

Joseph Lstiburek, Ph.D., P.Eng, ASHRAE Fellow

Building Science

Ventilation

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“It isn't what we don't know that gives us trouble, it's what we know that ain't so”

Will Rogers

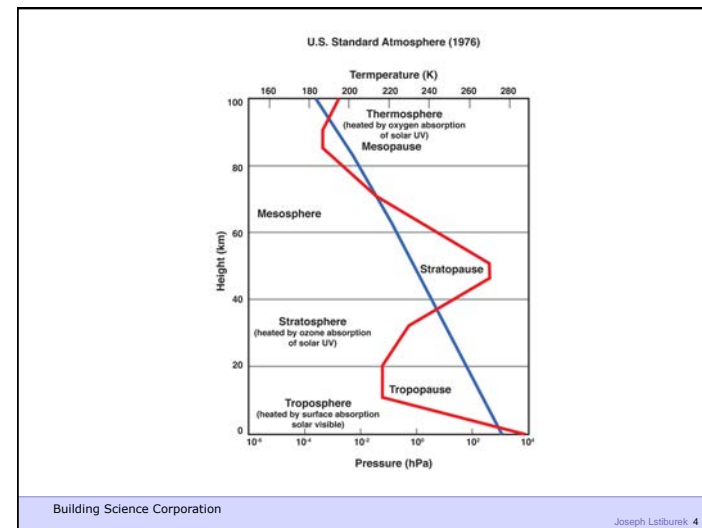
“There are known knowns. These are things we know. There are known unknowns. There are things that we know we don't know. But there are also unknown unknowns. There are things we don't know we don't know.

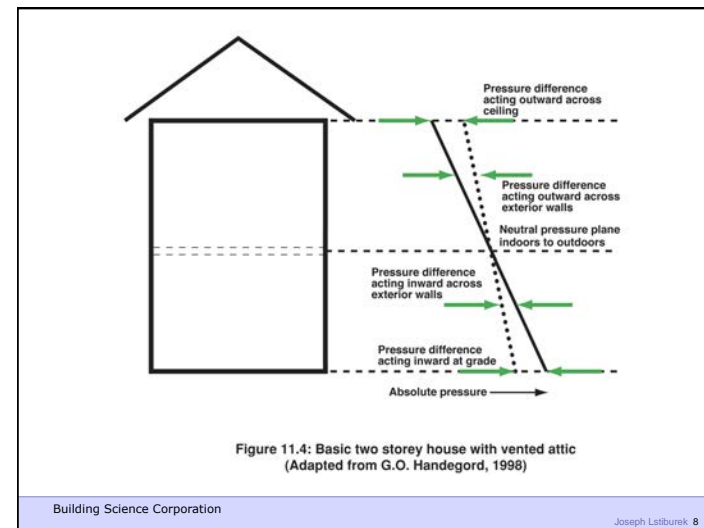
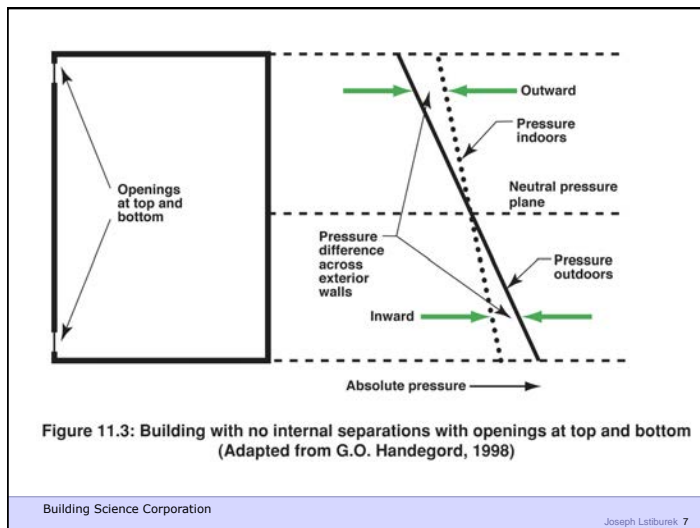
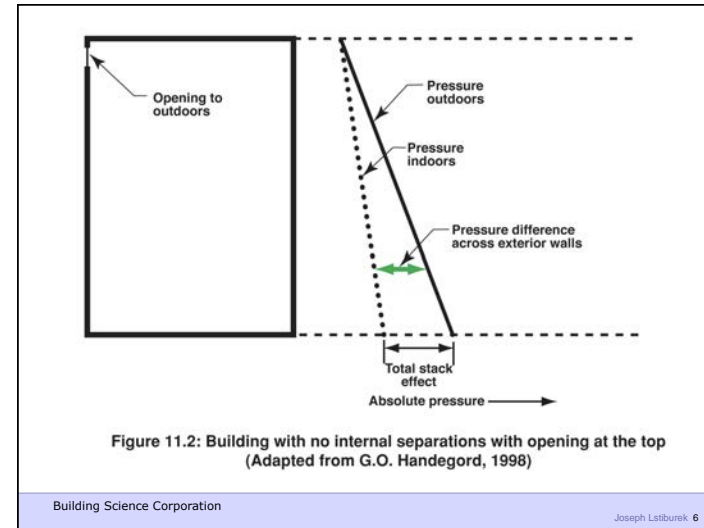
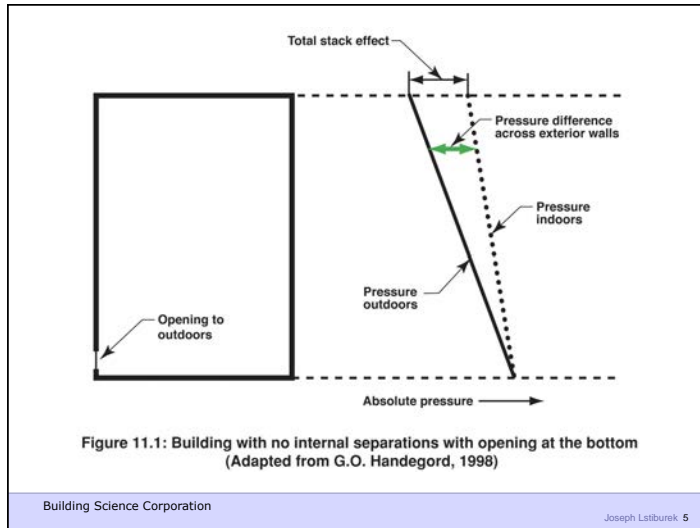
Donald Rumsfeld

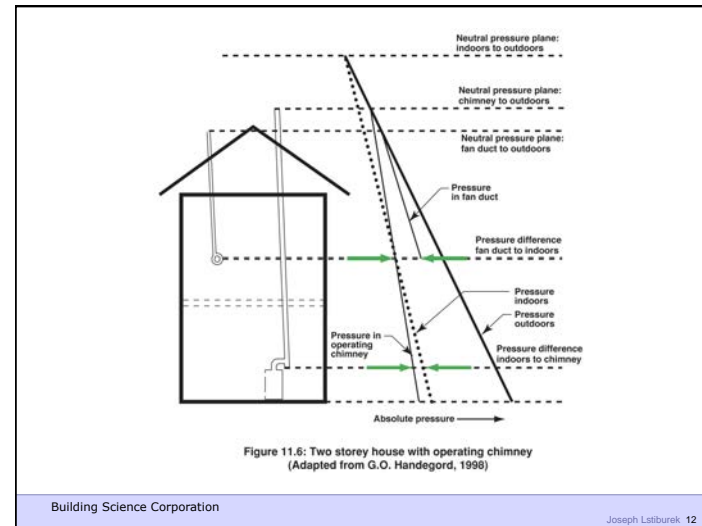
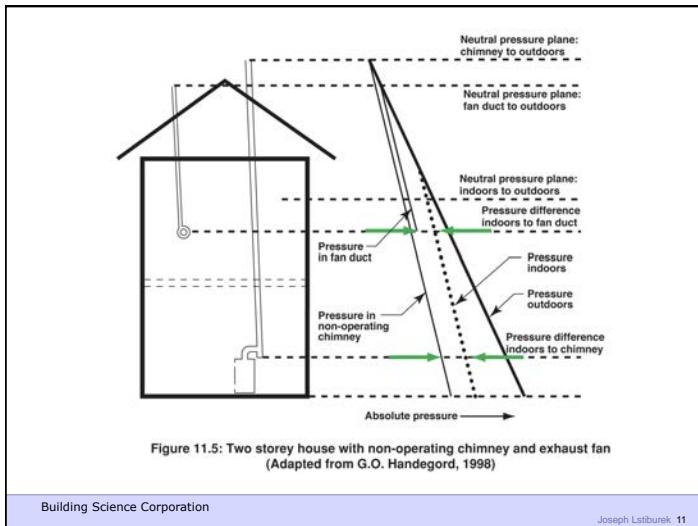
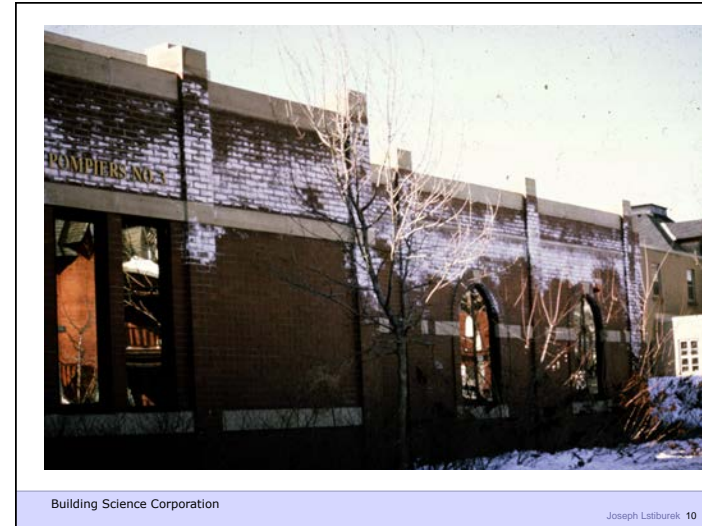
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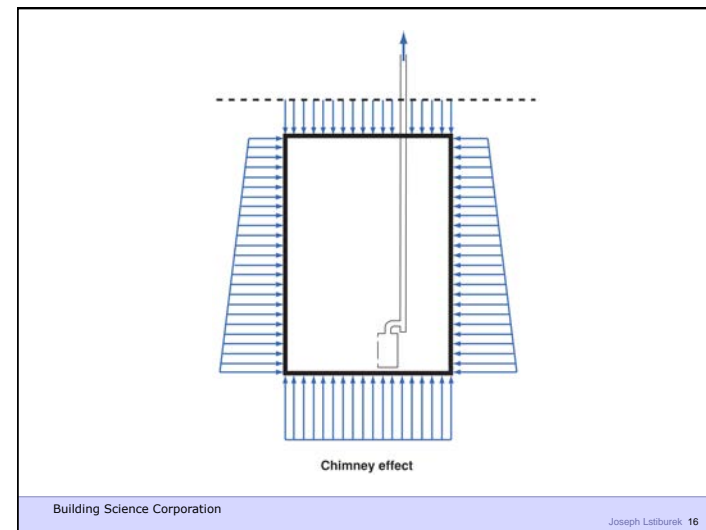
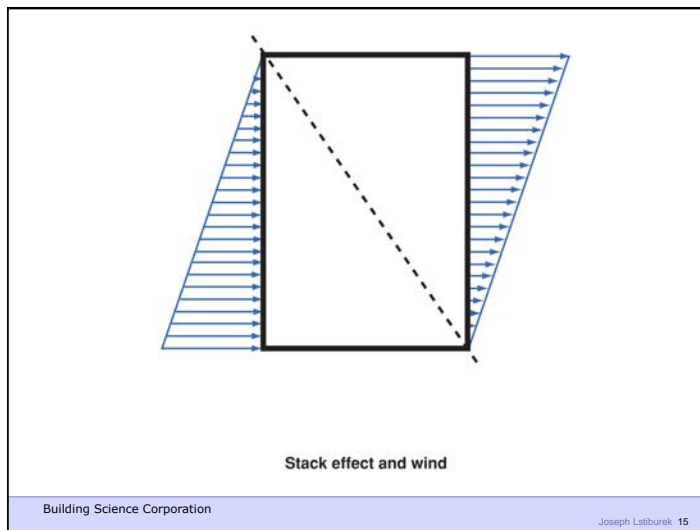
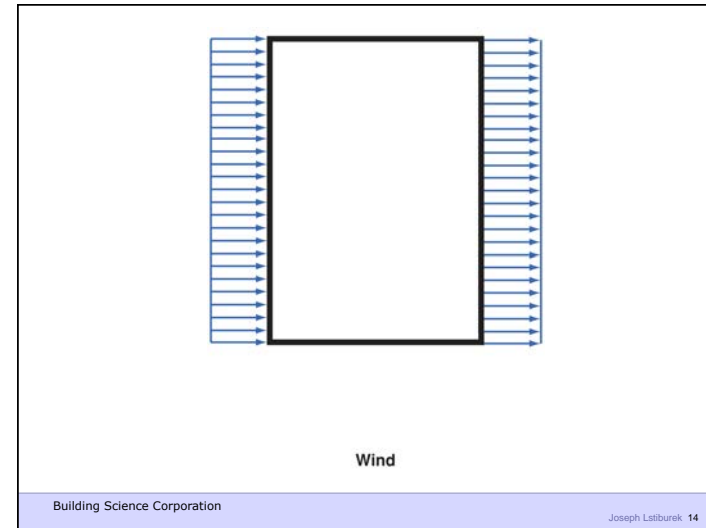
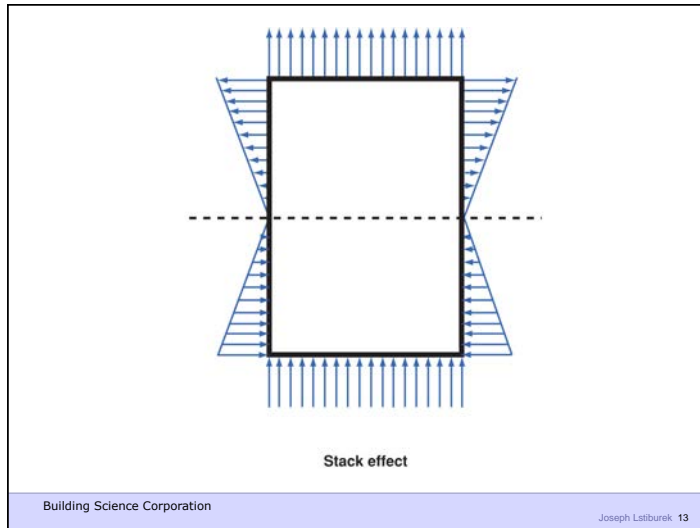
Lapse Rate

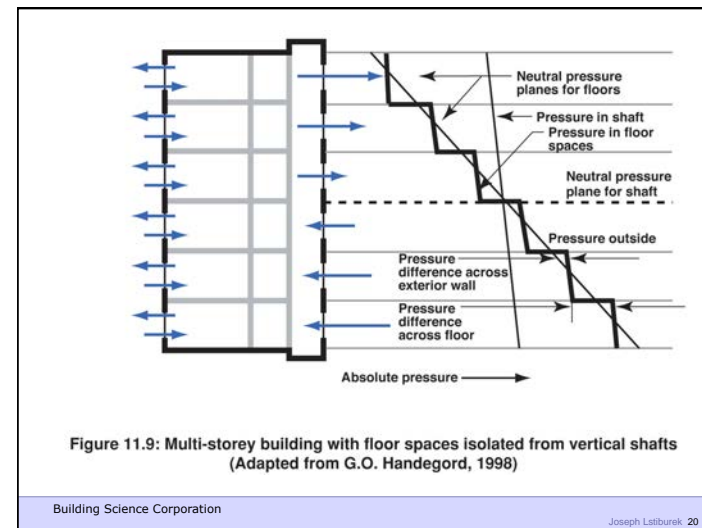
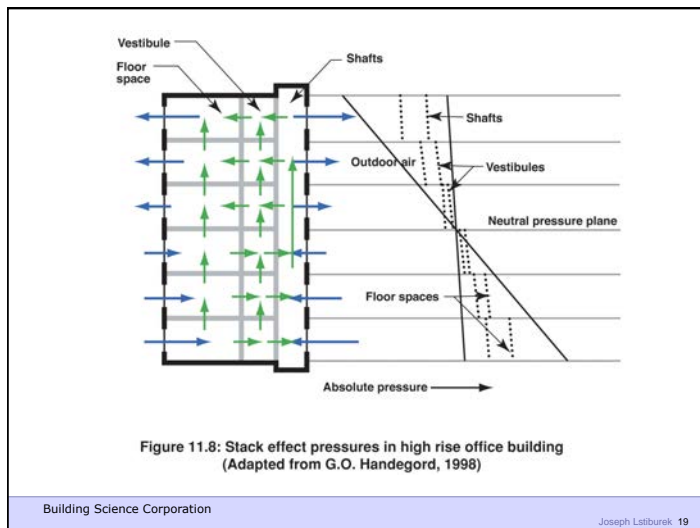
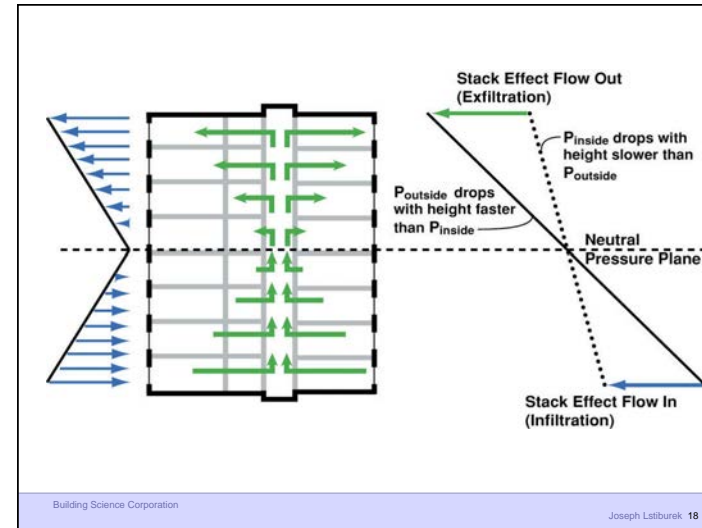
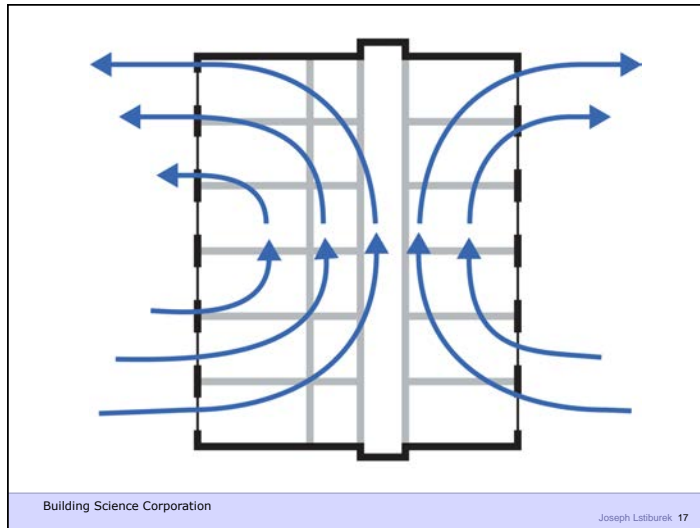
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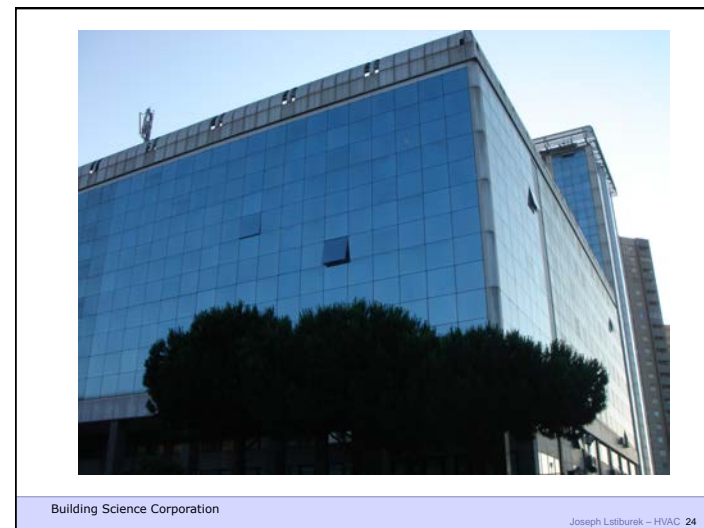
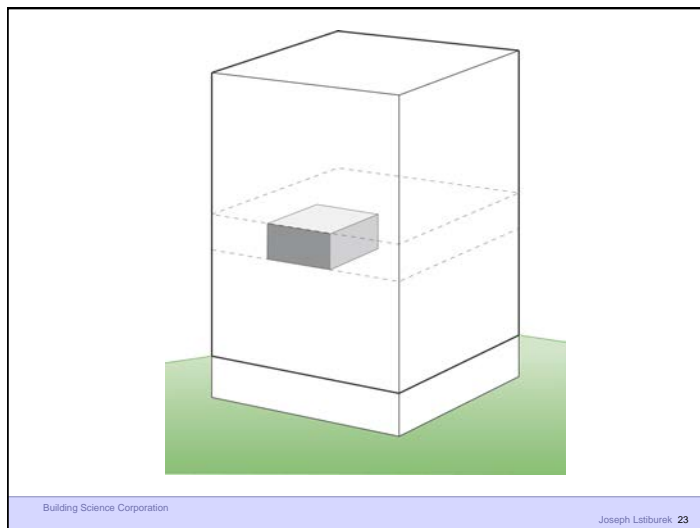
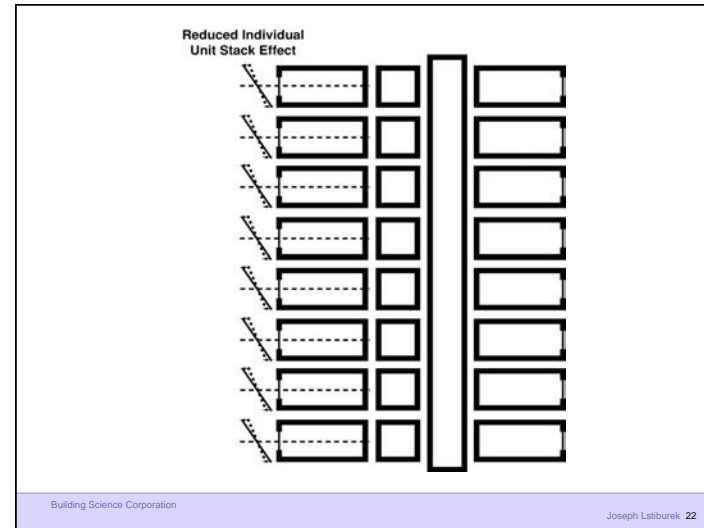
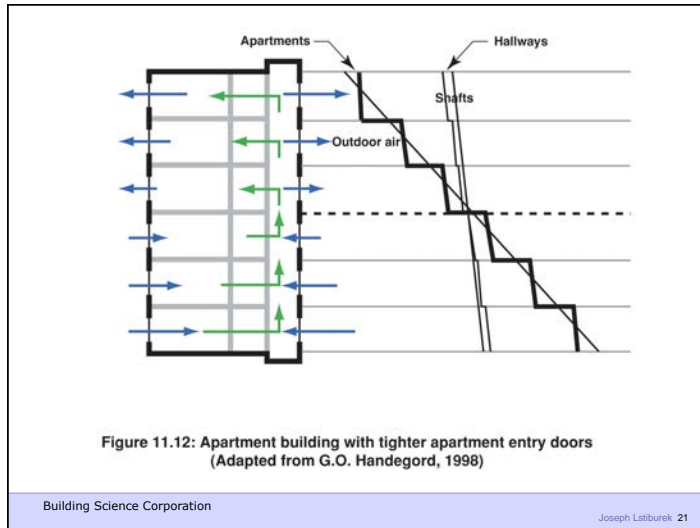


