# **High Performance Buildings;**

### Solutions to Thermal Bridging



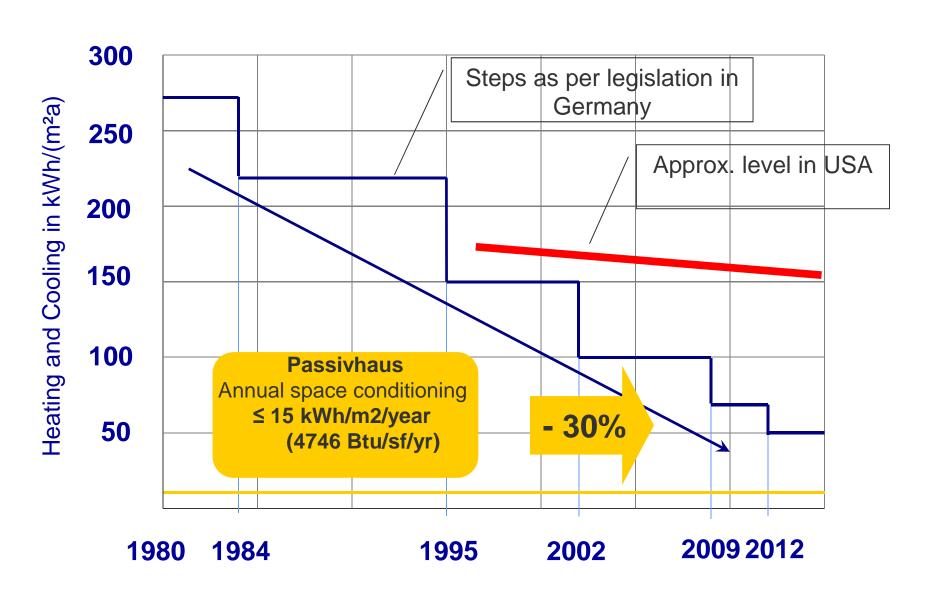
Matthew Capone Assoc. AIA



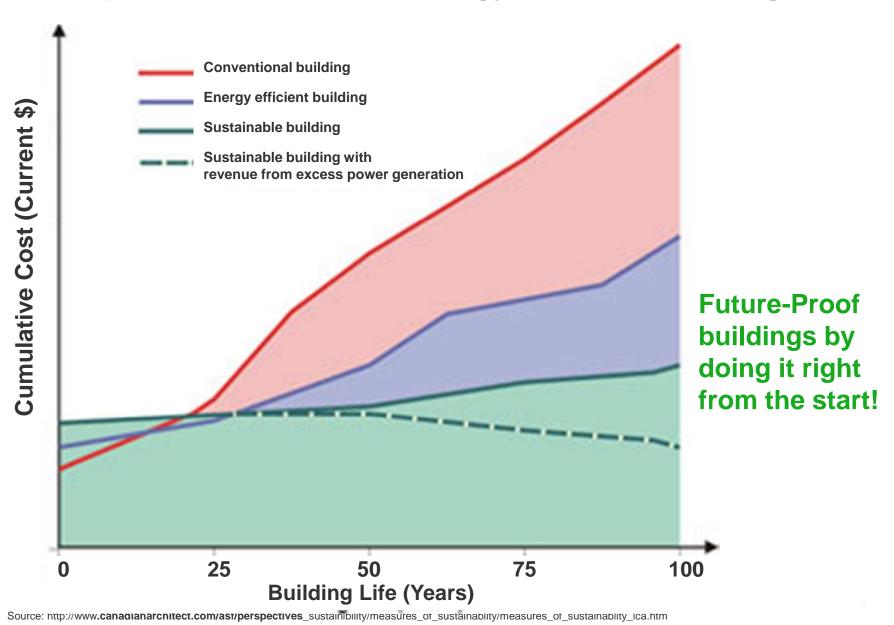
# Status quo of energy design and indoor climate.

