

Contractor

Service & Industry

Bulletin

September 2010



6459 State Highway 23, Oneonta, NY 13820-6550
607-432-8391, Fax 607-433-6284



Otsego Ready Mix, Inc.
2 Wells Ave
Oneonta, NY
607-432-3400



Builders Lunch Program

Future Program List

Builders Lunch & Information Programs—Thursdays 11 am-2 pm

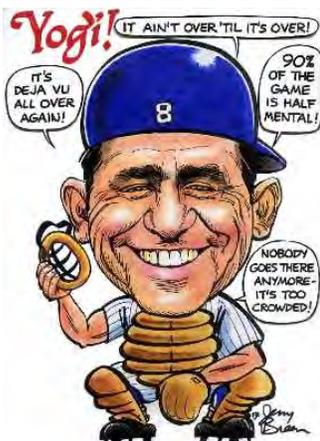


Sept. 16 Numax Tool Repair and Exchange Day- Kevin Bring your tools for repair, replacement or trade-in
Makita Tools-Steve Niles presenting The latest features on Makita Tools
Marvin Windows –Tim Osied
LP Smart Side Siding- Neil Strechert from Parkside Plunkett-Webster
RAIN or SHINE! Being held in our new warehouse.

Oct. 7 Hood Dist-Dave Yergeau – Express Insul. Header
Universal Forest –Kevin Kerr

Oct. 27 BWT-Bob Hoag Commercial Doors, Hardware, Frames

Additional suppliers may be added to this list as our programs grow. Stop in for a free lunch and new product demonstrations.



Yogiisms

Yogi Berra, known least inside the baseball world for being a Houston Astros coach in the late 80's, early 90's, was more famously known as one of the top 2 greatest catchers of all time (Yes, he's in the Hall of Fame) and for being the coach/manager for the Yankee's and Mets through the 60's, 70's and 80's.

Outside the baseball world he's known for having a cartoon character named after him (bet you can't guess which one) and for his classic use of the English language, also known as Yogiisms.

"The future ain't what it used to be."

At a dinner in the Italian restaurant, Yogi was asked how many slices should be cut into his pizza. He replied, "You better make it four, 'cause I don't think I could eat eight."

Masonry Closeouts

Closeouts can occur from over runs, off colors, slightly imperfect block or unsatisfactory splits. Although they are not perfect, the block are still useful and offered at greatly discounted pricing.

Be sure to ask our sales department and check out product that can give you great results at an even greater savings.



Why You Shouldn't Exhaust a Bath Fan into the Attic by Mac Pearce

Mac Pearce is an Environmental Health Consultant in St. Paul, MN. He writes for the Journal of Light Construction

A plumber stuck his head up through an attic hatch and saw a disconnected flex duct—a bath exhaust pipe—lying in a bed of fiberglass insulation. Immediately downstream from the duct was a small patch of blackened roof sheathing. So he closed the latch, climbed down the step ladder, and announced that there was a mold problem in the attic and that he wouldn't do any work until the problem had been resolved.

The homeowner called his insurance company, who hired a local environmental firm to send out a certified industrial hygienist to assess the problem. He collected a sample from the moldy wood and identified it as *Stachybotrys chartarum*, the infamous 'toxic black mold.' To correct the problem, the hygienist recommended that all the wood framing and decking in the attic is abrasive-blasted with dry ice and all the loose fill fiberglass insulation be removed and replaced. The homeowner received an estimate of more than \$20,000 to have the work done. Frightened, he called his builder who contacted our state builders association, who referred the homeowner to me. The owner called and described the problem, noting that all he could see was a small patch of mold and wondered if the recommended repairs might be a bit over the top. He asked me to come down and take a look.



I arrived early in the morning, before the day got too hot (attic work in the summer can be unbearable). As the owner said, there was only one visibly moldy spot in the attic, where the bath vent had been pointing. I collected tape lifts and contact plate samples from the suspicious black spot, and from unstained wood framing and sheathing a few feet away from the problem area and at several other locations around the attic. I also collected samples of insulation from directly under the mold spot and other areas.

I examined the samples in my lab and discovered that the only measurably moldy area in the attic was the one little black patch; the rest of the samples were clean. I happened to be acquainted with the CEO of the involved environmental firm, so I called him to discuss my findings and suggested that he ask his guy to reconsider modifying his recommendations. He wrote back to say that his man 'stood by his report' – making me think that the industrial hygienist was more certifiable than certified.

In the end, the homeowner decided to follow my recommendation: He scrubbed the moldy patch with a sponge full of bleach and that was the end of the matter. He spent 50 cents instead of 20,000 dollars.

The fact is environmental reports can cause as many problems as they solve. It's important to sort out opinions from facts. A negative mold report can be the kiss of death to a property sale, particularly since disclosure rules require that such reports be shared, even if the conclusions are ridiculous. Don't be afraid to ask for a second opinion if you think the opinions of the 'expert' are questionable.

As a final thought, always make a point to get into the attic and confirm that all the exhaust ducts are properly connected.