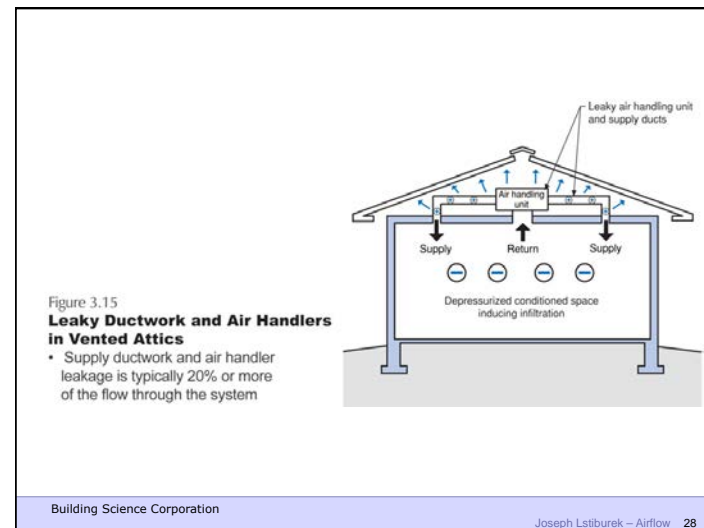
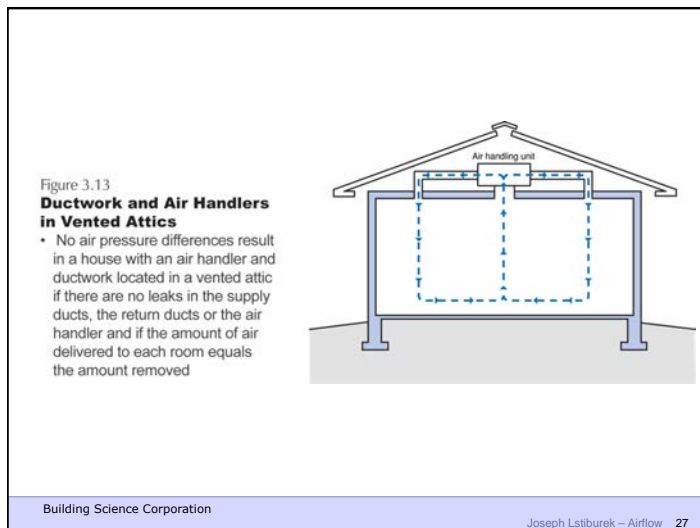
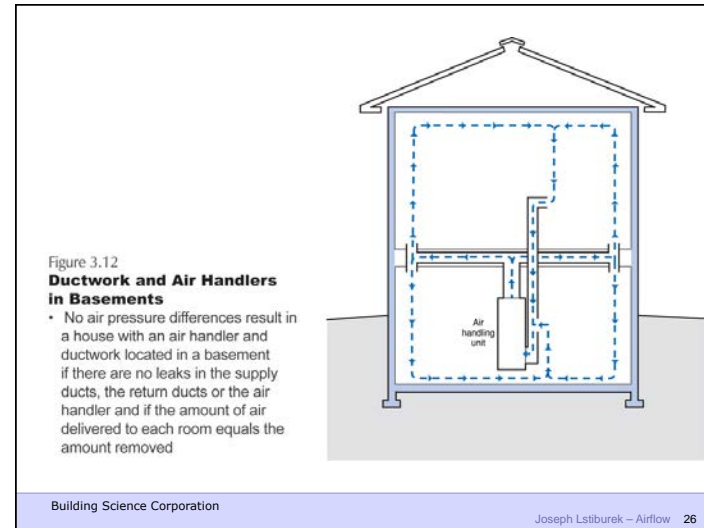


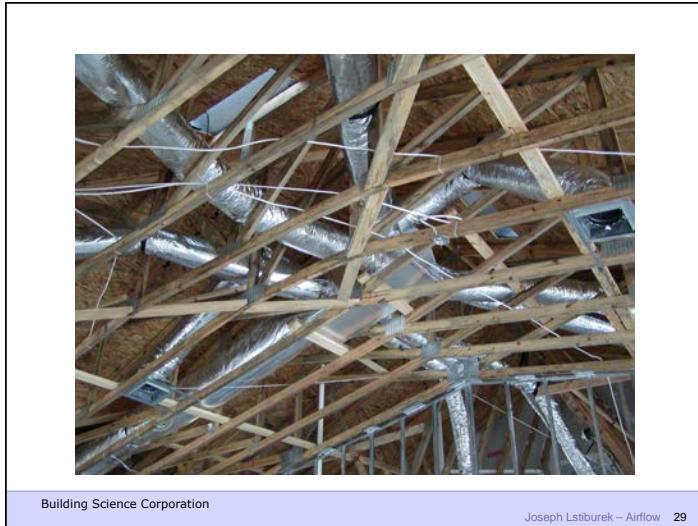










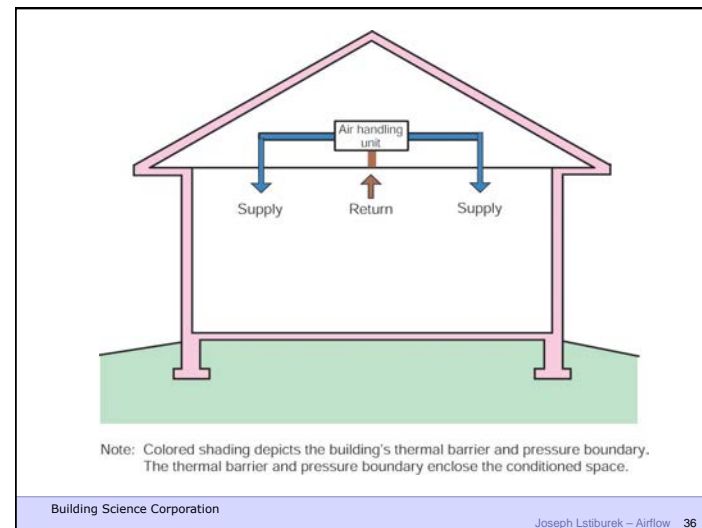


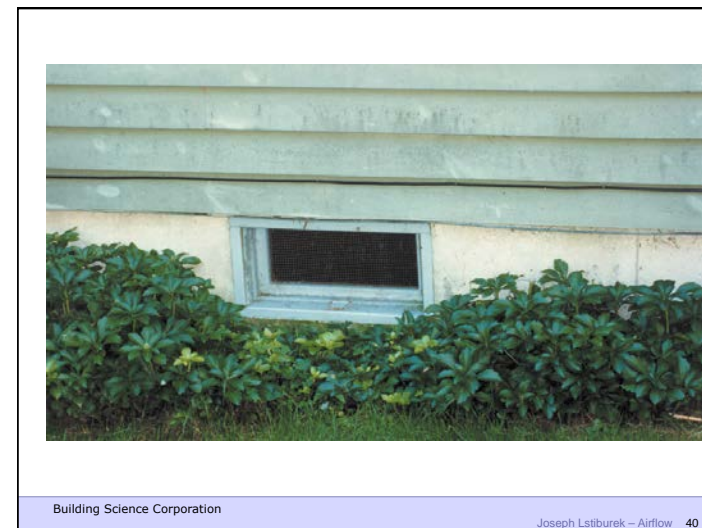
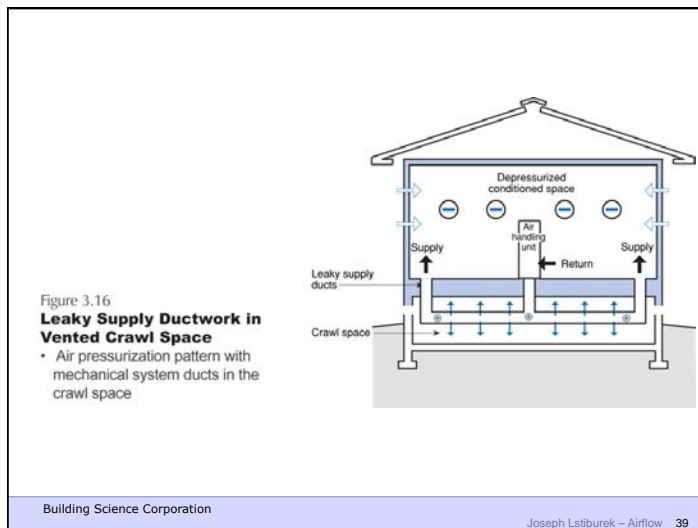
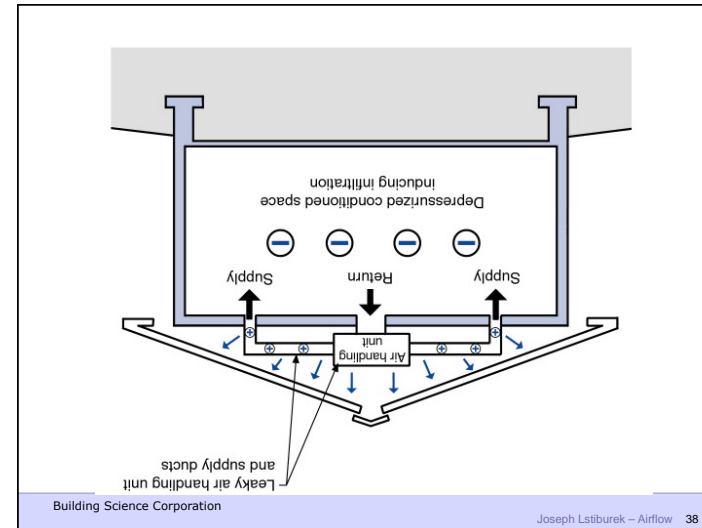


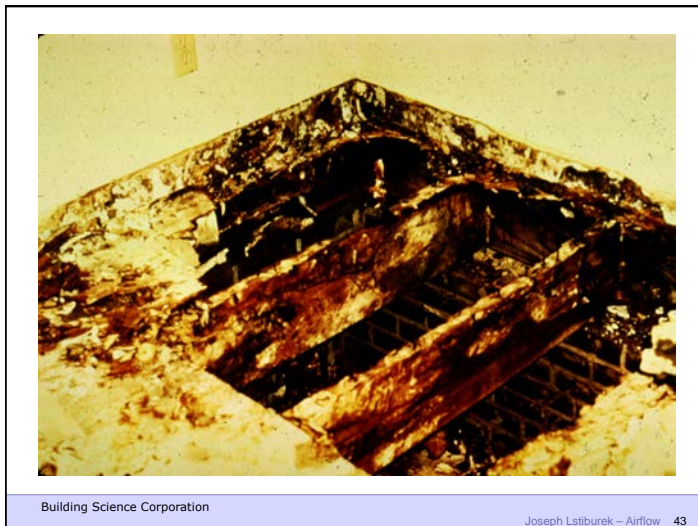
Duct Leakage Should Be Less Than 5% of Rated Flow As Tested By Pressurization To 25 Pascals

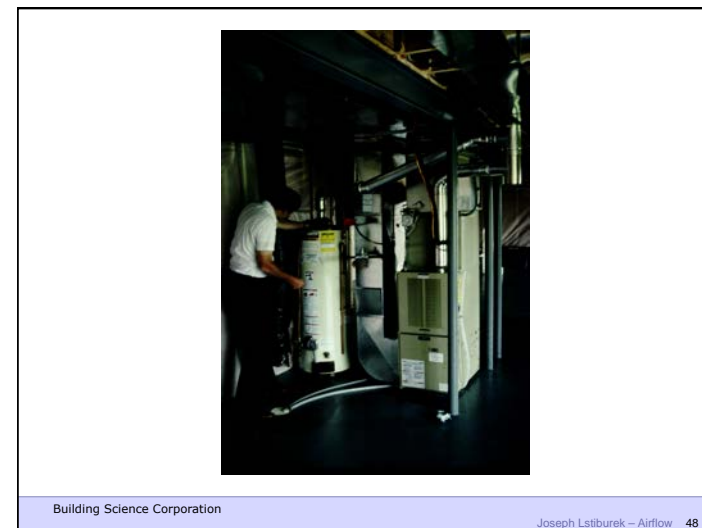
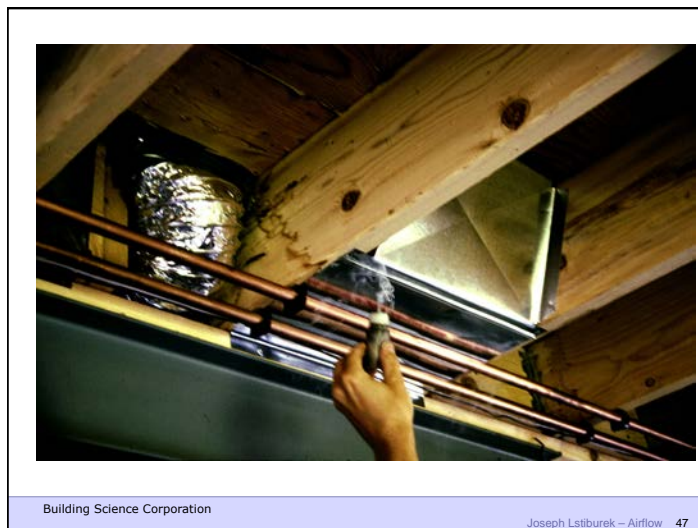
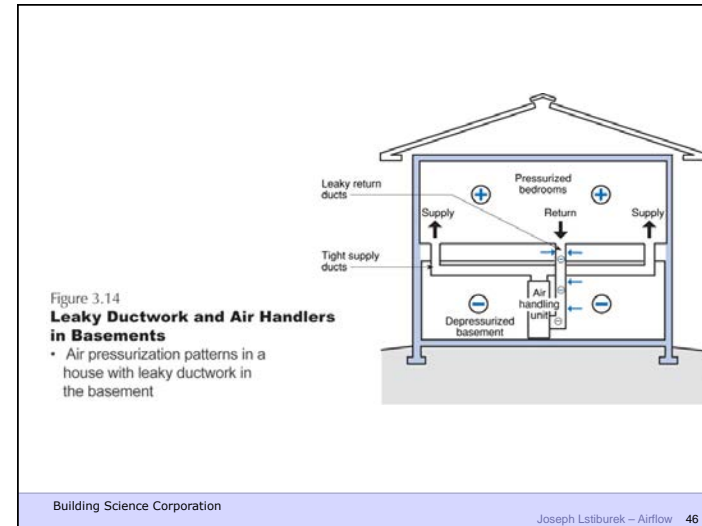
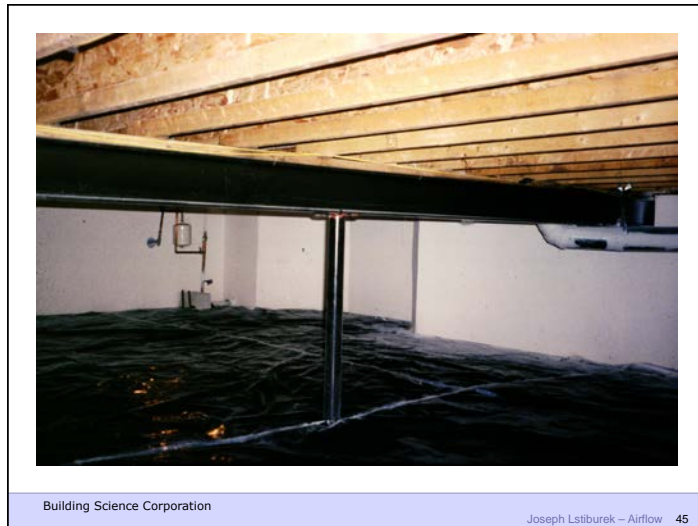
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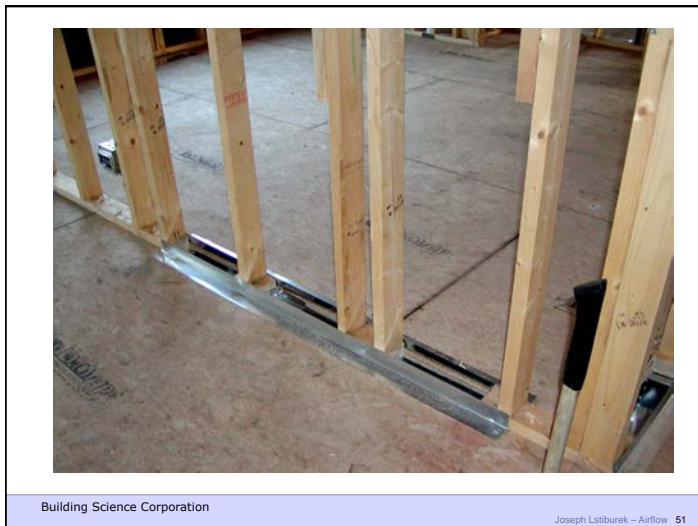
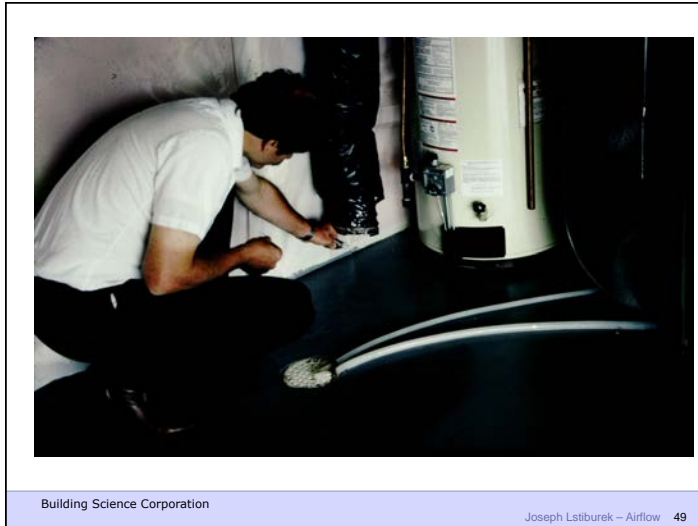
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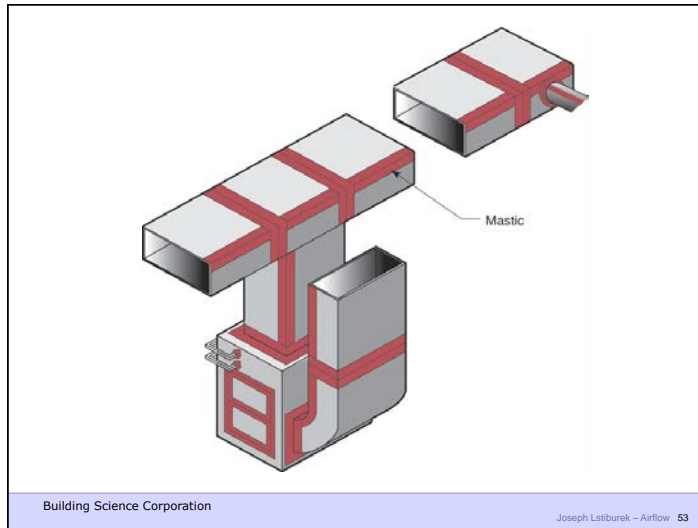
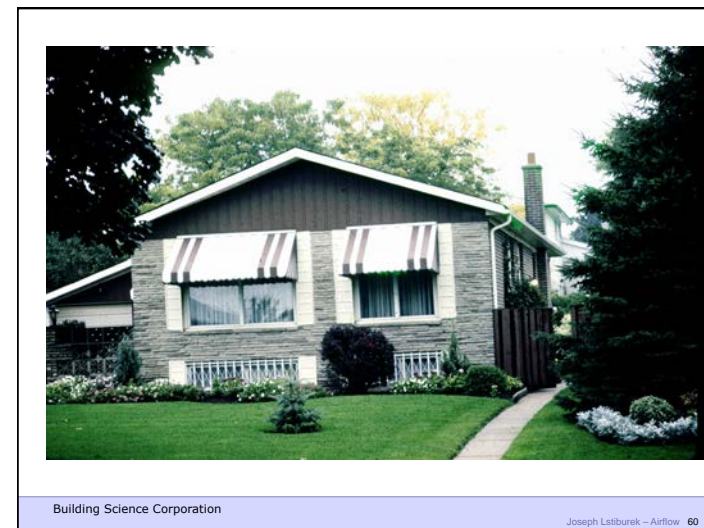
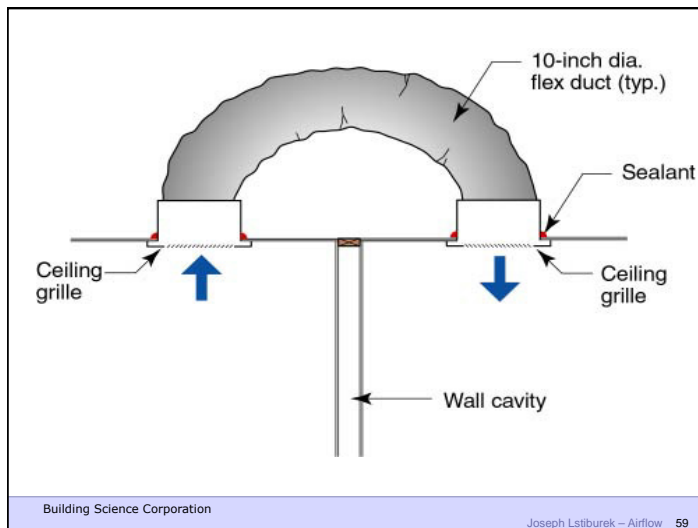
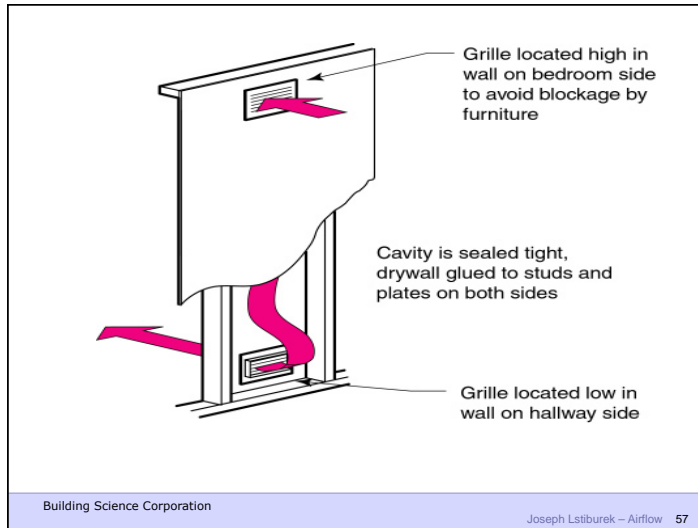


