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CCMC 12893-R



EVALUATION
REPORT

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Re-Evaluation
in process

Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material

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1. Purpose of Evaluation

The proponent sought confirmation from the Canadian Construction Materials Centre (CCMC) that “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” spray urethane foam insulation can serve as an air barrier material within the Demilec Inc.-specified “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier system, in compliance with the intent of the National Building Code of Canada (NBC) 1995.

2. Opinion

Subject to the limitations and conditions stated in this report, test results and assessments provided by the proponent show that “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” complies with CCMC’s Technical Guide for Air Barrier Material, MasterFormat number 07273, dated 97-05-06, and provides a level of performance equivalent to that required in:

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- NBC 1995, Sentence 5.4.1.2.(1) and Appendix A-9.25.3.2.

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation permits the use of this product in construction financed or insured under the National Housing Act.

3. Description

This Report addresses the performance of “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” as an air barrier material within the Demilec Inc.-specified “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier system. The Demilec Inc.-specified “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier system has not been evaluated but is presented in Appendix A as additional information for the convenience of building officials.

“Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” insulation material, if installed as part of the designated air barrier system, will serve a dual function in the wall assembly: as the designated air barrier material and an exterior insulation. The use of “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” as insulation is covered under CCMC # 12380-R.

The foam insulation system “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” consists of two components, which are mixed on-site by a qualified licensed installer with fixed-ratio (1:1) positive displacement equipment. The final cured product has a min./max. density of 31.3 kg/m³ to 35.2 kg/m³ and an assigned design thermal resistance of 1.05 m²•°C/W per 25 mm (R6 per inch). See CCMC # 12380-R for information on the application of this product as insulation.

“Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” as an air barrier material must be installed at the minimum thickness and density specified below.

4. Usage and Limitations

“Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” spray urethane foam insulation has demonstrated a sufficiently low air permeance when it is 25.4 mm thick and has a minimum density of 35.2 kg/m³—which is equivalent to the materials outlined in the NBC 1995, Appendix Note A-9.25.3.2. and Sentence 5.4.1.2.(1)—to be the principal plane of airtightness in an air barrier system.

When “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” material, having low air and vapour permeance, is installed as part of the airtight element of the designated air barrier system, the vapour barrier must comply with the NBC 1995, Sentence 9.25.4.2.(2). Also, in this case, “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” must be installed at a 25.4-mm or greater thickness to comply with the NBC 1995, Article 9.25.1.2., for the respective geographical location.

For the control of air leakage, a conforming installation must be:

- installed with a minimum thickness of 25.4 mm as exterior insulation over exterior sheathing or a masonry back-up wall; and
- installed according to Demilec Inc.’s air barrier installation guidelines contained in “Demilec Typical Details for the design of the Building Envelope, Heatlok 0240” published July 1999 (examples of the installation details are presented as “Additional Information” in Appendix A).

In addition, due to low water vapour permeance (WVP) properties, fire performance, and issues related to the spraying process (see CCMC # 12380-R for more complete details), the following conditions also apply:

- Since the WVP value is less than the maximum 60 ng/Pa·s·m² (i.e. when installed 25.4 mm thickness on a substrate such as wood sheathing or concrete block), as permitted in Article 9.25.1.2. of the NBC 1995,

the wall assembly must conform to Table 9.25.1.2. When “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” is installed on a substrate as the sole wall insulation, such as on concrete block, it may also qualify as the designated vapour barrier if the installed thickness meets Sentence 9.25.4.2.(1) or 5.5.1.2.(1).

