A Canadian Architect’s Guide to NAFS
What’s In, What’s Out, and What to Do About It

With the title “North American Fenestration Standard”, it is tempting to think that NAFS applies equally to all fenestration products. This is not the case: while NAFS applies to a great many fenestration products, it excludes many products used in larger buildings from its scope. Fortunately, the code recognizes this, and provides complementary compliance paths for products within and outside the scope of the standard.

This presentation will examine NAFS and the Canadian Supplement to NAFS from the perspective of the BC Building Code as amended in Revision 8 (Dec. 2015). It will explain why Performance Class is so central to NAFS, yet peripheral to the code. And why in Canada we dismantle the Performance Grade, the “American ABC rating” to specify air-water-structural properties independently of one another.

This session will also address the matter of products outside the scope of NAFS, and how the methods of the Canadian Supplement can be used to determine the design pressure and water penetration resistance test pressure values for products within, as well as outside the scope of the standard.

Al Jaugelis is a senior fenestration specialist with RDH Building Science Inc., contributing to research, new construction and renewals projects, and assisting fenestration manufacturers with product performance and regulatory compliance issues.

Al brings to this role practical experience in the fenestration manufacturing industry, and a clear understanding of Canadian code requirements applicable to fenestration. He is an effective communicator and is in demand as a speaker on topics related to fenestration performance and Canadian building codes.

Al is a member of the CSA A440 Committee on Performance Standards for Windows, the Fenestration Canada and FENBC Technical Committees, the NRCan Energy Efficient Fenestration Steering Committee, and is also a Technical Consultant member of the American Architectural Manufacturers Association (AAMA).

He is recognized as an authority on the North American Fenestration Standard (NAFS) and writes about it on the "NAFS in Canada" blog.