



ARCHITECT: LYN DL JOSEPH | COMPANY: GREAT SEAL, LLC | LOCATION: ALEXANDRIA, VA



The road to success always is under construction. At least that's the case for veteran architect and designer Lyndl Joseph. Her Virginia-based firm, Great Seal, uses custom building solutions to meet every client need, including energy efficiency.

Joseph looks to ZIP System® sheathing to meet ever-changing energy codes for her clients. "I first specified ZIP System® sheathing last year, and haven't looked back," says Joseph. "It completely seals the exterior of the home and helps me meet certification requirements for new houses."

Joseph's most recent project is a home in Alexandria, Va. The home earned its ENERGY STAR Version 3 rating through a number of efficiency tests, including air pressure and interior air penetration.

"Every year energy codes get more stringent. ENERGY STAR ratings are met through rigorous testing," says Joseph. "In the Alexandria home, we were able to achieve the ENERGY STAR rating thanks to the ZIP System sheathing."



“You could do ENERGY STAR testing without the ZIP System sheathing, but ZIP System is just better.”
– Lyndl Joseph

The U.S. Department of Energy reports that more than 40 percent of home energy costs are due to uncontrolled air leakage. ZIP System wall sheathing includes a rigid air barrier that decreases air leakage, leading to greater efficiency and cost savings for homeowners.

Joseph also likes ZIP System sheathing for its added protection against wind and moisture, especially in the humid climate of Virginia. “The weather conditions are constantly changing, and there’s always a period of time before the siding is up where the house is exposed,” says Joseph. “In one house I’m working on, the homeowner has had a tough time deciding on his siding. All this time the house has been protected by the ZIP System sheathing – from rain, wind, and everything else – and it performs just fine.”

Unlike regular sheathing products that require housewrap, ZIP System sheathing installs quickly. “It’s much better having the ZIP System rather than regular sheathing that requires housewrap,” says Joseph. “It’s nice to know you’ve got a waterproof barrier.”

With strict energy codes in place, architects are relying more on high quality energy efficient products to achieve certification. According to Joseph, ZIP System sheathing is a surefire way to meet these requirements without breaking a sweat.

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