- Energy consumption
- Life cycle costs
- Comfort

## **Energy Consumption of Buildings USA vs. Germany**



## **Comparison of Costs in Energy Efficient Building**



# **Air Temperature of Poorly Insulated House**

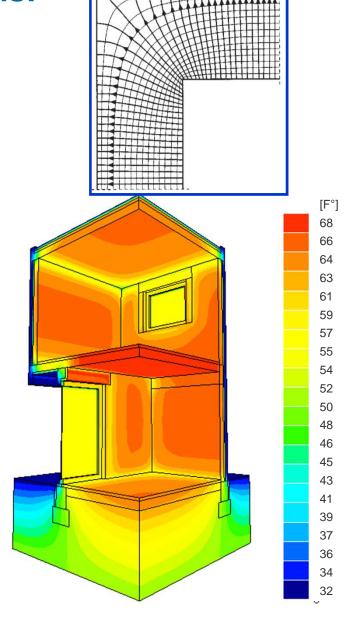


# **Thermal Comfort in Well Insulated Space**



# **Identifying Thermal Bridge Problems: Causes**

- Thermal Bridge: local areas with a higher thermal heat loss and a lower inside surface temperature
- Common Causes of Thermal Bridges in Building Envelopes:
  - Geometry: at corners which provide additional heat flow paths
  - Building envelope interfaces: window sills, jambs and headers
  - Penetration of the building envelope: balcony supports, fixings and structural elements
  - Structural interfaces: floor to wall junctions and eaves
  - Poor construction practice: gaps in insulation or debris in wall cavity



## **Energy Loss in Buildings**

Balconies, canopies, and cantilever parts can be responsible for substantial heat and energy loss and substantial R-value reduction of the wall assembly.



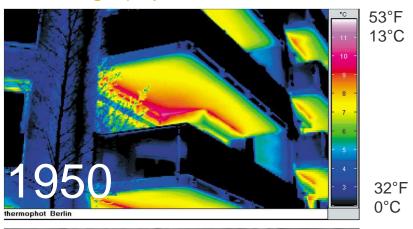
## **Cooling Fins in Building Design**

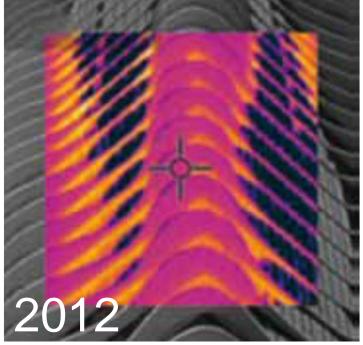
A cooling fin is a surface that extends from an object to increase the rate of heat transfer to or from the environment by increasing convection.

# Balconies act like cooling fins on an engine!!



#### Thermography





# **Mold Due to Condensation on Cold Spot**

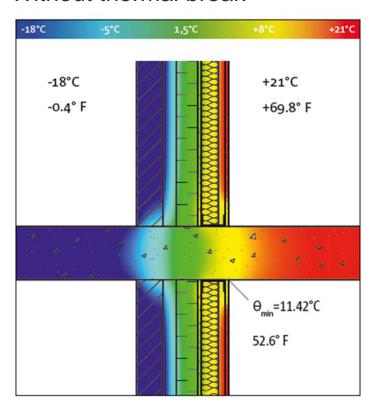
- Claims from Tenants
- Serious Health Problems
- Loss in Rent and Income
- Decrease in Property Market Value
- High Renovation Costs



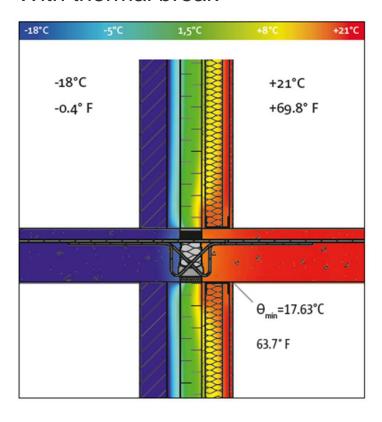
Mold is often hidden for years.

