CASE STUDY VA Medical Center of Indianapolis

VA Hospital Meets Codes With Aeroseal Duct Sealing

ERV system leaks made it impossible to balance and adjust airflow

Just months after opening the doors to its new Veterans House, the VA medical center of Indianapolis, Indiana discovered that the building's Energy Recovery Ventilation (ERV) system wasn't working properly. The diagnosis: intake and exhaust ductwork running throughout the building and through the ERV were full of leaks, making it impossible to balance and adjust airflow. Strict government standards require a leakage rate of 10% or less. Pretesting showed a leakage rate that exceeded 45% in some areas. Faced with this reality, VA administrators were contemplating a massive setback - the prospect of having to empty out the facility, close its doors and begin tearing down walls and ceilings in order to access the ductwork and manually seal the leaks. Lucky for all involved, the project's construction company did a little internet research and came across an alternative solution ... Aeroseal.

It took Reupert Heating & Air just three days to seal the building's ductwork – the alternative option

would have taken a year or more to complete and hundreds of thousands of dollars more in added demolition and construction costs to accomplish. Aeroseal works from the inside of the duct system to locate and seal leaks, so finding and sealing all of the various holes and gaps throughout the entire duct system could be accomplished without disturbing any of the newly finished construction. The aeroseal technology is safe and highly effective. The work was done over Memorial Day weekend and the building was open for veterans and their families the following day.

Aeroseal was first brought in to seal the exhaust ducts that ran from the bathroom grilles to the ERV. After VA administrators saw how effective and unobtrusive the sealing process was, the scope of the sealing project was expanded to include all four airflow systems.

"Aeroseal proved to be the right solution for the problem. I've been in this business for quite a long time and I've seen quicky solutions come and go, but this one actually held water ... or I should say 'air' as the case may be."

Timothy Flynn

General Engineer Roudebush VA Medical Center

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

PROPERTY OWNERS Veterans Administration

LOCATION Centerville, Ohio

ENGINEERS RL Turner Corporation; Indiana

AEROSEAL EXPERTS Reupert Heating & Air

TYPE 3-story temporary housing facility



I did my research and found that short of tearing down and starting over, there was only one option – Aeroseal. For retrofits and new construction projects like this, it is the ideal solution. The technology prevented a much more expensive and invasive procedure.

David Petty RL Turner Corporation GOAL Meet ERV specifications

BEFORE AEROSEAL 900+ CFM* of total leakage

AFTER AEROSEAL 63 CFM of total leakage

RESULTS Reduced average leakage by 93%

The before and after reports showed us the results. The VA's independent contractors then came in and confirmed what we already knew – Aeroseal did the job. And while we were simply looking to reduce leakage and fulfill specification requirements, it doesn't take a rocket scientist to add up the difference Aeroseal made in system performance and know that it also provided a significant savings for somebody's checkbook.

Joe Reupert Reupert Heating & Air 55

