

Louvers come in various shapes, sizes, and locations, making them a significant concern in building design. They serve as an open pathway for exterior elements to enter the building and wall system. Therefore, it is crucial to pay special attention to potential water intrusion and cold weather impacts. To ensure a watertight installation, it is essential to install a subsill and a blank-off panels. Additionally, confirming the construction of the louver and its substrate is vital for optimal performance.

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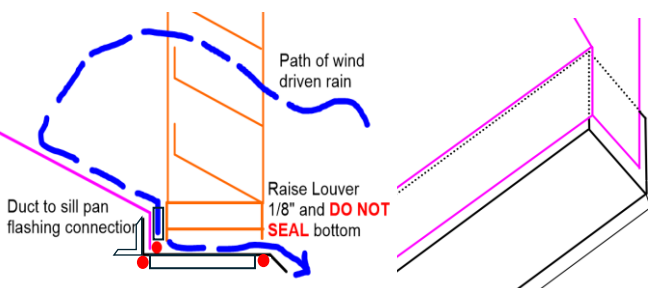
Always confirm weep locations to make sure they do not hold water.

- ▶ Have a discussion with the architect on the flashing and the path of water. A subsill flashing is imperative to a water-tight design.
- ▶ Confirm flashing is designed or RFI detail. **MORE OFTEN THAN NOT...WE SHOULD HAVE FLASHING!**
- ▶ Obtain the installation procedures from the manufacturer along with the shop drawings for the louver and unit ventilator.
- ▶ **Look for cold air infiltration and how it might affect other building elements, such as sprinkler lines and water pipes.**

- ▶ Review construction drawings for the water exit path and verify with the shop drawings—create a back-up for water.
- ▶ Check to make sure that the bottom pan is properly sloped towards the weeps and are in the correct location, **the bottom of the weep is at the top of the bottom pan, not above.**
- ▶ Review bottom pan and weep system on the shop drawings.
- ▶ Review the shop drawings and installation procedures and discuss any issues or differences that your project might have.
- ▶ Review the shop drawings for back draft dampers and blank offs.
- ▶ When reviewing shop drawings, look specifically for:
 - ▶ Sub frame.
 - ▶ Weep holes.
 - ▶ How each piece connects to one another.
 - ▶ Possible water penetration in the construction.

▶ **Perform a simple hose test on the louver to determine and verify the water path.**

- ▶ Water stream to the left side.
- ▶ Water stream to the right side.
- ▶ Water stream from the top side.
- ▶ Water stream from the bottom up.



- ▶ **Always connect ductwork to the sill pan.**
- ▶ **Sides of the ductwork should overlap the bottom sill pan.**
- ▶ **Always make sure sill pan has sealed end dams.**
- ▶ **Always lift louver 1/8\"/>**



Always perform a simple water test.



Make sure that the sill pan / subsill is pitched outward in all cases.



Review outside corner construction of both the louver and sub-frame for sealant at the corner and rivets.



Review sub-frame for sealant at the mitered corners.



Make sure that flashing above the lintel is properly installed – always photo the installation for future review.