### **Comparison of thermal break solutions**

#### Without thermal break



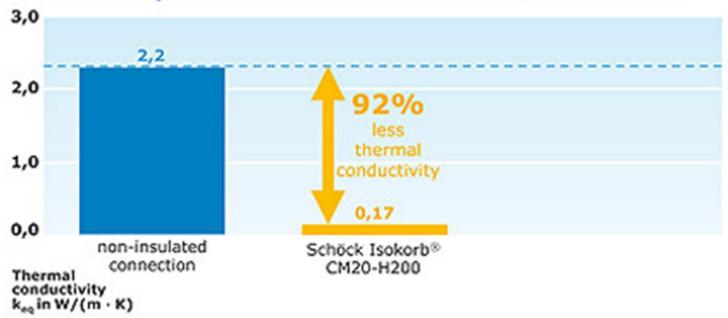
#### With thermal break



- Thermal breaks improve living comfort by increasing the surface temperatures by up to 11 degress fahrenheit
- Thermal breaks reduce the risk of condensation and mold

## The thermal performance in comparison

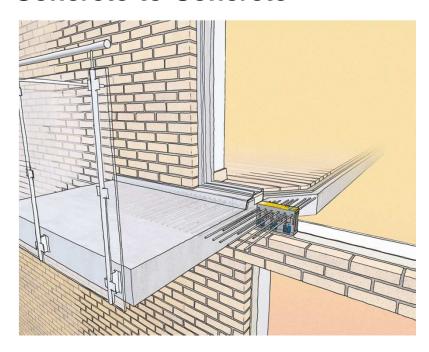
#### Thermal performance of structural thermal breaks



- The Structural design minimizes reinforcement cross-section with optimized load-bearing capacity.
- Compared to non-insulated connections, the Schöck Isokorb® element achieves a 90% reduction in thermal conductivity in the connection area for standard load-bearing scenarios.

