



Inspections and documentation from leading experts

## COMPANY PROFILE

Chinese Drywall Screening, LLC is one of the most experienced teams of inspectors and consultants in the country regarding corrosive and/or Chinese drywall covering areas throughout Florida and the southeast.

Howard Ehram is the sole founder of Chinese Drywall Screening, LLC. He has a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida in Civil Engineering. He worked for Whiting-Turner Contracting Company in Central Florida for 8 years before moving to Port St Lucie in 2003 to start a new career in commercial development. From 2003 to 2009, Howard managed commercial development projects for Tradition Development, a master planned community developer and subsidiary of Levitt Corp. Howard's certifications and licenses include Professional Engineer, Certified General Contractor, LEED AP and ICSC's SCDP.

In 2007, it was discovered that one of his properties was having characteristics understood to be caused by tainted drywall from China and experienced the process of having it removed. By way of his personal experience and being the president of a condo association with 80 tainted units, Howard quickly became the "go-to" resource for helping others. The combination of his professional experience, dealing with the issue first hand, helping others and continual research has put Howard in a position to be an excellent resource for others in dealing with the Chinese Drywall phenomenon.

Howard Ehram and his team of professionals have done thousands of assessments for corrosive and/or Chinese drywall and the number grows daily in single family and multifamily residences, commercial and medical offices, warehouses and retail establishments. His team consists of individuals certified in various programs for corrosive/Chinese drywall inspection and remediation processes. In addition, he sits on the ASTM and AIHA drywall committees for the advancement of assessment and remediation protocols. He is also part of ISU's Gypsum Advisory Professional group in order to advance the technology and protocols involved with assessments and post remediation verifications. He has spoken at many conferences, symposiums and luncheons on Chinese drywall, willing to share his vast knowledge and experience.

Howard has developed a patent pending Sulfur Corrosion Measurement and Detection System in conjunction with Jack Frost of Drywall Science and Shawn Macomber of Healthy Home Solutions. The three have corroborated in order to fill the need for a quantitative test for remediations as well as a test that can verify that a property is free from corrosive drywall.

Howard has also produced in cooperation with InterNACHI and NACHI.TV a training video to teach home and property inspectors and other professionals on how to visually inspect for Chinese or corrosive drywall.



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## Scope of Services

Drywall Inspection and property assessment – Chinese and/or Corrosive Drywall Inspection along with label identification, XRF and corrosion testing are well established and are the best methods for accurate determination and reporting. We have developed the best methods and processes to properly assess even the most challenging properties. In conjunction with others, CDS has developed a patent pending Sulfur Corrosion Measurement and Detection System that utilizes acceleration devices and other various methods as needed to draw accurate conclusions on various types of properties. Therefore, for properties with limited amounts of corrosive drywall, we have the tools and knowledge to properly determine the locations of corrosive drywall, develop a remediation plan and provide clearance testing that would allow the property to be eligible for a specialized warranty.

Attorney's, Banks, Realtors, Insurance Agents, Brokers, etc. - Special programs for training, seminars, assessments, preservation of evidence and post remediation verification services for corrosive drywall that can be customized to fit your special requirements.

Preservation of Evidence - If you have corrosive Chinese drywall and are planning to remediate, repair or remodel your home, preservation of evidence is needed to protect your claim interests if you are pursuing any type of legal action. Attorney's specify that the Pre-Trial Order No. 1(B) through the United States District Court Eastern District of Louisiana must be strictly followed. Having an independent third party professional properly preserving your evidence is critical. If this is not performed or done correctly, the evidence could be jeopardized. The manufacturers and suppliers may claim the evidence is insufficient or spoiled and avoid compensating for the losses. There has not been any Court Orders or protocols established for properties where the drywall is not being removed so CDS has developed our own protocols that help best protect the interests of the client keeping in mind feasibility and cost.

Post Remediation Verification (PRV) - Customized services to meet the needs of our clients. The Knauf settlement and Judge Fallon's rulings require 3rd party clearance inspections for remediating properties with corrosive drywall. Not only is it critical for resale value that the remediation is properly documented but also for claim resolution. If the remediation is not done properly, no compensation may be provided but only an offer to re-gut the home. Knauf does not want problem home and will not likely provide settlements for a particular property that will potentially re-surface as an issue.

The 3 items to address for every remediation to ensure properties won't have any subsequent issues in case protocols change are Gases, Particulate and Bacteria. It is critical to make sure all three are somehow addressed and documented.

Warranty - Our inspections and PRV's come with a money back guarantee and our protocols qualify the property for a full reactive drywall and pollution insurance policy that not only covers corrosive drywall but any pollutants.

Home Inspectors Training - As an industry leader CDS, LLC provides inspector and/or professional training for Chinese drywall. CDS has produced in cooperation with InterNACHI and NACHI.TV a training video to teach home and property inspectors and other professionals on how to visually inspect for Chinese or corrosive drywall.

Consulting and Protocol Development – Each client and property is unique. As an industry leader and expert, CDS provides custom protocols for assessment and remediation for corporate programs and any type and size of property.



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## **Clients and Projects**

**Allison Grant, P.A.**

**Aronfeld Trial Lawyers**

**Banco Popular**

**Baron & Budd, P.C.**

**Fidelity Inspection Services (Inspection One)**

**Leopold & Kuvin, P.A.**

**M&T Bank, REO Department**

**McIntosh, Sawran, Peltz & Cartaya, P.A.**

**Morgan & Morgan, P.A.**

**Qualified West, LLC**

**Reich & Binstock, LLP**

**Many Realtors and Investors**

**Condominium Associations**

**Retailers**

**Commercial property owners**

**Warehouse owners**

**Multitude of individual residential property owners**



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## Liability Coverage

Chinese Drywall Screening, LLC is a fully insured company. CDS maintains the following types of insurance coverage with the following stated limits.

Commercial General Liability	\$1,000,000 each occurrence
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Professional Liability	\$1,000,000 each occurrence
	\$1,000,000 aggregate

Pollution Liability including Toxic Drywall	\$1,000,000 each occurrence
	\$1,000,000 aggregate

Workman's Compensation & Employers Liability	\$100,000 each accident
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\*\*Policy includes a Blanket Additional Insured and Blanket Waiver of Subrogation\*\*

Limits listed above are our standard coverage limits. If this coverage does not meet your company's requirements, we are willing to increase limits for projects on an as needed basis. Please contact us, if you have any questions concerning insurance.

## **Relevant Professional Organizations:**

### **ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)**

**C-11 Committee - Gypsum and Related Building  
Materials and Systems**

### **AIHA (American Industrial Hygiene Association)**

**Corrosive Drywall Guidance Committee**

### **ISU Gypsum Advisory Professionals**

**Indiana State University (ISU), Department of Built  
Environment (DoBE), College of Technology (COT)**

## **Relevant Staff Certifications Include:**

- Professional Engineer (P.E. lic# 73975)
- Certified General Contractor (CGC 1509717)
- Certified Building Contractor
- LEED AP (USGBCI)
- Defective Drywall Consultant (BESI)
- Senior Certified Development and Design Professional (ICSC)



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## Contact Information

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