- The sprayed material must completely cover the surfaces and be applied in passes between 15 mm and 50 mm thick.
- For proper adhesion, the substrate surface must be clean, dry, and free of oil, grease, loose scale, rust or other unsuitable material.
- As required in Article 9.25.2.3. of the NBC 1995, the insulation shall be installed so that there is a reasonably uniform insulating value over the entire face of the insulated area.
- The product shall not be used in exposed interior or exterior locations, and thermal barrier protection is required.
- The insulation shall be kept at least 75 mm from heat-emitting devices such as recessed light fixtures and chimneys, or as required in building regulations and safety codes.
- This product shall not be used where it may be in continuous contact with water.
- The product shall not be installed after the expiry date printed on the label of each container. The product has a shelf life of six months from the date of manufacture.
- The continuous service temperature of the insulation shall not exceed the range of –60°C to 80°C.
- See CCMC # 12380-R for details on the latest changes to permitted coverage over electrical wires and permitted time-to-occupancy based on emissions of the site-manufactured foam insulation.

- The two components of “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” must have their respective containers (i.e. drums) identified by the phrase “CCMC # 12380-R” and “CCMC # 12893-R.”

The manufacturer of “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” mandates that the spray foam insulation material be manufactured on-site by qualified installers licensed by a recognized third-party organization. The third-party organization shall be recognized for its training program and follow-up inspection of installers trained to spray urethane foam insulation in accordance with CAN/ULC-S705.2-98, “Standard for Thermal Insulation–Spray-Applied Rigid Polyurethane Foam, Medium Density, Installer’s Responsibilities–Specification.”

The third-party licensing and follow-up inspection agency for the “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” product shall be CUFCA/NECA (Canadian Urethane Foam Contractors’ Association/National Energy Conservation Association). The installation procedure shall follow the installer’s instruction manual. A copy of those instructions shall be available at the jobsite at all times during the installation. All installers shall present their CUFCA/NECA licensing card upon request by the building official.

It should be noted that a concealed air space exceeding 25 mm in width must contain proper fire stopping, in accordance with Subsection 9.10.15. of the NBC 1995.

5. Performance

Testing was conducted at an independent laboratory recognized by CCMC. The results of testing “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier material are summarized in Table 1.

The durability assessment of “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” is covered under CCMC # 12380-R.

Table 1. Results of Testing “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” to CCMC Technical Guide for Air Barrier Material

Test	Requirement	Result
Five 1 m ² , 25.4-mm-thick specimens (skin removed) tested and measured for air permeance at a minimum of six air pressure differentials (ΔP) between 0 and 250 Pa.	air leakage rate at 75 Pa ΔP (based on linear regression of 30 data points) ≤ 0.02 L/(s·m ²)	0.00014 L/(s·m ²)

*Issued by the Institute for Research in Construction
under the authority of the National Research Council*

Note: Readers are asked to refer to limitations imposed by NRC on the interpretation and use of this report. These limitations are included in the introduction to CCMC’s Registry of Product Evaluations, of which this report is part.

Readers are advised to confirm that this report has not been withdrawn or superseded by a later issue by referring to <http://irc.nrc.gc.ca/ccmc>, or contacting the Canadian Construction Materials Centre, Institute for Research in Construction, National Research Council of Canada, Montreal Road, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0R6; Telephone (613) 993-6189, Fax (613) 952-0268.

APPENDIX A

Additional Information

An air barrier material as part of an air barrier system

CCMC has not evaluated the performance of the “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier system in conformance with the NBC 1995, Article 9.25.3.2. However, CCMC’s opinion is that an air barrier system using this material and installed in conformance with the details outlined below and in Demilec Inc.’s air barrier installation guidelines contained in “Demilec Typical Details for the Design of the Building Envelope, Heatlok 0240,” published in July 1999, should satisfy the requirements for continuity of the air barrier system in the NBC 1995, Articles 9.25.3.1. and 9.25.3.3.

Discussion

Authorities having jurisdiction should be aware that this system differs from the typical air barrier approach, which uses a flexible membrane as the principal plane of airtightness. In this other approach, the membrane (i.e. polyethylene sheet) is normally sandwiched between two other materials so that it is not required to resist, on its own, the full force of indoor/outdoor pressure differences induced by stack effect, mechanical systems and, most importantly, wind.