Figure 3.18
Insufficient Return Air Paths

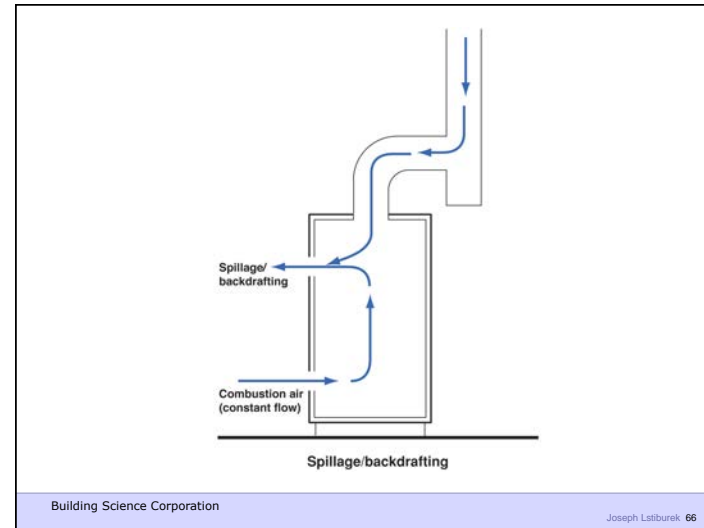
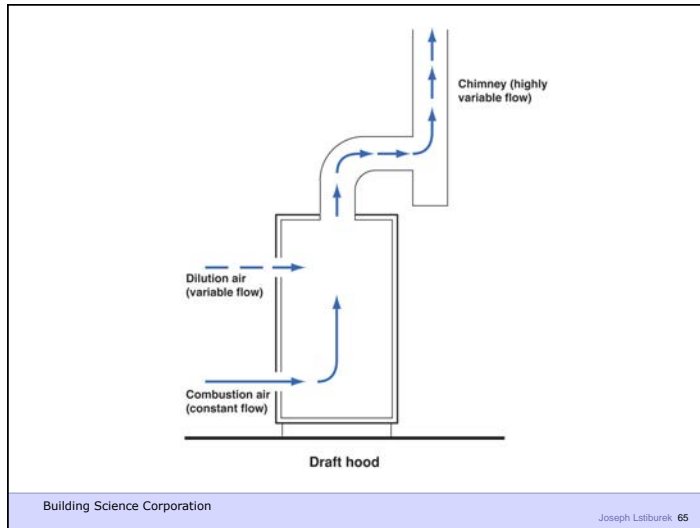
- Pressurization of bedrooms often occurs if insufficient return pathways are provided; undercutting bedroom doors is usually insufficient; transfer grilles, jump ducts or fully ducted returns may be necessary to prevent pressurization of bedrooms
- Master bedroom suites are often the most pressurized as they typically receive the most supply air
- When bedrooms pressurized, common areas depressurize; this can have serious consequences when fireplaces are located in common areas and subsequently backdraft

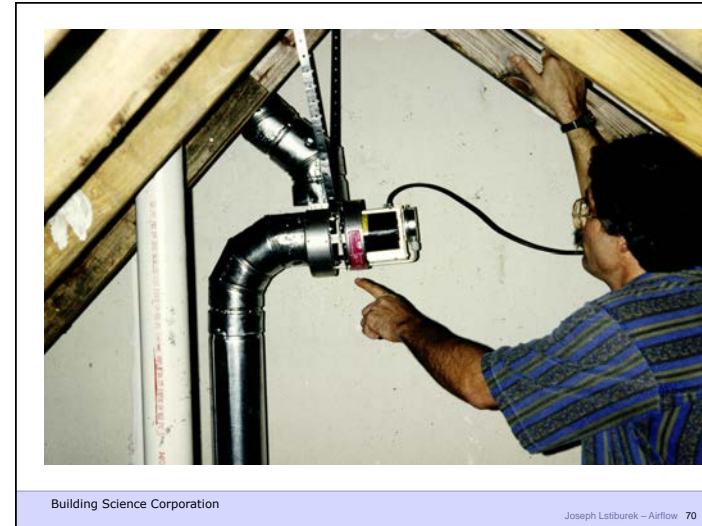
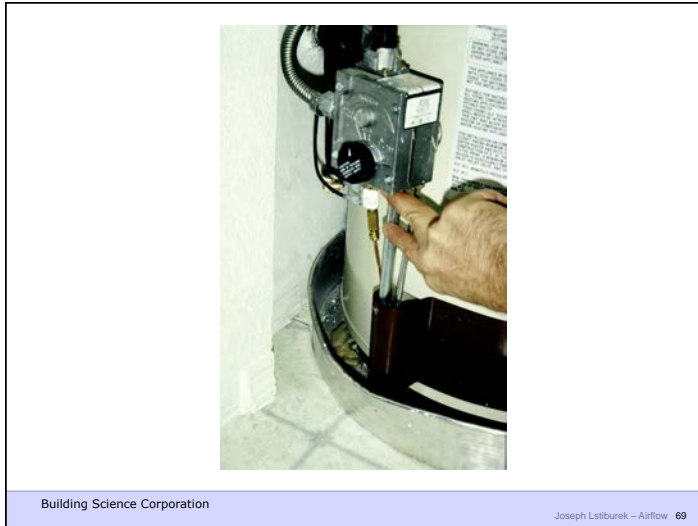
A schematic diagram of a bedroom suite. It shows an 'Air handling unit' at the top with arrows indicating air flow. Two 'Supply' vents (marked with '+') are located in the bedrooms, and one 'Return' vent (marked with '-') is located in the hall. The diagram illustrates how air is pushed into the bedrooms but not enough is being pulled back into the hall, leading to pressurization.

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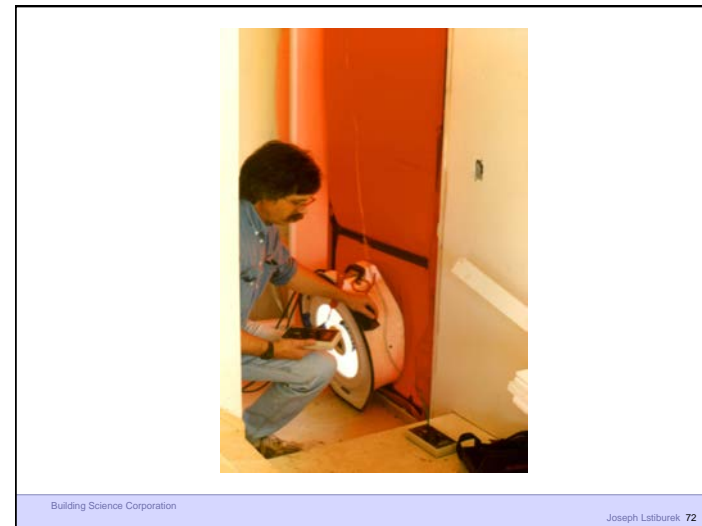


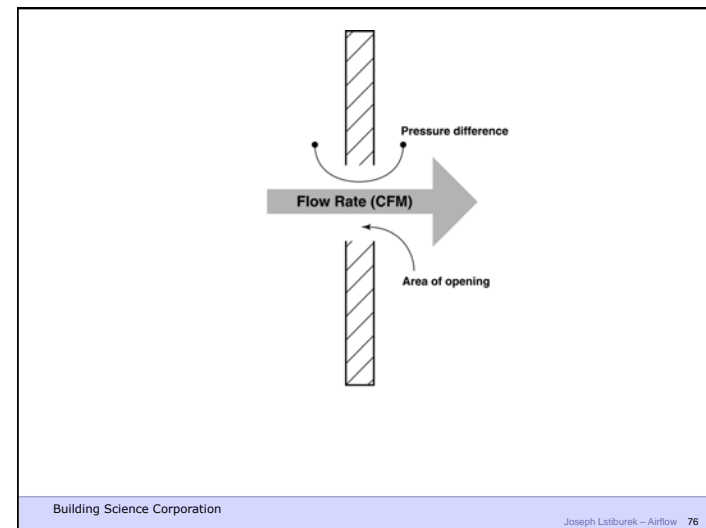
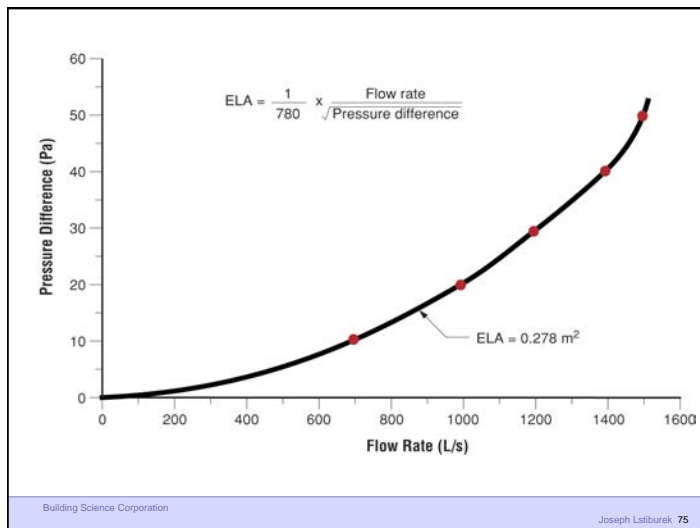
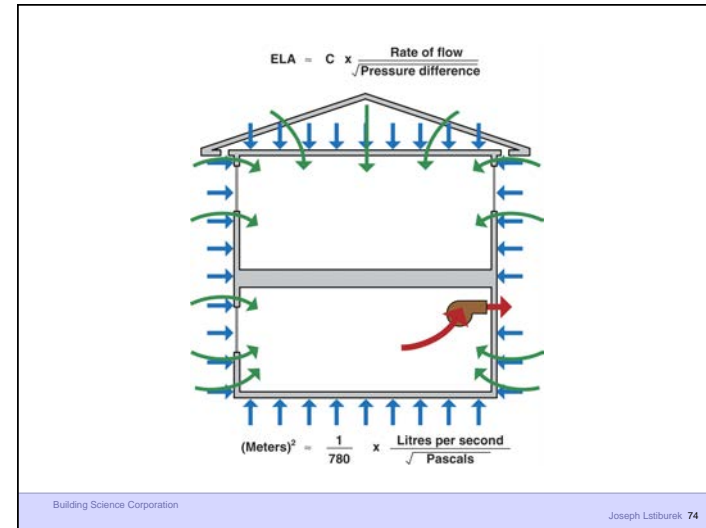
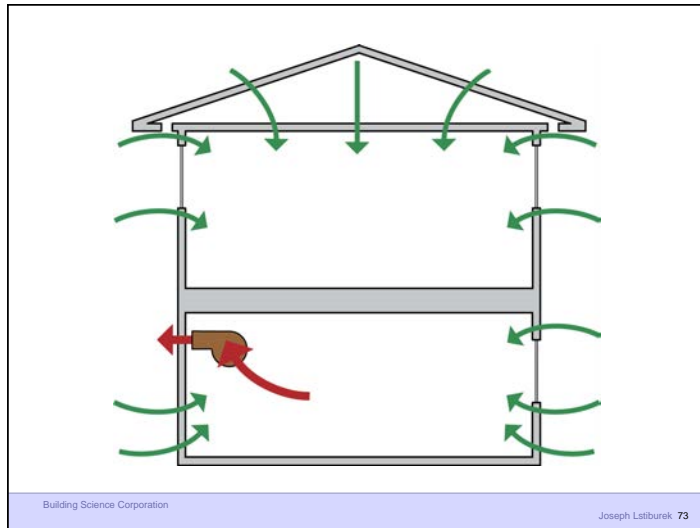
Air Barrier Metrics

Material	0.02 l/(s-m ²)@75 Pa
Assembly	0.20 l/(s-m ²)@75 Pa
Enclosure	2.00 l/(s-m ²)@75 Pa

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Flow Through Orifices
Turbulent Flow - “inertial effects”

Flow Through Porous Media
Laminar Flow - “viscosity effects”

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Flow Through Orifices
Turbulent Flow - “inertial effects”

Flow Through Porous Media
Laminar Flow - “viscosity effects”

“true but not useful”

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$$Q = A \cdot C_d \left[\frac{2}{\rho} (\Delta P) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{Bernoulli}$$

$$Q = C_k \frac{\rho}{\mu} (\Delta P) \quad \text{Darcy}$$

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$$Q = A \cdot C_d \left[\frac{2}{\rho} (\Delta P) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{Bernoulli}$$

$$Q = C_k \frac{\rho}{\mu} (\Delta P) \quad \text{Darcy}$$

$$Q = A \cdot C (\Delta P)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$Q = C (\Delta P)$$

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$$Q = A \cdot C_d \left[\frac{2}{\rho} (\Delta P) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{Bernoulli}$$

$$Q = C_K \frac{\rho}{\mu} (\Delta P) \quad \text{Darcy}$$

$$Q = A \cdot C (\Delta P)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$Q = C (\Delta P)$$

$$Q = A \cdot C (\Delta P)^n \quad \text{Kronval "an engineer"}$$

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Figure 2.5
Modes of Air Flow
(from Bumbaru, Jutras and Patenaude, 1988)

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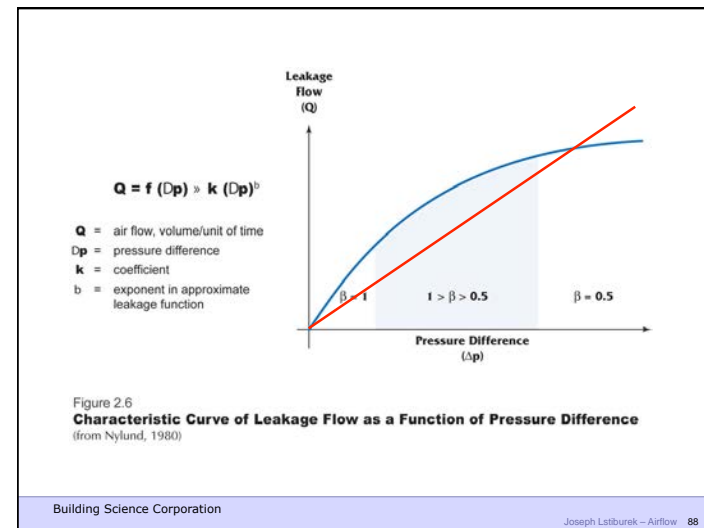
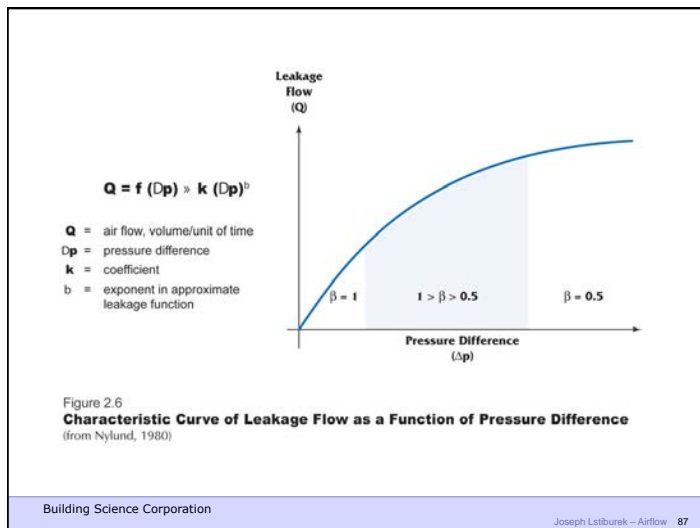
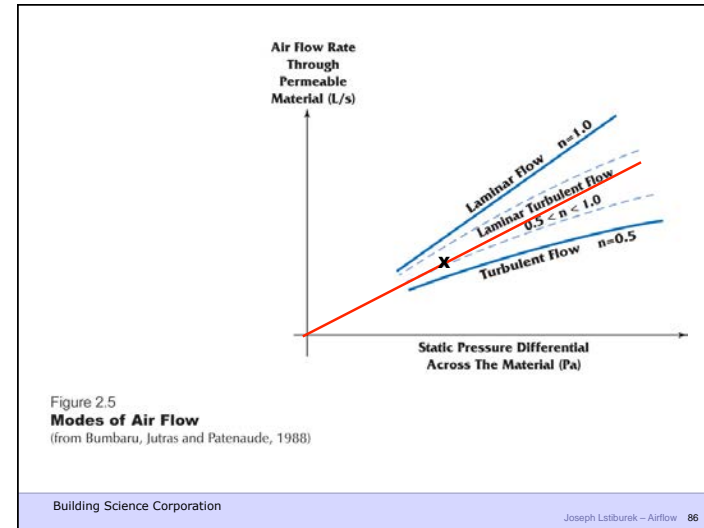
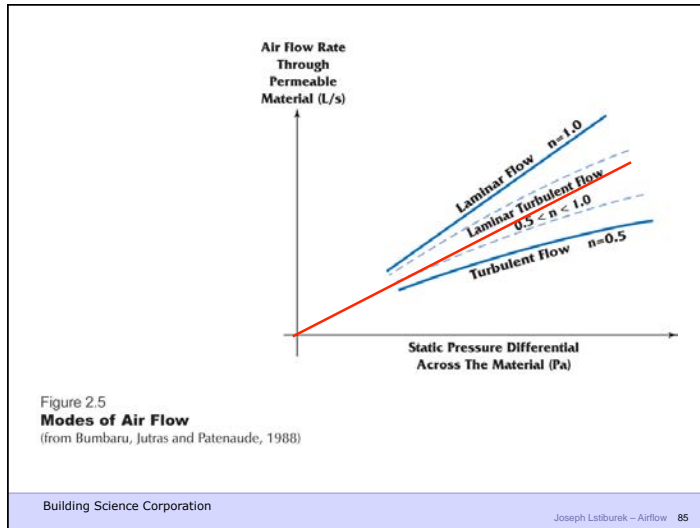
Figure 2.10
Resistance Network
(from Kronval, 1988)

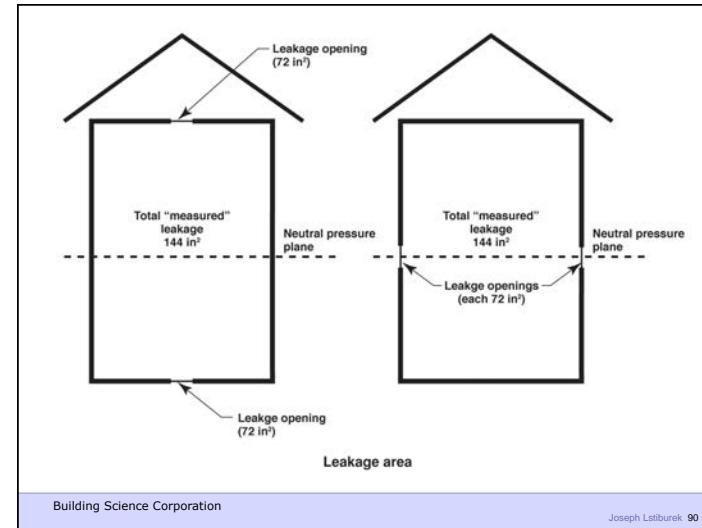
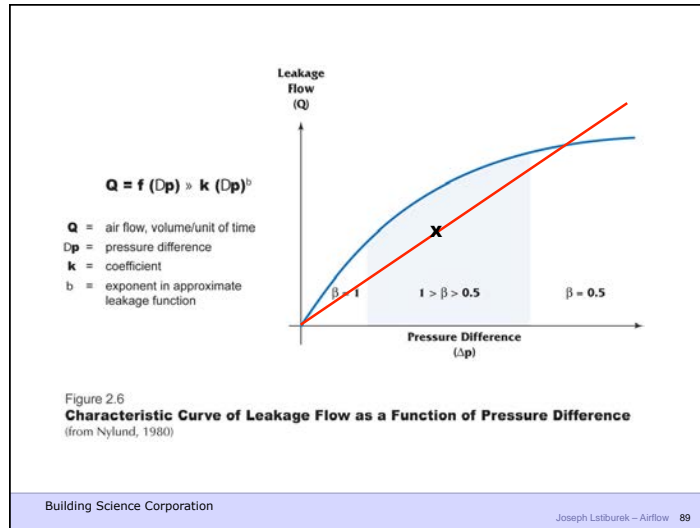
1. Air permeating the wood-panel cladding
2. Air flow between floor slab and panel
3. Air flow between floor slab and wind protection
4. Air permeating the caulking
5. Air flow between wind protection and sill
6. Air flow between insulation material and sill
7. Air flow between inner lining and sill
8. Air flow between inner lining and floor slab
9. Air flow between tilt and inner lining
10. Air flow between tilt and floor slab

