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to comply with the international energy code most states now require duct testing for both new construction and retrofit duct leakage testing provides an in depth understanding of duct leakage testing procedures methods of expressing results and terminology building

science is the study of a building s interaction between the structure and its components a structure s occupants mechanical systems and the surrounding outdoor environment all play a role in the performance of a building duct leakage testing covers duct leakage testing methods or total leakage leakage to the outside using a duct pressurization tester modified blower door subtraction methods

the thermal distribution system couples the hvac components to the building envelope and shares many properties of the buildings envelope including moisture conduction and most especially air leakage performance duct leakage has a strong influence on air flow rates through building envelopes usually resulting in much greater flows than those due to natural infiltration because unbalanced duct air flows and leaks result in building pressurization and depressurization as a tool to estimate this effect the deltaq duct leakage test has been developed over the past several years as an improvement to existing duct pressurization tests it focuses on measuring the air leakage flows to outside at operating conditions that are required for envelope infiltration impacts and energy loss calculations for duct systems the deltaq test builds on the standard envelope tightness blower door measurement techniques by repeating the tests with the system air handler off and on the deltaq test requires several assumptions to be made about duct leakage and its interaction with the duct system and building envelope in order to convert the blower door results into duct leakage at system operating conditions this study examined improvements to the deltaq test that account for some of these assumptions using a duct system and building envelope in a test laboratory the laboratory measurements used a purpose built test chamber coupled to a duct system typical of forced air systems in us homes special duct leaks with controlled air flow were designed and installed into an airtight duct system this test apparatus allowed the systematic variation of the duct and envelope leakage and accurate measurement of the duct leakage flows for comparison to deltaq test results this paper will discuss the laboratory test apparatus design construction and operation the various analysis techniques applied to the calculation procedure and present estimates of uncertainty in measured duct leakage

to comply with the international energy code most states now require duct testing for both new construction and retrofit duct and envelope testing provides an in depth understanding of envelope and duct leakage testing procedures methods of expressing results and terminology this five section manual provides an understanding of the terminology and building science affecting energy efficiency the tools and testing procedures used to evaluate a building s envelope and duct systems are covered in detail the manual provides the methods for expressing and recording envelope or duct leakage test results and explains what the numbers mean to the home owner and local code officials the manual contains a worksheet for each section

the intuitive guide to energy efficiency and building improvements energy audits and improvements for commercial buildings provides a comprehensive guide to delivering deep and measurable energy savings and carbon emission reductions in buildings author ian m shapiro has prepared supervised and reviewed over 1 000 energy audits in all types of commercial facilities and led energy improvement projects for many more in this book he merges real world experience with the latest standards and practices to help energy managers and energy auditors transform energy use in the buildings they serve and indeed to transform their buildings set and reach energy reduction goals carbon reduction goals and sustainability goals dramatically improve efficiency of heating cooling lighting ventilation water and other building systems include the building envelope as a major factor in energy use and improvements use the latest tools for more thorough analysis and reporting while avoiding common mistakes get up to date on current improvements and best practices including management of energy improvements from single buildings to large building portfolios as well as government and utility programs photographs and drawings throughout illustrate essential procedures and improvement opportunities for any professional interested in efficient commercial buildings large and small energy audits and improvements for commercial buildings provides an accessible complete improvement focused reference

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are complex and difficult building types to design and making them sustainable adds more obstacles written by members of the well known firm klingstubbins under the guidance of its directors of laboratory planning engineering and sustainability sustainable design of research laboratories represents a multidisciplinary approach to addressing these challenges with the needs of architects engineers construction professionals and facility owners in mind this book provides a road map for sustainable planning design construction and operations the book is valuable both to experienced laboratory designers seeking guidance on sustainable strategies as well as professionals versed in sustainable design who want insight into laboratory applications with content rich in guidance on performance strategies even the most technically oriented reader will find valuable lessons inside this book focuses on the links between best sustainable practices and the specific needs of research laboratories provides a number of case studies of the best contemporary sustainably designed labs with a focus on architecture and engineering explores the challenges in applying rating systems including leed to laboratory buildings examines unique considerations of sustainable approaches in leased and renovated laboratories includes contributions by experts on approaches to integrated design site design programming and commissioning this important book shows how theoretical ideas can be applied to real life laboratory projects to create healthier and more efficient research environments

duct leakage is a key factor in determining energy losses from forced air heating and cooling systems several studies francisco and palmiter 1997 and 1999 andrews et al 1998 and siegel et al 2001 have shown that the duct system efficiency cannot be reliably determined without good estimates of duct leakage specifically for energy calculations it is the duct leakage air flow to outside at operating conditions that is required existing test methods either precisely measure the size of leaks but not the flow through them at operating conditions or measure these flows with insufficient accuracy the deltaq duct leakage test method was developed to provide improved estimates of duct leakage during system operation in this study we developed the analytical calculation methods and the test procedures used in the deltaq test as part of the development process we have estimated uncertainties in the test method both analytically and based on field data and designed automated test procedures to increase accuracy and reduce the contributions of operator errors in performing field tests in addition the test has been evaluated in over 100 houses by several research teams to show that it can be used in a wide range of houses and to aid in finding limits or problems in field applications the test procedure is currently being considered by astm as an update of an existing duct leakage standard

this book provides detailed information on how to set up deep energy retrofits ders in public buildings and shares in depth insights into the current status of the major technologies strategies and best practice examples of how to cost effectively combine them case studies from the u s a and europe show that that deep energy retrofit can be achieved with a limited core technologies bundle readily available on the market characteristics of some of these core technology measures depend on the technologies available on an individual nation s market on the minimum requirements of national standards and on economics as determined by a life cycle cost analysis also requirements to building envelope related technologies e g insulation levels windows vapor and water barriers and requirements for building airtightness depend on specific climate conditions this guide provides best practice examples of how to apply these technologies in different construction situations high levels of energy use reduction using core technology bundles along with improvements in indoor climate and thermal comfort can be only achieved when a deep energy retrofit adopts a quality assurance process in addition to design construction commissioning and post occupancy phases of the quality assurance process the guide emphasizes the importance of clearly and concisely formulating and documenting the owner's goals expectations and requirements for the renovated building during development of the statement of work another important component of the quality assurance process is a procurement phase during which bidders qualifications their understanding of the scope of work and its requirements and their previous experience are analyzed the building sector holds the potential for tremendous improvements in terms of energy efficiency and reducing carbon emissions and energy retrofits to the existing building stock represent a significant opportunity in the transition to a low carbon future moreover investing in highly efficient building materials and systems can replace long term energy imports contribute to cost cutting and create a wealth of new jobs yet while the technologies needed in order to improve energy efficiency are readily available significant progress has not yet been made and best practices for implementing building technologies and renewable energy sources are still relegated to small niche applications offering essential information on deep energy retrofits the book offers a valuable asset for architects public authorities project developers and engineers alike

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