

# Demountable Interior Walls

...creating a more flexible sustainable facility.

# Reasons for Not Using Demountable Walls

## What the customer says:

- “Not as flexible as you say they are”
- “Too expensive”
- “Not enough privacy”
- “Can’t fit into elevators...hard to place in storage”
- “Don’t like the look”
- Others?



# Reasons for Using Demountable Walls

- Fluid architectural elements allow for change
- Better return on investment
- Sustainable architectural elements
- Reduce landfill waste from drywall
- Strategy to introduce natural light into spaces
- Ease and speed of construction





## Reasons for Using Demountable Walls

### **Benefits of Fluid Architectural Elements**

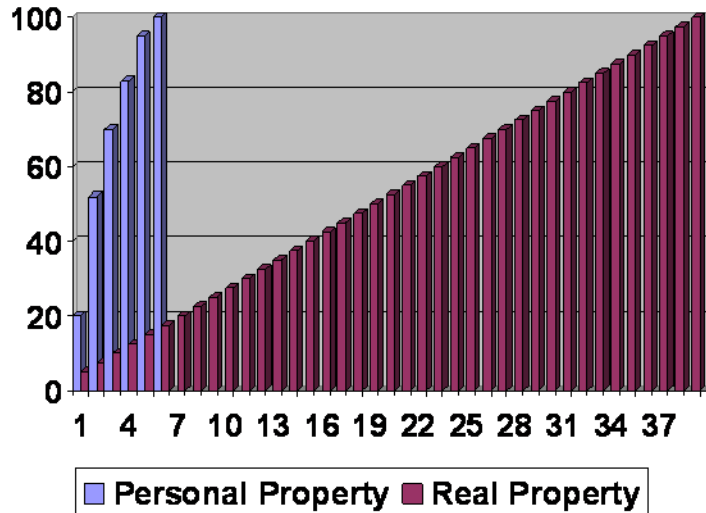
- Company's space requirements change
- Provide for natural light
- Accommodating for the needs of worker privacy
- Creating collaborative spaces and team rooms
- Changes after initial installation



## Reasons for Using Demountable Walls

# Better Return on Investment

- Tax savings...accelerated depreciation schedule



- Minimize real property taxes on non-performing investment
- Product re-use instead of disposal



# Sustainable Architectural Elements

- Recycled and recyclable content
  - Aluminum
  - Acrylic and glass
  - Steel
  - Formaldehyde free board as required
  - Manufacturing “off fall” used for sound attenuation
- Outstanding products reuse strategy
- Supports the use of natural light
- Regional materials as needed
- Supports worker comfort
- Safety and Health

# Sample Potential LEED – CI Pts

## Energy & Atmosphere

- EA – 1.1 Optimize Energy Performance, Lighting Power, 1 Point

## Materials & Resources

- MR – 1.2 Building Re-Use, Maintain 40% of Interior Non-Structural Components, 1 Pt.
- MR – 1.3 Building Re-Use, Maintain 60% of Interior Non-Structural Components, 1 Pt.
- MR – 2.1 Construction Waste Management, Divert 50% from Landfill, 1 Point  
(Note if MR credits 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 are used, this credit does not apply)
- MR – 2.2 Construction Waste Management, Divert 75% from Landfill, 1 Point  
(Note if MR credits 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 are used, this credit does not apply)
- MR – 3.1 Resource Reuse, Specify 5%, 1 Point
- MR – 3.2 Resource Reuse, Specify 10%, 1 Point
- MR – 4.1 Recycled Content, 10% (post consumer + ½ pre-consumer), 1 Point
- MR – 4.2 Recycled Content, 20% (post consumer + ½ pre-consumer), 1 Point
- MR – 5.1 Regional Materials, 20% Manufactured Regionally, 1 Point



# Sample Potential LEED – CI Pts

## Materials & Resources (continued)

- MR – 5.2 Regional Materials, 10% Extracted and Manufactured Regionally, 1 Point
- MR – 6 Rapidly Renewable Materials, 1 Point
- MR – 7 Certified Wood, 1 Point

## Indoor Environmental Quality

- EQ – 4.1 Low Emitting Materials, Adhesives & Sealants, 1 Point
- EQ – 4.2 Low Emitting Materials, Paints, 1 Point
- EQ – 4.4 Low Emitting Materials, Composite Wood and Laminate Adhesives, 1 Point
- EQ – 8.1 Daylighting & Views, Daylight 75% of Spaces, 1 Point
- EQ – 8.2 Daylighting & Views, Daylight 90% of Spaces, 1 Point
- EQ – 8.3 Daylighting & Views, Views for 90% of Seated Spaces, 1 Point

