

## SALEM PRESENTATION

2/14/2006

By W. Corwin

- 1) **NAME:** Wallace D. Corwin
- 2) **CREDENTIALS:** Member of ASTM, AAMA, BETEC, NWCW, Cornerstone Partner AIA
- 3) **TITLE:** Corporate Manager
- 4) **COMPANY REPRESENTED:** Product Integrity Group of JELD-WEN, inc.
- 5) **BIO INFORMATION:** I have spent the last 22 years working for fenestration manufacturers. In 1995 I started the Product Integrity Group for JELD-WEN. The Product Integrity Group is responsible for the following areas and reports to a member of the Board of Directors: 1.) Analysis of Product and Building Failures. 2.) Remediation Services for large and high risk projects. 3.) Case Management and Settlement Authority for all product defect litigation. 4.) Non-incremental product development. 5.) Product installation development, training, and support.
- 6) **INTRODUCTION:** Since 1995 I have analyzed, inspected, and / or remediated over 36,000 building units covering units in all 50 states, Canada, Mexico, and Chile. I am a regular speaker or presenter to educational groups, standard's groups, private industry, and homeowners on building and component performance, building science, building envelope design, building sustainability, and product defect litigation.
- 7) **SUMMATION OF TESTIMONY:**
  - A. How do building components stack up today? The building components used, in the construction of homes today, are designed to meet specific performance standards and are covered by an ever increasing list of manufacturing and code requirements. The assumption that the products used in the construction of today's homes are somehow deficient in design or performance is unfounded. Over the last 22 years I have witnessed the improvements in fenestration products: increased water resistance; increased air resistance; improved energy performance; improved operational performance; significant component improvements; structural improvements; sound abatement options; specialty glass options; installation guidelines; etc. The fenestration products produced today are superior to any products the fenestration industry produced before.
  - B. What is the mission of the Builder' Board: The mission of a Builder' Board should be to protect the builder, subcontractor, material supplier, and public. We would expect the Builder' Board to supply fundamental, trade specific instruction to those who are building homes in our state. We would also expect the Builder' Board to arbitrate disputes between the builder, subcontractor, material supplier, and homeowner in a manor that is fair and reasonable. We would also expect the Builder' Board to supply licensing and performance information on builders and subcontractors that would allow the public to evaluate the expected performance license holder.
  - C. Science and it's place in the building industry: Although science plays an increasingly important role in the design of buildings it is not the end all. Building science only tells us what to expect given an set of problems, materials and environmental conditions. In real world applications, the science may not give us all of the answers we need, may not be economically feasible, and / or may cause other problems not anticipated in the original research. Although I use science extensively I have found that over 80% of the construction problems I encounter are errors in basic skills not in the design of the building, its components, or the building envelope.
  - D. Cost / Benefit: There are tremendous differences in the construction requirements of a 1300 Sq. Ft. home, in a protected area, with adequate overhangs and small areas of fenestration openings vs. a 10,000 Sq. / Ft. home setting on a cliff 200 feet above the ocean, with no overhangs and hundreds of square feet of fenestration openings. The amount of money spent for design, mock-up testing, consulting, and material selection in the large home could not be justified in the design of the small home.
  - E. Arizona model: In my work in all states I feel that the model used by Arizona is the one that works best. I would recommend that the Oregon investigate that model.

I have no special needs for equipment. I will be bringing samples of video instruction and failure analysis that the members can view on their own.