# Ducts

Improving Efficiency, Comfort, and Health in Existing Homes



## **Duct Sealing**

- All duct connections must be mechanically fastened
- Regardless of duct location, the joints and seams of <u>all</u> ducts, air handlers, and filter boxes should be sealed with mastic or mastic tape that is at least 2 mm in thickness (0.08 inch), approximately the thickness of a nickel
- Mastic shall be installed at the inner liner of rigid metal and flexible duct (not the outer insulation jacket).







MISSOUR

with mastic



- Remove registers
- Vacuum duct
- Seal with mastic start as far in as you can reach and work your way out
- Finish by sealing boot to floor/ceiling







- Remove registers
- Vacuum duct
- Seal with mastic start as far in as you can reach and work your way out
- Finish by sealing boot to floor/ceiling







#### Pan Returns

• Unlined building cavities should not be used as ducts, returns, or plenums!









# Lighting

Improving Efficiency, Comfort, and Health in Existing Homes



#### R503.1.4 Lighting

New lighting systems that are part of the alteration shall comply with Section R404.1

**Exception:** Alterations that replace less than 50 percent of the luminaires in a space, provided that such alterations do not increase the installed interior lighting power.





# R404.1 Lighting Equipment

- This requirement is mandatory
- Not less than 90 percent of the permanently installed lighting fixtures shall contain only high-efficacy lamps
- High efficacy lamps include
  - Compact fluorescents
  - T8 or T5 fluorescent bulb
  - LEDs
- Exception low voltage lighting





# **Benefits of LED Lighting**

- LEDs boast a 25,000-hour average life, which means less maintenance for your clients
- LEDs use 6 times less energy than comparable incandescent bulbs
- Ideally, upgrade all bulbs to LED
- Look for the ENERGY STAR® label



#### **Economics of Incandescent Lighting**

9 bulbs x 60 watts each = 540 w

540 w x 4 hours a day = 2160 wh

2160 wh x 365 days = 788,400 wh a year

788,400 / 1000 = 788.4 kWh

788.4 kWh x \$.127 = **\$100.13** per year





#### **Economics of LED Lighting**

9 bulbs x 9 watts each = 81 w

81 w x 4 hours a day = 324 wh

324 wh x 365 days = 118,260 wh a year

118,260 / 1000 = 118.3 kWh

118.3 kWh x \$.127 = **\$15.02 per year** 





#### The Economics of Lighting for Builders



- It would take ~3 weeks to payback LEDs if half the lights are left on during construction
- Just ~10 days if all lights are left on!

	E		19	-	*	Bulb Cost Assump	tion:		Ele	ctricity	Rate:	0.1	2 \$/kwh	
		-				Incandescent = \$0.	.25							
	\$ Cost for 1 month - ON half t				f the time	the time Si			mple Payback					
		Incand		LED		Total	\$S	avings	(months)	(days)			Bulb W	attage
100% Incand House	\$	158.11	\$	-	\$	158.11		0			Prer	nium	Incand	LED
0% Incand / 50% LED	\$	79.06	\$	13.18	\$	92.23	\$	65.88	0.80	24.3	-		60	10
100% LED House	\$		\$	26.35	\$	26.35	\$1	31.76	0.80	24.3				
1 The						50% LED House		30	30	\$ 5	2.50		60	10
THEAT														
						100% LED House		0	60	\$10	5.00		60	10



#### **Color Temperature**

- LEDs are available in a wide range of color temperatures
- Some smart bulbs have color temperature ranges from 2000K-6500K + 16 million colors





#### **LED Retrofit Issues**

- "Dimmable" LEDs might not be compatible with all existing dimmer switches
  - LED bulbs may flicker, blink, hum or buzz
  - Problems are more prevalent in track lighting fixtures or other fixtures with multiple bulbs
- Recommendation Replace dimmers with standard switches or LED compatible dimmers
- Smart bulbs offer dimming capability



# **Questions / Thoughts?**

- When does code apply to additions and alterations (the short answer: pretty much always...the question is, how can you do it cost effectively)
- Historic preservation
- Mass wall improvements?





Register your EarthCraft Sustainable Preservation Project







