# Spray Foam Opportunities and Challenges and..10 things you need to know.



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#### Peter Birkbeck

Codes and Standards Specialist - Engineering Division



#### Icynene Inc.

- Manufacturing operations located in Mississauga, ON
- Distributed in Western Canada by Shoemaker Drywall Supplies
- Icynene Classic (LD-C-50) was invented in Canada
- Icynene was incorporated in 1986
- Icynene product portfolio includes low-density and medium-density (water blown and blowing agent) spray foams
- Distributors / contractors in 30+ countries globally

Icynene is celebrating...
30 years in business this year!





# ICYNENES PROJUCTS VALUE SHOULD SUBJECT STANDARD SUBJECT STANDARD SUBJECT SUBJE

### **Dedicated Canadian Team**

- Sales Director
- Territory Managers
  - Western Canada
  - Eastern Canada
- Architectural/Commercial Sales
- Technical Services Representative
- Engineering Support: 3 in Canada



#### **Our Partners**

















# 6 Laws of Building Science

#### Eventually:

- 1. All concrete cracks
- 2. All steel rusts
- 3. All wood rots
- 4. All foundations settle
- 5. All windows leak
- 6. Always good to have friends in the practice of law



# Agenda

- Introduction to SPF chemistry
- · Advantages and applications
- Challenges
- Standards and Quality Assurance
- Project Examples
- 10 Things You Should Know..



# What is spray foam (SPF)? Liquid components that are sprayed or poured in place that expand into a polyurethane cellular plastic foam Aside (ISO) Leopenste (IO) (Polymote MO) (Polym

# Spray Foam Types Low Density Open Cell Soft, flexible foam Not a vapour barrier at any thickness Closed Cell Hard, rigid foam Vapour Barrier at 50 mm

# Spray Foam Types

- Soft, flexible foam

  0.5 lb., 0.75 lb., "1" lb. / cu. ft.

  Water as blowing agent

  Open Cell

  R 3.5 4.3 per inch

  Permits drying

  Allows water to drain

  Air barrier material

  Thicker passes



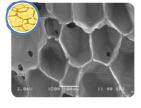
- Hard, rigid foam
   Two pound (2 lb.) / cu. ft.
   Captive blowing agent
   Closed Cell
   LTTR (min. 1.8 RSI for 50 mm)
   Barrier to vapour
   Barrier to bulk water
   Air barrier material
   Passes limited to 50 mm (maximum)

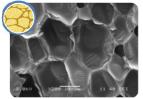
**Medium Density** 





# Under the Microscope





- Cell

- Cell



#### SPF Types – The Rest of the Story..

- Low Density
   High expansion (80 to 1 or more)
- Spray in one pass
- Easy to trim
- Full fill / scarf off excess in cavities if required



- Medium Density

  More controlled expansion (30 40 to 1)
- Spray in multiple passes
- Difficult to trim
- Typically under-fill cavities to avoid trimming





#### **Spray Foam Evaluations**

#### Low Density

#### **Medium Density**

- Both can be Evaluated by CCMC
  - Standardized materials: Evaluation Listing
    - Companion Installation standard must have been published
- Novel materials: covered by an
   Evaluation Report to a Technical Guide
- Both must be installed by trained and certified installers



# Installation Equipment





# Code Requirements Satisfied

- Thermal Protection
- Air Leakage Control
- Vapour Diffusion Control (ccSPF)
- Protection Against Wind-Driven Rain (ccSPF)
- Protection Against Surface and/or Ground Water (ccSPF)
- Sound Transmission Control (ocSPF)



## Advantages of Open Cell

- · Low Density Open Cell foams are soft and flexible
- Compatible with most building products
- · Generally will not absorb bulk water unless under hydrostatic pressure (grade / supplier dependent)
- · Greater sound attenuation vs. a rigid foam
- High "yield" (board feet per drum set)





# Open Cell Spray Foam

- Evolving standardization: CAN/ULC:
  - S712.1: (material; published)
  - S712.2: (installation, expected late 2016)
- CCMC Evaluation Reports available
- Used within the building enclosure or protected from weather
- · Very little compressive strength
- NOT A VAPOUR BARRIER!
- Can be applied at large pass thicknesses (up to 300 mm possible)



# **Applications**

#### **Complex Construction**



- · Facilitates air barrier continuity
- Foam expands into/around structural elements

#### Cantilevers

- Floor sheathing provides vapour barrier on interior
- Thermal barrier required in garage Services kept within the heated boundary





# **Applications**

#### **Basement walls**



- Thermal barrier required (ie. 12.5 mm gypsum board
- Vapour barrier required
- Damproofing required

- Crawispaces

  Thermal barrier may be required if other than concealed space
- Thermal barrier may be required (if used as a return air plenum or height > 1.8 m.)





