senturion® line of water drainage EIFS, commercial Senerflex® Channeled Adhesive or Channeled Insulation Design, Senergy Stucco Wall System, and Senergy Cement-Board Stucco™ Systems. There are no exceptions to this policy. Under no circumstances will BASF Wall Systems warrant the use of any other system on this type of construction without expressed written authorization from BASF Wall Systems [Residential construction using EIFS on masonry (CMU) or poured concrete does not require the additional water drainage provisions described above. Senergy Exterior Surfacing Systems for insulating concrete forms are also acceptable.] See the Senergy Residential Policy Bulletin for a more detailed discussion of this topic. Consult BASF Wall Systems Technical Services Department for specific recommendations concerning all other applications. Consult the Senergy website, www.senergy.basf.com for additional information about products and systems and for updated literature.

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