

WELCOME

Hello and welcome to *e-Vent Newsletter*. Our goal is to feature industry news, tips you can use on the job, advice for challenging attic ventilation projects, and we'll mix in some Air Vent happenings and fun stuff, too. Consider this an extension of our in-person *Attic Ventilation: Ask the Expert™* Seminars held annually each 1st quarter across North America. As is true with the seminar, much of the content we'll share in these pages will be collected from you – the people in the field. We'll do our best to neatly bundle the information and share it in an interesting format. We'll start with two editions per year (midway and year-end). Please send us any ideas you have by using the [Contact Us](#) link.

Thank you. – Paul Scelsi, *Ask the Expert™* Seminar Leader.

DID YOU KNOW?

Code violation alert

It's a building code violation to not follow the Installation Instructions written by the attic ventilation product manufacturer. "Ventilators shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions," has been written in the International Residential Building Code since 2012 and has been listed in every edition of the code since -- including the current 2018 (code is reviewed, updated and released every 3 years). You can read that portion of the code [here](#).

What do the Installation Instructions say? In addition to specific fastening requirements (use nails long enough to penetrate the underside of the deck), the Installation Instructions call out two very important details:

1. Attic exhaust vents need proper intake ventilation (Balance the attic with intake and exhaust).
2. Remove or block the opening of any other type of exhaust vent if adding a different type of exhaust vent to the roof (Do not mix exhaust vent types: ridge vents, gable louvers, wind turbines, power fans, or static vents/box vents/can vents/ roof louvers).

Unfortunately, not following these instructions negatively impacts the performance of the attic ventilation system and can contribute to problems such as weather infiltration.

Performance. To properly fight heat and moisture buildup inside the attic the exhaust vents depend on incoming cooler, dryer air through the intake vents installed in the soffit/undereave or on the roof near the edge. Without this source of intake air, the exhaust vents will be inefficient.

Problems. Attic exhaust vents without proper intake airflow can lead to problems including:

- A ridge vent that is starving for proper intake airflow can pull air from itself. The front side of the vent can ingest air from the back side. Ridge vents are exhaust vents that should never ingest anything – wind or weather.
- Box vents (roof louvers/can vents/static vents) or wind turbines lacking proper intake airflow can pull air from a nearby box vent or wind turbine on the same roof. This is a highly undesirable situation that not only can trigger weather infiltration but also limits the airflow to the upper region of the attic.
- Power fans (roof-mount or gable-mount) that do not have proper intake airflow can pull air from the conditioned living space. Furthermore, lack of intake ventilation contributes to premature motor burnout.



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PRODUCT FEATURE

High efficiency attic fan with a variable speed motor

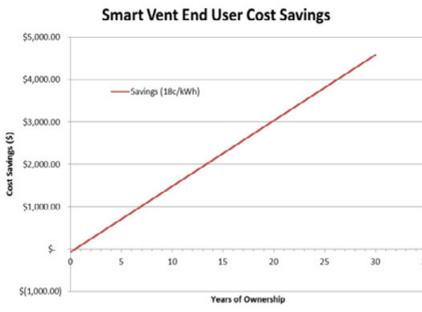
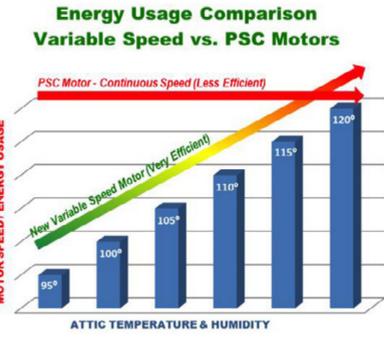
This summer consider the HE15 high efficiency roof-mount power attic fan as an upgrade for your customers who may need to replace their traditional power attic fans; or customers looking to change from box vents or wind turbines. It's Air Vent's first power attic fan with a variable speed motor resulting in up to 74% energy savings while being 50% more efficient than other attic fans. Traditional power attic fans have a permanent split capacitor motor that run full throttle during operation. But the HE15's motor adjusts to the conditions in the attic – varying its speed accordingly. The HE15 has an on-board computer that monitors temperature and humidity.



- The fan will turn on and run when the attic temperature reaches above 90°F and/or the humidity reaches above 65%.
- The fan has a safety shut off when the attic temperature reaches above 180°F and/or 90% humidity.
- The HE15 will go into standby mode when the temperature reaches 82°F and the humidity is less than 62%.

