

We recently had a BPI (Building Performance Institute, www.bpi.org)-certified energy auditor test our insulated cabins with a blower door and thermal imaging camera, to find any air leaks. He stated: "The cabin is very well built and by air tightness standards the IR (infiltration rate) is around 100 CFM (cubic feet per minute) above the BAS (building airflow standard), which is the minimum amount of fresh air required. Any additional air sealing should be done with caution." Translation- these cabins are very air tight, with their hybrid insulated energy efficient design. Leaky homes are hard to heat and hard to cool. The only way to know whether a home is leaky or tight is to measure its air leakage rate with a blower door. A blower door is a tool that depressurizes a house; this depressurization exaggerates the home's air leaks, making the leaks easier to measure and locate. An energy-efficient house must be as airtight as possible. Every house leaks, and that's why blower-door tests are used — to measure a building's leakage rate. A thermal imaging camera sees specific areas with low airsealing-sample picture (not actual results) attached. See <http://www.greenbuildingadvisor.com/blogs/dept/musings/blower-door-basics> for more blower door info.

