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Inspect curtain wall insulation continuity behind spandrels

Inspect curtain wall insulation continuity behind spandrel areas with an interactive checklist, commentable and exportable as PDF/Excel, for thermal continuity.

Project:
Date:
Filled by:

Pre-Inspection Documentation Review	
1	Confirm latest approved shop drawings and spandrel insulation details are on hand; compare revision tags to site mockup approvals; record drawing numbers and revisions.
2	Verify specified insulation type, thickness, facer orientation, back-pan, and air/vapour barrier from approved submittals; capture submittal IDs and signatures.
3	Identify inspection sequence in relation to glazing-in; ensure access to spandrel cavities is available; photo the accessible bays and note elevation/grid.

Materials and Components Verification	
4	Measure insulation thickness using a calibrated pin depth gauge; acceptance: within –0/+5 mm of specified; photo with scale and record five readings per bay.
5	Check insulation packaging labels for type and density match to submittal; acceptance: label matches submittal within ±10% density; photo labels and lot numbers.
6	Confirm facer or foil orientation per drawings (e.g., toward cavity or back-pan); acceptance: 100% correct orientation; close-up photos of each board edge.

Installation and Continuity Checks	
7	Verify back-pan seams and corners sealed with continuous beads/tape; acceptance: no visible gaps >3 mm; macro photos at four corners and mid-seam.
8	Check board joints are tight and staggered; acceptance: linear gaps ≤5 mm, filled with compatible strips; photo with feeler gauge at three locations.
9	Inspect around brackets, anchors, and mullions; acceptance: insulation cut tight, voids ≤5 mm, compression ≤10% thickness; photos before and after infill.
10	Verify adhesive coverage using spot checks before closure; acceptance: ≥80% effective contact area, no single void >100 cm²; photo adhesive pattern with ruler.
11	Confirm mechanical fixings where specified; acceptance: spacing and edge distances within ±10 mm of drawings; photo fastener pattern with tape measure.

Transitions and Interface Conditions	
12	Check continuity from spandrel insulation to adjacent wall or slab-edge insulation; acceptance: plane step ≤5 mm; photo straightedge across transition.
13	Verify air/vapour barrier laps and terminations; acceptance: laps ≥100 mm, fully bonded or taped; record tape product and batch, photo lap measurements.
14	Inspect perimeter behind spandrel glass or shadow box; acceptance: no daylight visible, full opaque coverage behind frit zone; backlit photo from interior.
15	Confirm penetrations (cables, fixing studs) sealed and insulated; acceptance: annular gaps ≤5 mm, sealed with compatible system; photo and material lot numbers.
16	Verify drainage/weep paths remain open; acceptance: designated slots and paths unblocked; photo with probe showing clear passage.

Testing, Evidence, and Closeout	
17	Perform borescope check before final closure; acceptance: ≥95% surface appears continuously insulated; save date-stamped images per bay.
18	Conduct IR thermography at dusk with ≥10 K indoor-outdoor differential; acceptance: no cold spots showing ΔT >3 K vs adjacent field; save thermograms with scale.
19	Log materials (insulation, sealants, tapes) by manufacturer, product, and lot; attach certificates; acceptance: all entries complete; photo documentation attached.
20	Close nonconformances; acceptance: corrective actions verified with re-measurement and photos; obtain digital signatures from contractor and facade QA.

Comments:

Filled by:

Signature:

Introduction	How to use this checklist
Inspect curtain wall insulation continuity behind spandrel areas to ensure the opaque zones deliver intended thermal performance without hidden gaps. This checklist focuses on spandrel back-pan insulation, thermal break continuity, and air/vapour barrier interfaces within unitized or stick-built curtain walls. It excludes vision glass performance, structural glazing, and code-specific firestopping details, but pays close attention to transitions, penetrations, and bracket interfaces where thermal bridging and condensation often originate. By verifying insulation thickness, joint treatment, adhesive coverage, and sealed back-pan seams, you reduce cold-strip complaints, dew point formation, and moisture damage to finishes. Methods include pin depth gauges, straightedges, calibrated thermometers, borescopes, and IR thermography under controlled temperature differentials. Acceptance cues are practical and measurable so teams can resolve nonconformances early, preventing rework and costly access later. Use this interactive, field-friendly tool to tick findings, add comments, attach photos, and export to PDF or Excel with a QR code for authenticated records.	1. Preparation: Confirm access before glazing-in, gather approved drawings and submittals, and bring tools—pin depth gauge, tape, borescope, IR camera, straightedge, and PPE. Set indoor-outdoor temperature plans if IR validation is required. 2. Using the Interactive Checklist: Start interactive mode, select elevation and bay, tick each item as inspected, add comments with measurements, and attach labelled photos. Tag materials by lot and link corrective actions to locations. 3. Export and Sharing: Generate filtered reports per elevation or date range, then export as PDF or Excel for review meetings. Include embedded images and drawing references for fast resolution. 4. Sign-Off and Archiving: Capture digital signatures from contractor, façade QA, and client representative. Archive the exported set with QR code authentication to ensure traceable, tamper-evident records.