



7315 Wisconsin Ave., Ste. 400E
Bethesda, MD 20814
PHONE: (301) 654-0000
FAX: (301) 951-8401

www.pima.org

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Contact: Mittie Rooney
301-602-8709
mrooney@axcomgroup.com

“Add an Extra Inch” – Save \$11.2 Billion in Energy Costs and 281 Million Barrels of Oil
New Study Confirms Energy Saving Benefits of Roof Insulation

Bethesda, MD – As gasoline and energy prices soar to record heights, a new study shows that increasing roof insulation levels by adding an extra inch in commercial buildings can significantly reduce energy costs and dependence on foreign oil.

The study, conducted by the Energy Services Provider Group (ESPG) for the Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA) looked at the amount of polyiso insulation installed across the U.S. on low slope roofs between 1999 and 2003 – 22.8 billion board feet. That insulation alone **saved more than 217 million barrels of oil and \$8.7 billion in energy costs.**

The study also assessed the impact of increasing the insulation levels by one-inch beyond the code minimum. The nation’s buildings **would have experienced \$2.5 billion in energy cost savings, while saving an additional 64 million barrels of oil.**

“It is astounding that something as fundamental and unseen as insulation can add such significant, quantifiable and persistent energy and costs savings,” said Jared Blum, President of PIMA. “Since commercial buildings have a life span of 50 years and beyond, policy makers and the building community should focus improving building envelope performance to impact the future of this nation.”

Buildings produce over 1/3 of the U.S. emissions of global warming gasses. The study further showed that global warming emissions would have seriously been reduced with the increased insulation. The 281 million barrels of oil not burned would have prevented the emissions of 141 millions tons of CO₂, 325,000 tons of SO₂, and 122,000 tons of NOX.

About PIMA

PIMA is the national trade organization that advances the use of polyiso insulation, one of the most widely used and cost-effective insulation products in North America. PIMA’s membership consists of manufacturers and marketers of polyiso insulation, as well as suppliers to the industry. For more information about economic benefits of high thermal performing roofs, please visit the PIMA Web site at www.polyiso.org, or call 301-654-0000.