## Innovation & Design Process

- ID – 1.1-1.4 Innovation in Design, 4 Points
- ID – 2 LEED Accredited Professional, 1 Point

# Reasons for Using Demountable Walls

## Facts About Standard Drywall Construction

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Approximately **30%** of all landfill waste is from construction, renovation and demolition. Over **50%** is from buildings
- California Integrated Waste Management Board, 2002 – Over **10%** of drywall in new construction ends up as scrap
- A Cornell University Study concluded that for every square foot of drywall installed, *one pound* was waste
- U.S. Dept of Energy – Commercial Buildings in the U.S. use **17%** of all energy
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Of the 14 Sectors that account for **84%** of all Green House Gas (GHG) emission, the construction industry was the **3<sup>rd</sup> highest** with 6% of all GHG emissions



## Reasons for Using Demountable Walls

### Strategy to Introduce Natural Light into Spaces

- Reduce Energy Cost
- Allow Natural Light to Flow Through the Space
- Connect Employees to the Environment
- Health and Safety



# Reasons for Using Demountable Walls

## Ideas in Introducing Natural Light into Spaces



# Reasons for Using Demountable Walls

## Ease and Speed of Construction

- One Contractor to build it
  - Fewer workers on jobsite (example: drywallers, painters, glazers, etc...)
  - Less coordination required
- Supports Integrated Project Delivery Method
  - Allow compression of schedule
  - Building delivered to customer more quickly
  - Allows reduction of general conditions cost



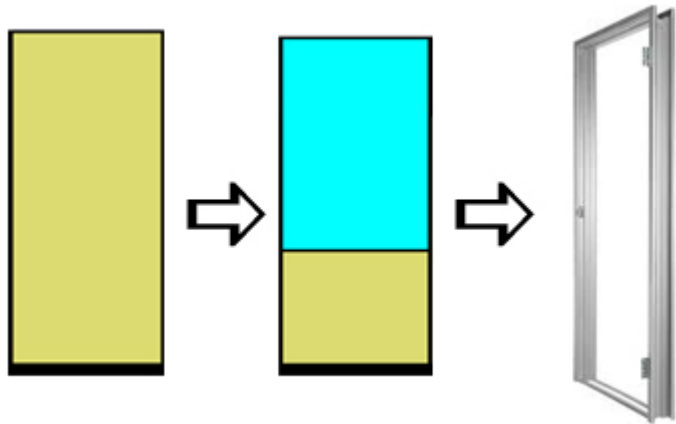


# A Better Approach to Interior Wall Construction?

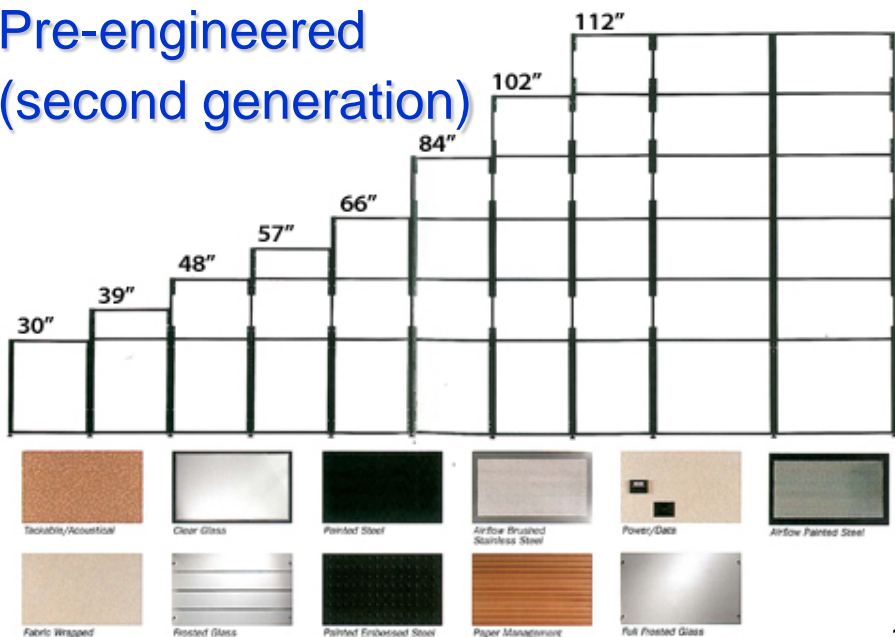
- Drywall construction
- Unitized Demountable Wall (First Generation)
- Demountable Walls Pre-engineered (Second Generation)
- New Generation Demountable Walls... “Field Fit” Capability



# A Better Approach to Interior Wall Construction?



Pre-engineered  
(second generation)



Truly Demountable "Field Fit"  
...product fits to building conditions

# Drywall Construction

- Approximately 85% of all building's interior dividing walls in the U.S. are constructed in this fashion!
  - European market is at approximately 15 – 20%
- Total flexibility... built per specification
- STC rating = low 40's
- Creates Significant waste and debris
- Lowest first Cost?





