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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Tremco Takes Real World Testing of Air Barrier Assemblies Under ASTM E 2357 to New Level with Inclusion of New Patent Pending Engineered Transition Assembly**

CLEVELAND, Ohio (November 24, 2008) ---- Saying and doing are two different things. Many product manufacturers say their system provides ‘total building envelope protection’, but Tremco Commercial Sealants & Waterproofing (CS&W) is taking ASTM E 2357 – 05 *Standard Test Method for Determining Air Leakage of Air Barrier Assemblies* to a new level. Tremco CS&W has incorporated its new patent pending Proglaze® ETA Engineered Transition Assembly into its ExoAir™ Air Barrier Systems when performing the ASTM E 2357 test method for a holistic approach to evaluating air permeability throughout the building envelope including transitions between the wall assembly and window/curtain wall systems.

According to ASTM International, “ASTM E 2357 is intended to simulate the performance of various air barrier materials and accessories when combined into an assembly. Based upon the results of the measurements, this procedure then assigns an air leakage rating for the air barrier assembly.”

The ExoAir and Proglaze ETA System provides the industry with the only performance warranty for protection against air and moisture infiltration from the window/curtain wall to wall assembly, and when it was recently tested under the ASTM E 2357 test method, it passed all measures. More importantly, it rated well below the acceptable standards for air leakage specified by the Air Barrier Association of America (ABAA).

By testing the air barrier and engineered transition assembly as a continuous unit, it provides the ability to evaluate the performance of the building envelope as well as the performance of components and wall elements, which is critical to continuity throughout the facade.

An eight-foot by eight-foot wood frame including a window block-out and cut-outs for plumbing and electrical penetrations were constructed to mimic an actual building facade. Special equipment created the effects of various levels of sustained wind loads, cyclic wind loads and gust wind loads at both positive and negative sides of the wall, simulating real-life conditions. The amount of air flow that penetrated through the wall at different levels of pressure was the basis for its air leakage ratings.

This modified test mirrored real-life construction closer than just testing an opaque wall. The first assembly test consisted of ExoAir 110 Air & Vapor Barrier Sheet Membrane applied to the sealed (DensGlass Gold® Exterior Sheathing primed with ExoAir 10 Primer) plywood with overlapping edges. Proglaze ETA was sealed to the window perimeter and to ExoAir 110 with Spectrem® 1 Silicone Sealant. All penetrations were capped on the exterior and sealed to ExoAir 110 with ExoAir Thru-Wall Flashing. The edge assembly detail included Tremco ExoAir 110 applied to 5/8-inch DensGlass Gold Exterior Sheathing which was first primed with ExoAir 10 Primer. The same test was repeated with ExoAir 220 Fluid-Applied Vapor Permeable Air Barrier Membrane applied over the ExoAir 110 Sheet Membrane.

According to ABAA, in order for a manufacturer to declare their product is an ‘assembly’, they must determine what materials are to be used, what components will be incorporated, and treatment of penetrations. Tremco has done exactly this with ExoAir Air Barrier Systems and Proglaze ETA Engineered Transition Assembly, and now there is documented proof of its compatibility and performance. According to ABAA, an assembly such as this one is a huge benefit to the design professional because issues such as compatibility are dealt with by the manufacturer rather than the design professional using a trial and error method.

Compared to traditional test methods, ASTM E 2357 provides a higher level of confidence to the building owner and occupants that the building is airtight, providing more occupant comfort, reducing HVAC requirements, and increasing the lifespan of the building. “Testing the entire wall assembly under real-life

conditions is a ground-breaking opportunity for the industry,” Chuck Houk, Vice President/General Manager of Tremco Commercial Sealants & Waterproofing, said. “Tremco is proud to be a leader in this innovative approach to eliminating any guesswork when it comes to constructing more energy-efficient and sustainable buildings.”

Tremco Commercial Sealants & Waterproofing is a world-leading supplier of sealants and waterproofing for the commercial construction industry. Product lines include high-performance silicone and urethane joint sealants; waterproofing membranes; drainage protection; air barrier systems; deck coatings; expansion joints; the industry’s only comprehensive glazing systems including silicone sealants, tapes, gaskets, and setting blocks; and a full line of passive fire protection products and systems. With experienced sales representatives in every major market throughout North America, Tremco is positioned to provide assistance for specification development, application-specific product development, problem-solving and assistance on site. For more information about Tremco Commercial Sealants & Waterproofing and its product lines, go to [www.tremcosealants.com](http://www.tremcosealants.com).

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**Photographs are available and may be obtained by contacting Kim Rotsky at [krotsky@tremcoinc.com](mailto:krotsky@tremcoinc.com).**

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