In a system in which the spray urethane and transition membrane are applied to the outer surface of the wall sheathing or concrete block, as is the case with the “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier system, they must have adequate adhesion to resist the anticipated wind loads. CCMC’s evaluation of the “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” does not include the evaluation of this adhesive strength or the strength of the continuity details with the transition membrane at joints.

The authority having jurisdiction must therefore determine whether the “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air

Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier system described herein meets the intent of the NBC 1995, Sentence 9.25.3.2.(1) in that it is an effective barrier for the proposed construction in the proposed geographical area/climate. For example, based on their experience, the authority having jurisdiction may deem the proposed “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier system as adequate for buildings in urban areas, sheltered sites, or areas of low wind, but inadequate in areas of high wind or exposed sites in rural or coastal areas.

An air barrier system checklist for the authority having jurisdiction to consider is the following:

An air barrier system must:

- (i) have an acceptable low air leakage rate,
- (ii) be continuous,
- (iii) be durable,
- (iv) have sufficient strength to resist the anticipated air pressure load, and
- (v) be buildable in the field.

Installation details

“Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” is applied over exterior wall sheathing or concrete block complying with the NBC 1995. It does not contribute to an air barrier system until it is joined to the other components that make up the air barrier system of the building. Demilec Inc.’s air barrier installation guidelines contained in “Demilec Typical Details for the Design of the Building Envelope, Heatlok 0240” outline how “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” must be joined to the foundation wall, to windows and doors, to penetrations in the wall and to the ceiling air barrier, thus forming the system.

A successful air barrier system installation is predicated on sequencing during construction. Coordination is required during the erection of framing and after completion of the air barrier

system to ensure that no other trade breaches the integrity of the installed air barrier system.

The “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier system is defined as possessing the following features:

- i) “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” spray urethane material as the principal material in the plane of airtightness;
- ii) Accessories for continuity comprising modified-bituminous transition membrane (i.e. peel-and-stick or thermally fused) compatible with polyurethane spray and able to resist the polyurethane curing temperature, and sealants around window and door openings;
- iii) Durability (the material meets CAN/ULC-S705.1-98, “Standard for Thermal Insulation–Spray Applied Rigid Polyurethane Foam–Medium Density–Material–Specification”); and

- iv) System component for strength (a structural substrate such as structural sheathing or concrete block wall designed to withstand the anticipated loads).

The air barrier system is to be installed in the field by CUFCA/ NECA-trained installers following the “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier system details and reviewed by building officials.

Figures 1 to 4 outline typical construction details of the installation of the “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier system. See “Demilec Typical Details for the Design of the Building Envelope, Heatlok 0240” for more information.

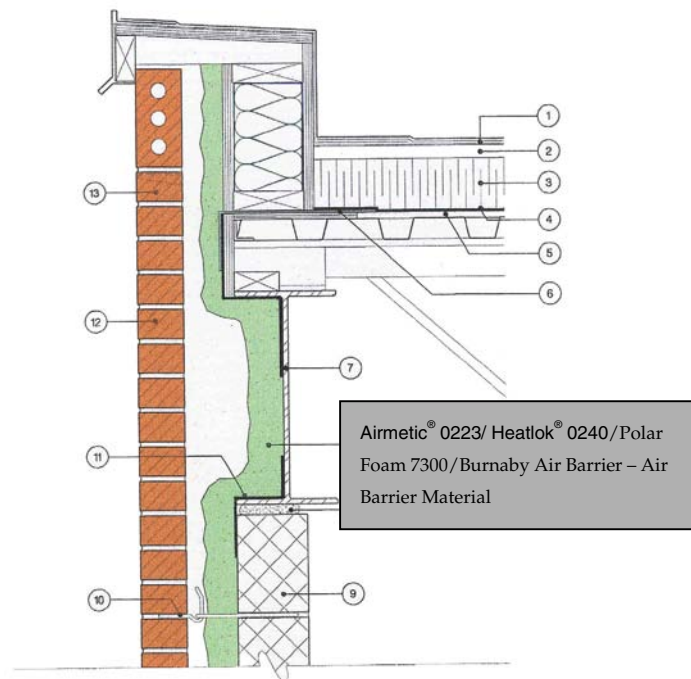


Figure 1. “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material”

exterior wall cross-section

Figure 1 shows an example of continuity across joints with a transition membrane (#11). See the manufacturer’s manual for a complete drawing and legend for other identified components.

