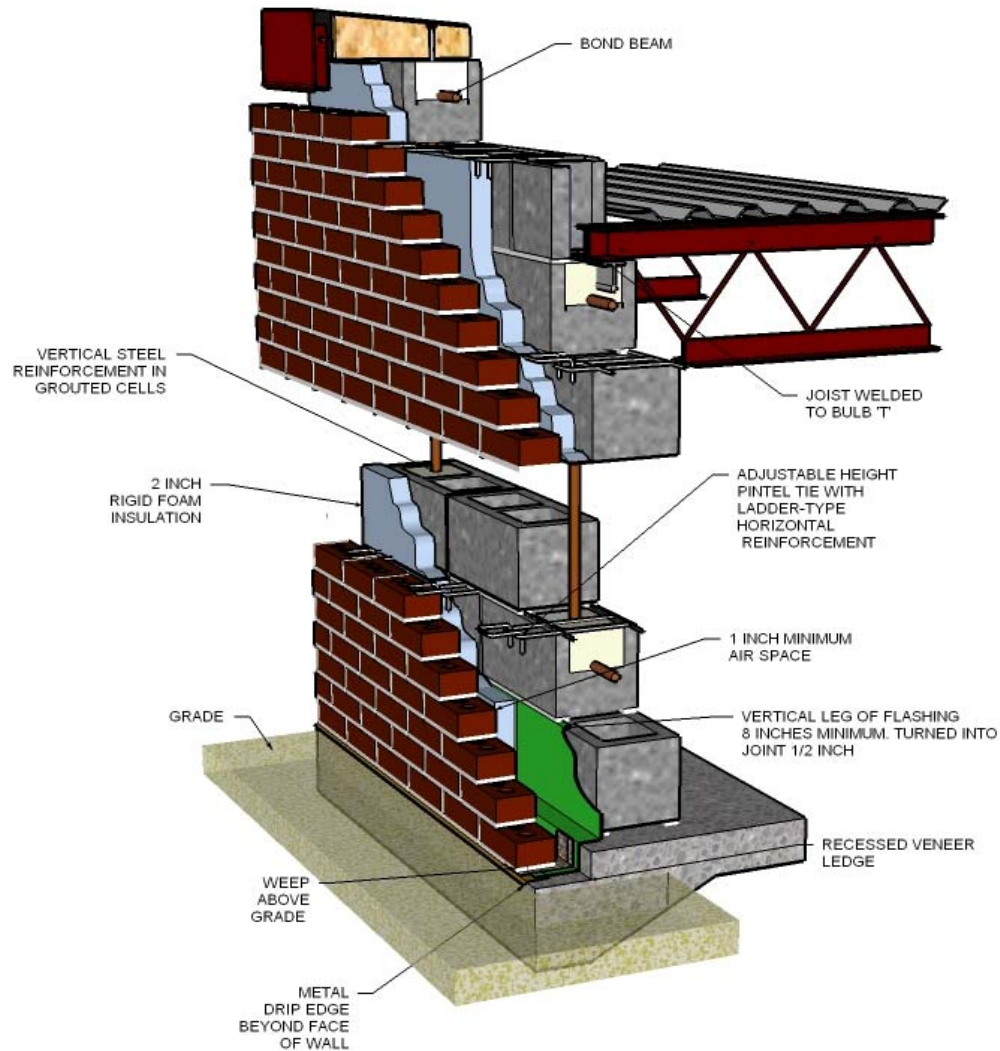


The Double Wythe Cavity Wall System



is the World's BEST wall system!

WHY?

- Insulation Envelope
- External and Internal Mass
- Moisture Control (Dew Point) (Desiccant Action)
- Drainage
- Wall Cracking Does Not Lead to Wall Leakage
- Maintenance (Life Cycle Cost)
- Beauty
- Flexibility (Both Design and Construction)
- Inside Block Surface Can Remain Exposed
- Strength
- Fire Proof (Insurance Cost)
- Rot Proof
- Termite Proof
- Corrosion Proof
- Sound Attenuation
- LEED Points (Environmental)
- ***Did I say Life Cycle Cost?***

SCHOOLS

"Three Tips for Building a Mold-Free School"

(NU) - Imagine this: A concerned parent notices some mold around a school window. An architect is called in to investigate only to find the entire building infested with mold. Although the school building is less than five years old, it has to be demolished and rebuilt.

That was the situation at a school in Texas where architect Christopher Huckabee, of the architectural firm Huckabee Inc., was called in for consultation. While this is an extreme case, it highlights the growing problem with mold. Fortunately, there are ways to help prevent mold in buildings with adequate foresight, planning and design.

Here are some tips for school boards to consider, from the National Concrete Masonry Association:

Insist on quality materials that can be cleaned.

Unfortunately, moisture will probably enter a building at some point. Building materials that can withstand moisture, such as concrete masonry, can provide the basis for a sound building. "We have assisted in the cleanup and repair of 13 mold affected buildings," Huckabee said. "In all cases, we found some type of paper-based products, such as dry-wall, and had to remove and replace the affected material. "Masonry is forgiving. If moisture comes into contact with masonry, you simply repair the leak and dry out the material."

Insist on proper building design.

To be sure the materials in your structure are performing at their optimum level, they must be properly "detailed" into the building design. Hire an architect experienced in designing buildings of the type you want to build. The architect should design the building to the most recent industry standards. Additionally, architects should follow instructions provided by manufacturers of building products and should ensure that differing materials are joined properly and thoughtfully designed.

Insist on proper construction.

No matter how well designed, a building is only as good as the construction team that puts it all together. This includes the general contractor in charge of the project as well as the subcontractors, such as the plumber, electrician or mason. These professionals are trained in all the nuances of their particular trade. Most reputable, qualified craftsmen are members of their trade's professional organization. Some trades must be licensed to practice by the local governing authority. While there is no guarantee that mold can be completely eliminated, these steps will minimize the risk that it will grow in your school building. Learn more about concrete masonry at www.ncma.org.