# **Applications**

#### Sills & Headers

- Thermal barrier required
- Vapour barrier required



#### **Exterior walls**

- Thermal barrier required on interior
   Vapour barrier required





# **Applications**

#### Floor of Attic



- High R-values requiredVapour Barrier requiredFlexibility beneficial (truss uplift)

#### Unvented Attic ("Hot Roof")

- Thermal Barrier required if occupied space or cathedral ceiling)
- Vapour Barrier required
- Venting required?





# Advantages of Medium Density • Air Barrier material



- Vapour barrier: at 50mm
- High RSI (R)-value (LTTR\* <u>at 50 mm</u>):
  - Type 1: RSI 1.8 to 2.0,
  - Type 2: >/ = RSI 2.0
- Adheres to most common building materials
- High compressive strength ie. under slab
- Continuity of application: monolithic application
- Install to any total thickness; passes of 15 to 50 mm.



# Continuous Insulation



**ICYNENE** 

# **Continuous Insulation**



**ICYNENE** 

Cavity + Continuous Insulation	
ICYNENE The Evolution of Prolation	

# Challenges for SPF

#### Challenge

- Fire testing and combustibility
- VOC's
- Blowing agents and environmental impact
- Product stewardship

#### Solution

- Material and assembly fire
- VOC testing (with review)
- Water blown formulations, new blowing agents
- Installer Certification / QAP



# Challenges for SPF

- Higher Code-required RSI values:
  - Prescriptive values difficult with cavity insulation alone
     Is thermal bridging dealt with?
- Building energy reduction:
  - Via RSI-value or airtightness or both?
- Hybrid (SPF/fibre) assemblies: may be problematic
- · Prescriptive vapour barrier vs. assemblies that can dry
- · Approval process for innovations
  - Material
  - Applications ie. unvented roof / attic spaces



#### VOC's

- CAN/ULC S774:
  - required testing for an SPF product seeking any type of CCMC evaluation
  - may also include a toxicological review

5.5.10 Volatile Organic Emission

i.5.10.1 For formulations intended for use in inhabited spaces, the volatile organi ompound emissions from applied cellular plastic are to be tested and health hazards evaluate a accordance with the appropriate methods in CANULC-S774.

5.5.10.2 The volatile organic compound emissions shall be determined and their hea hazards evaluated in accordance with the appropriate methods selected by following t guidelines in CANULC-ST74.

5.5.10.3 The volatile organic compound emissions for cellular plastic shall not exceed to



#### VOC's

Third Party Testing (label):
- not required but becoming common, ie.

- UL Environment
  - GREENGUARD
    - Standards to certify products for low chemical emissions
- "California CDPH" testing
  - a.k.a. Spec. Section 01350
  - Often associated with rating systems: LEED, GreenGlobes, CHPS







### Sustainability

- LEED Credit contribution potential:
  - consult manufacturer
- Recycled content, renewable content
- Consult manufacturer
- Custom fit material with minimal waste
   drums can be re-conditioned or recycled
- Zero-Ozone-Depletion Potential (ODP) blowing agents
- Low Global Warming Potential (GWP) blowing agents
- Reduced transportation impacts (to site)
- Contribution to sealing building enclosure:
- more energy-efficient building operation



#### **Quality Assurance**





# S705 – Standard in Canada for Medium Density SPF

- CAN/ULC S705 series: (with any Amendments)
  - .1 = Material: performance, physical properties, identification, etc.
  - .2 = Application (Installation): equipment, site conditions, substrate preparation, testing documentation, waste handling, etc.
  - .3 = **Design:** (reserved for future)
- CCMC Listing is proof of compliance with code clauses
  - Refers to a Code Edition
- · Products must have means of identification (usually colour)



# S705.1- Material Requirements

- Density: Minimum 28 kg/m³
- LTTR Minimum of RSI 1.8 @ 50 mm ("Type 1")
- Flame Spread Maximum of 500
- $\bullet~$  Air Permeance (material) Maximum  $0.02~L/s.m^2$
- Tensile Strength Minimum of 200 kPa (29 psi)
- Compressive Strength Minimum of 170 kPa (25 psi)
- • Dimensional Stability - Maximum -0 / +14% (@70 C / 97 % RH)
- Water Absorption Maximum 4%
- Vapour Permeance Maximum 60 ng (1 perm)
- VOC: time to reoccupancy Max 30 days