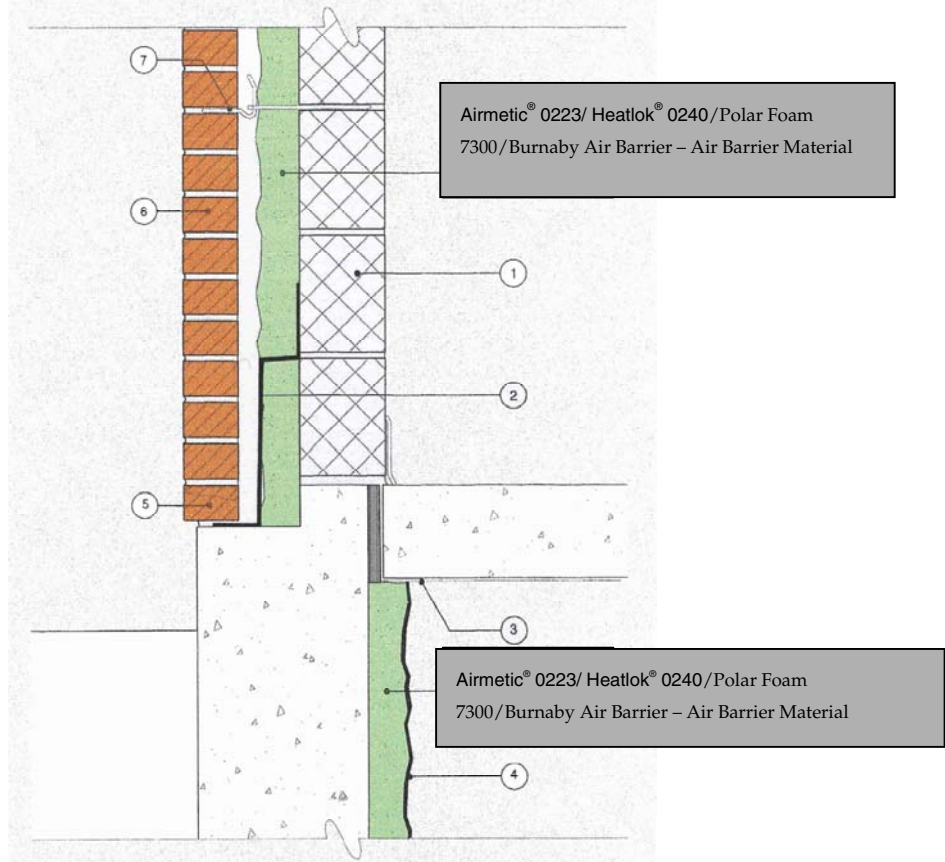


Figure 2. “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” typical bottom foundation connection detail (masonry wall)

Since the foundation wall is designated as part of the air barrier system, in this case, a flashing membrane (#2) must be sealed to the foundation wall to maintain the continuity of the plane of airtightness. See the manufacturer’s manual for a complete drawing and legend for other identified components.