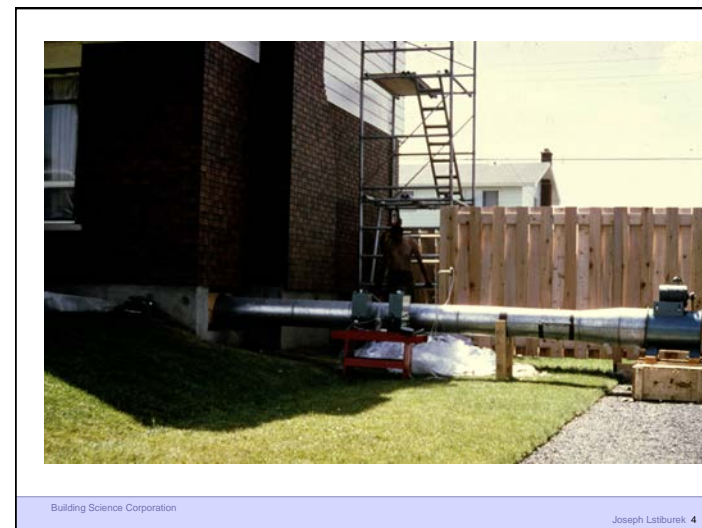
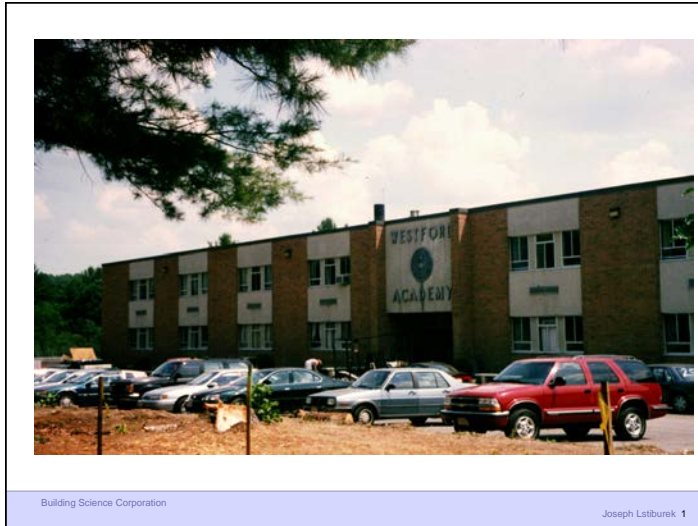
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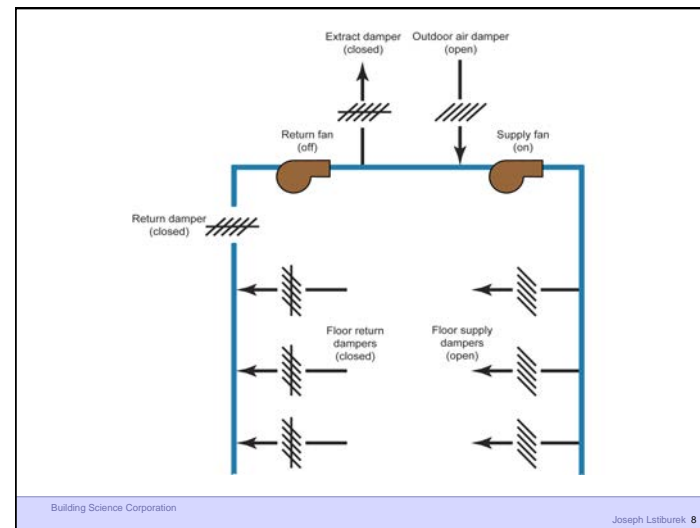
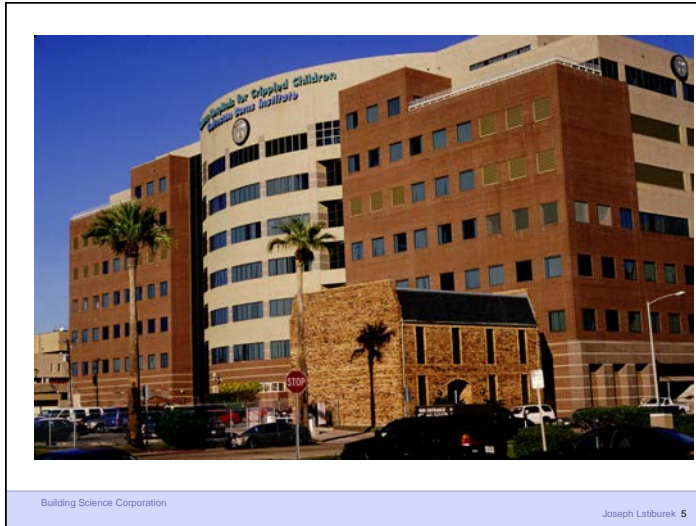
Figure 2.11
Three Dimensional Multi-Layer Multi-Cell Analogue

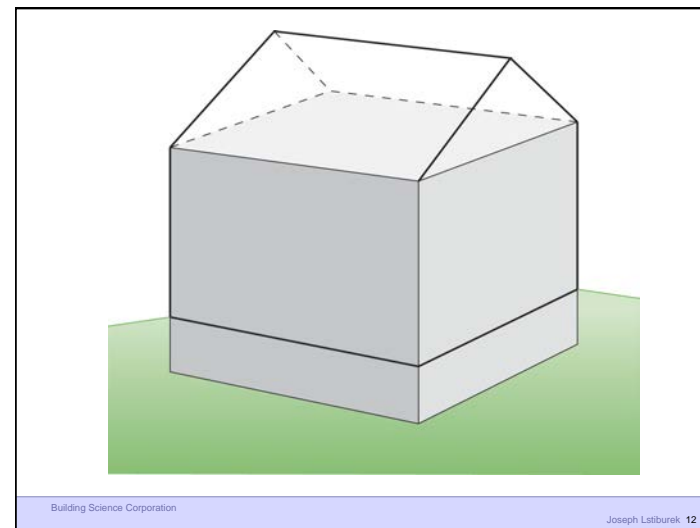
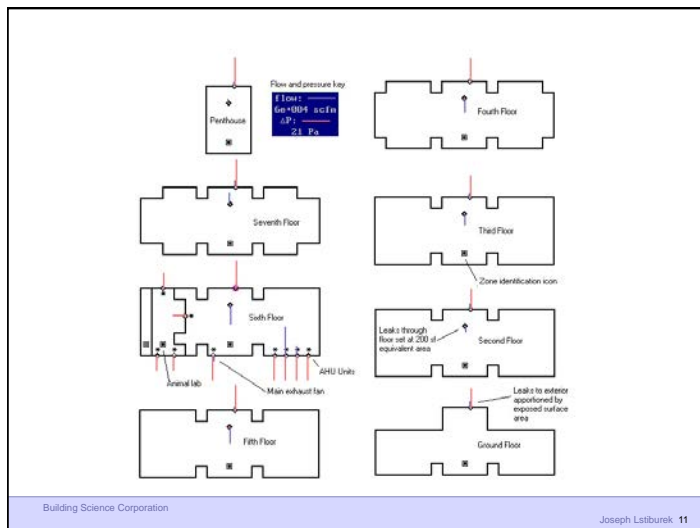
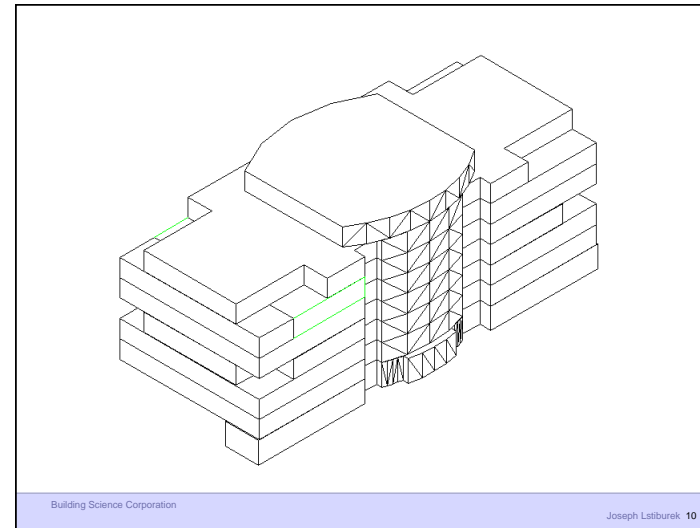
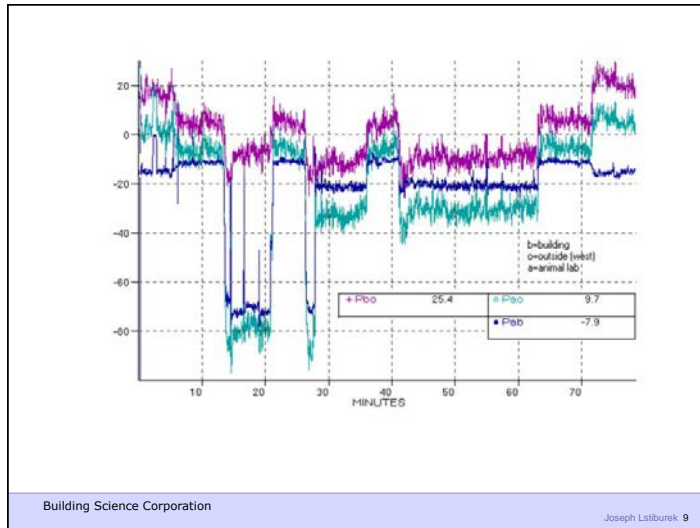
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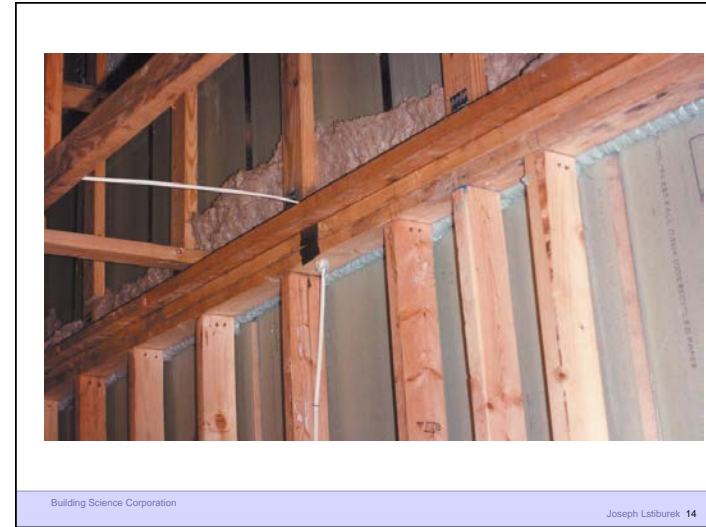
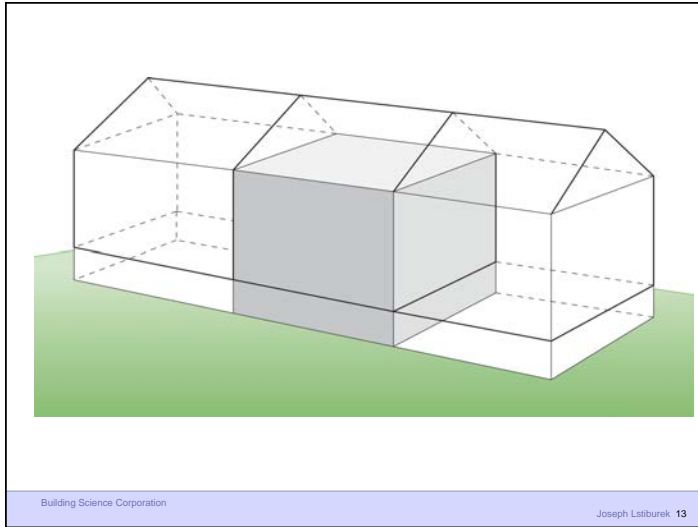


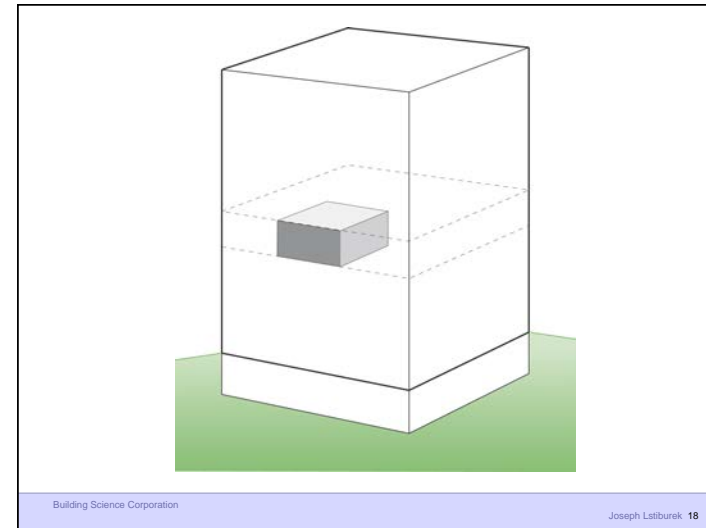
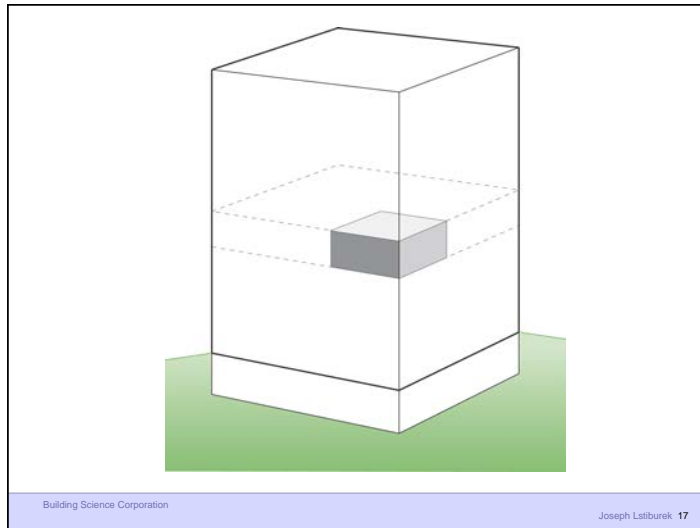












Build Tight - Ventilate Right

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Build Tight - Ventilate Right
How Tight?
What's Right?

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Air Barrier Metrics

Material	0.02 l/(s-m2) @ 75 Pa
Assembly	0.20 l/(s-m2) @ 75 Pa
Enclosure	2.00 l/(s-m2) @ 75 Pa
	0.35 cfm/ft2 @ 50 Pa
	0.25 cfm/ft2 @ 50 Pa
	0.15 cfm/ft2 @ 50 Pa

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Getting rid of big holes	3 ach@50
Getting rid of smaller holes	1.5 ach@50
Getting German	0.6 ach@50

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Best

- As Tight as Possible - with -
- Balanced Ventilation
- Energy Recovery
- Distribution
- Source Control - Spot exhaust ventilation
- Filtration
- Material selection

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Worst

- Leaky - with – Nothing
- Spot Ventilation in Bathroom/Kitchen
- Exhaust Ventilation – with – No Distribution

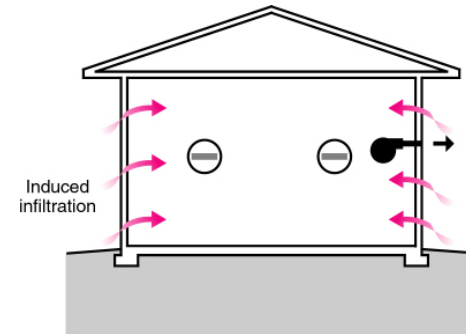
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Three Types of Controlled Ventilation Systems

- Exhaust Ventilation
- Supply Ventilation
- Balanced Ventilation

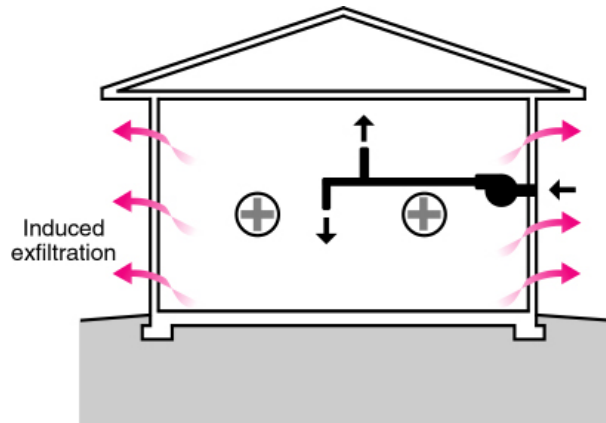
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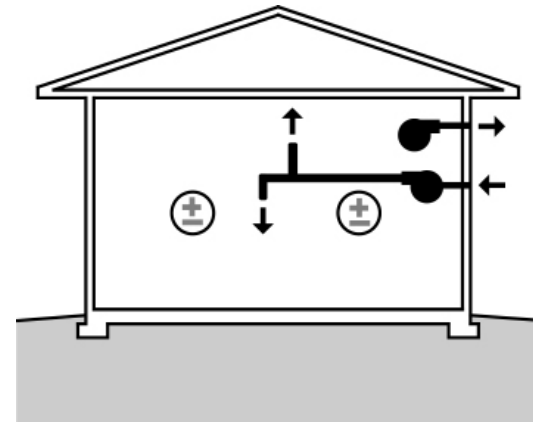
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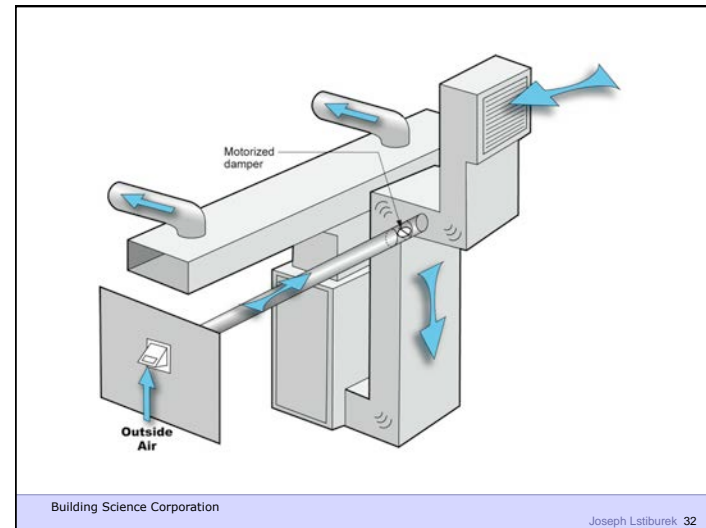
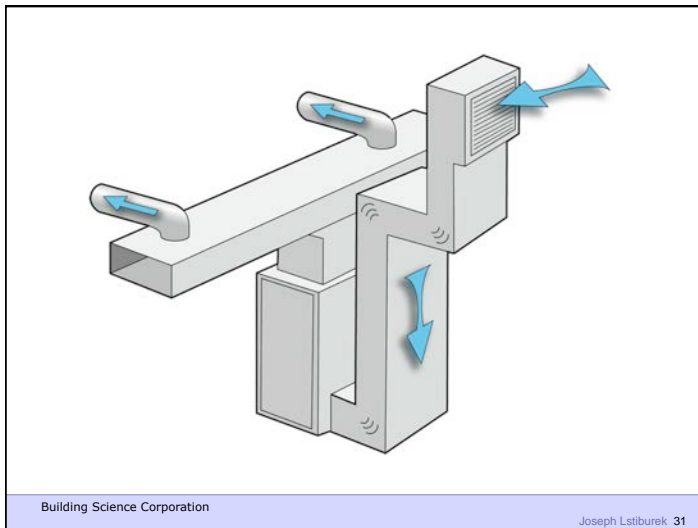
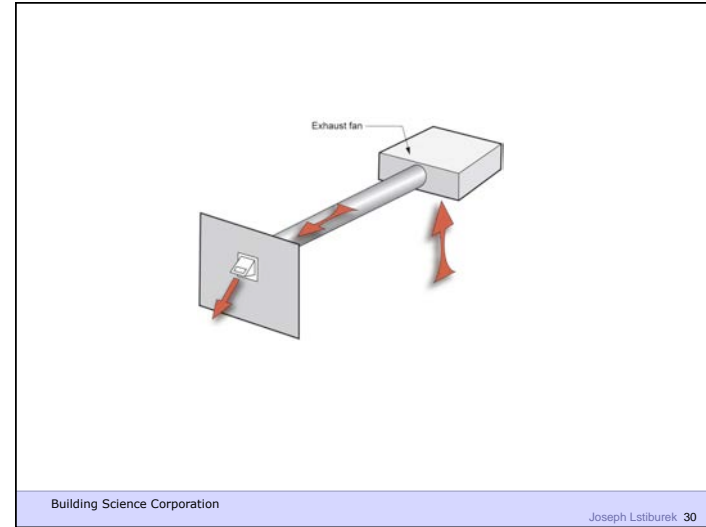
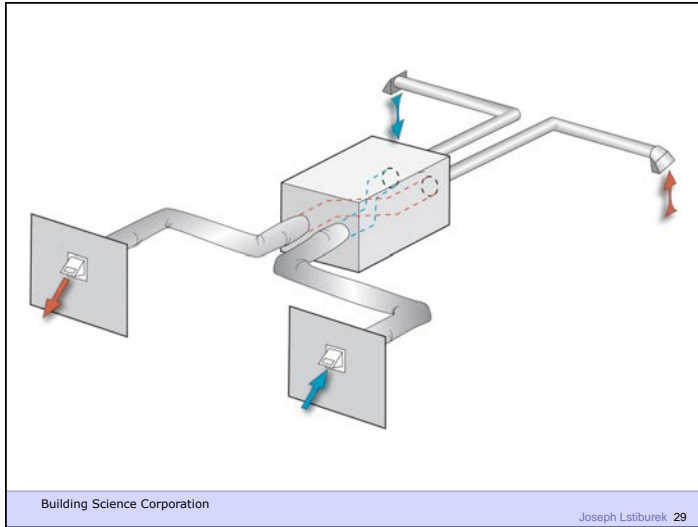
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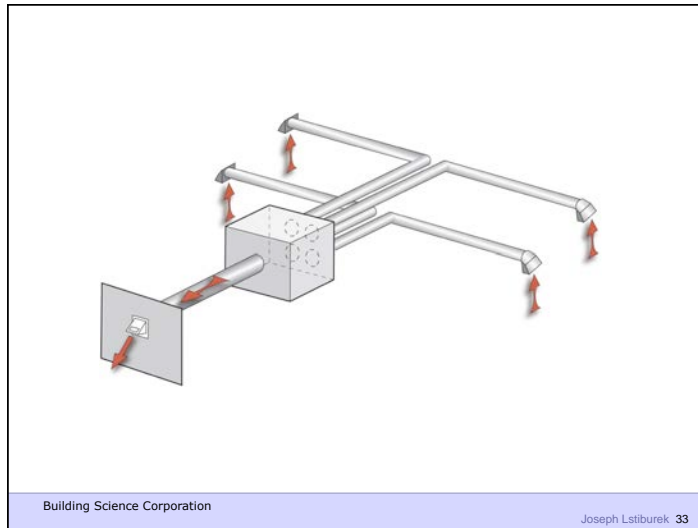
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Cost	Exhaust	\$150
	Exhaust + Dist	\$200
	Supply + Dist	\$200
	Spot + Ex/Sup + Dist	\$500
	Balanced/HRV	\$1,250

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The Cult of The Blower Door

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Blower Door Can't Get You The True ACH
On A Short Term Basis – Hour, Day, Week

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Don't Know Where The Holes Are
Don't Know The Type of Holes
Don't Know The Pressure Across The Holes

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Good For Long Term Average If No Big
Pressures

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Good For Long Term Average If No Big
Pressures
Good For Average Annual Energy Prediction

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Good For Long Term Average If No Big Pressures
Good For Average Annual Energy Prediction
Not Good For IAQ Unless You Accept Average Annual Exposure As A Metric

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Cost of Addressing the Problems Are Less Than The Cost of Testing To See If You Have Problems

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Combustion Safety
Indoor Contaminants
Comfort
Energy

