

## ABOUT US

The RDH Group provides services to our clients through three companies:

### RDH Building Engineering Ltd.

→ A Canadian-based building science and construction management firm with offices in Vancouver, Victoria, and Courtenay.

### RDH Building Sciences Inc.

→ A U.S.-based building science firm with offices in Seattle and Portland.

### RDH Architecture Inc.

→ A joint architecture and engineering practice that provides architectural services.

Our focus is on services that integrate building science, engineering, architecture, and construction management expertise for a variety of new construction projects and existing buildings. Based on our acknowledged leadership in the building science field in British Columbia, Washington, and Oregon, we are often called upon to work in other locations around the globe.

## RDH IS DIFFERENT

We strive to be recognized as leaders—through our involvement in research and guideline publications, our ability to handle the tough projects, and the unique combination of expertise that we bring to our projects. Key features that make us different are:

### Expertise

RDH brings a depth of talent that is unequalled in the design and construction industry. We have a multi-faceted understanding of the building enclosure through the building science training of our engineers and technologists, the design and system integration expertise of our architects, and the how-to knowledge of our construction management team. We have an ongoing commitment to hiring only the best.

### Ownership

Having an ownership stake translates into quality and service. RDH is a privately owned company with almost all of our employees being shareholders. Employee ownership makes a difference that is evident through our attention to detail, our effort to achieve successful projects, and our long-term commitment to our clients.

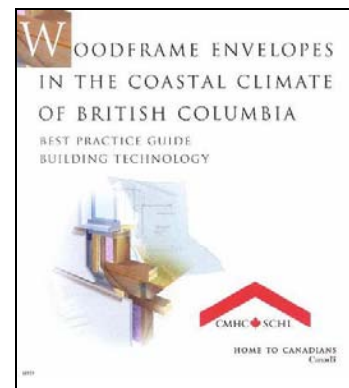
### Commitment to Research

RDH is fully committed to providing an ongoing learning environment for our people. We encourage in-house research projects and lead many industry sponsored research projects. In the wake of British Columbia's leaky condominium disaster, RDH played a major role in restoring confidence in the design and construction industry. Our research and guideline publications have resulted in profound improvements in the performance of building enclosures. The *Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia (APEGBC)* has recognized RDH's contribution to the profession and the community by presenting RDH with the "2001 Professional Service Award."

### Creativity

At RDH, we have not been content to accept the path travelled by others:

- Our construction management service is unique in the industry and represents a real opportunity for owners to maintain a high level of control over the rehabilitation process and costs.
- Through ongoing contacts within the insurance industry, we have developed a 10-year water penetration warranty product that is available only to RDH projects.
- Recognizing the unique performance attributes of fiberglass as a building material, RDH has been instrumental in starting a fiberglass window and door manufacturing company on the west coast.





## SERVICES

RDH provides a wide range of related services. At the core of all of our service areas is a comprehensive understanding of:

- Building science.
- The impact of internal and external environments on building performance.
- The design and construction process.
- The practical application of 'green' or sustainable design principles.
- The interrelationship of building systems once in service, and a holistic view of the life cycle of buildings including design, construction, operations, and maintenance and renewals.

### New Buildings

Our work for new building projects is aimed at providing the design and construction team with appropriate support to help ensure that performance expectations for the building enclosure are met, while respecting other project objectives and budgets. We will advise on all aspects of the building enclosure including below and above grade walls, windows, and other glazed assemblies, as well as roofs, decks, and balconies.

### Existing Buildings

The management of existing buildings is a complex and ongoing process. RDH assists owners and property managers through the provision of a variety of services tailored to the particular needs of the building and client. Service capabilities include the assessment of the existing condition of the building, investigation of performance problems, planning for maintenance and renewals activities, and the implementation of repair and renewal programs.

### Repair & Rehabilitation

The need for repair or rehabilitation of the building enclosure is established through a condition assessment or an investigation of performance problems. Once the need for repairs is established, RDH's work focuses on helping to design and implement an appropriate repair or rehabilitation program.

Our clients have significant involvement in the initial phase of the program, where alternate ways of addressing the repair or rehabilitation needs are considered. Once basic decisions are made regarding the scope and nature of the program, RDH typically prepares construction documents (drawings and specifications), tenders the work to pre-qualified contractors, administers the contract for construction on behalf of the client, and reviews the quality of construction throughout.

