

Rainscreens:

The principle of a rear ventilated facade is very simple... create a cavity behind the external



cladding material which has both entry and exit point(s). Like a chimney this allows air to enter and escape in a free flowing dynamic thus creating a pressure equalized environment.

Any water that enters into the cavity space quickly either drains freely down and out or of course evaporates due to the air flow principle. This simple model has many benefits as explained below;

✓ **Energy Efficient**

Rear ventilated facade systems allow for a much greater flexibility in insulating a building. With a ventilated cavity, insulation can be located outside of the air barrier and inside the cavity space, which can greatly improve a wall's R Value and significantly reduces energy consumption and lower running costs.

Similarly acoustic insulation can be greatly improved with the benefit of this cavity.

✓ **Maintenance Free Systems**

With a ventilated cavity system, the building can be kept dry by eliminating the propensity of water to penetrate the wall system. Simply, this means there is now no longer a need for caulking, grout or sealants. A wide variety of high quality exterior cladding products exist to be utilized with rainscreen wall design, combining a technical wall design with a timeless aesthetic for long term sustainability.

✓ **Natural Ventilation - Mold / Mildew Free**

The natural air flow of the ventilated wall eliminates the occurrence of mould and mildew by design and creates a healthy wall design that improves building longevity as well as the health of occupants.

✓ **New or Retrofit Construction**

Ventilated facades can be applied to new or existing construction. Rear ventilated facades offer the designer limitless options that immediately embrace the re-cladding of existing structures with a new aesthetic. This has benefits from both a design and sustainability perspective.

✓ **Natural, 'Green' Materials**

Whether selecting Max, terracotta, ceramic, natural stone or other ventilated cladding products, rainscreen systems allow the designer to utilize the latest in natural, recyclable, 'green' building materials. All aluminum sub-frame systems provide additional evidence for design with recyclable materials.

