

STEVEN BACZEK
architect

SPECIFYING A STRONGER, GREENER HOME WITH ZIP SYSTEM® R-SHEATHING



Massachusetts residents looking for a trusted architect to design their home often turn to Steve Baczek. With more than 20 years of experience and a passion for high performance projects, Baczek knows how to create homes that are beautiful, durable, and energy efficient.

Baczek recently completed a 4,000 square-foot house near Boston for a couple who put a premium on energy efficiency. To satisfy his customers, Baczek specified ZIP System® R-Sheathing in the construction.

“It was an easy upsell to the homeowner, once I explained all the benefits that ZIP System R-Sheathing provides,” says Baczek. “I’ve had great success with ZIP System sheathing in the past, and this project gave me an opportunity to upgrade to the R-Sheathing.”

ZIP System R-Sheathing provides a thermal, air and moisture barrier while enhancing strength and durability. The built-in continuous foam insulation provides a higher R-value, helping builders and architects like Baczek meet new energy codes.

“ZIP System R-Sheathing reduces air leakage, which ultimately decreases energy costs,” says Baczek. “I also love that it’s so durable. With other sheathing products that use housewrap, builders frequently have to repair tears. With ZIP System sheathing I don’t see those issues.”



“The bottom line is, I trust ZIP System® sheathing to get the job done when it comes to energy efficiency”



With solar panels on the roof and ZIP System R-Sheathing in place, the house is close to zero energy. Baczek says the testing for such energy certified homes can be rigorous, but he trusts ZIP System R-Sheathing for its tight seal. “I think it’s much more effective than other brands, such as Tyvek,” he says.

While ZIP System® R-Sheathing has become Baczek’s go-to sheathing for energy efficiency, it’s also a solid value for his builders. When used with ZIP System™ tape, ZIP System R-Sheathing can reduce installation time by up to 40 percent.

“I can’t understand why you wouldn’t want to use it as a builder. It just makes sense,” he says. As Baczek puts it - when his builders are happy, he’s happy.

Baczek’s latest undertaking is a series of homes designed to meet Passive House certification –one of the most stringent energy efficiency rating systems in the U.S. – meaning they use about 10 percent of the energy of a similarly sized home. To achieve this goal, Baczek is using ZIP System® sheathing and tape.

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