### Construction Management

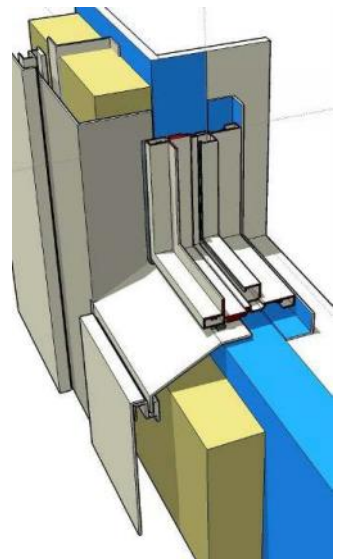
The integration of architecture, engineering, and construction skills under one roof means that we deliver construction management expertise utilizing a unique model that focuses from beginning to end on delivering an efficient, effective building program to the client. The quality, direct control of the construction process, and value inherent in our approach is appreciated by our clients.

We act as the client's agent in the coordination and management of both new construction and rehabilitation projects. The construction work is tendered directly to trade contractors; and all of the administrative, supervisory, and management functions necessary to implement the construction are handled by RDH on behalf of the client.

### Architecture

In our architectural practice, we seek to readjust the balance between the creative and practical sides of architecture. This does not imply a lack of interest in design aesthetics, but rather a closer integration of design and construction. The majority of our architectural services are directed at rehabilitation projects, providing owners with an opportunity to not only address performance problems, but to renew and improve the design of the building enclosure.

We are also committed to the principles of sustainability. We believe that green design strategies are not only better for the environment, but when coupled with design creativity and practical experience, will result in buildings that are economically feasible, functional, appealing, and sustainable.





## SERVICES (cont'd)

### Building Asset Management

Our building asset management (BAM) service group focuses on assisting building owners with all aspects of planning for the long-term stewardship of their buildings. This typically includes assessment of the current condition of all building systems, review of operational costs, development of maintenance and renewals plans, determination and analysis of costs, reserve fund planning, and assistance in the implementation of maintenance and renewals programs. These services are provided on an individual building basis or for large portfolios of buildings.

RDH's building asset management services help owners plan their financial expenditures over the long term, ensure the functional performance of building systems, avoid surprises, and be proud of the appearance and condition of their facilities.

### Litigation Support

The high level of building science and building enclosure expertise at RDH inevitably leads to many requests for us to provide expert investigative reports and testimony as part of a litigation support role.

Our combination of investigative and analysis tools, and specific building science technical training allows us to provide litigation support services at a distinctly advanced level. It is rare that others question our technical conclusions and therefore, our reports are often the key documents used in settlement discussions.

### Special Use Buildings

Some buildings have special use or occupancy characteristics that can have a significant impact on the design and construction of the building enclosure. Examples of such buildings include high humidity environments like swimming pools, some manufacturing/processes facilities that create unique interior environments (corrosive atmosphere), as well as facilities where control of the interior environment within a narrow range is critical, such as museums, art galleries, and archive buildings.

Our building science knowledge and access to sophisticated analysis tools, such as WUFI, make RDH well suited to tackle these projects.

### Sustainability

We have a long-standing interest and involvement in sustainability and green design. Through our research and practice guideline work, we have helped to shape the way the industry approaches energy and environmental issues in buildings. We help our clients to build more energy efficient and liveable buildings.

The rehabilitation construction process also provides a unique opportunity to upgrade the energy performance of the buildings. We are currently involved in a number of initiatives to monitor and document energy performance before and after rehabilitation.

### Risk Assessment

Identifying and quantifying risk is essential to good decision-making regarding the design and construction of buildings. Building owners, developers, designers, contractors, insurers, and lenders all require this information.

As a result of our risk assessment expertise, RDH has been retained to develop and implement quality assurance and quality control programs, prepare in-house design standards, and conduct building enclosure training sessions for a variety of owner, designer, and contractor groups.

### Research & Development

Research and guideline work represents an opportunity for RDH to delve deeper into issues that are of interest to us and the industry. The knowledge that we gain through our leadership in R&D projects contributes to the expertise of our staff and to the firm as a whole. The technical reports and guideline documents that often follow these research projects provide the entire construction industry with an improved understanding of building enclosure behaviour, as well as protocols for effective design and construction practices.