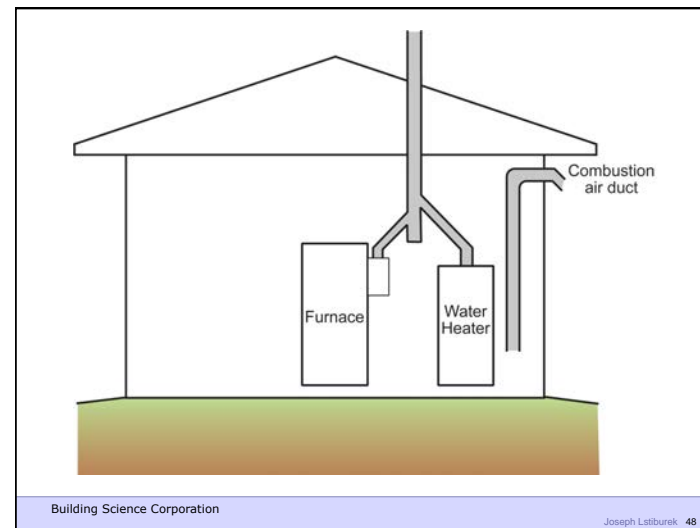
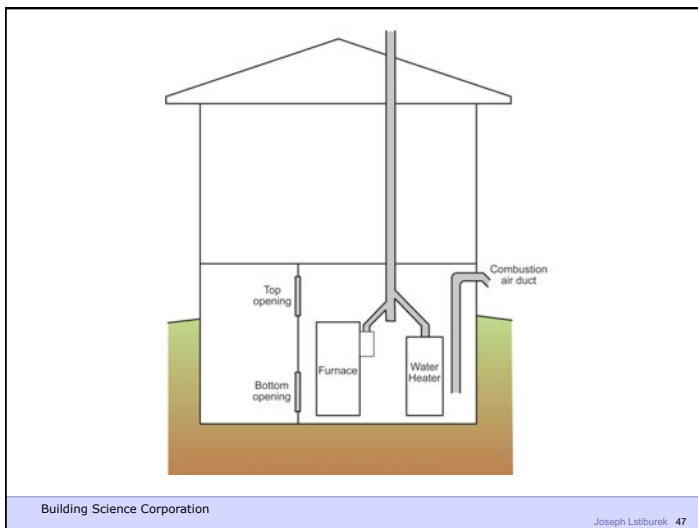
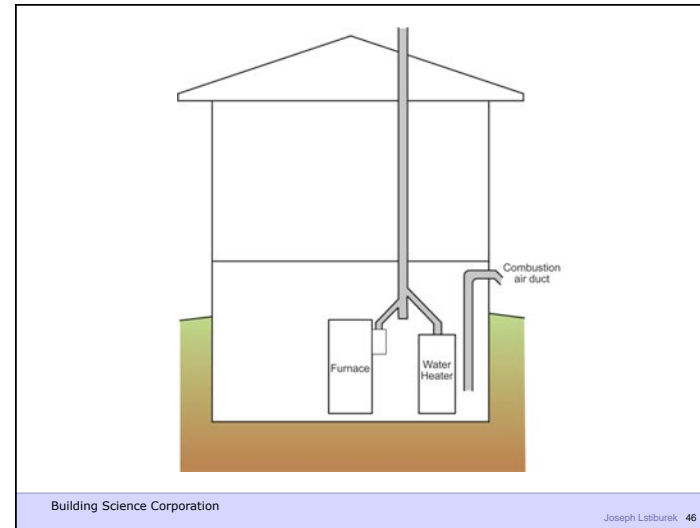
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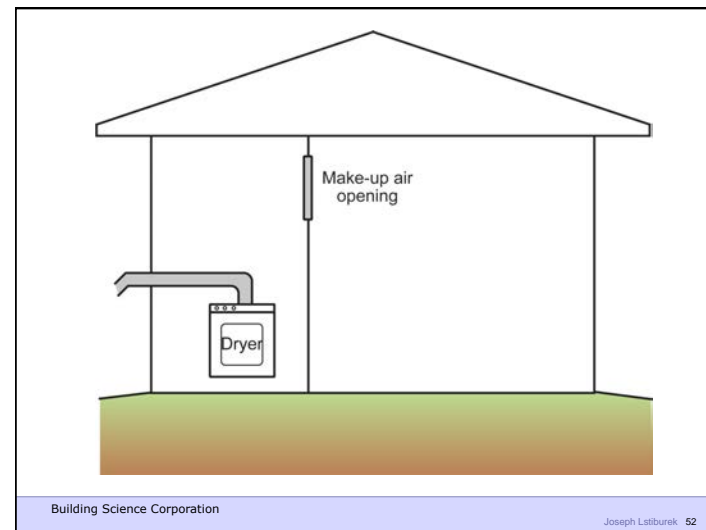
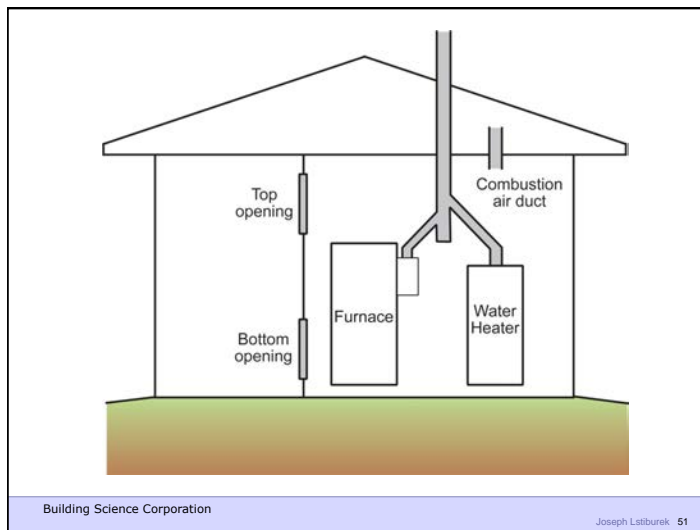
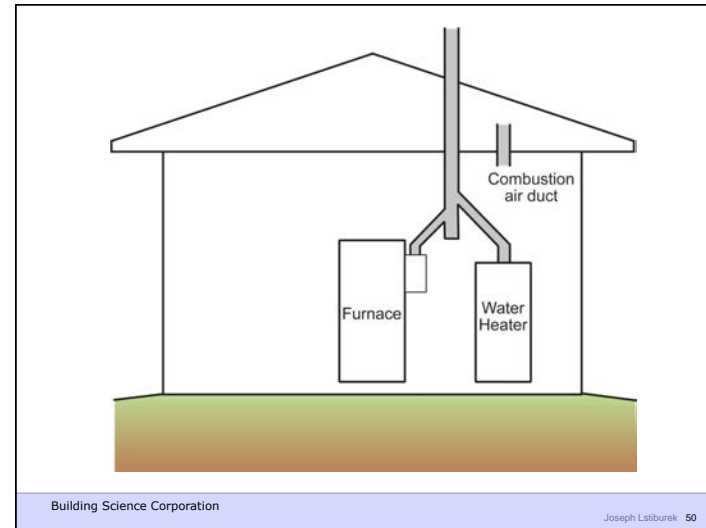
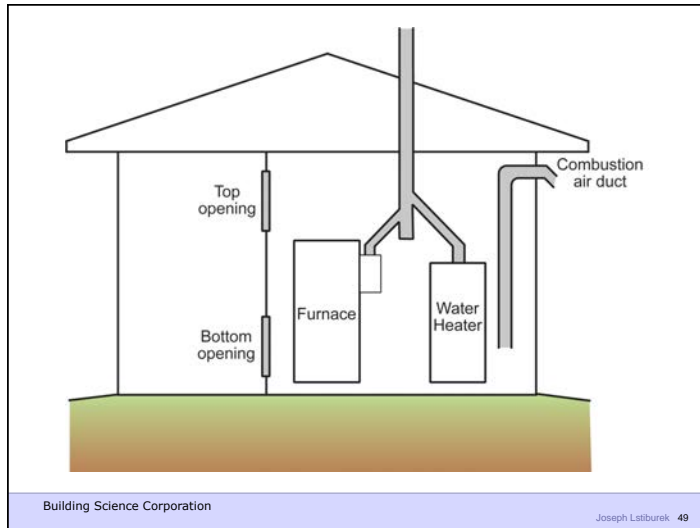
Bring Combustion Appliances Up To Code
Control Pressures
Install Controlled Ventilation
Get Rid of Big Holes
Insulate

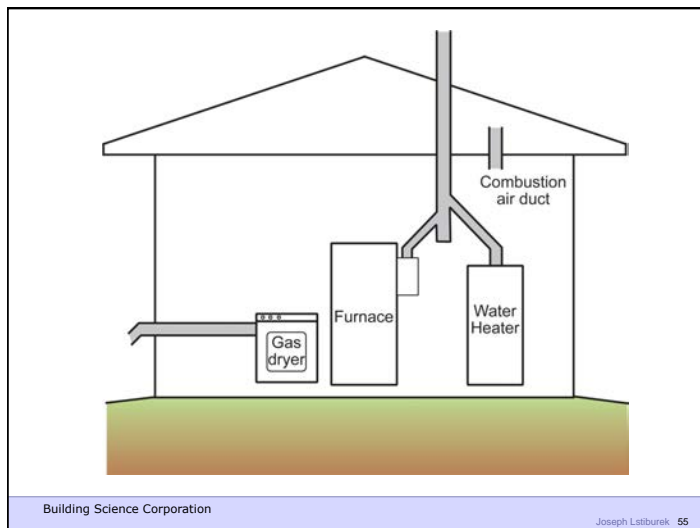
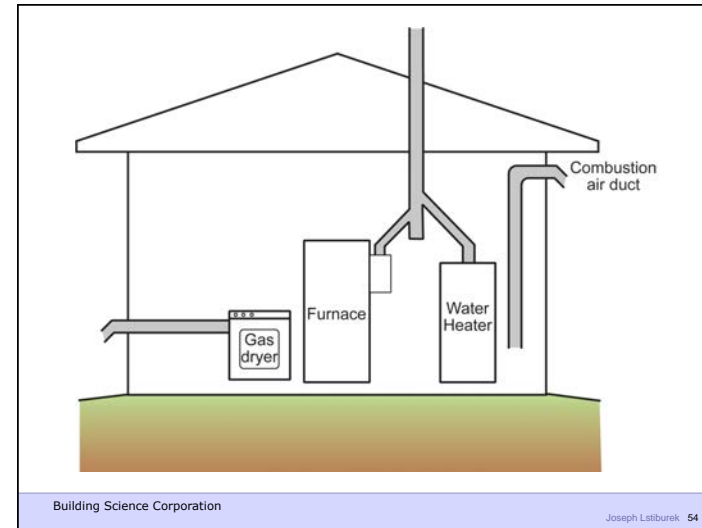
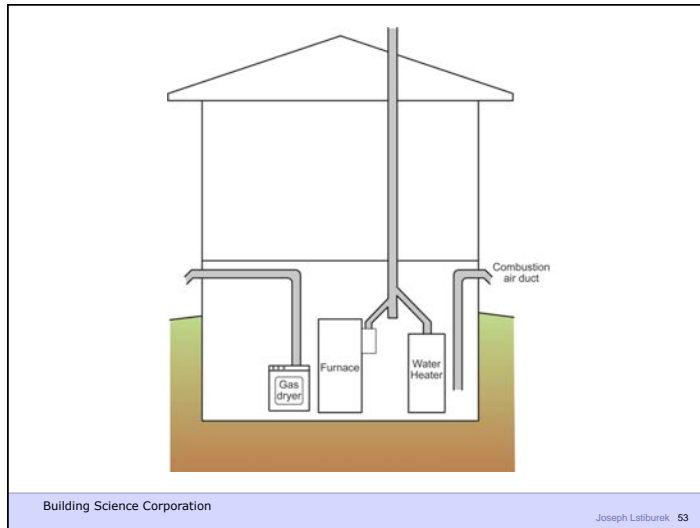
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Code Compliant Combustion Air

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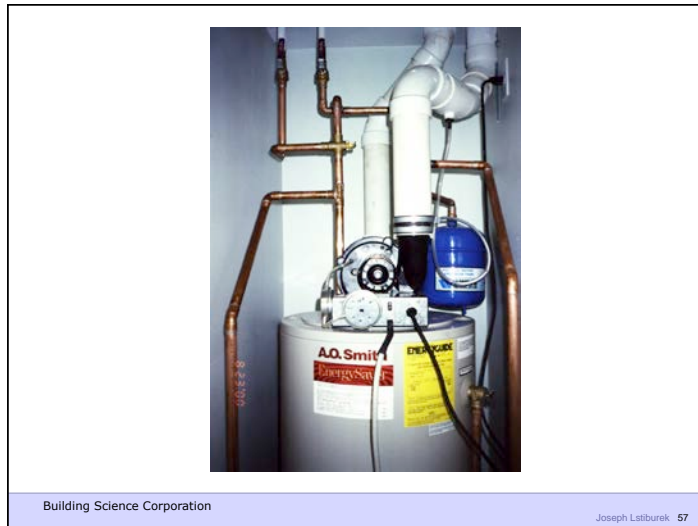






Sealed Combustion Appliances

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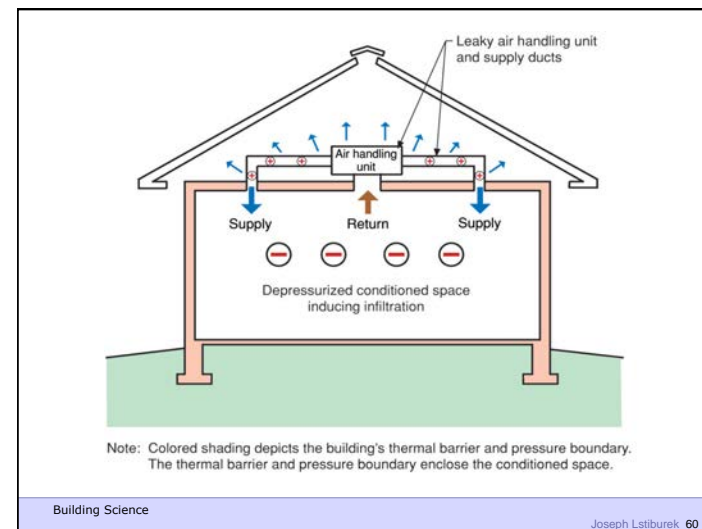
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Control Pressures

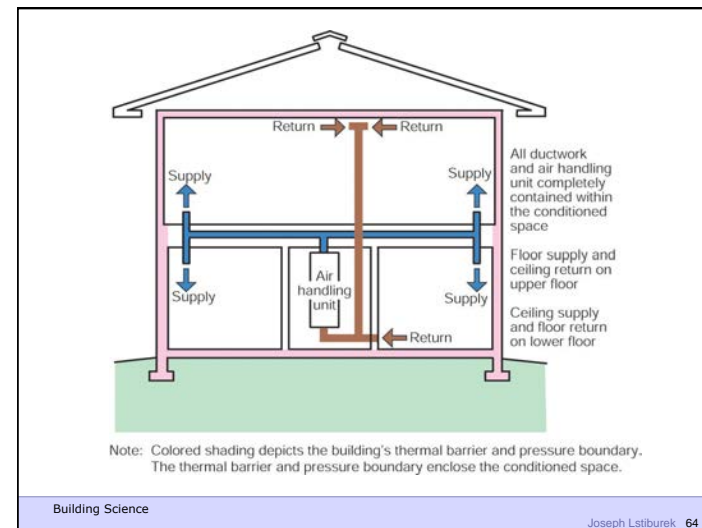
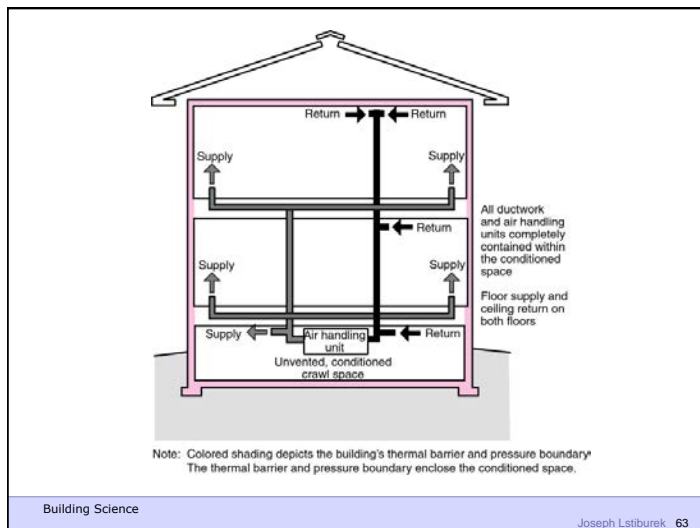
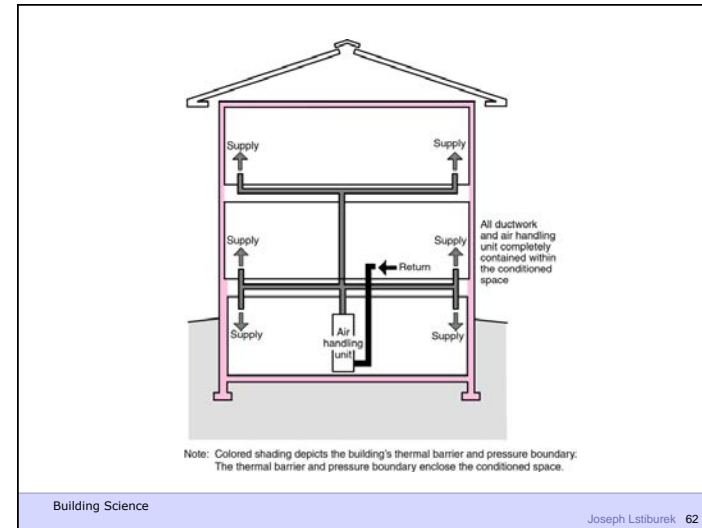
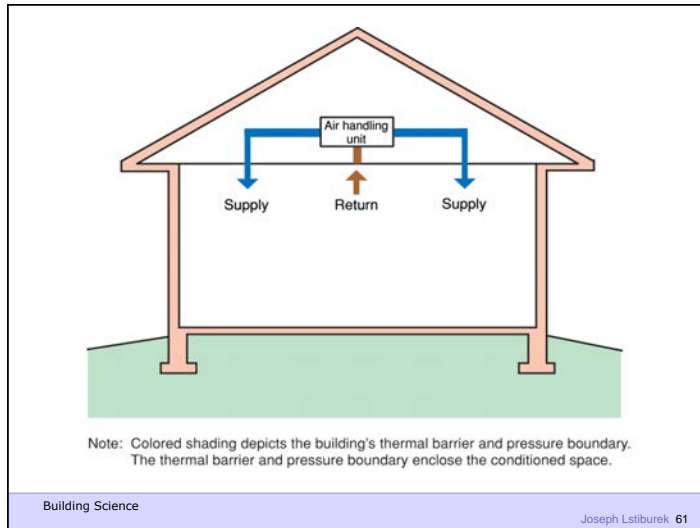
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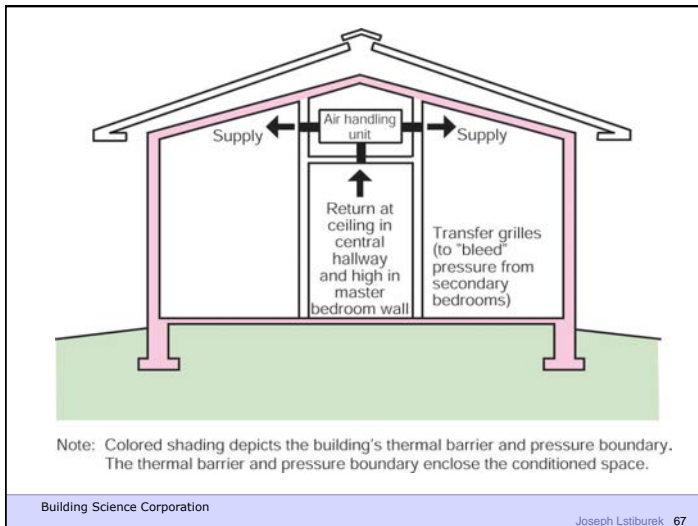
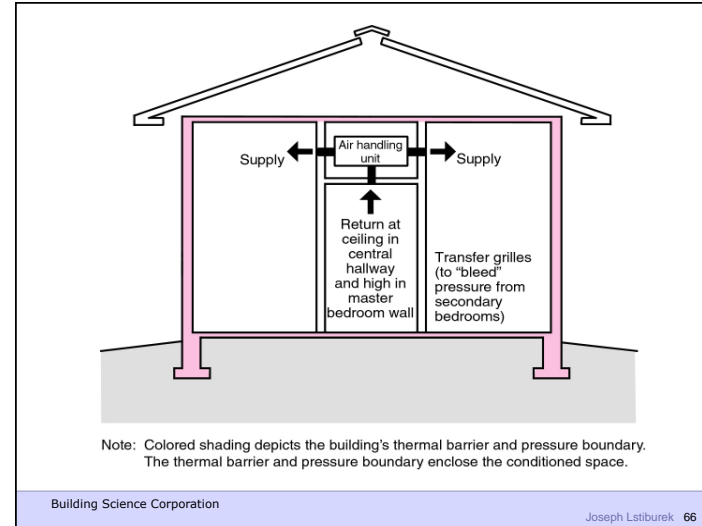
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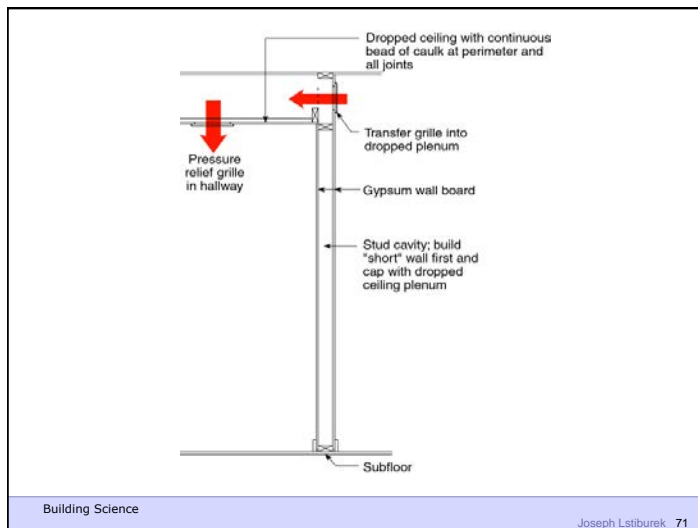


