depending on whether or not the refrigerant charge and airflow have been diagnostically tested.

Example 8-39

Question
When using the existing plus addition performance method, can compliance credit be gained by sealing the existing ducts when it was not required for prescriptive compliance?

Answer
Yes. The standard design must be selected as either “untested duct systems in homes built after June 1, 2001” or “untested duct systems in homes built prior to June 1, 2001.” If the entire duct system is designed and tested to have a leakage less than 6% and is diagnostically verified by a HERS rater, then significant compliance credit may be available. See the discussion of the performance approach in the text above.

Example 8-40

Question
Where do radiant barriers need to be installed when using the performance approach where no credit is taken for retrofitting a radiant barrier in the existing house?

Answer
The radiant barrier only needs to be installed on the underside of the roof assembly associated with the addition.

Example 8-41

Question
When using the existing plus addition performance compliance method, can credit be gained by installing a radiant barrier in the existing house attic? If so, where does the radiant barrier need to be installed?

Answer
Yes, installing a radiant barrier in the existing building will result in a credit relative to the standard design for existing buildings permitted (or constructed) prior to June 1, 2001. The radiant barrier must be installed over the entire attic/roof area including gable walls. If there are roof/ceiling assemblies where it is not possible to reach the underside of the roof, such as roof/ceiling assemblies using enclosed rafters which are not proposed to be exposed as part of the project, the radiant barrier cannot be properly installed and compliance credit is not possible.

Example 8-42

Question
I am adding a room to an existing building. I am upgrading a single-pane clear glass window as part of an alteration to an existing building in climate zone 12. Do I receive credit toward the addition compliance for installing a window with a U-factor of 0.65 and an SHGC of 0.50?

Answer
No. There will be a penalty toward achieving compliance since the window is not as efficient as required by the prescriptive package for climate zone 12 which requires a U-factor of 0.57 and...