

Lightweight Concrete Forms

by Clayton DeKorne



In the morass of insulated concrete forms, *Lite-Forms* are notable for their versatility. The forms are made of 8-inch x 8-foot strips of 2-inch extruded polystyrene (a 2-inch, 2 pound density beadboard can be substituted). These "form boards" are assembled horizontally using plastic form ties which resemble snap ties with a flattened, square end that reportedly holds a drywall screw well. This square end should simplify finishing off interior walls, and above-grade, exterior walls. The forms come knocked down or in preassembled sections with preformed corners. Full-wall forms need additional bracing on one side. With insulation on both sides, the wall is rated at about R-20. The forms can be reused, on one or both sides, if you opt for less insulation or want to avoid insect damage to the exterior foam. And special order, bevel-edged boards can be installed vertically for radius walls. For more information, contact Lite Form, Inc., P.O. Box 774, Sioux City, IA 51102; 712/252-3704.

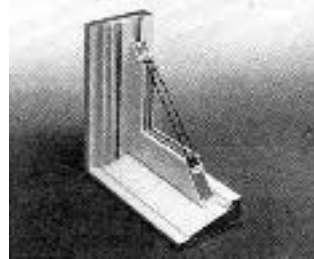
Flexible Drainage



ADS Advantage Tubing can be installed to drain foundation perimeters, slabs, driveways, downspouts, septic tank leach fields, swimming pools, and retaining walls. It is a flexible, corrugated polyethylene tubing that comes either solid or perforated. According to the manufacturer, it is unaffected by alkalis or chemicals in soils or effluent, it won't corrode, and can withstand extreme temperature changes. Because it is flexible it requires fewer fittings and can move with expansions and contrac-

tions of the soil. The pipe comes in sizes ranging from 3 to 24 inches in diameter. An assortment of tees, elbows, couplings, reducers, and adapters for downspouts and septic tanks are also available. A "geotextile" sleeve, which slides over the tubing, is also available. It looks easy to install and might eliminate some of the problems that can arise from poorly installed filter fabric over the perimeter drain. For more information, contact Advanced Drainage Systems, 3300 Riverside Drive, Columbus, OH 43221; 614/457-3051.

Insulated Windows



When we talk of insulated windows, we're generally speaking of double-pane glass. But the new *Owens-Corning Window* also has an insulated frame made of a paintable fiberglass with a compressed fiberglass insulation core. The glass spacer is made of aluminum, but the edge of the glass is insulated on both sides by the frame. Consequently, the edge-of-window losses are reportedly lower than most insulated-glass windows, which should help reduce edge condensation in cold climates. The window includes jamb-jacks for installation, and double, flexible weatherstripping. A variety of double-hung, casement, picture, and awning style windows are available with either standard double-pane or low-e, gas-filled glazing. For more information, contact Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corp., Fiberglass Tower, Toledo, OH 43659; 419/248-7806.

Rot Blocker

For old timbers in damp crawlspaces and cellars, the *Impel Rod System* may provide a safe and simple way to stop decay. Impel Rods are molded borates — a known fungicide at concentrations that are safe for humans and animals. The rods are placed into holes and sealed over with caulk or epoxy. The borates reportedly leach



into the surrounding timber as it is dissolved by the moisture in the wood (decay occurs at about 25% moisture content). Different size rods — from 1/4 to 3/4 inch in diameter and 1/2 to 4 inches in length — are used for different size timbers. A 6x6 sill beam, for instance, would need 1/2 x 4-inch rods staggered every 12 inches along the face and every 6 inches along the edge. For more information, contact CSI, 1 Woodlawn Green, Suite 250, Charlotte, NC 28217; 800/421-8661.

Another House Wrap



Amoco Foam has finally brought their house wrap to market. *AmoWrap* is a cross-woven polypropylene air barrier which reportedly is strong enough to hold up against a strong wind and typical job-site abuses. The results of ASTM puncture and tear resistance tests suggest that *AmoWrap* is considerably stronger than Tytar and Tyvek. According to the manufacturer, *AmoWrap* is treated with UV inhibitors, and is guaranteed for up to 90 days of sunlight exposure. The light green house wrap is available in 9-foot and 4 1/2-foot-wide rolls. And best of all, it's translucent, so you can see to X-cut window and door openings. For more information, contact Amoco Foam Products Co., Suite 1000, 400 Northridge Road, Atlanta, GA 30350. ■