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January 28, 2010 Issue # 21

Dear Jeffrey,

There are "layers of complexity" in most stucco failures that most people seem eager to ignore. It is too easy to point the finger at past problems and assume that they are culpable again. As you probably know from reading these monthly newsletters, Dr. Joe is not eager to ignore "layers of complexity" or point fingers at "easy" targets.

Read "Stucco Woes: The Perfect Storm" below and understand the complexity of stucco failures so you can avoid having your own perfect stucco storm.

To view a list of past newsletters, click [here](#) for our archives.

Happy reading!



Jeff Melvin
Editor, buildingscience.com e-news

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Featured Article by Joe Lstiburek, Ph.D., P.Eng., Fellow ASHRAE

Stucco Woes: The Perfect Storm

Building Science Insight No. 029

As in most things gone horribly wrong, it is a bunch of seemingly small things that come together to create an almost unimaginable nightmare-in this case the "perfect stucco storm."

Unlike most water rants, particularly rainwater rants, we are not going to talk about this being the architect's fault for not having overhangs-or this being the fault of that increasingly popular and peculiar architectural sub-cult-the California architect-and the viral design disease they spread called "complicated building syndrome" a.k.a. Daniel Liebskin's Disease.

We are also not going to blame the windows or window manufacturers or window installers.2 That is not what is going on.

We are seeing problems with stucco claddings in field of the wall-away from windows and "other architectural features." And the buildings affected are not shacks (see photograph). [article continues]

To read the entire feature article and find a downloadable PDF version, click [here](#) to visit our web page.



2010 Building Science Seminars

The schedule for our 2010 seminars will be announced here. If you are receiving this newsletter, you are in the right place and will be the first to know.

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Building Science Corporation specializes in building technology consulting. Our focus is preventing and resolving problems related to building design, construction and operation.

We are internationally recognized for our expertise in moisture dynamics, indoor air quality, and forensic (building failure) investigations. We are also on the leading edge of the design of sustainable communities and buildings.

We believe in promoting energy efficiency and environmental responsibility within the constraints of marketable and affordable building technology.

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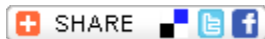
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