Otsego Ready Mix

Applying Form Release Agent



Q How often should release agent be applied to plywood form panels?

A Plywood forming panels usually are treated with a form release agent at the mill, but it's important to evaluate their condition carefully before using them for the first time. Unless the mill treatment is reasonably fresh, the panels may need another treatment of release agent before the first use. Even medium density overlays should be treated with a chemical release agent before the first use and between each pour. Applying a thin film of form release agent to both reused panels and new panels that are not freshly mill-treated will prolong the panel's life, enhance its release characteristics, and minimize the potential for staining the concrete. Apply the release agent a few days before using the forms for best results.

You also should determine whether an edge sealer was applied at the mill, and if not, seal any cut edges with two coats of polyurethane paint or varnish before the first pour. Otherwise, the forming panels will absorb moisture and swell at the edges.



Concrete Construction | August 2010

Market Report

Paul Barnhart



Due to the slow economy and the relatively minimum amount of building activity, all of the gypsum companies who had previously announced price increases, have rescinded their announcement.

Lack of demand has similarly held down anticipated increases in steel roofing.

Lumber and plywood prices which are essentially running at a lower than normal level are actually firmed up by relatively minor demand and can fluctuate considerably, especially if that demand advances even slightly.

Be cautious about quoting prices 'too far out'. When our dreams come true and the construction pace picks up, expect the gloves to come off rapidly.



Landscape Report



- Meets Structural Requirements for bonding:
 - Brick, Stone, Wood
 - Treated Lumber, Plywood, Other Materials
- Reduces Labor
 - No Sand, Gravel or Mixing Necessary
- Bonds Quickly
 - Dries in all Conditions

5 ½ times greater bond strength than required by ICC, PEI and Green Guard Codes & Tests

MB28

28 oz Tube for Large Caulk Gun \$27

Buy - Sell - Trade



Cement Mixer
Essick Commercial Mixer

- Gear Driven
- Honda Motor
- Good Condition

Paid \$6500 New

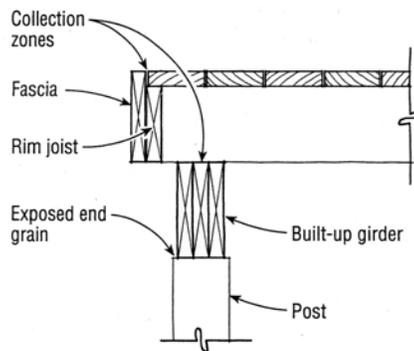
Selling for \$750 firm

607-746-9597 for details.

List your 'for sale' items here for **Free**. The Contractor Bulletin is sent to over 300 Contractors, Architects, Engineers and Landscapers in the Upstate, NY area. This issue as well as past Bulletins are also available on our website at www.oneontablock.com

Avoiding Collection Zones

Typical



Plan View

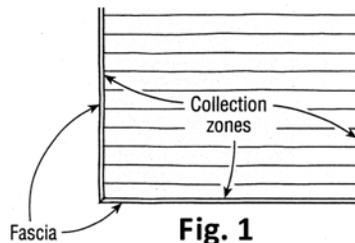
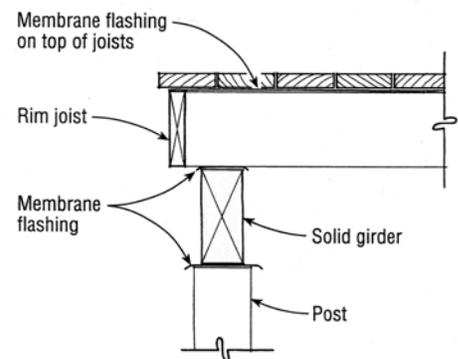


Fig. 1

Better



Plan View

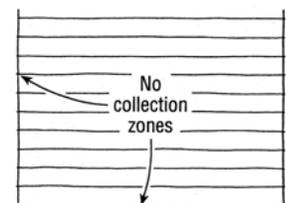


Fig. 2

When we use Pressure Treated Southern Yellow Pine we expect it to stand the test of time plus a little more. We don't expect to see the time when it will need replacing. When water and moisture get trapped between plies of lumber that are then laminated together (like built up girders) then is continually exposed to moisture without good air circulation, even PT SYP will eventually deteriorate. Simple applications such as wrapping a fascia board around a deck edge as shown in Fig. #1, creates a "collection point" where water and dust leave particles that may create a fungus without air circulation.

Fungus is an organism that feeds on and destroys natural materials like lumber. In some western states it is common to use other species such as Hem-Fir which is incised to increase pressure treatment penetration. Hem-Fir does not accept chemicals as well as the SYP.

We are fortunate to have SYP which is a better performer and is readily available from forests in the southern states.

In an article presented by the Journal Of Light Construction they provide some suggestions (Fig. 2) on how to reduce "collection zones".

