

MEMO

Date: March 19, 2024
To: Architectural Department
Project Name: Office Standards
From: Nick LaForest – Assistant Director, Architecture
Subject: Fenestration Details

Effective Immediately for all projects.

All fenestration details on projects are required to be a minimum scale of 3" = 1'-0".

Each detail Head, Jamb and Sill need to demonstrate an understanding of the following:

1. How the frame is supported and fastened to the buildings structure.
 - a. Consider where the fastener of the frame is located and ensure that it can be located into proper building construction. Be conscious of proper edge distances when fastening to brittle materials. (i.e. concrete and CMU).
2. The weather resistive barrier and how it is properly sealed and engaged with the fenestration to form a continuous barrier.
 - a. Illustrate and specially note and dimension a joint for backer rod and sealant. The common rule of thumb is to provide 3/8" joint width for aluminum windows and storefront systems and 1/2" for curtain wall systems. Note that head details may require larger joints to accommodate thermal movement.
3. The thermal aspects of the frames. Illustrate that the frame is properly aligned to the building's thermal insulation plane.
 - a. All products that we specify should have a thermal break incorporated in the design of the frame. A common and permissible exception would be an exterior hollow metal door. All other fenestration systems should provide a proper thermal break in the frame design.

This measure includes the typical types of fenestrations, i.e., doors, commercial windows, aluminum storefront and curtain wall systems. This requires that any individual tasked with detailing fenestration know and understand how the manufacturer recommends the product is installed. This will require that you do your homework and research the product and installation materials that nearly all manufacturers make available. If the manufacturer does not have these materials available, pick a different product/manufacturer, do not select and specify products that do not allow you to gain this understanding. Also understand the potential differences between a "basis of design" product and any equivalent products in the specification and align the fenestration details to work with all products or remove any products that cannot work with the detail from the specification.

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