INTERLOCKING MORTARLESS BRICK SIDING  2002 Nova Award Nomination 17

Novabrik is a patented mortarless brick siding system. The tongue and groove units are made of high strength concrete. They overlap and interlock to create a strong, water resistant brick veneer. Novabrik hangs on the wall. No brick ledge or steel angle is necessary for support at the base of the wall or above openings. Novabrik can be installed on wood, steel and concrete structures.

The preparation work involves a 1x6 baseboard, furring strips fastened to the building structure and a starter strip. This starter strip is for alignment only. Each Novabrik on the first course receives two screws. Four courses are then stacked. On the fourth course, one screw at each furring fastens the bricks. The process is repeated to the top of the wall. This fastening pattern, while incorporating high safety factors, lets the brick veneer move with the building structure. This flexibility provides an excellent resistance to the effects of large earthquakes, as demonstrated in laboratory experiments.

The major advantage of Novabrik is its simplicity and ease of installation. The skill level required to install Novabrik is nowhere near the skill level required for conventional bricklaying. A homeowner without much construction experience can replace vinyl or aluminum siding on his house by himself, without modification to the foundation or the building structure, and save the prohibitive professional labor costs that would otherwise be incurred.

In commercial and new residential construction, installation of Novabrik is up to 35% faster than conventional masonry. The lower installed cost combined with the performance and durability of this maintenance free siding, reduces the life cycle cost of the building envelope.

All the inconveniences of mortar have been eliminated. Because there is no mortar to protect from freezing, there is no need to enclose and heat the work area during winter installation, thus saving time and energy. There is no variation in the mortar joint color or thickness and no height limitation for installation in a single day. There is no efflorescence caused by mortar and no joints to maintain over the life of the building. The wall cavity is always clear of obstruction and its ventilation is excellent, providing a better overall building envelope. Water does not get through a Novabrik veneer. It is a perfect example of the rain screen principle.

Alba Products, a concrete brick and stone manufacturer located in Quebec, Canada brought Novabrik to the market in 1996, after 5 years of research and development. Novabrik has obtained Code Approvals from BOCA, ICBO and SBCCI and from the CCMC in Canada.

Over 70 million units have been sold to date. Numerous projects, new buildings and renovations, commercial and residential, have been built all over North America and the world. There are 3 licensed manufacturers in Canada, 5 in the USA, 3 in Europe and 1 in Japan. More manufacturers around the globe are expected to start producing Novabrik in the near future.

Contact: Simon Gauthier • Novabrik International, Inc. • 8138 Metropolitain East • Montreal, Quebec Canada H1K 1A1 • 514-355-0112 • Fax 514-355-2922 • sgauthier@novabrikcanada.com • www.novabrik.com
INTERLOCKING MORTARLESS BRICK SIDING

- WATER RESISTANT SYSTEM
- SIMPLE INSTALLATION REQUIRES NO SPECIALIZED LABOR
- INSTALLATION NOT AFFECTED BY COLD WEATHER
- NO MAINTENANCE
- NO BRICK LEDGE OR STEEL ANGLE REQUIRED FOR SUPPORT

CUSTOM COMMUNICATIONS, ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA