



2020 Corporate Strategic Asset Management Plan

Appendix E Condition Assessment Framework Part 9 - Glossary

APPENDIX F:
Glossary of Terms



Glossary of Terms

The following is a list of terms and abbreviations which may have been used in the report produced for the noted project. All of the terms and abbreviations used are standard within the industry, but the glossary may be of some aid for those not familiar with construction terms.

Air Barrier:	An assembly of one or more materials, including joints, that prevents the continuous passage of air, and whatever it contains, between different environments under a difference of pressure.
Ampere (A):	The unit of measurement of electric current. The greater the amperage, the larger the size of the conductor required to carry the current.
Annunciator Panel:	A lighted panel that provides information about the location of an activated fire alarm in a building, typically located near the main entrance of a building.
Backflow Preventer:	A device used in plumbing systems to prevent potentially contaminated water from moving back into the clean water supply.
Bitumen:	The term covering numerous mixtures of hydrocarbons such as those found in asphalt and mineral pitch.
Built-Up Roof:	Waterproof membrane constructed of multiple felt layers mopped down with bitumen.
Caulking:	Material with widely different chemical compositions used to make a seam or joint air-tight or watertight.
CCTV:	Closed Circuit Television, a video camera system that transmits video images to specific monitors as opposed to broadcasting the signal over air waves. Typically used in security applications.
CFM:	Cubic feet per minute, the common unit of air flow measurement.
Cladding:	Any material that covers an interior or exterior wall.
Control Joint:	Also Movement Joint, a continuous joint in a structure or element, used to regulate the amount of cracking and separation resulting from relative movement.
Condenser:	A device used to remove heat from refrigerating equipment by circulating hot refrigerant gas through coils in the unit and blowing outdoor air across the coils with a fan. Cooling the gas causes it to condense back into a liquid.
Cooling Tower:	A device used to cool condenser water in a chiller by evaporation. Condenser water is sprayed into the top of the cooling tower. The droplets fall through the tower as air is blown upward through the tower, partly evaporating the droplets, which cools the remaining water. Water leaving the cooling tower is typically 10 degrees cooler than when it entered.
Delamination:	A separation along a plane parallel to a surface.
Direct expansion:	A refrigeration method in which an air cooling coil contains refrigerant rather than a secondary coolant glycol or brine.

Drip Edge:	A projection detailed to direct water run-off away from the wall or window face below.
Efflorescence:	Deposits of salt, usually white, due to the migration of salt-laden (in solution) water through concrete or masonry units.
EPDM:	Synthetic rubber membrane usually applied in single-ply applications.
Exhaust Air:	Air mechanically removed from a building to reduce the concentration of moisture, cooking odours and other contaminants from the building.
Fan Coil Unit:	A device consisting of a fan and water coil that can heat an area by circulating hot water through the coil and cool by circulating chilled water through the coil.
Fire Detector:	A fire alarm system component which senses the presence of a possible fire through the presence of smoke particles or heat (i.e. smoke detector, heat detector).
Flashing:	A thin waterproof sheet material, flexible or rigid, used to direct water out of, or away from, the structure.
Glazing:	A generic term for the transparent, or sometimes translucent, material in a window or door. Often, but not always, glass.
Glazing Bead:	A molding or stop around the inside of a frame to hold the glass in place.
Glazing Unit:	That part of a window which includes more than one glazing layer sealed around the outside edge to prevent air or moisture from entering the airspace and eliminating dirt and condensation between glazings.
Heat Exchanger:	A device used to heat a fluid or gas with another fluid or gas without the two streams coming in direct contact with each other and mixing. For example a radiator heats air using hot water. The air and water circulate through the heat exchanger (the radiator) but do are prevented from coming in contact with each other by the radiator.
Heat Pump:	A mechanical device designed to provide both winter heating and summer cooling.
HID:	High Intensity Discharge, a generic term for mercury, vapour, metal halide and high pressure sodium light fixtures. Light in these fixtures is produced by an electric arc between two electrodes.
House Panelboard:	A panelboard which supplies power to common area loads
Hydronic Heating:	A means of heating a space through the use of hot water circulated through heating coils or a radiator in the space
Initiating Device:	A fire alarm system component which initiates a fire alarm (i.e. pull station).
Inverted Roof:	Where the roof membrane is located below the insulation and ballast (also Protected Membrane Roof).
Joist:	One of several parallel, horizontal and relatively closely spaced concrete, wood or steel members directly supporting a floor or roof slab or deck.
kVA:	Kilo-Volt-Ampere, the unit used to measure apparent power. This is what is charged by the utility.