Homeowners can spend up to \$60 annually using traditional power attic fans. With the HE15 that cost drops to \$20. Check out the energy savings below.

Find out more information about the HE15 power attic fan [here](#).



TOOLBOX

Put YOUR company name on our educational brochures for YOUR customers



Print-on-Demand Customized Air Vent Brochures

You can now put your company information on Air Vent brochures and have them professionally printed to use for targeted customer selling. With the Print-on-Demand service we'll give you the content. You give it your name. This new service caught the attention of recent *Ask the Expert™* Seminar attendees. It's available to everyone anytime through our website.

With this service, Air Vent attic ventilation resources are available for custom-branding with your company's complete contact information, printed in various quantities, and delivered to your front door. We'll give you the content. You pay for the printing and shipping. Air Vent is not profiting from this. It's strictly a resource we are providing to you.

We're starting with our two most popular homeowner-oriented brochures:

- What Homeowners Should Know About Attic Ventilation
- Attic Inspection Checklist

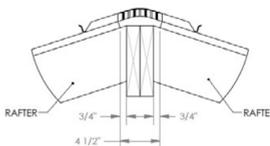
We may expand the offering of brochures in the future. The self-help online portal is easy to use. Click [here](#) to create your customized account inside the digital storefront.

Q&A

Question: "We have a contractor doing his own house with ShingleVent II ridge vent. He has a 4 x 4 beam along the ridge. He would like to know how far he can cut from the beam to maximize ventilation but not create a leak situation?"

Answer: The absolute maximum slot width Air Vent recommends is 4.5 inches – which is significantly wider than the vent needs to produce its maximum airflow. The graphic below shows an example of the maximum slot width using a double-wide ridge beam. It's worth repeating that an "extra wide" slot cut does NOT increase the vent's Net Free Area performance, which for our standard ShingleVent II product is 18 square inches of NFA per linear foot. Let's examine this a little deeper.

- A ridge vent's airflow must exit two passage points: the slot cut in the roof deck and then the vent itself.
- ShingleVent II is rated to yield 18 square inches of airflow per linear foot (including factoring in the internal weather filter, by the way). That's the total amount of airflow the vent will allow per linear foot. No more. And it'll be less than that if the slot cut in the roof deck is too narrow. But it will NEVER be more than 18 square inches of NFA per linear foot.
- What size slot is needed to allow 18 square inches of NFA to reach **The absolute maximum slot width Air Vent recommends is 4.5 inches.** ShingleVent II? According to the Installation Instructions, a 1.5-inch wide slot is needed for truss construction (no ridge beam/board); if there is a ridge beam, 3/4 inch wide slot is needed on each side of the ridge beam after successfully clearing the total width of the ridge beam itself. Both of those measurements – 1.5 inches as well as 3/4 inches on each side of the ridge beam – happen to total 18 square inches per linear foot (because 1.5 x 12 = 18; and a pair of 3/4s x 12 = 18).
- **CAUTION:** A wider slot increases the possibility of weather infiltration if the vent's louvers/openings are too close to the slot. That's why the absolute maximum slot width Air Vent recommends is 4.5 inches if the roof's construction dictates the need.



Have a question for Air Vent? Send it to [Paul Scelsi \(pscelsi@gibraltar1.com\)](mailto:pscelsi@gibraltar1.com). You don't have to wait until the next issue of this newsletter for your answer. We'll answer your question immediately and we may even feature it on our Facebook page shortly after. Thanks for participating.

FOUND IN THE FIELD



Nearly a 4-inch wide slot to the left of the ridge beam.

Contractor: Trevor Atwell, Atwell Exterior Services LLC, Greenville, NC

The Issue: Ridge vent slot width gone wild leads to a leak

Solution: Change the slot to the manufacturer's recommendations



"We replaced all of the ridge vent and cap shingles on this home after replacing the OSB sheathing on both sides of the ridges. We reduced the opening size to Air Vent's recommended 3/4 inches on both sides of the ridge beam, instead of the nearly 4-inch gaps we found under the leaking ridge vents." – Trevor Atwell

Have a Field Find you want to share? We love photos from the field. They are a popular feature weekly on our Facebook page and in our *Ask the Expert™* seminars. We'll take your success stories, handy tips and mistakes to avoid please. Send them to [Paul Scelsi \(pscelsi@gibraltar1.com\)](mailto:pscelsi@gibraltar1.com). Thanks for sharing.