## **Thermal Break Solutions**

#### **Concrete-to-Concrete**



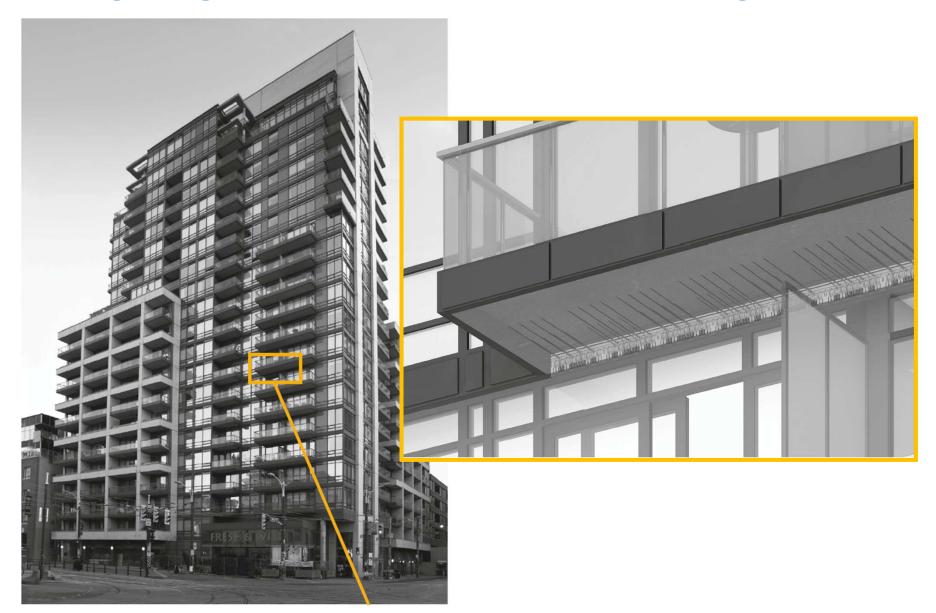


#### **Steel-to-Steel**



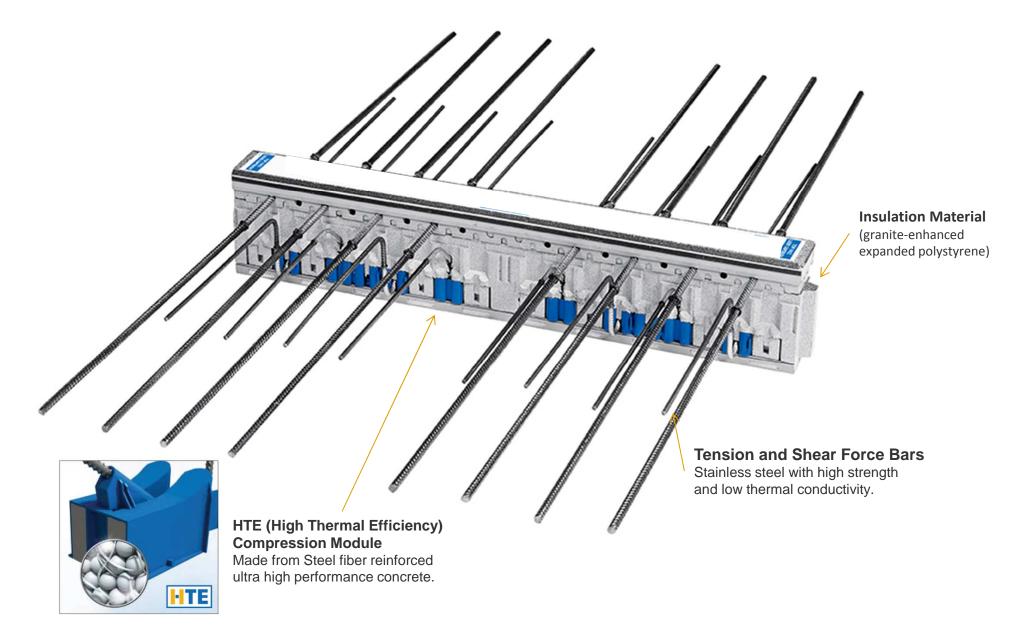


# **Integrating thermal breaks in modern Buildings**



### **Concrete Slab Solution**

#### **Thermal Break Element**

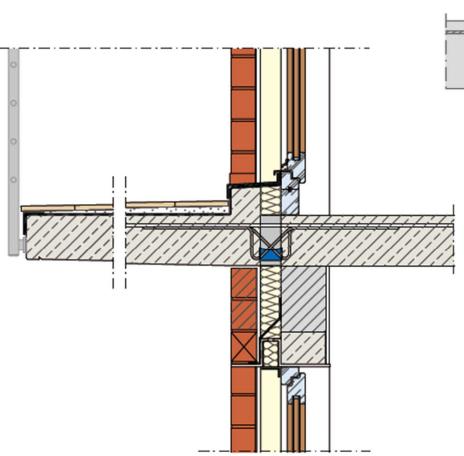


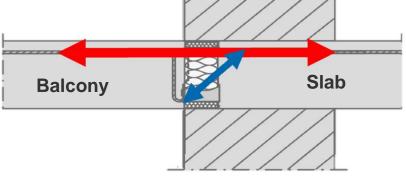


#### **Concrete Slab Solution**

#### **Thermal Break Acts as a Control Joint**







- Bending moment split in tension and compression forces.
- Vertical forces are transferred by the shear force bars.
- Stresses can be taken by a thermal break which acts like an control joint at the same time.



# **Thermal Break Technology**

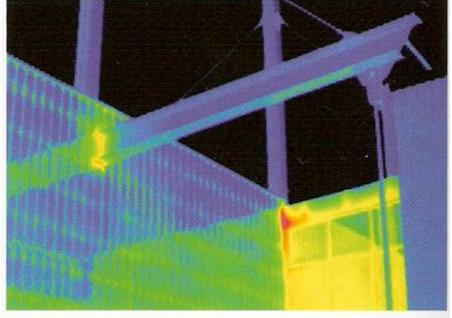


# **Onsite Installation of Concrete-to-Concrete Thermal Break**



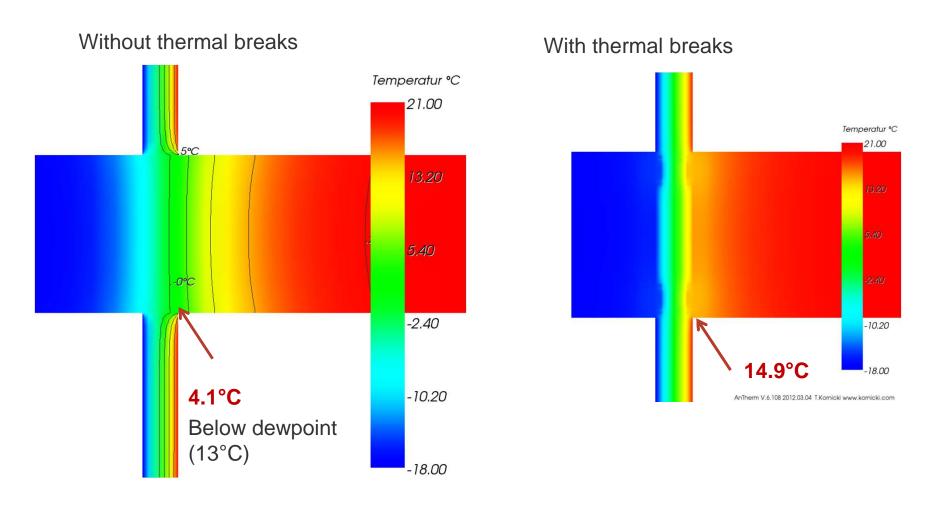
# **Steel-to-Steel Thermal Break Technology**