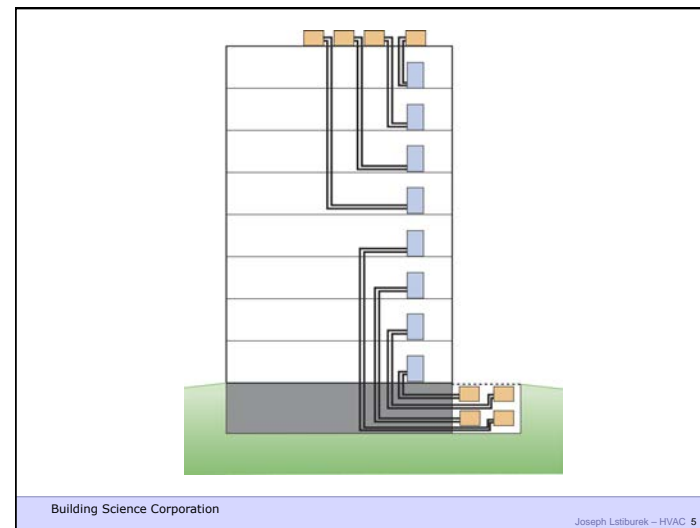
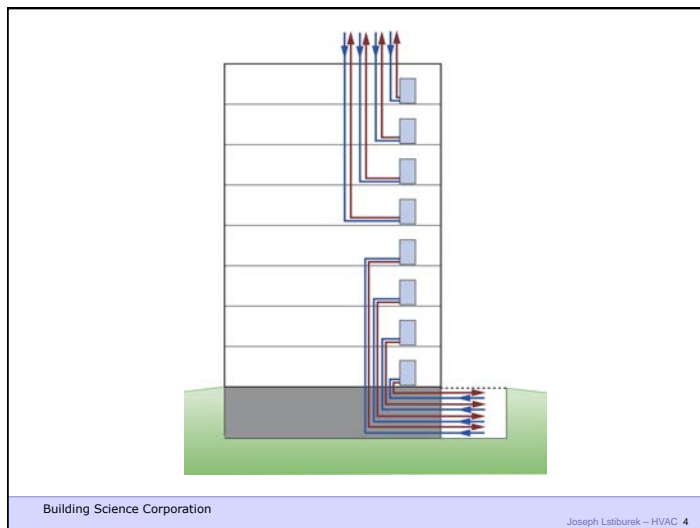
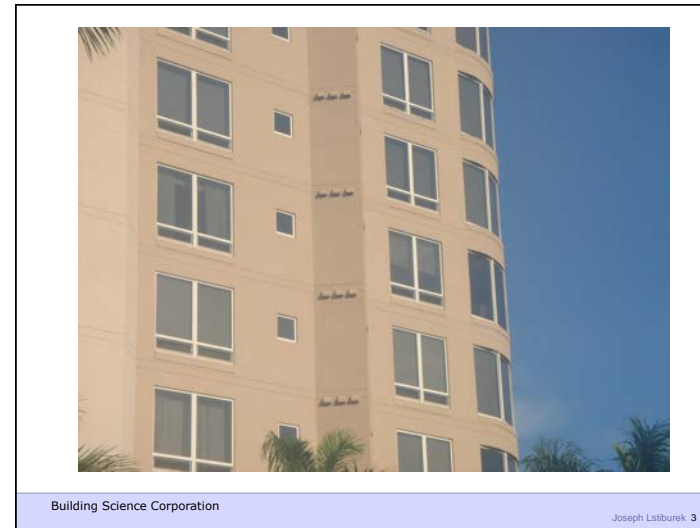
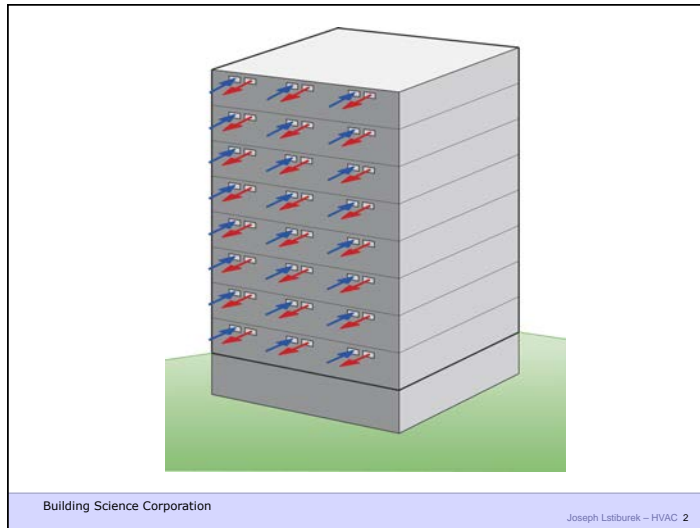
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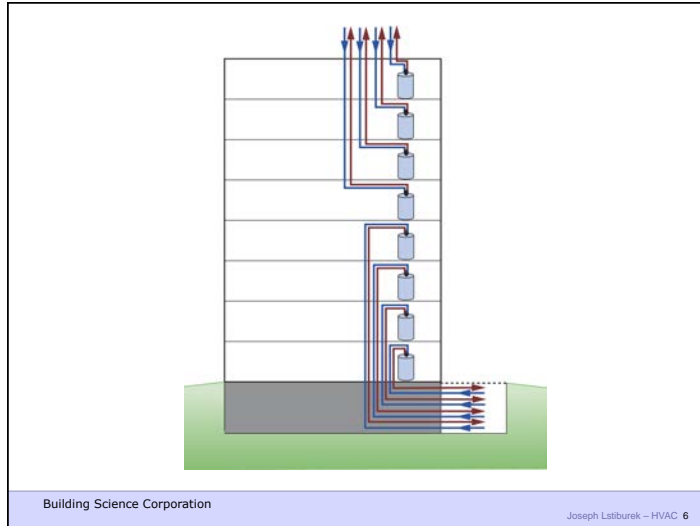
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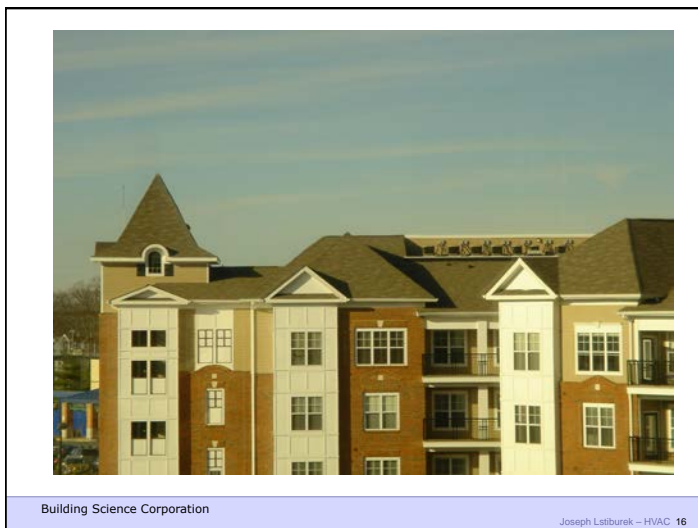


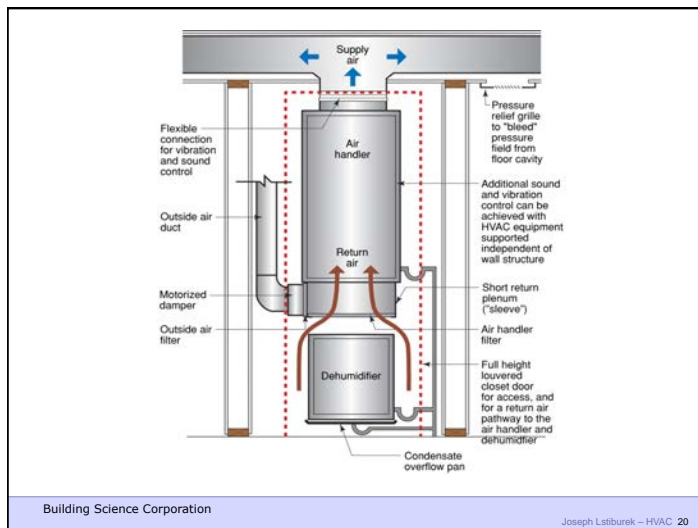
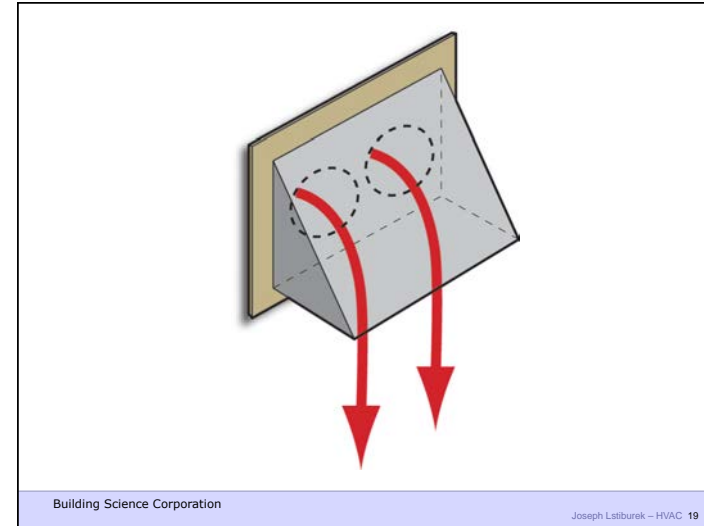


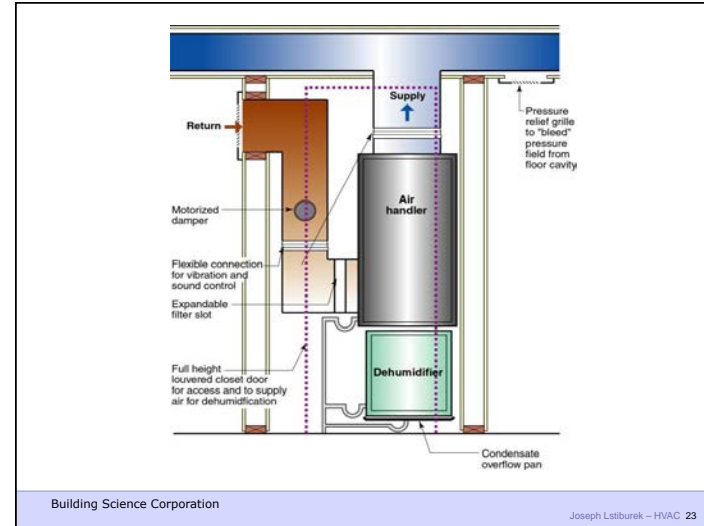
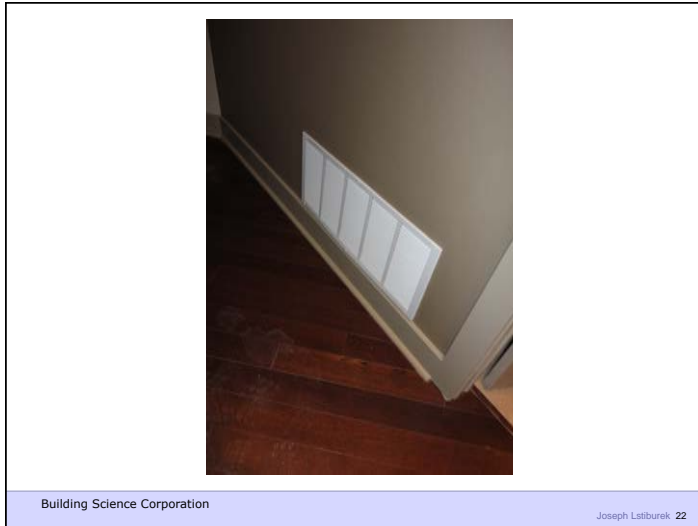


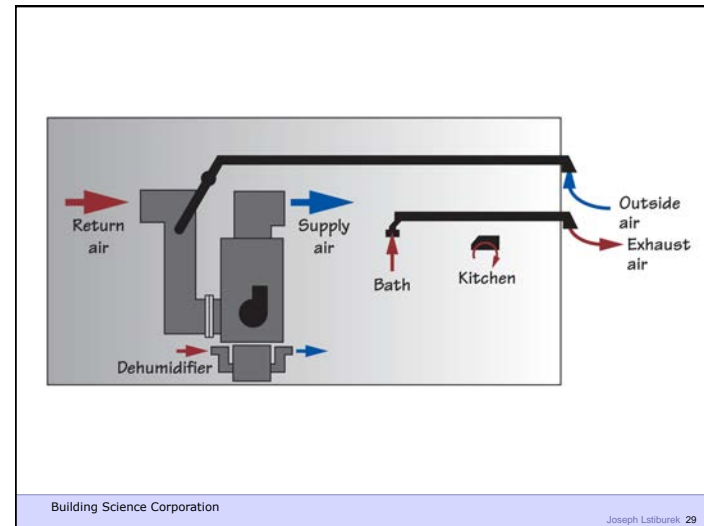
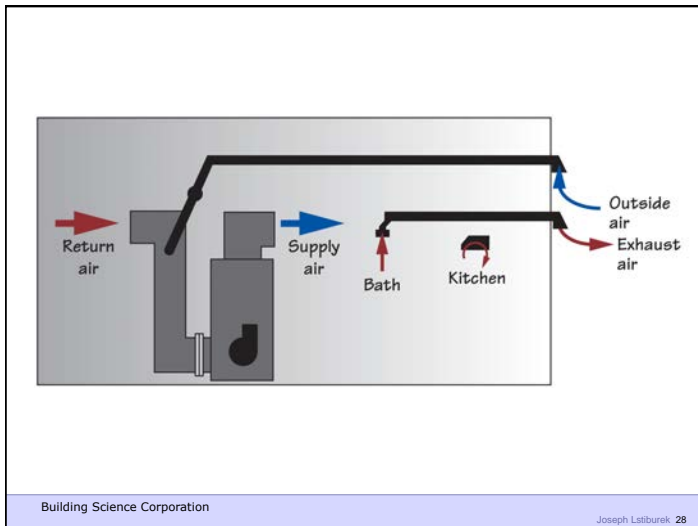
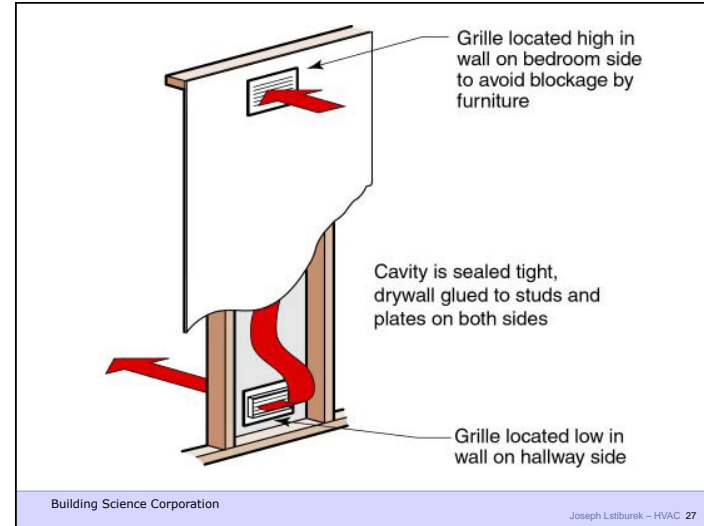


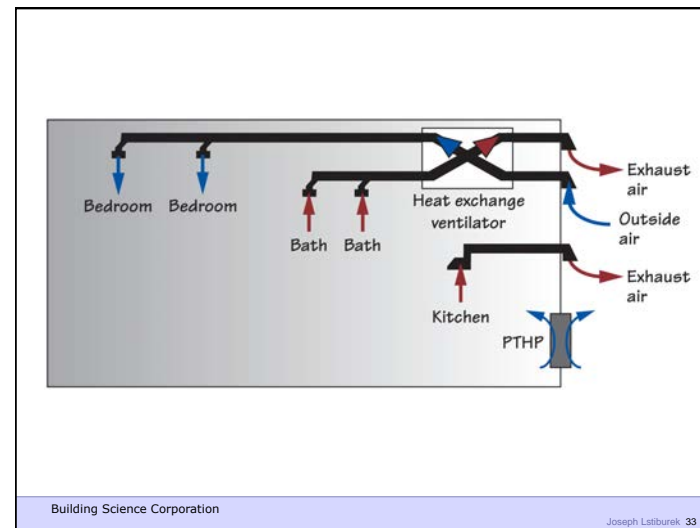
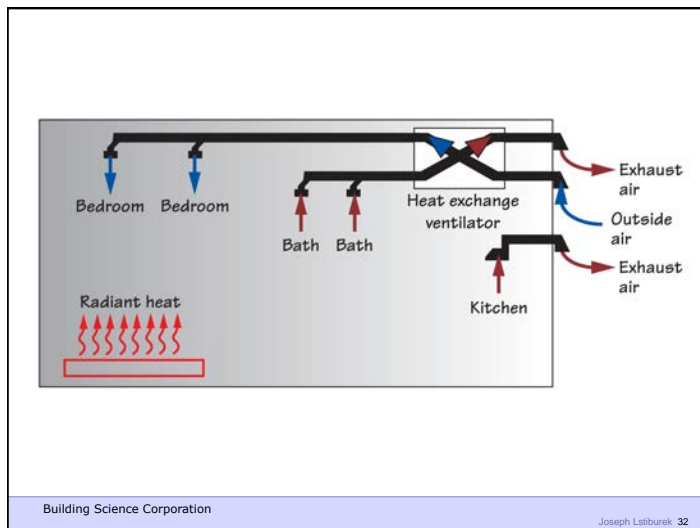
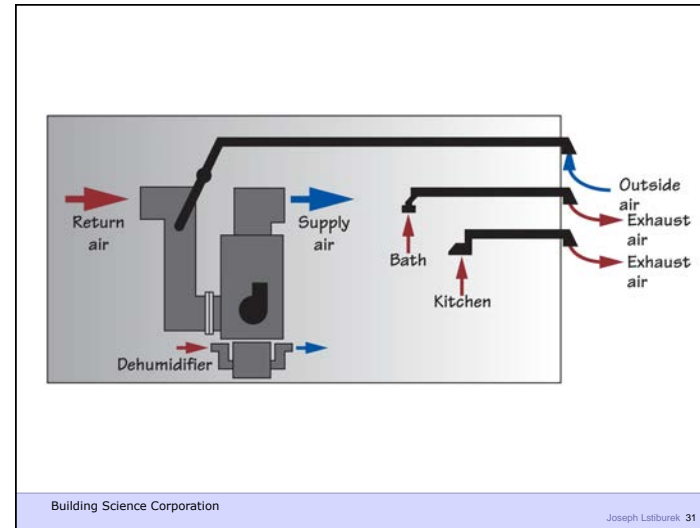
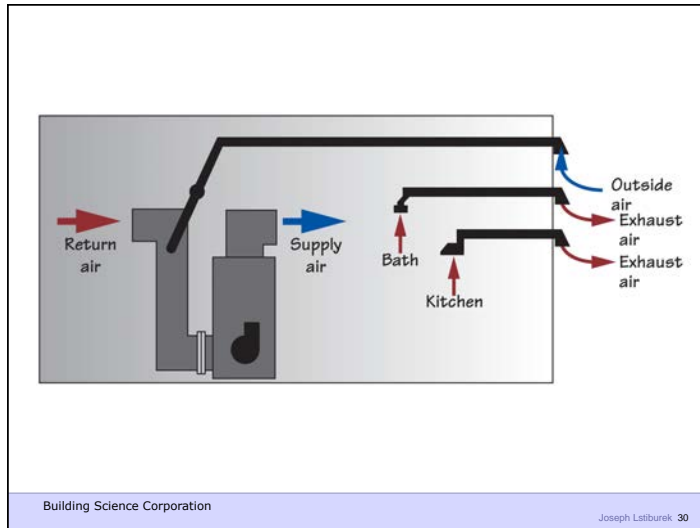


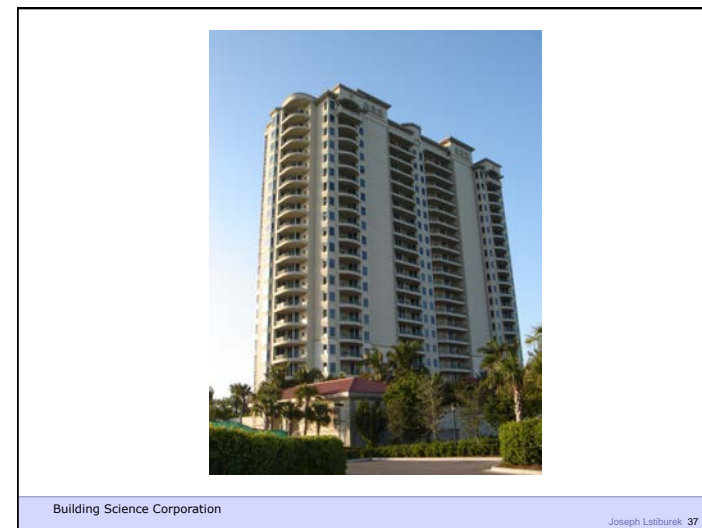
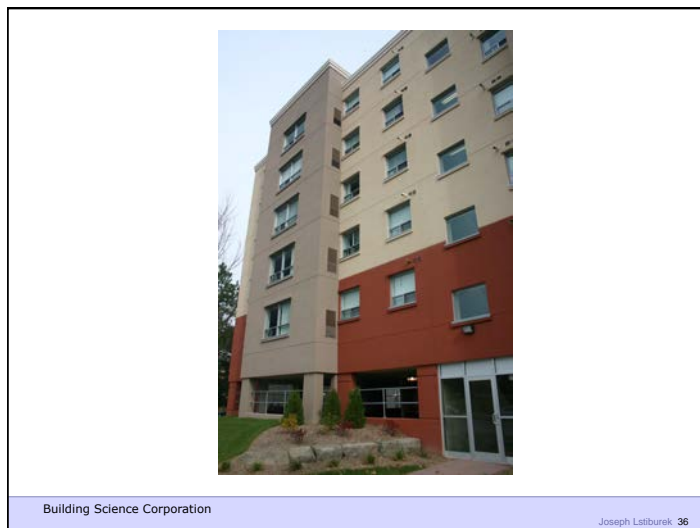
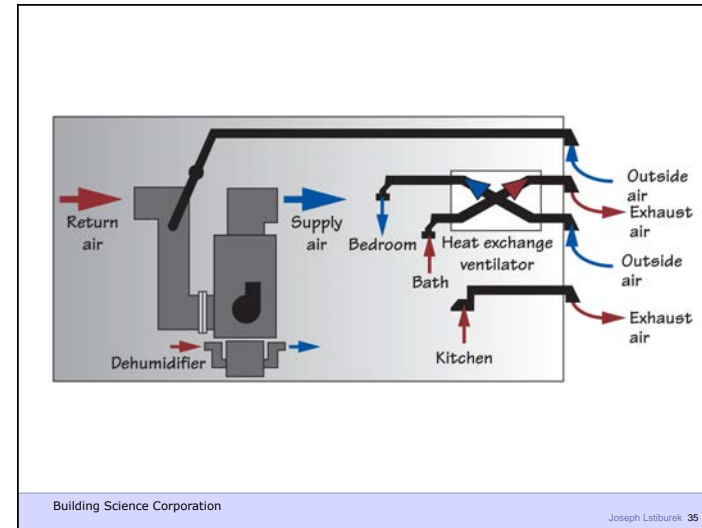
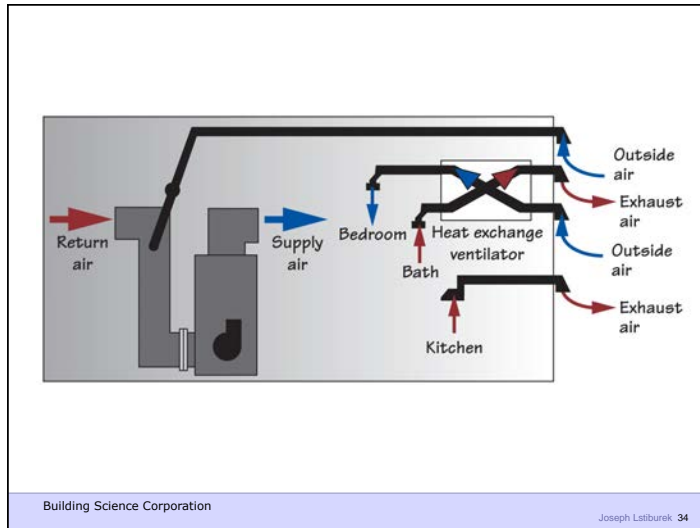




