

# Contractor

Service & Industry

# Bulletin

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## 2013 Nudura Insulated Concrete Forms Training

On Thursday, April 18 from 8 am to 5 pm, Nudura will be conducting a 'Basic Installation' course at the Holiday Inn, Route 23 Southside in Oneonta.

This is required training for certification to become an installer of the Nudura system. If you are already ARXX (or other) certified, it is not necessary to be re-certified, but it may be helpful to attend and become familiar with Nudura.

The cost of the course is \$150, payable by credit card only to Nudura. This price includes all course materials, and coffee and lunch are provided.

To register online, email [training@nudura.com](mailto:training@nudura.com) or contact Pickett Contractor Sales.



BUILT RIGHT. GRIP-RITE.

## Curing Blanket

Premium Grip-Rite  
Bubble Blanket in Stock

- Woven poly cover, 2 side HDPE coating
- Double needle sewn all around; double folded width hems
- 18 button fasteners keep the insulation in place for vertical applications (per 6 ft. x 25 ft.)
- Made to finished size dimensions
- Combination 2-layer bubble and foam insulation
- 2.8 R-value (with 3" Air Gap Between Blanket & Concrete)

6' x 25' x ½" Thick Two-Layer Bubble Curing Blanket

CB2625GR **In Stock Only \$49.95**



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## Froth-Pak Insulation in Stock at Pickett

Sealing and insulating the gaps and cracks around the home can save on heating and cooling costs. FROTH-PAK foam kits quickly expand to fill cavities, penetrations and cracks. With a Class-A fire rating FROTH-PAK can be used in a variety of applications:

- Stud Wall Cavities
- Rim or Band Joists
- Crawl Space Walls and Ceilings
- Attic Ductwork
- Plumbing Wall Pipe Insulation and Support

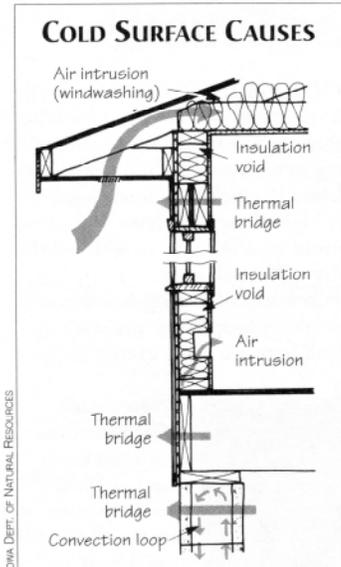
*Two-Component polyurethane foam is packaged in easy-to-handle, self-contained, portable containers.*

**Entire Kit Only \$709.99** DFP620  
(Covers 620 SF x 1" Thick)



Used primarily as an air sealant, FROTH-PAK Foam Sealant is suited for gaps larger than 2".

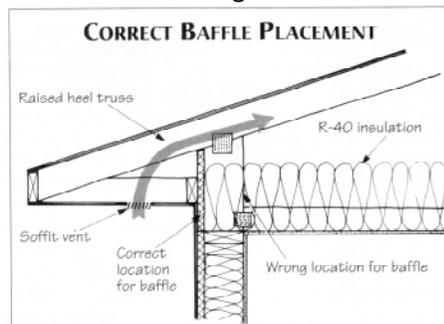
# Correct Baffle Placement with Raised Heel Trusses



Insulation defects can cause cold spots on the interior surfaces of a home. Moist interior air can condense on these cold surfaces, causing mildew growth or rot.



The insulation baffles pictured above are ineffective since they are misplaced and damaged from heavy condensation. The baffles should be rigid and placed as shown in the picture below to keep wind from blowing under the insulation and causing condensation, mold, and mildew at the ceiling corners.



**JLC**  
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LUMBER ■ COMPOSITES ■ ENGINEERED PRODUCTS  
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## North American Lumber Prices Forecast To Soar In 2013 and Reach Record Highs In 2014

A new five-year outlook shows that supply and demand conditions in wood products for the long-awaited 'super-cycle' are now taking hold, with the full impact still some 3+ years away.

With the return of a demand-driven wood products market in 2012 – due to rapidly increasing housing starts in the U.S. – it is now forecast that lumber and panel prices will move to new highs in 2013 and record highs for lumber in 2014. A North American "super-cycle" has been predicted by Wood Markets since 2008 as a result of emerging supply-side constraints (mainly on forests and logs) as well as changing demand dynamics, but the global financial crisis that started in late 2008 and an unusually slow U.S. housing market recovery have delayed this event until 2012.

With the expectation of strong growth in U.S. housing starts over the next five years, combined with a better balance in the housing inventory and a recovering economy, the U.S. supply chain is expected to become overwhelmed at times during the next five years, allowing wood products prices to soar.

While there are a number of assumptions that are required to maintain steady economic growth, a strong wood products recovery amidst a tightening timber and mill supply base is still expected.

From The Forest Industry Network: <http://forestindustry.com/feature-article/200/north-american-lumber-prices-forecast-soar-2013-and-reach-record-highs-2014>



## Landscape Report - Work Smarter and Faster



Paver lifters make installers more productive. Heavy duty tongs are designed and built for long wear. Can be quickly adjusted to carry from six to eight brick with a 16" opening. Double the speed of your paver installers and spend more time laying than hauling.

Paver Lifter \*In Stock\* only \$18.99 6838726



Wall Unit Tongs enable installers to carry two retaining wall units at a time (using one in each hand), increasing productivity. Double the speed at which product is moved by hand and enable installers to spend more time laying wall block.