# **Comparison of thermal performance**

In terms of minimum surface temperatures



# **Steel-to-Steel Thermal Break Solution**



# **Steel-to-Steel Thermal Break Canopy**



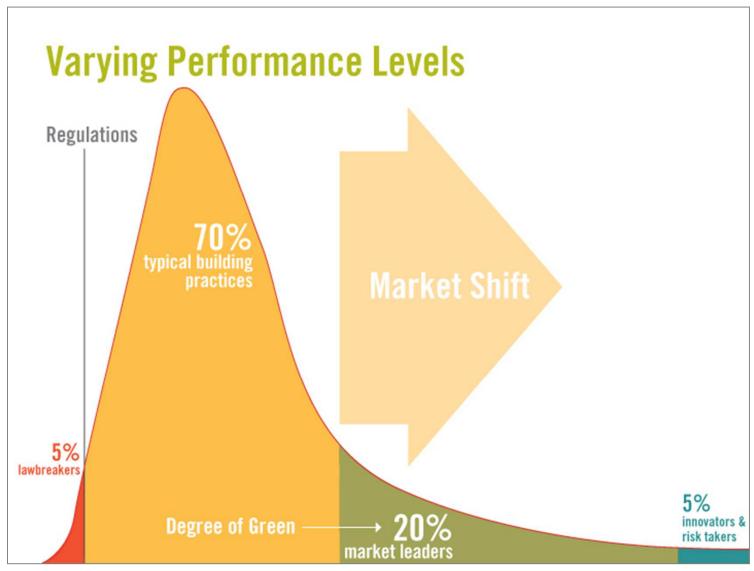
# Installation of Steel-to-Steel Thermal Break R-value between 2-5