ASK THE EXPERT SEMINAR

Thank You for Another Successful Seminar Season

On March 28, 2019 in Denver, CO we wrapped up our annual *Attic Ventilation: Ask the Expert™* Seminars – our **21st consecutive year** of collecting and sharing best practices in residential attic ventilation. In all we visited 26 cities across North America during Q1. Thank you very much to everyone who participated – all 1,978 of you.



Leading Industry Education Since 1998

The sustained success of the seminar is directly connected to you the roofing professional. We are very appreciative of the attendees who:

- Submit content during and after the seminar
- Give us ideas to pursue via the collected Feedback Form
- Ask questions aloud during the lively Q & A enhancing the experience for all in attendance
- Spread the word about our seminar schedule to potential attendees
- Help us further educate the industry

We've read every Feedback Form (all 1,396) and have started making updates for the 2020 seminar season (in fact, this e-newsletter was among your ideas collected). Check our website in early fall 2019 for the schedule of cities we'll visit January, February and March next year. And if you want to make sure you'll be notified when the 2020 seminar schedule is finalized [give us your email](#), so we can alert you.

We thought we'd share some interesting stats from the *Ask the Expert™* Seminar history books.

- Since 1998's launch Air Vent has hosted 804 seminars across North America.
- Our largest segment of attendees are roofing contractors (50% historically; 65% in recent years).
- Each time we revisit a seminar city, the majority of attendees are first-timers (66%) (Thank you for spreading the word, repeat attendees!).
- Our average attendance per seminar (1998-2019) is 49 attendees.
- We averaged 76 attendees in 2019 (our 2nd best year ever).
- Our highest single-seminar attendance ever is 255 (Schaumburg/Chicago in 2018).
- Seminar host Paul Scelsi has lost his voice twice during a seminar over the years; both times in the same city back-to-back years (sorry, Windy City!).

Breaking News: *Roofing Contractor Magazine* attended our seminar in Novi, MI. Check out the observations of the Managing Editor and the attendees he interviewed. To visit the *Roofing Contractor Magazine* [click here](#). To view a PDF of the article [click here](#).

HELP WANTED

FREE product in exchange for your story

We're always looking for success stories to share with the roofing industry. If we use your story, we'll give you FREE product of your choice as a "thank you." It's a sweet deal. You'll get free publicity, free product and the good feeling knowing you are helping us further educate the roofing industry. Here are examples of what we're looking for:

- If you recently solved a particularly challenging attic ventilation project, tell us how.
- If you worked on a roof that had a pre-existing attic ventilation mistake, tell us your fix.
- If you successfully helped an objecting homeowner understand why proper attic ventilation is needed, tell us the details.

It doesn't need to be long story. A few photos and a handful of sentences summarizing things will do the trick. Send everything to [Paul Scelsi \(pscelsi@gibraltar1.com\)](mailto:pscelsi@gibraltar1.com). Thank you!

COMING SOON

Expanding content on airvent.com for homeowners and pros

In the months ahead, we'll be adding two new sections to our website packed with content targeting homeowners and industry professionals. This is in response to feedback from our *Ask the Expert™* seminar attendees. Some of them requested help educating homeowners prior to the roofing contractors' arrival at the house. The thinking is it will smooth the path when the roofing contractor explains an attic ventilation upgrade/improvement is needed. Keep your eyes out for more information on airvent.com.

Other seminar attendees asked for education opportunities for the roofing pro outside of the annual in-person seminar season (which runs January, February and March). Stay tuned for more educational content targeting roofing pros on our website. Among the topics we'll regularly feature will be installation videos, best practices tips, and questions homeowners are likely to ask (and the answers).

CONTACT US

There are plenty of ways to keep in touch please...

- 1-800-AIR-VENT (247-8368); ventilation@gibraltar1.com (Customer Service/Tech Support)
- www.airvent.com
- www.facebook.com/AirVentInc (Come on, join the fun!)
- www.twitter.com/AirVentInc
- Paul Scelsi, seminar leader: pscelsi@gibraltar1.com