Top 5 Most Common Residential Mechanical Mistakes

1) When installing replacement water heaters the contractor does not replace the existing cell core PVC vent with solid core PVC. Manufacture instructions require solid core PVC. Contractors are not allowed to just use any old cell core PVC, even if it’s already there and in good condition.

2) Mechanical room lacks combustion air. This could potentially be a problem and could lead to venting and carbon monoxide issues. There are multiple ways to bring in combustion air and it is the contractor’s responsibility to pick an option.

3) No installation instructions left on site. Manufactures’ instructions must be left with any and all mechanical equipment so RBD inspectors can properly verify installation.

4) No contrasting color primer installed on PVC vent pipes. All PVC equipment vents require the contrasting color primer and glue at all joints. Having the contrasting color primer is important for RBD inspectors to be able to verify if it has been installed correctly.

5) Missing CO alarms. (Detectors) Anytime there is a new or replacement mechanical installation, a home is required to have a working CO detector on any level with a bedroom.
1. Old cell core PVC used for replacement water heater

2. Mechanical room must have proper combustion air

3. Mechanical installation instructions must be on site
4. No contrasting color primer installed on PVC vent pipes

5. Missing Carbon Monoxide Alarms