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CASE STUDY =

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY CALLS IN AEROSEAL TO HELP REMEDIATE INDOOR AIR QUALITY CONCERNS FOR HOMEOWNER

Use Of Duct Sealing Technology Ensures Airborne Contaminants Are Not Circulated Throughout The Home. Improved Comfort And Energy Savings An Added bonus

The original call to Habitat for Humanity concerned the home of a service veteran that had severe roof leakage problems. When volunteers inspected the structure they found a variety of other issues, including asbestos in the attic. After experts removed the asbestos, Aeroseal Solutions of Chrystal Lake, IL was asked if they could help clean the ductwork and seal it to ensure any remaining asbestos particles or other airborne contaminants did not spread throughout the home.

In Brief

Location: Chicago, Illinois, **Home:** One-story; two bedroom, 900 Sq Ft **Contracting Agent:** Habitat for Humanity **Aeroseal Company:** Aeroseal Solutions

Goal: Improve indoor air quality

Before Aeroseal: 200 CFM of leakage

After Aeroseal: 3 CFM Leak Reduction: 98%

Results: Eliminated IAQ concerns, improved indoor comfort, reduced energy usage.

*Cubic feet per minute



It took the Aeroseal team about one hour to set up the equipment and another hour to block the registers in order to make the duct system air tight. Now any escaping air would have to go through the leaks. Under pressure, Aeroseal sealant was blown throughout the inside of the ductwork driving the mist of sealant to the leaks. Over the next twenty minutes 98% of the leaks were sealed. In the end, Aeroseal reduced leakage from 200 CFM down to 3 CFM. The first thing the homeowner noticed was that his house was a lot warmer. Heated air was now reaching all the rooms for the first time that he could remember. During a follow up visit three months after aerosealing, the homeowner said he also noticed a dramatic decrease in dust around the house and a lower utility bill.

Ouotes

"I can tell you that the air in my house is much cleaner. There is less dust and it just smells better. I also felt a difference right away. My home now gets heat in all the rooms. I know I'm saving energy because I don't need to turn the heat up nearly as much as I used to."

Thomas. Homeowner

"After inspecting the house, I knew that job number one was getting rid of the asbestos we found in the attic and ensuring that the indoor air remained clean and healthy. I also knew that once the ductwork was cleaned, the best way to keep it that way, and to keep the indoor air quality as high as possible, was to effectively seal any leaks in the ductwork. I recently heard about Aeroseal, and I felt this was the best route to achieving the high level of indoor air quality we wanted to provide.

Dale McClelland, energy auditor and Habitat for Humanity volunteer

"It's always gratifying to watch the computer monitor as the graph of the leakage rate takes a sharp dip downward, indicating that leaks are being sealed. When we're done, the homeowner gets a printout of the graph and other specifications that show exactly how effective the Aeroseal process really was."

Joe St. Pierre, Aeroseal Solutions

<u>Aeroseal – The Technology</u>

- Developed at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in 1994.
- Research for Aeroseal was partially funded by the U.S. Department of Energy.
- Aeroseal is the only duct sealant technology that is applied from the inside of the duct system. It is delivered as a non-toxic aerosol mist that seeks out and plugs leaks.
- Aeroseal has proven to be 95% effective at sealing air duct leaks.
- The Department of Energy proclaimed aeroseal technology to be one of the top 23 most important energy conservation technologies for consumers to come out since the department was first established.
- Aeroseal has won several prestigious awards including DOE energy 100 Award,
 Popular Science Best of What's New, This Old House new technologies and 2012
 EBie award for use on an existing building retrofit project.