Unitized Demountable Walls

**vs.**

Pre-Engineered Demountable Walls

**vs.**

Demountable Walls “Field Fit”

*What is the difference?*





# Unitized Wall (First Generation)

- Most recognized and widely used in demountable wall industry
- Manufactured to exact specification
- STC rating mid 30's to low 40's
- Quick installation... “one trip”
- Minimized interruption
- Accelerated depreciation schedule for tax benefit
- Highest first cost



# Demountable Walls...Pre-engineered

## (Second Generation)

- Pre-Measured, Pre-cut, machined, drilled, etc., extrusions, framing, panels, glazing, etc., readied for assembly in the field
- Construction of panel is deferred to the field and assembled in a “stick built” approach
- Provides for change within specific parameters usually solid panels and glass only
- Significant and specific parts and pieces

Continued >



# Demountable Walls...Pre-engineered

## (Second Generation)

- STC rating mid 30's to low 40's
- Provide easier logistical movement from point of receipt to installation site
  - Easier to get on tighter elevators and or tighter working conditions



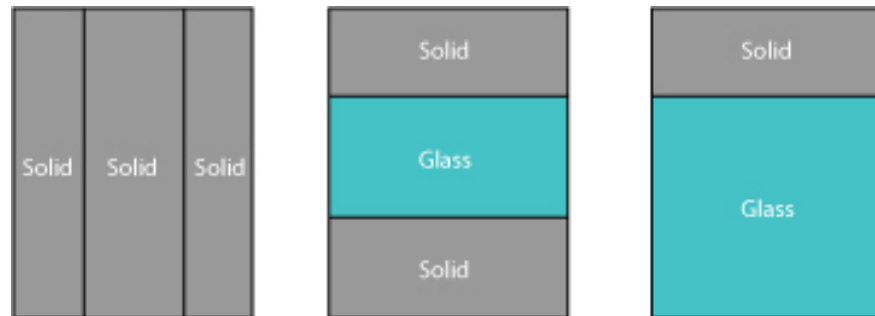
# New Generation Demountable Wall... Demountable with Field Fit

- Most current approach to demountable wall industry
- Ability to accommodate field changes or adjustments to field dimension changes
- Minimized interruptions
- Accelerated depreciation schedule for tax benefit
- Some Manufacturers offer minimal kit of parts
  - Easy to inventory
  - No special orders with long lead times
- Quick installation... “One trip!”




# New Generation Demountable Wall... Demountable with Field Fit

- Panels can be easily changed on site after initial installation
  - Glass to solid... back to glass!
  - Move doors
  - Change finish




- Demountable components provide for easy recycling
- Ability to utilize various wall board material and substrates



# New Trends in Demountable Walls Create...

- Flexibility
- Sustainability
- Reasonable investment
- Aesthetics
- Ability to change during and after install
- Competitive first cost!



# New Trends in Demountable Walls Create...

- Unlimited design flexibility
- Total customization
- Unlimited power & data flexibility
- Disassemble and rebuild into any configuration in any space



# New Trends in Demountable Walls

- Minimal kit of parts required... Easy to inventory
  - Ceiling and floor track
  - Vertical and horizontal studs
  - Glass bead
  - Reversible door and hinge set
  - Wall board and glass as required
  - Insulation
- Acoustics has improved
  - Solid walls can achieve mid-to-upper 40's STC ratings (sound masking, insulation above ceiling, etc.)
  - Double pane glass provides improved STC rating with glass elements



# A Word About Acoustics

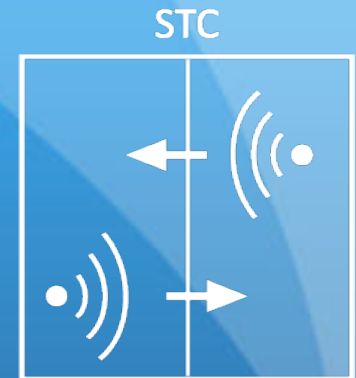
...when considering demountable walls

- Acoustics deal with complex environments and infinite number of variables
- Poor acoustics can ruin an otherwise beautiful wall installation
- Understanding NRC & STC

# Primary Terms

## **STC – Sound Transmission Class**

Number rating of a wall or structures ability to block the transfer of sound



## **NRC – Noise Reduction Coefficient**

Number rating which categorizes the sound absorptive or reflective properties of a material or environment



# STC – Privacy Anyone?

## STC – Sound Transmission Class

It is the primary way to infer how isolated a room or environment is relative to other rooms.