kW:	Kilowatt, the unit used to measure real power. This is power that is actually used by the customer.
Lintel:	A horizontal structural support above an opening in a wall.
Makeup Air:	Fresh, outdoor air that is mechanically introduced to a building to make up for the air removed from buildings by exhaust systems.
Panelboard:	A component of an electrical distribution system which divides an electrical power feed into subsidiary circuits, while providing a protective fuse or circuit breaker for each circuit all contained in a common enclosure.
Pre-Formed Insulation:	Insulation that has been fabricated at the factory to conform to the shape of pipe fittings such as elbows, or to equipment such as valves and pumps. Usually designed to be easily removable so it can be removed from equipment for servicing and then re-installed when the work is complete.
Refractory:	A ceramic insulating material used in boilers and similar equipment because it can withstand very high temperatures.
Retaining Wall:	A wall constructed to hold back earth, water or other backfill.
Riser:	Pipes or ductwork used to transport water, effluent, air or service cables vertically through a multi-storey building for distribution of services.
Roof Structural Deck:	An elevated platform consisting of a variety of materials such as wood planks or metal pans, often supported by structural joists, beams and columns made of steel or wood, all structurally designed to support loads such as a roofing system.
Scaling:	A degradation of the surface of a concrete element, consisting of local flaking or peeling away of the near-to-surface sand and cement portion of hardened concrete or mortar.
Sealant:	A flexible material used on the inside (or outside) of a building to seal gaps in the building envelope in order to prevent uncontrolled air infiltration and exfiltration.
Sealed Units:	Two pieces (lites) of glass sealed around the perimeter, increasing the thermal resistance of the window.
Shear Wall:	A wall that resists horizontal forces applied in the plane of the wall, usually due to wind or seismic effects (also Flexural Wall).
Signaling Device:	A fire alarm system component which visually or audibly alarms (i.e. bell, strobe).
Slab-on-Grade:	A concrete floor slab placed directly on compacted fill and deriving its support from this fill (also Slab-on-Ground).
Spall:	A fragment of concrete or masonry detached from a larger mass by a blow, weather action, internal pressure, or efflorescence within the mass (sub flourescence).
Stucco:	A finish consisting of cement plaster, used for coating exterior building surfaces.
Switchboard:	A board or panel equipped with apparatus for controlling the operation of a system of electric circuits.

Terminal Board:	An insulating base on which terminals for wires or cables have been mounted
Thermographic Scanning:	Also known as infra-red scanning. A photograph that detects hot spots of electrical equipment or temperature differences at building surfaces.
Tuckpointing:	Also Repointing, the process of removing deteriorated mortar from the joints of masonry and replacing it with new mortar.
Uninterruptable Power Supply (UPS):	A power electronic device primarily used as a back up power source for computers and computer networks to insure on-going operation in the event of a power failure. Sophisticated units also have power conditioning and power monitoring features.
Vapour Barrier:	A material or combination of materials having a high resistance to water vapour diffusion, used to separate a high water vapour pressure environment from a low water vapour pressure environment.
Vent:	An opening placed in a facing wall or window assembly to promote circulation of air within a cavity behind the facing, usually to encourage drying of the cavity and/or to moderate the pressure across the facing.
Volt (V):	A unit of potential energy equal to the potential difference between two points on a conductor carrying a current of 1 ampere.
VRLA:	Valve Regulated Lead-Acid, low maintenance batteries which use much less battery acid than traditional lead-acid batteries typically used in UPS applications.
Weather-strip:	A strip of material placed around an operating window or door to reduce air leaks.
Weephole:	An opening placed in a wall or window assembly to permit the escape of liquid water from within the assembly. Weepholes can also act as vents.
Weeping Tiles:	Drainage pipes placed at the base of foundation walls.