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# WHEN YOU ADD IT ALL UP... STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> BRAND RESIDENTIAL SHEATHING BOOSTS THE BOTTOM LINE

Homeowners consistently rank energy efficiency as a high priority when purchasing a new home. That's understandable, since the heating and cooling bill is the second highest monthly payment after the mortgage for many families. Most say they are willing to spend more for a home that will deliver energy savings year after year.

Cavity insulation is a good start, but it's not enough. Wood framing, ducts, wiring and plumbing – all poor insulators – make up more than 25 percent of a wall's surface. In a typical home, that's the equivalent of leaving an entire wall uninsulated. With an R-value\* of approximately 3.0 at nominal 1/2", STYROFOAM™ Brand Residential Sheathing Extruded Polystyrene Insulation on exterior walls boosts the effective R-value of the wall by 20%.



Studs account for 25 percent of the wall surface, leaving a quarter of the building with no thermal protection if an uninsulated sheathing is used.

STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Brand Residential Sheathing adds up to an investment that will pay for itself in just a few years, and continue to provide value for years to come. Using STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Brand Residential Sheathing could lead to fewer callbacks resulting in an enhanced reputation for builders.

### PROTECTION AGAINST MOISTURE AND AIR

Extruded polystyrene foam insulation like STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Brand Residential Sheathing is inherently resistant to moisture, which can wreak havoc on other building materials. Moisture can compromise the performance of cavity insulation and damage drywall, wood framing and OSB or plywood sheathing. STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Brand Residential Sheathing provides a one-two punch against moisture:

- Defends against wind-driven moisture penetrating a wall system, providing an effective layer of protection for wood components and cavity insulation.
- Moderates temperature in the wall cavity, reducing the potential for damaging moisture condensation to accumulate inside the wall cavity.

Air infiltration is the largest single cause of energy loss in most homes. Adding STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Brand Residential Sheathing to an exterior wall helps cover seams in the sheathing and gaps around windows and doors, providing a more complete barrier against air leakage.

### TOUGH FOR THE JOB

STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Brand Residential Sheathing is lightweight, making it easy to handle, but its thin plastic film coating enables it to withstand abuse during handling and around the job site. Yet it remains a simple matter to cut to size with a score and a snap. It can be placed directly over uninsulated studs using let-in bracing or metal strappings to provide the code-required lateral structural bracing, or as an insulating and weather barrier layer over wood panel sheathings such as OSB or plywood.

Adding STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Brand Residential Sheathing also provides a level, even surface for the exterior sheathing. With STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Brand Residential Sheathing on your next build, you'll offer homebuyers a winning combination of durability and long-term savings.

## KEEP HIGH ENERGY COSTS DOWN WITH STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> BRAND RESIDENTIAL SHEATHING

Call your Dow representative for more details.

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NOTICE: Changes to the International Residential Code require the installation of a water-resistive barrier (WRB) within most exterior wall assemblies in residential construction. The following Dow insulated sheathing products qualify as a WRB when installed according to the installation instructions developed for "installation of foam sheathing as a weather-resistive barrier": STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> DURAMATE<sup>™</sup> Plus, STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Square Edge, STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Residential Sheathing, STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Tongue and Groove, STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Square Edge, STYROFOAM<sup>™</sup> Residing Board, DOW<sup>™</sup> High Performance Underlayment, THERMAX<sup>™</sup> Sheathing, TUFF-R<sup>™</sup> and therefore do not require the use of a building paper or a housewrap as a WRB. When a WRB is not needed, these Dow foam sheathing may be installed according to standard installation instructions for foam sheathing from Dow. Be sure products and installation instructions requirements for your particular location. Note: WEATHERMATE<sup>™</sup> and WEATHERMATE<sup>™</sup> Plus Housewraps have already qualified as water-resistive alternatives to the prescribed felt (see Evaluation Reports NER-593 and NER-640 for approved alternative).

CAUTION: This product is combustible and shall only be used as specified by the local building code with respect to flame spread classification and to the use of a suitable thermal barrier. For more information, consult MSDS, call Dow at 1-866-583-BLUE (2583) or contact your local building inspector. In an emergency, call 1-989-636-4400.

Building and/or construction practices unrelated to building materials could greatly affect moisture and the potential for mold formation. No material supplier including Dow can give assurance that mold will not develop in any specific system.

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