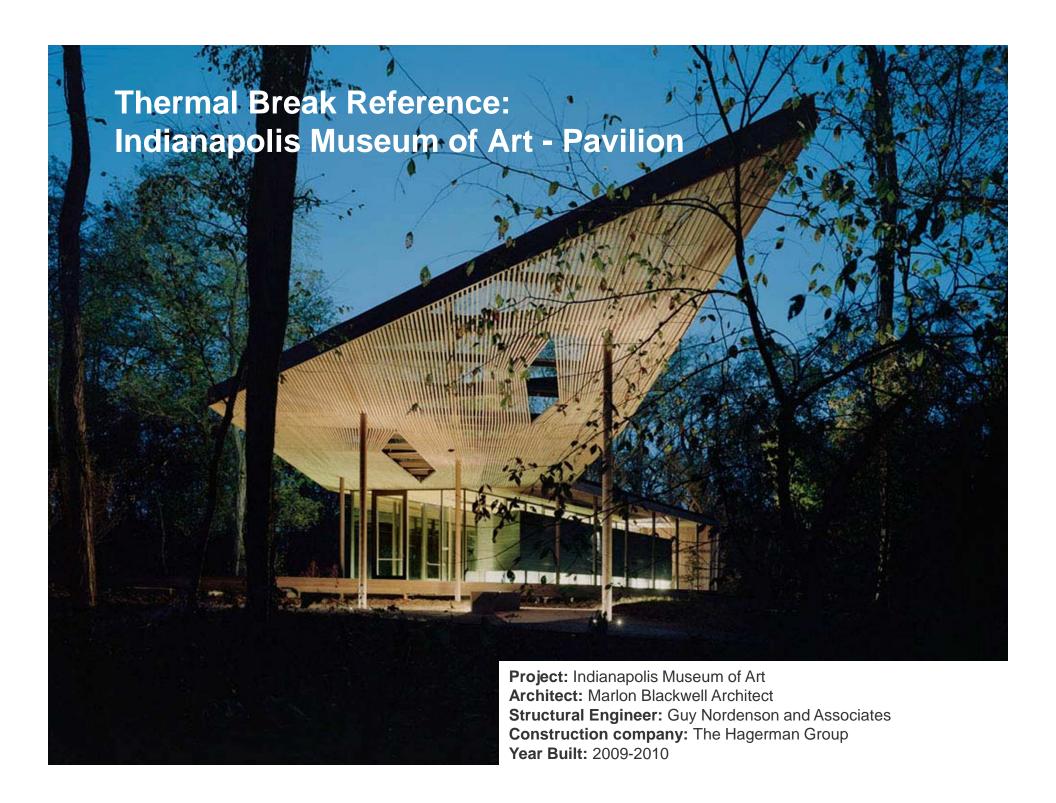


# **How do your Buildings Perform?**



Source: USGBC Green Homes Presentation

# **References of Thermal Break Technology**

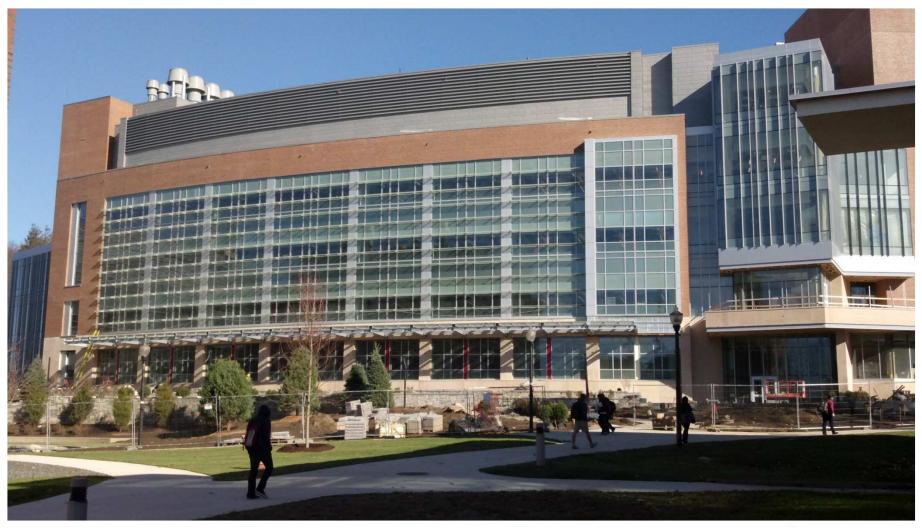


# **Thermal Break Reference: Indianapolis Museum of Art - Pavilion**



# **University of Massachusetts**

**New Laboratory Science Building** 

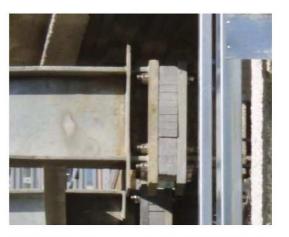




# **University of Massachusetts**

**New Laboratory Science Building** 

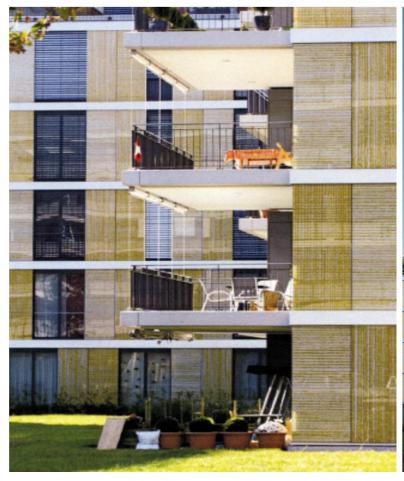








# **Innovative Design and high thermal Performance**



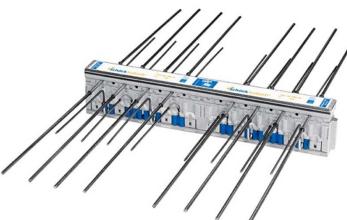


# **Balcony Example - Vienna Social Housing**



## **Chelsea Green - NYC**







## **Thermal Break Technology: Summary**

- Increases Comfort in the Building
- No Condensation, Therefore No Mold
- Energy Savings
- Increase Market Value of Building
- Contributes to Obtaining LEED Credits
- Technology Proven in Market Over 25 Years

## **Questions**

Comments, questions.....