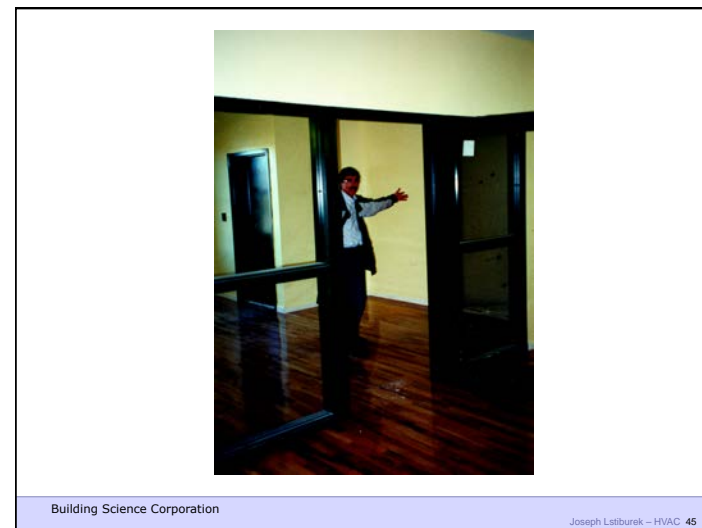
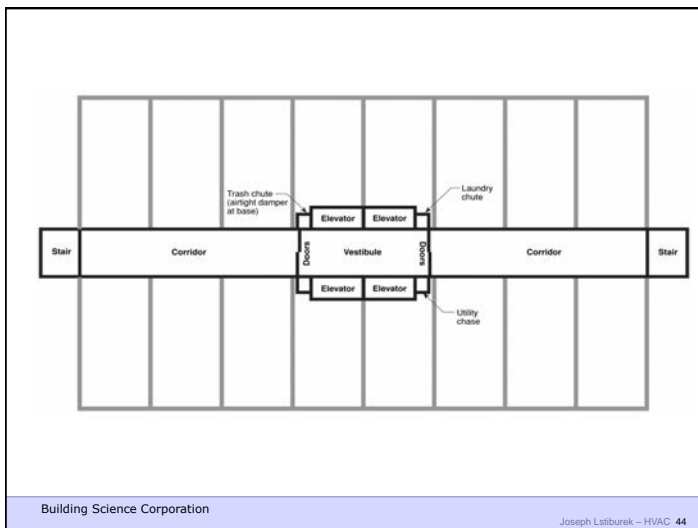
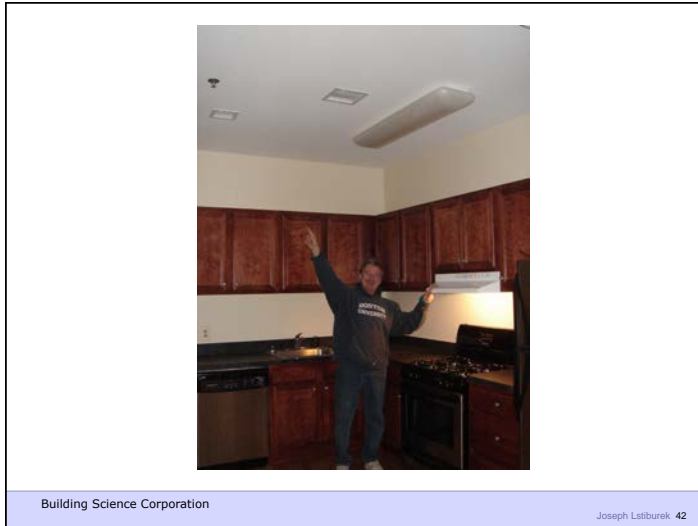


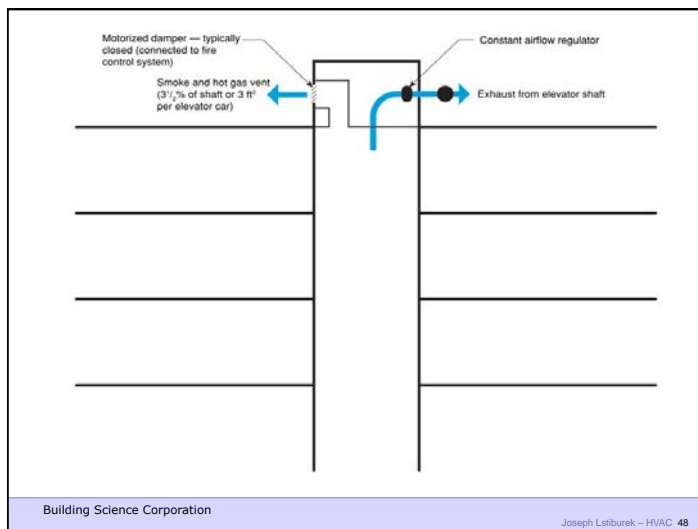
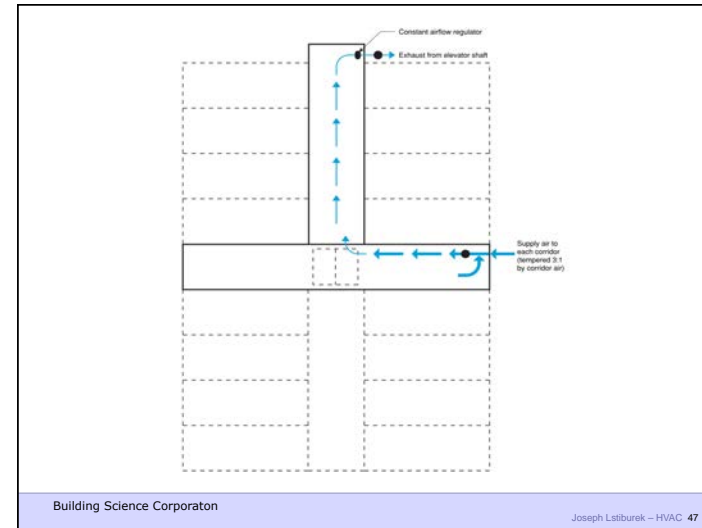
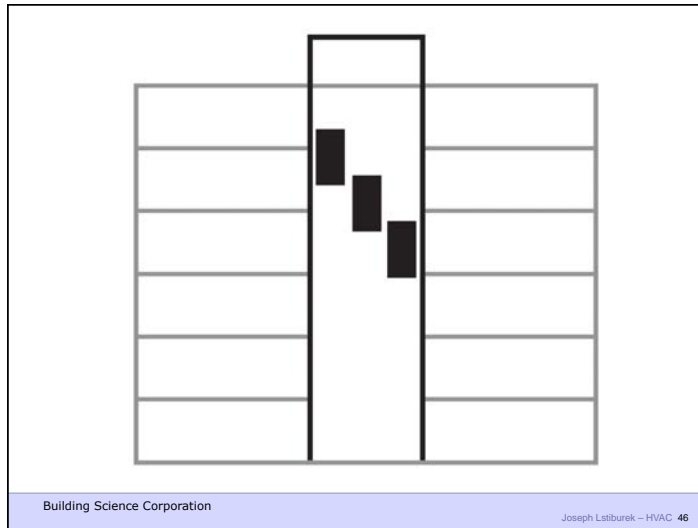


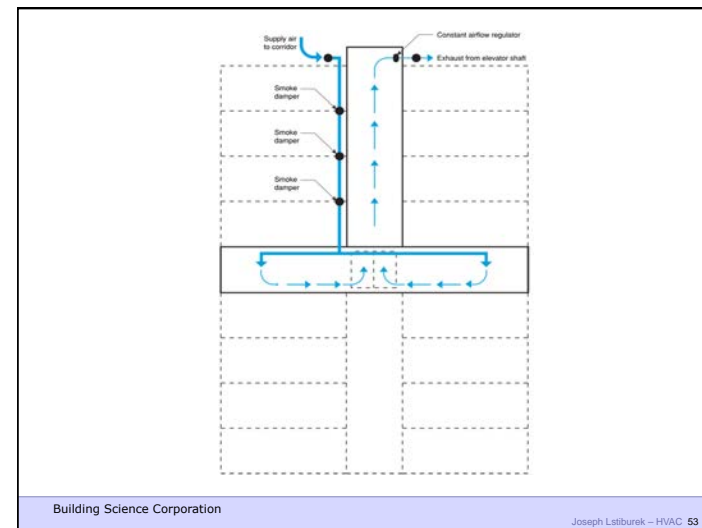
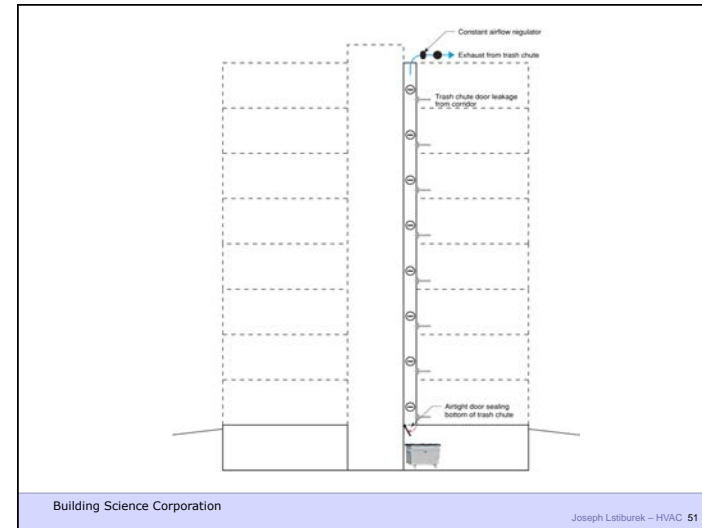
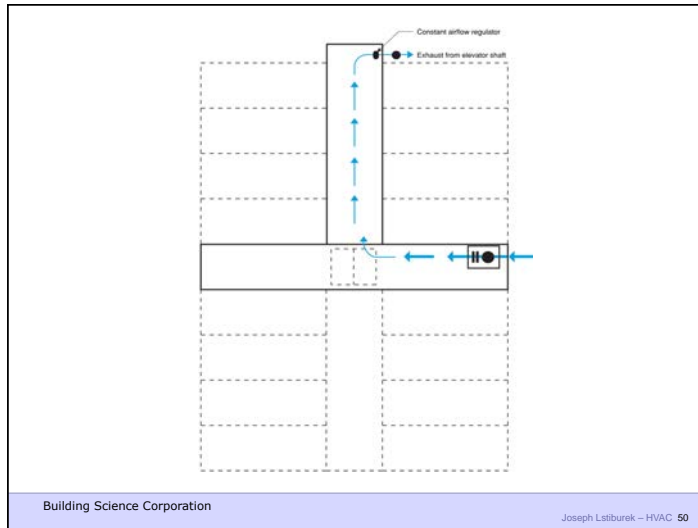


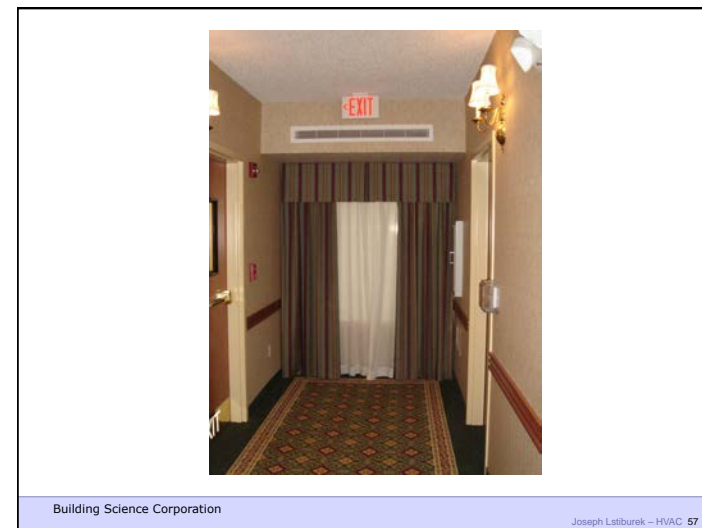
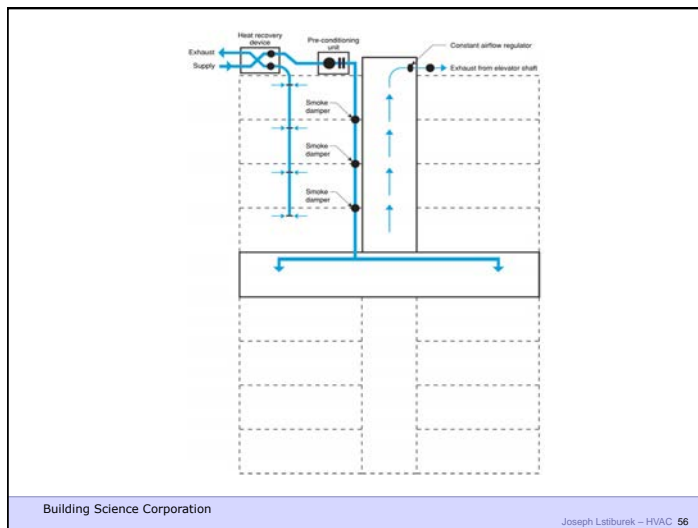
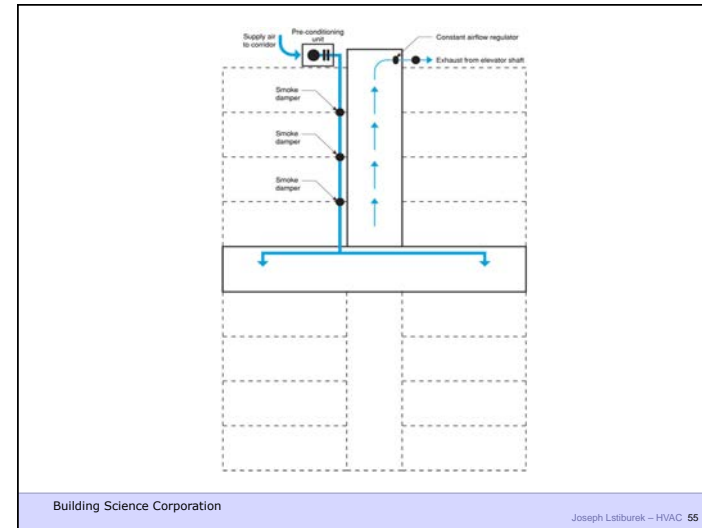
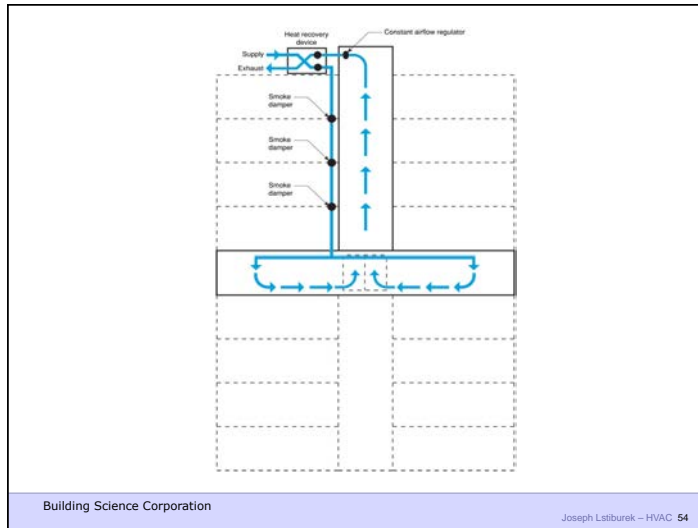


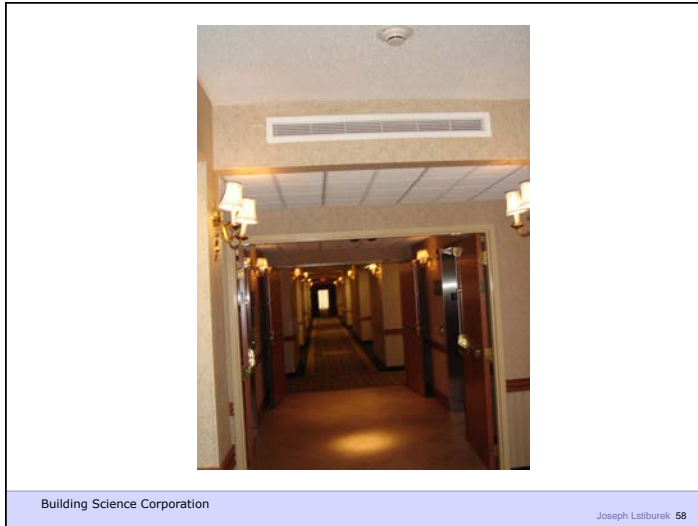


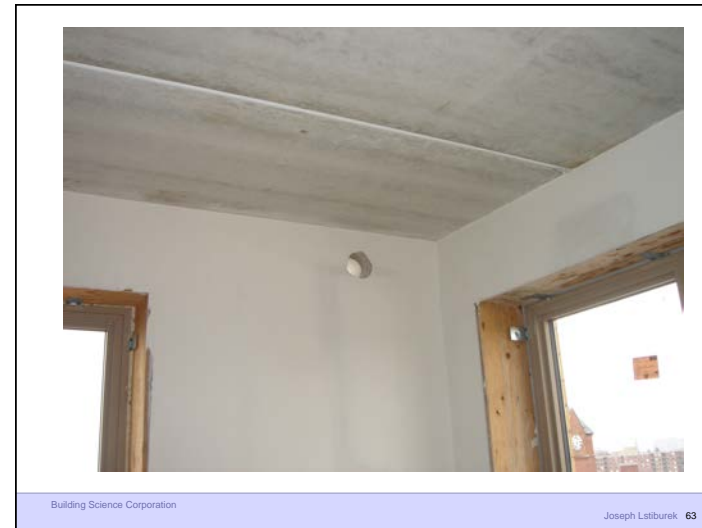
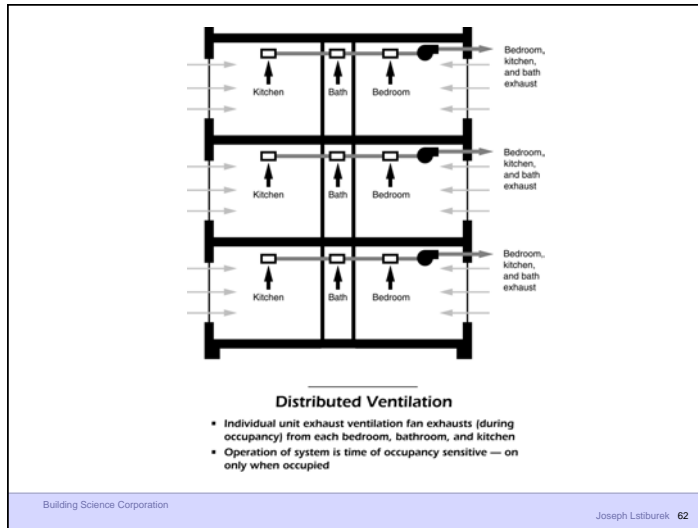


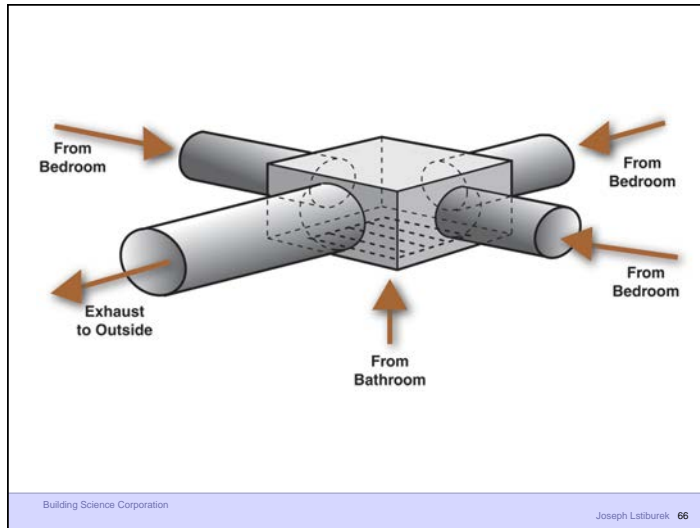












Ventilation Rates Are Based on Odor Control

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Ventilation Rates Are Based on Odor Control
Health Science Basis for Ventilation Rates is
Extremely Limited

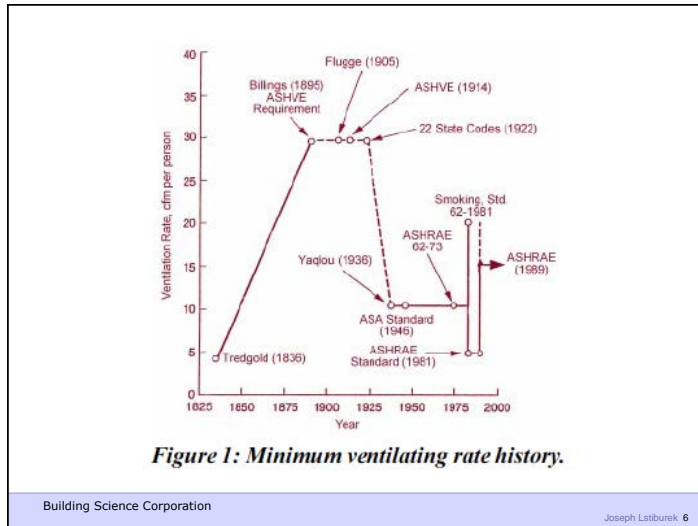
Building Science Corporation Joseph Lstiburek 3

