Would You Design A Masonry Wall Without Brick Ties?

The title question may sound rhetorical, but the reality is that adhered thin brick designs are routinely specified without brick ties.

TABS Wall Systems manufactures the only adhered veneer installation product that supplies a mortar locking feature to tie a thin brick façade back to the panel and thus to the structure. The revolutionary design, now 15 years in the construction market, was developed as an iteration of the original steel panel produced 30 years prior.

TABS Wall Systems’ uniqueness doesn’t stop there. There are 5 steel panel systems in the market for adhered veneer application. In addition, there are traditional installations based on thin setting and polymer mortars.

The 5 steel panels in today's market can be summarized by three categories, apples, oranges and a single banana.

THE APPLES
There are 2 steel panel designs that are only G-60 galvanized, without a protective coating to protect the zinc. These panels are made from architectural grade steel. There is no mortar locking feature. The panels are not embossed. Embossing strengthens the steel, promotes better adhesion and moisture flow out of the system.

THE ORANGES
There are 2 steel panel designs that feature G-90 galvanization (G 90 offers 50% more protective zinc coating than G 60) and a protective paint coating. These, like the apples, are made from architectural grade steel. Both panels are embossed. One uses USA certified steel and is manufactured in the USA; the other is manufactured in China with foreign steel. Neither has a mortar locking feature.

THE BANANA
The TABS Wall System features G-90 galvanization with a protective paint coating and embossing. The panels are made in the USA from US certified steel (certifications are available upon request). The panels are produced from structural grade steel. Structural steel provides greater resistance to oxidation and wear. It also has greater pull through resistance and higher tensile strength. The panel has the patented mortar locking tabs.