### General Guidelines:

**30-35 STC** = Loud talking understood

**40-50 STC** = Loud talking not easily understood but may have occupant awareness

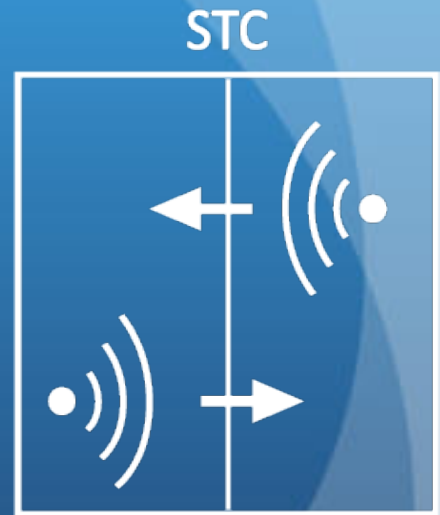
**60+ STC** = Loud talking not audible



# STC – Design with Confidence

## Considerations

- Most codes require minimum of 40 STC in commercial installations
- It is harder to block low frequencies as the wave form is much more powerful and longer
- Adding mass to the partition wall along with decoupling and insulation will vastly improve STC



***Beware of flanking paths!***



# STC – Flanking Paths

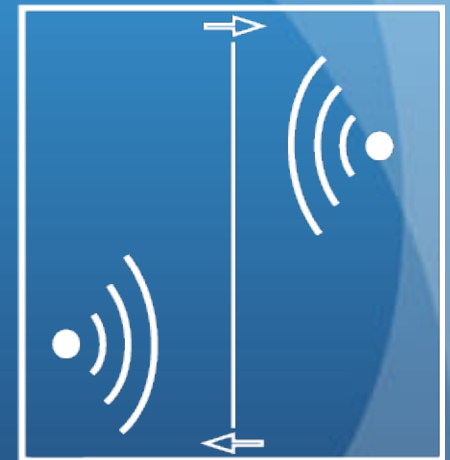
## Common Flanking Paths

- Ceiling and Floor Joists

## Common Duct Work

- Missing or Poor Fitting Door Sweeps
- Back-to-Back Electrical or Utility boxes in same stud cavity
- Outlet gaps

FLANKING PATH



# STC – Improve Your Ratings

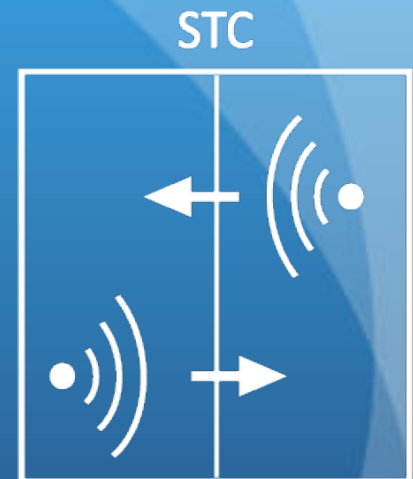
## Gain Weight and Isolate

- Decouple and add length to the ventilation

## Double the Wallboard

## Insulate the Stud Cavity

- Insulate the ceiling plenum & floor plenum
- Seal all flanking paths
- In extremely sensitive areas use double walls with dead head ventilation
- Plan ahead for today & tomorrow



# NRC – What's all the Noise About?

## Noise Reduction Coefficient

- Number rating which categorizes the sound absorptive or reflective properties of a material or environment



# NRC – Common Ratings

## Absorptive Ratings

- Brick .00 - .03
- Wood .05 - .15
- Heavy Carpet .30 - .55
- 18oz Drapery .60 - .65
- Fiberglass 3.5" .80 - .90





# NRC – Control the Reflections

## Don't Strive for Perfectly Absorbent

- Most people do not desire a room that is totally absorbent
- A little reverb is usually a good thing
- Angular geometry can be a good alternative when highly absorbent materials cannot be used
- Avoid parallel low NRC walls



# Sample Demountable Wall Applications

















































# Presentation Sponsored by NxtWall

NxtWall represents a new generation of demountable walls outlined in the preceding presentation





# Our Environmental Position

# Environmental Responsibility

*Environmental responsibility begins with a product's ability to support significant change and reuse.*

*Manufacturing of any kind places a burden on the environment.*

*Keeping this in mind, NxtWall leads the way in product reuse, while providing many other sustainable attributes.*



Thank You!