Adjustable from 12 1/2" to 17"

Bon Tool Brand Wall Lifter Tongs \*In Stock\* Only \$19.99 B11373



Retaining Wall Clamp speeds installation by up to 30 - 40 %

Laying 72 lb Diamond block by hand is grueling. Using a block clamp, grab 3 block from a pallet at once. With one guy on the excavator, one guy on the pallet and one guy on the wall, nobody is lifting them and everybody is working faster and can stay efficient to the end of the day.

Retaining Wall Clamp Special Order 1-2 Weeks \$6452.00 plus shipping charges

## The Ten Commandments of Good Safety Habits

In most everything we do, we find a "trick" to make the process easier and faster. After we develop these tricks, they become work habits in our everyday activities. Developing everyday safety habits can keep you injury free through the year. Here are ten safety habits to live by:

1. **Set Your Own Standards.** Don't be influenced by others around you who are negative. If you fail to wear safety glasses because others don't, remember the blindness you may suffer will be yours alone to live with.
2. **Operate Equipment Only if Qualified.** Your supervisor may not realize you have never done the job before. You have the responsibility to let your supervisor know, so the necessary training can be provided.
3. **Respect Machinery.** If you put something in a machine's way, it will crush it, pinch it or cut it. Make sure all guards are in place. Never hurry beyond your ability to think and act safely. Remember to de-energize the power first before placing your hands in a point of operation.
4. **Use Your Own Initiative for Safety Protection.** You are in the best position to see problems when they arise. Ask for the personal protective equipment or additional guidance you need.
5. **Ask Questions.** If you are uncertain, ask. Do not accept answers that contain, "I think, I assume, I guess." Be sure.
6. **Use Care and Caution When Lifting.** Most muscle and spinal injuries are from overstraining. Know your limits. Do not attempt to exceed them. The few minutes it takes to get help will prevent weeks of being off work and in pain.
7. **Practice Good Housekeeping.** Disorganized work areas are the breeding grounds for accidents. You may not be the only victim. Don't be a cause.
8. **Wear Proper and Sensible Work Clothes.** Wear sturdy and appropriate footwear. These should enclose the foot fully. Avoid loose clothing, dangling jewelry, and be sure that long hair is tied back and cannot become entangled in the machinery.
9. **Practice Good Personal Cleanliness.** Avoid touching eyes, face, and mouth with gloves or hands that are dirty. Wash well and use barrier creams when necessary. Most industrial rashes are the result of poor hygiene practices.
10. **Be a Positive Part of the Safety Team.** Willingly accept and follow safety rules. Encourage others to do so. Your attitude can play a major role in the prevention of accidents and injuries.

# Otsego Ready Mix, Inc. and Concrete Pumping & Placing



## How Common is Out-of-Joint Cracking?

**Q** An architectural residential driveway poured two years ago consists of an aggregate finish with a stamped border and stamped circle in the center. The slab is 6 inches thick with #4 rebar at 18" OC in both directions.

Sawcut joints with depths about 1 ¼" were installed.

Now, there are several out-of-joint cracks. Most crack widths at the surface are less than .04". These distract from the natural beauty of the driveway. Should the driveway be removed and replaced or are there better products than clear silicone to seal the cracks?



**A** Cracking is an intrinsic property of concrete. It is a brittle material and when thermal and dry concrete shrinkage combine with restraint from the base and fixed objects, tensile stresses occur. When restrained-shrinkage stresses exceed the tensile capacity of the concrete, it cracks. So expect some out-of-joint cracking, even using the best construction practices.



For typical slab-on-ground construction, there are two options for controlling restrained-shrinkage cracks. One consists of tooling or saw cutting contraction joints into the slab. Sometimes called control joints, these joints are actually weakened sections that crack and open to relieve the restrained-shrinkage stresses. The other consists of installing steel reinforcement to control the width, not the location, of the cracks. Combining both options can provide excellent crack control.

Often, reinforced slabs on ground will develop narrow-width, out-of-joint cracks because the slab failed to see the contraction joints, the reinforcement passing through the contraction joints restrained the joints from properly cracking and opening, or both.

For this driveway, the reinforcement is controlling crack widths and growth, providing load transfer and maintaining vertical surface alignment across the cracks and joints, and maintaining the structural integrity of the driveway. Therefore, the driveway is not deficient and should not be replaced. While unsightly, these restrained shrinkage cracks are controlled and should not affect the longevity of the driveway, especially if they are repaired.

### Crack Repair

Unrepaired cracks are prone to surface discoloration caused by salts from within the concrete being transported and deposited along the crack boundaries. After it enters the cracks, water picks up free salts from the concrete. Because of surface evaporation, salt-laden water moves upward and evaporates, leaving behind a deposit of salts that noticeably discolors the surface.

Decide if the cracks are active or dormant. For active cracks, future movements are anticipated and repair materials should be elastomeric or flexible. Repairing or sealing active cracks is essentially the same as preparing and scaling contraction joints. Sealant reservoirs are cut or routed to increase the width of the crack.

For dormant or stable cracks, future movements are not anticipated, so repair materials can be harder and less flexible. Harder repair materials provide more edge support for cracks. Sealant reservoirs are not required so repairs are less noticeable. Only loose or damaged concrete along the crack edges must be removed so the repair material can bond to sound concrete.

*CONCRETE SURFACES Magazine | December 2012*



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