



## **New Online Tool Makes It Easier For Designers to Specify Wood in their Projects**

*Wall Thermal Design Calculator developed by buildABILITY for the Canadian Wood Council*

**Toronto, ON (January 22, 2014)** Responding to increased stringency for Canadian energy codes, buildABILITY is providing designers with prescriptive wall assembly solutions through an interactive, online portal. The Wall Thermal Design Calculator is one of buildABILITY's latest projects completed for the Canadian Wood Council (CWC). Located at [www.cwc.ca/wtd](http://www.cwc.ca/wtd), the tool provides wall thermal design information that complies with the energy efficiency requirements of the National Building Code of Canada.

The Wall Thermal Design Calculator for low-rise housing offers the information that builders, architects, trades, and building officials need to quickly access the suitability of wall assemblies for each climate zone in Canada.

Over 150 wall assemblies were developed; each with a hygrothermal and energy analysis performed. The new CWC electronic catalogue portion of the tool includes assembly components, energy and thermal performance, and notes that address ease of construction, affordability, aesthetics, and potential moisture concerns. The tool was designed in consultation with numerous housing and building envelope experts who participated in an extensive advisory committee.

"The Wall Thermal Design Calculator represents a new form of construction reference material and makes possible the ability to explore options, compare features, and determine the exact wall assembly that can perform across the range of Canadian climates," said Michael Lio, President of buildABILITY. "The interactive portal allows housing professionals the ability to access current information from their office, in a meeting, or even on-site through any internet connection."

"This tool provides builders and designers with the appropriate solutions for insulated wall assemblies," explains Robert Jonkman, P.Eng, Canadian Wood Council, "and ultimately makes it easier for them to specify wood in their projects."

The Wall Thermal Design Calculator can be found on the Canadian Wood Council's website: [cwc.ca/wtd](http://cwc.ca/wtd).

For more information on buildABILITY, visit [buildABILITY.ca](http://buildABILITY.ca).

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### **To arrange interviews, please contact:**

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