Most of the time we do not see a lot of decay and deterioration of PT SYP materials, for most projects are new enough that problems have not yet started to happen. By eliminating 'collection zones' in our designing, supplying or construction, we are providing a higher level of quality for our customers.



Problems with Drying Polyurethane?

This summer has been a beautiful season, hot, some humidity, sunny and clear. It has all the basics of the finest summers we have had in several years. During a particularly humid time, I was applying clear polyurethane to some oak cabinet doors. It seemed to take forever for them to dry. In fact some parts stayed very tacky for over 10 days. I thought that possibly the coolness of the shop I was working in, as well as the warm temperature and humidity of our summer was the reason for such slow drying of the clear urethane.

To help solve the problem I contacted Cabots "Technical support line" at 800-US-STAIN to see if they might have some suggestions. I was told that New York State and several other states regulations limit the amount of VOC that can be used in products. This has resulted in increased solids in the product, causing slower drying times. Volatile Organic Compounds (V.O.C.) are chemicals that reduce drying time by evaporating liquids into the air. Unfortunately, this contributes to the formation of smog and the general deterioration of the ozone.



Cabots techs did recommended that I **wipe on a light coat of Mineral Spirits** directly to the surface to cut the stickiness. And for additional coats of polyurethane I should **add 1 oz. of Mineral Spirits to each qt of Polyurethane** to reduce drying time. They were right on for it removed the stickiness right away and the drying time of the 2nd coat took over night or less.

We wanted to share this useful information with you for it is a tip that works and may be helpful to you.

Precast Concrete Lintels

A large selection of sizes in stock at

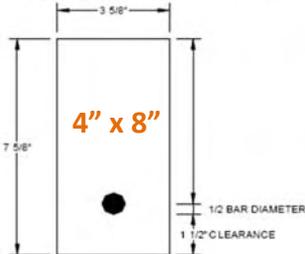


Stock Sizes

Length	Price Each	
	4" x 8"	6" x 8"
42"	\$8.25	\$11.25
48"	\$11.95	\$12.95
56"	\$12.50	\$15.50
64"	\$12.95	\$17.25
72"	\$13.50	\$17.75
84"	\$15.95	\$22.75
96"	\$21.95	\$33.85
112"	\$25.75	\$39.95
144"	\$31.95	\$49.90

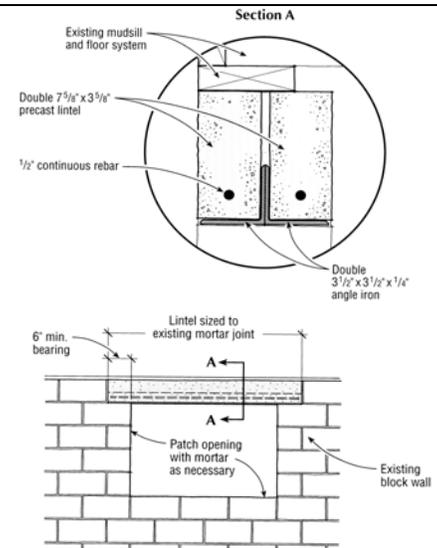
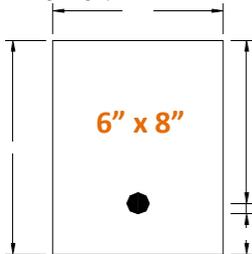
Design Data

$f'_c = 3,000$ psi (minimum)
 $f_y = 60,000$ psi (per ASTM-A615)
 Average weight per linear foot of beam - 28 lbs.



Design Data

$f'_c = 3,000$ psi (minimum)
 $f_y = 60,000$ psi (per ASTM-A615)
 Average weight per linear foot of beam - 41 lbs.



Metal Roofing and Heated Buildings

Old Habits Die Hard

Installing Metal Roofing onto Heated Buildings



We have been highlighting for some time the potential problems of installing roofing steel directly over horizontal purlins which act as furring on any heated building. The furring creates an open air space directly under the metal, which condenses sufficient moisture where water is now trapped and causes mold and deterioration of the furring. The furring traps the moisture and it flows between the furring and the existing old roofing now causing the new framing to rot, soften and lose its ability to provide for the holding strength for metal roofing fasteners. As this condition degrades it does not noticeably show indications of failure until strong winds actually cause the panels to blow off.

Metal roofing that is to be installed on heated structures should be applied directly over a substrate material such as Advantech, or ply sheathing which are covered with waterproof membrane as a protection such as felt paper. The modern synthetic roof underlayments provide a good quality protector as well. The condensation is kept to a minimum as temperature variations are reduced substantially.

The practice of furring roofs is natural because the origins of metal roofing panels are found on agricultural and cold storage buildings where installation is done that way. Quite often, leveling of the old roof is desirable and leveling with purlins is an effective method. If you chose this system, then it is suggested you apply a substrate material as mentioned above to reduce the entrapment of moisture. Many good water barrier materials for applying directly under the metal may be used as such as Ice and Water Shield, 30 lb. felt or others that provide the necessary waterproofing and help to warm and reduce condensation on the underside of the metal.