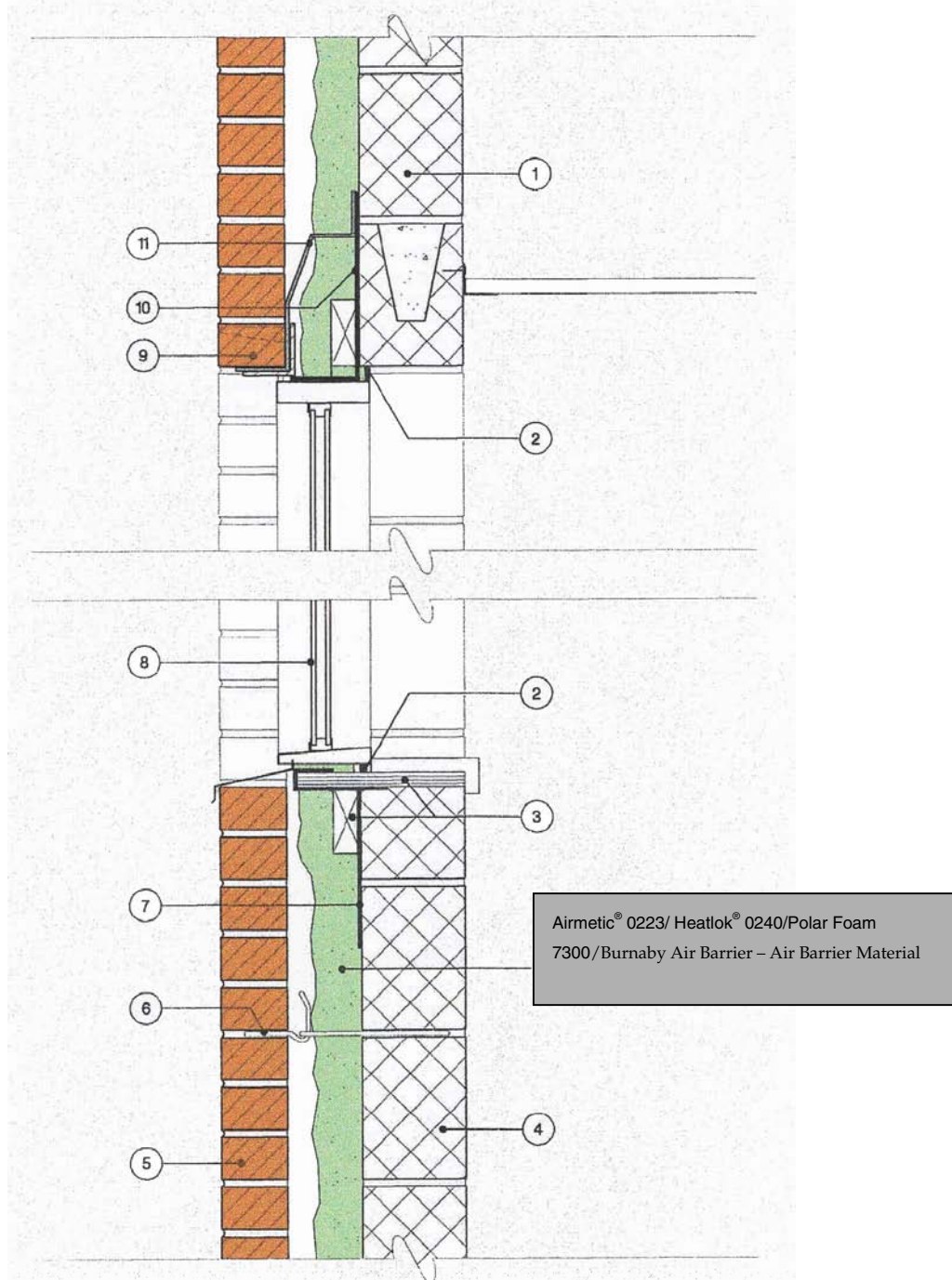


Figure 3. “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” typical continuity at windows

Note that a sealant (#2) with backer rod is used, and the transition membrane (#10) and urethane are being used to create a seal against the window frame. All penetration, construction or control joints in an exterior wall assembly must be bridged by a sealant or a transition membrane as part of the “Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier – Air Barrier Material” air barrier system. See the manufacturer’s manual for a complete drawing and legend for other identified components.