Ventilation Rates Are Based on Odor Control
Health Science Basis for Ventilation Rates is
Extremely Limited
Almost Nothing Cited Applies to Housing

Building Science Corporation Joseph Lstiburek 4

Ventilation Rates Are Based on Odor Control
Health Science Basis for Ventilation Rates is
Extremely Limited
Almost Nothing Cited Applies to Housing
The Applicable Studies Focus on Dampness

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House

2,000 ft²
3 bedrooms
8 ft. ceiling
Volume: 16,000 ft³

.35 ach	93 cfm
.30 ach	80 cfm
.25 ach	67 cfm
.20 ach	53 cfm
.15 ach	40 cfm

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House

2,000 ft²
3 bedrooms
8 ft. ceiling
Volume: 16,000 ft³

.35 ach	93 cfm	62 - 73	5 cfm/person	20 cfm
.30 ach	80 cfm		10 cfm/person	40 cfm
.25 ach	67 cfm	62 - 89	15 cfm/person	60 cfm
.20 ach	53 cfm		.35 ach	90 cfm
.15 ach	40 cfm	62.2 - 2010	7.5 cfm/person	50 cfm
			+ 0.01	
		62.2 - 2013	7.5 cfm/person	90 cfm
			+ 0.03	

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Office

Occupant Density

15/1000 ft ² (67 ft ² /person)	62 - 89	15 cfm/person
5/1000 ft ² (200 ft ² /person)	62.1 - 2007	17 cfm/person

Correctional Facility Cell

Occupant Density

20/1000 ft ² (48 ft ² /person)	62.1 - 2007	10 cfm/person
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C.P. Yaglou
 Harvard School of Public Health
 1936
 1955

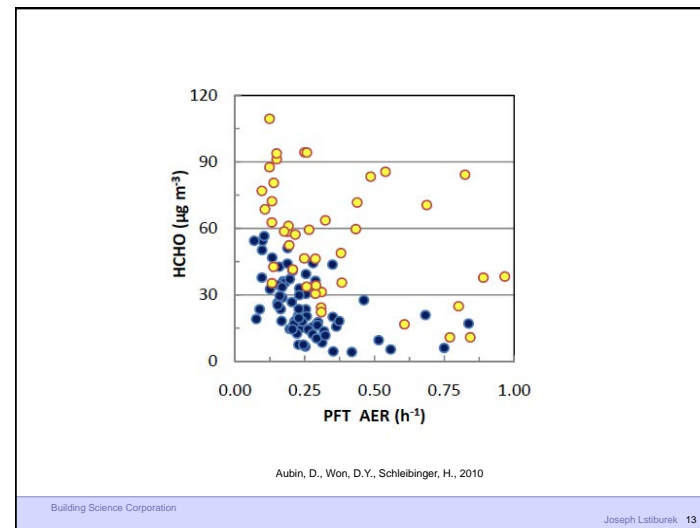
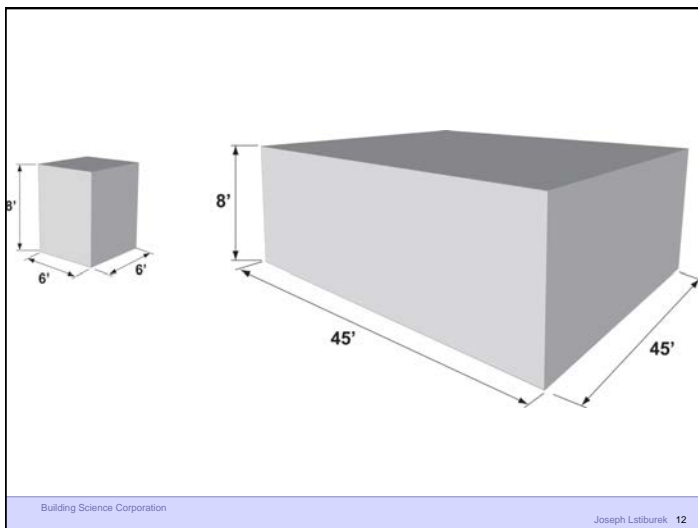
150 ft³ → 20 cfm/person approx 4x4x8
 300 ft³ → 12 cfm/person approx 6x6x8

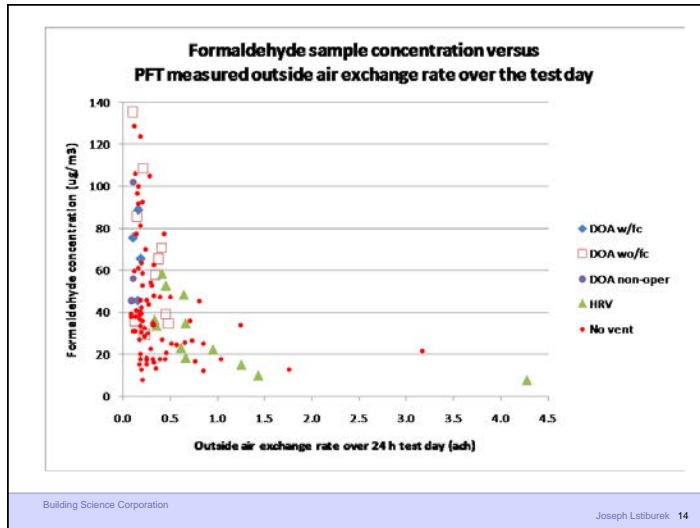
C.P. Yaglou
 Harvard School of Public Health
 1936
 1955

150 ft³ → 20 cfm/person 18.75 ft² 106 occupants
 300 ft³ → 12 cfm/person 37.5 ft² 53 occupants

Experiment

470 ft³ → 59 ft²
 200 ft³ → 25 ft²
 100 ft³ → 12 ft²





Dilution is Not The Solution To Indoor Pollution

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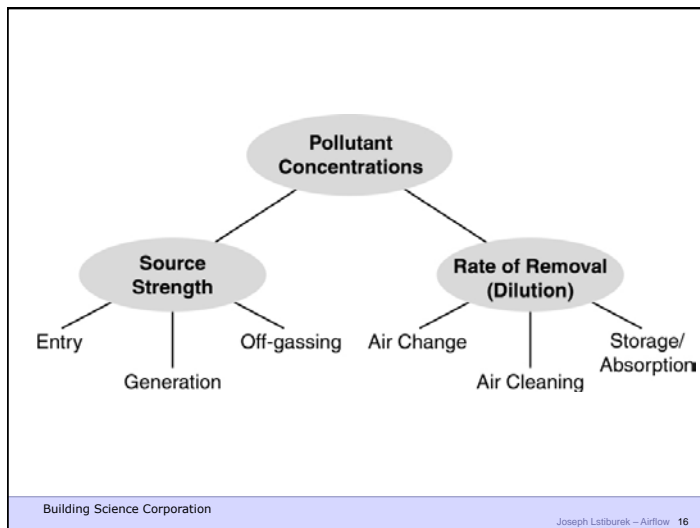


Table 1. Summary of the air changes rates measured during the winter 2009-10 season in Quebec City

Method	ACH (h ⁻¹)	ACH standard deviation (h ⁻¹)	number of measurements
SF ₆ tracer decay	0.27	0.12	77
perfluorocarbon tracer	0.32	0.22	37
blower door at 50 Pa	4.16	2.64	63

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ASHRAE Standard 62.2 calls for 7.5 cfm per person plus 0.03 cfm per square foot of conditioned area

Occupancy is deemed to be the number of bedrooms plus one

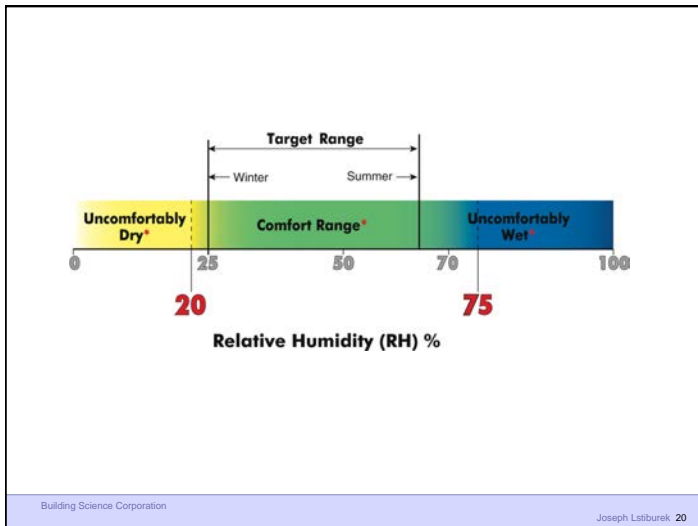
Building Science Corporation Joseph Lstiburek 18

ASHRAE Standard 62.2 calls for 7.5 cfm per person plus 0.03 cfm per square foot of conditioned area

Occupancy is deemed to be the number of bedrooms plus one

Outcome is often bad – part load humidity problems, dryness problems, energy problems

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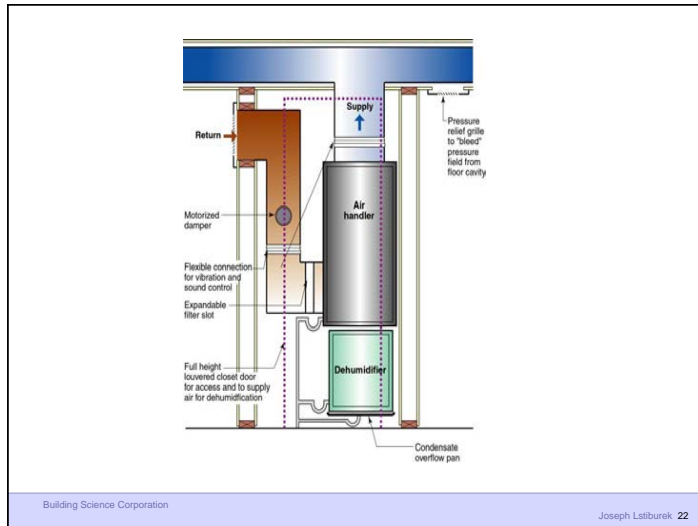


Recommended Range of Relative Humidity

Above 25 percent during winter

Below 70 percent during summer

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Joseph Lstiburek 22

Barriers – Technology Dehumidification

- Barriers – Cost Exhaust \$150
- Exhaust + Dist \$200
- Supply + Dist \$200
- Spot + Ex/Sup + Dist \$500
- Balanced/ER \$1,250
- Dehumidification \$250 to \$1,250

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- Tracer gas test of a production house in Sacramento
- 2-story, 4 bedrooms, ~2500 square feet
- Ventilation systems tested: supply and exhaust ventilation, with and without mixing via central air handler

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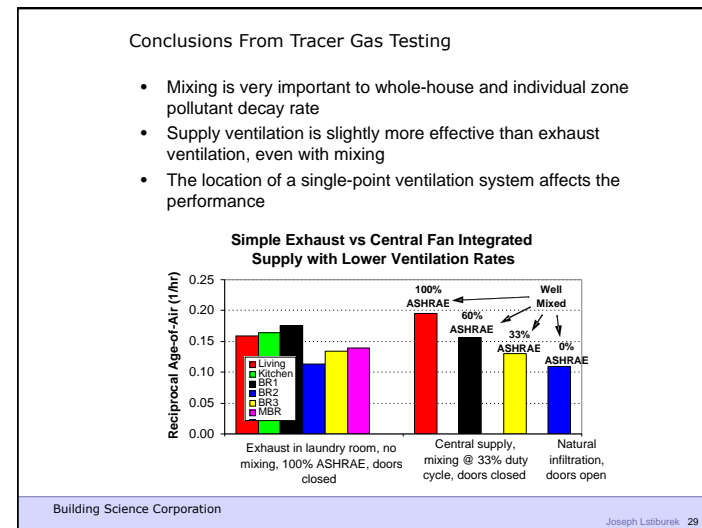
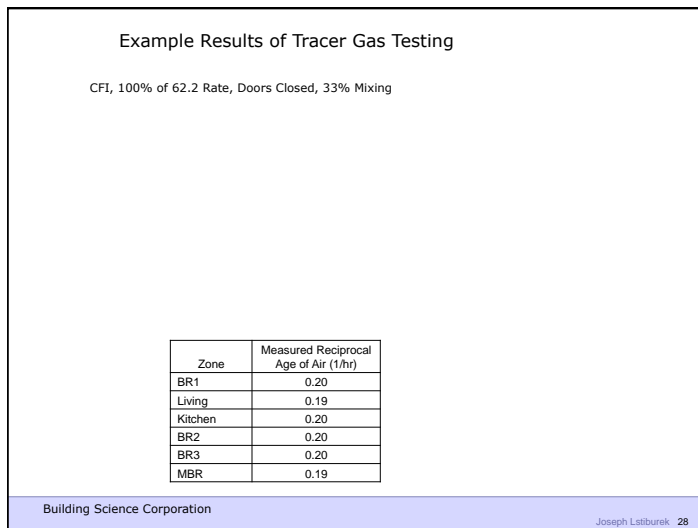
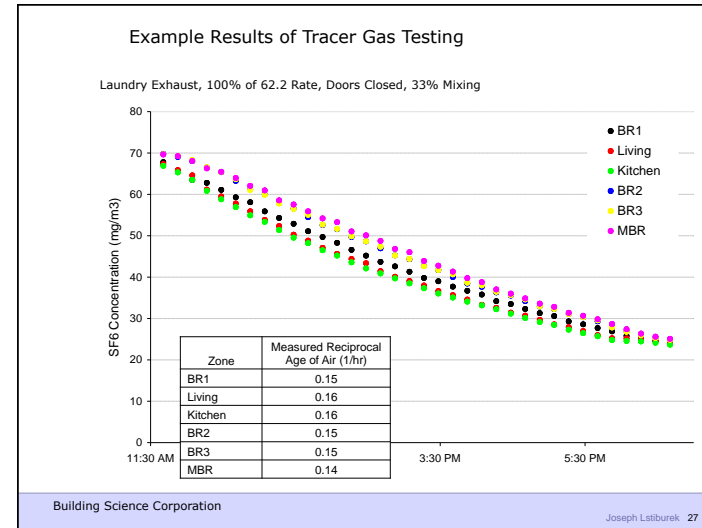
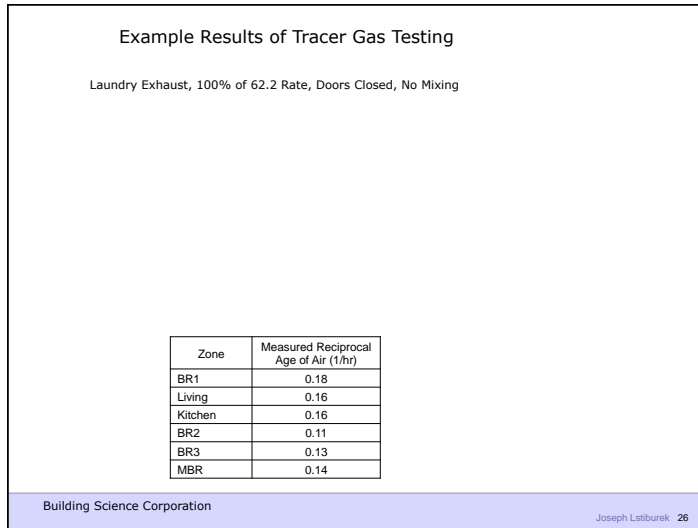
Joseph Lstiburek 24

Floor Plan - 2 Story House

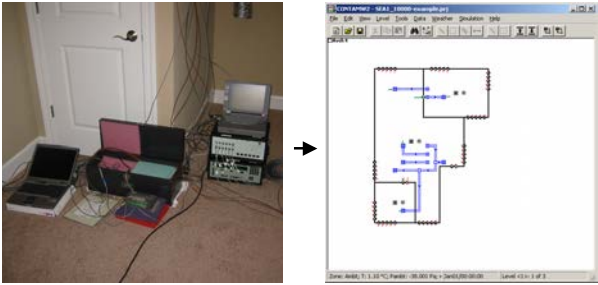


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Joseph Lstiburek 25

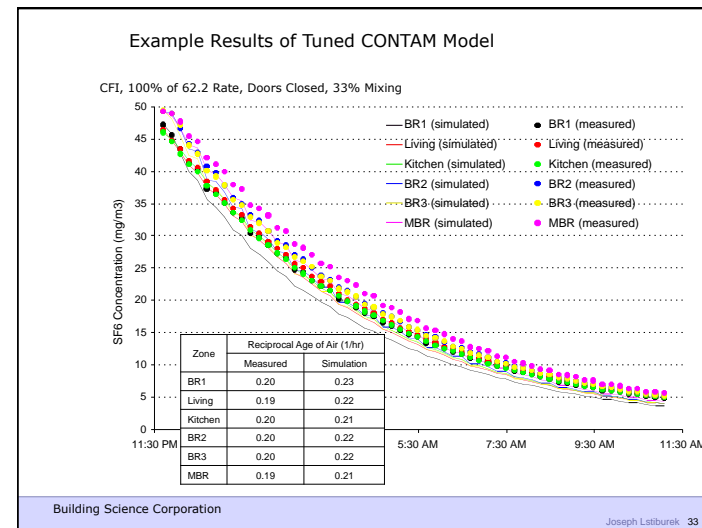
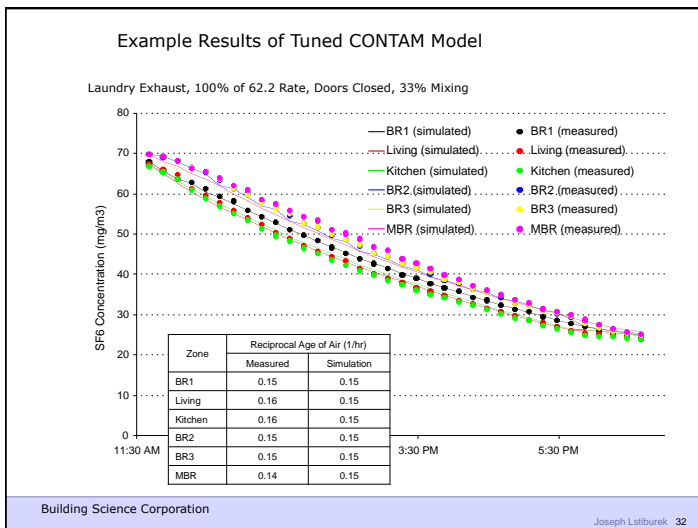
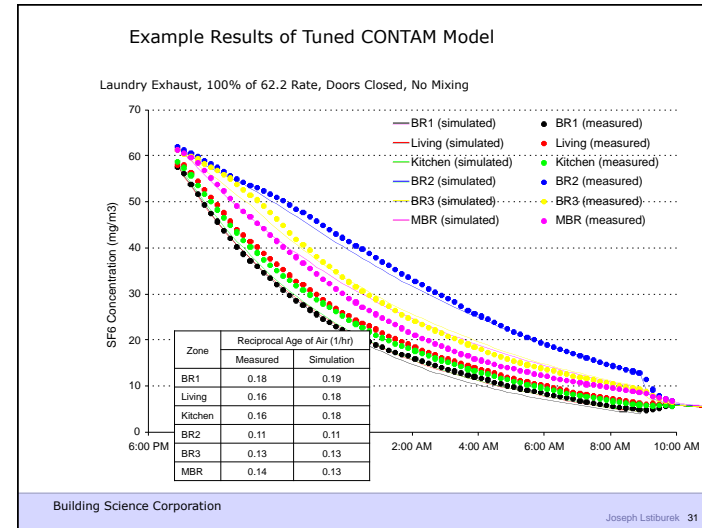


Tuned CONTAM Model



Computer modeling used to replicate field testing (tune the model) and predict performance of systems not tested in the field

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Tuned CONTAM Model Applied to Other Systems

Systems Evaluated & Compared:

1. Exhaust ventilation, without central duct system
2. Supply ventilation, without central duct system
3. Exhaust ventilation, with central ducts, standard Tstat
4. Exhaust ventilation, with central ducts, Tstat with timer
5. Supply ventilation, with central ducts, Tstat with timer
6. Fully ducted balanced ventilation system, without central duct system

$$Q(v) = \text{Ventilation Rate}$$

$$Q(\text{fan}) = Q(v) \cdot C(s)$$

$$C(s) = \text{System Coefficient}$$

Airflow Ratios—All Simulations

System Type	Range	Approximate Median
Fully ducted balanced ventilation system, with or without central duct system	1.0	1.0
Non-fully ducted balanced ventilation, with central duct system, and central air handler unit controlled to a minimum runtime of at least 10 minutes per hour	0.9 to 1.1	1.0
Supply ventilation, with central duct system, and central air handler unit controlled to a minimum runtime of at least 10 minutes per hour	1.1 to 1.7	1.25
Exhaust ventilation, with central duct system, and central air handler unit controlled to a minimum runtime of at least 10 minutes per hour	1.1 to 1.9	1.25
Exhaust ventilation, with central duct system, and central air handler unit not controlled to a minimum runtime of at least 10 minutes per hour	1.0 to 1.8	1.5
Supply ventilation, without central duct system	1.4 to 1.9	1.75
Exhaust ventilation, without central duct system	1.3 to 2.6	2.0

BSC 01 - 2013 calls for 7.5 cfm per person plus 0.01 cfm per square foot of conditioned area

Occupancy is deemed to be the number of bedrooms plus one

Occupant Rate + Building Rate

$Q(v) = \text{Fan Flow Rate}$
 $Q(\text{fan}) = Q(v) \cdot C(s)$
 $C(s) = \text{System Coefficient}$

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Table 4.1
System Coefficient based on system type¹

System Type	Distributed	Not Distributed
Balanced	1.0	1.25
Not Balanced	1.25	1.5

¹ Where there is whole-building air mixing of at least 70% recirculation turnover each hour, the system coefficient may be reduced by 0.25.

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BSC 01-2013
Ventilation for New Low-Rise Residential Building
2,000 ft²
3 bedrooms

20 cfm + 30 cfm = 50 cfm

Mixed, Distributed, Balanced (MDB)
37.5 cfm

Not Mixed, Not Distributed, Not Balanced
75 cfm

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House
2,000 ft²
3 bedrooms
8 ft. ceiling
Volume: 16,000 ft³

Ventilation Rates			
	.35 ach	93 cfm	
	.30 ach	80 cfm	
	.25 ach	67 cfm	
	.20 ach	53 cfm	
	.15 ach	40 cfm	
	62 - 73	5 cfm/person	20 cfm
		10 cfm/person	40 cfm
	62 - 89	15 cfm/person	60 cfm
		.35 ach	90 cfm
	62.2 - 2010	7.5 cfm/person	50 cfm
		+ 0.01	
	62.2 - 2013	7.5 cfm/person	90 cfm
		+ 0.03	
	BSC 01 - 2013	7.5 cfm/person	37 cfm
		+ 0.01 (MDB)	75 cfm

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