

UAA Professional Development Seminar Series

Roof Ice Dams and Snow Loads on Structures

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ABSTRACT Roof ice damming is caused by a complex interplay of internal and external temperatures, insulation configuration, ventilation, snow volume, and drainage. Roofs over heated spaces, both residential and commercial, can be designed and constructed to prevent ice damming. A cold roof has a path for heat to escape allowing snow cover to remain at approximately the ambient air temperature, while hot roofs have no such mechanism which allows heat from the structure to warm, and melt the snow cover.

contracts from MassHighway, MBTA and the City of Boston. In 2003, he moved to