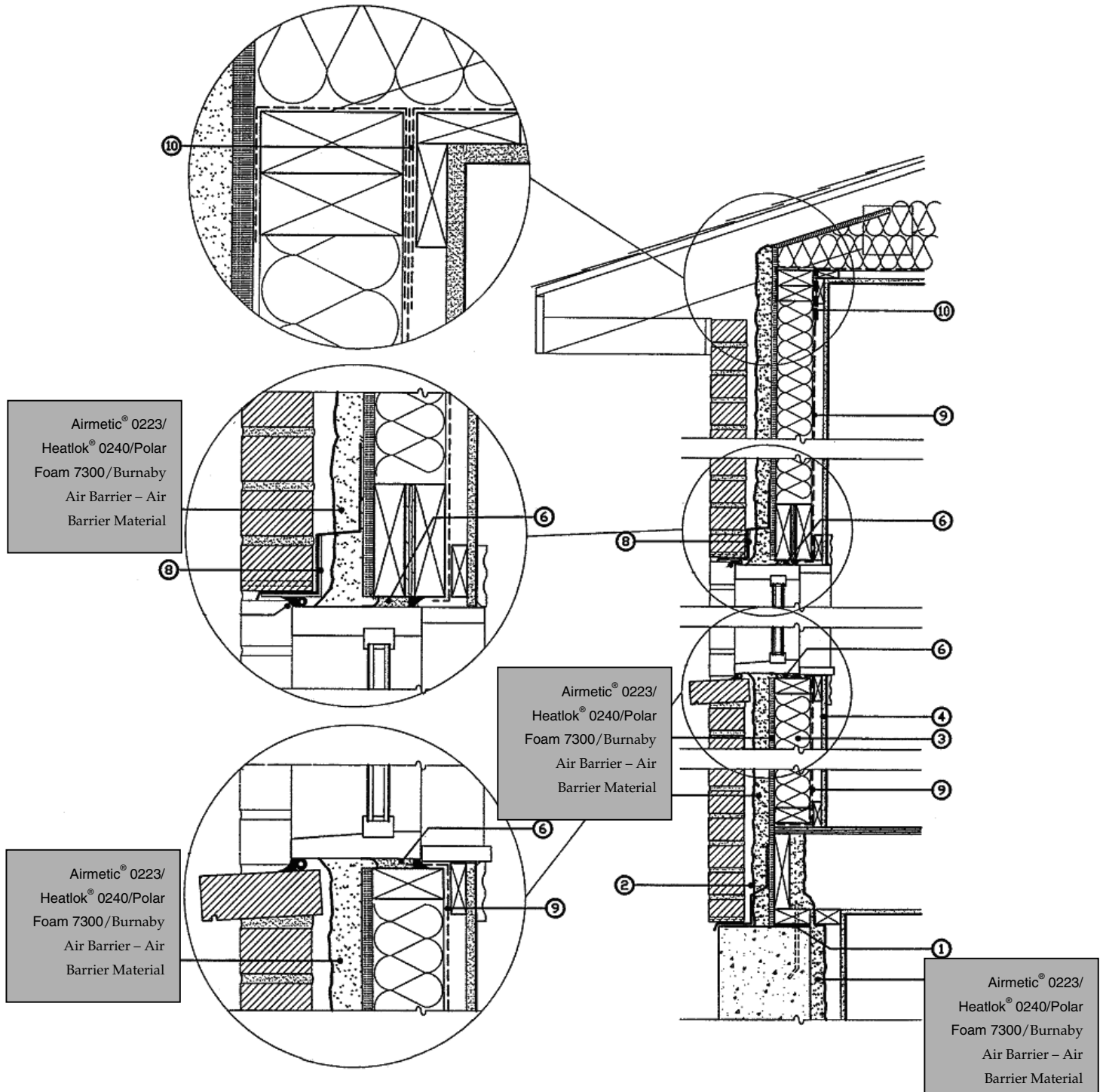


Figure 4. "Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier - Air Barrier Material" typical continuity details in wood-frame construction

Continuity at foundation walls is maintained with "Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier - Air Barrier Material", at windows with "Airmetic® 0223/Heatlok® 0240/Polar Foam 7300/Burnaby Air Barrier - Air Barrier Material", and at ceiling with

polyethylene vapour/air barrier overwrap (#10). See the manufacturer's manual for a complete drawing and legend for other identified components.