# Quality Assurance • At Job Site (by Installers)

- - Density Testing, Adhesion Testing, Cohesion testing
  - Daily Work Record
  - Job Site Label
- At Factory (possibilities)
   ISO 9000

  - Follow-up service agencies (listings: periodic inspections)
- - Training and licencing of installers (personnel certifier)
  - Auditing training
  - Site inspections





# **QAP** Requirements







# **Icynene QAP**

- Provided by Morrison Hershfield
  - 13 offices across Canada
  - Bilingual services
  - Associated building enclosure practice
    - Provide technical support as well as QAP
- Installers are trained, evaluated and are issued ID





#### **Protection of Foamed Plastics**

#### Code Language:

- ""..foam plastics...shall be protected from adjacent space by any thermal barrier meeting the requirements of 9.10.17.10 (3.1.5.12.(2)(e))""
  - Prescriptive:
    - Gypsum board, plaster, various wood panel products, sheet metal, etc.
  - Products meeting CAN/ULC S124 (3.1.5.12.(2)(e)):
    - · cementitious-based (thick coatings)
    - · some fibre products
    - some coatings (Alternative Solution)



# **Emerging Code Trends**

- Energy
- NECB (ASHRAE 90.1)
  - Medium Density SPF provides a high performance economical solution to:
    - Continuous Air Barrier
    - Continuous Insulation (permanent & substantial contact)
    - Reduces thermal bridging, higher effective R-Value of wall



#### Continuous Insulation - Can Achieve This

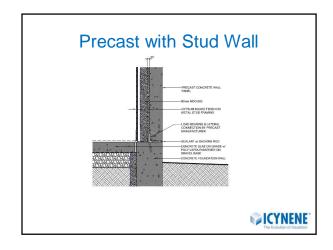




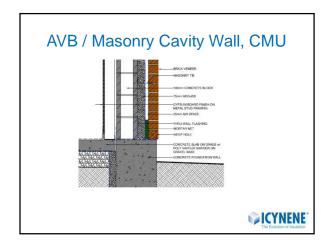


# **Project Examples**

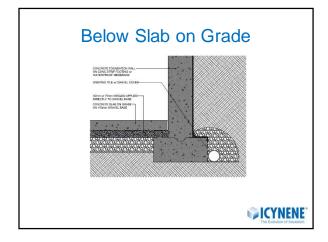
















Backpan Insulation	
ICYNENE* The Executor of Paramote	
10 Things You Should Know	
The Cresulon of Insulation	1
• Meets usual material criteria of less than 0.02 L/s.m² at 75 Pa • Check:  - At what thickness?	

ICYNENE\*

### ocSPF has CCMC Reports

- Is an opinion
- Is an Alternative Solution
- However, many legacy Reports go back 10-20-30 years





### ocSPF is becoming standardized

- S712.1(material)
  - First published 2010
  - Latest Edition 2016
- S712.2 (installation)
- Expected late 2016 (?)
- When will appear in NBC?

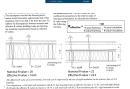




#### Effective RSI-value: can use actual

- ccSPF
  - The Table values are conservative
    - SPF: reflect the minimum LTTR requirement
    - Use actual tested value:
       Up to 10% greater
      - Up to 10% greater thermal resistance possible







#### There is a Standard for QAP

- All QAP providers must follow this ULC Standard
- It is not referenced in the Building Code
- Provider may be asked to confirm, by CCMC





#### Look up SPF contractor/installer credentials

- mhqap.com
- cufca.ca
- foamexperts.ca





#### Beware US test data

- Clues:
  - spread
  - Small numerical values
  - No LTTR for ccSPF - No colour declared for ccSPF
  - No metric units
  - Page 1 inconsistent with Page 2
  - FR doesn't match EN



CCMC CERTIFICATION PROGRAM,



### Flame Spread: S102 or S127?

- · Code criteria:
  - Less than 500
  - Often see both on a data sheet
  - The numerically greater value must be used





# ccSPF: Crowded Colour Space

- Many manufacturers
   Credit: Materials assembled
  - by Exova
- Colours fade quickly
- Should use other means to confirm:
  - Daily Work Record
  - Job Site Label





# CAN/ULC S705.1: no Types (2015)

- "Typing" often appears in project specifications
- Only remaining criteria:
  - For LTTR (50 mm):
    - not less than 1.80





#### Foamed Plastic to Ductwork

- Effective NBC 2015
  - When stated conditions are met
  - Some jurisdictions allowing now as an Alternative Solution
- Foamed plastic insulation conforming to Article 9.25.2.2 is permitted to be use o insulate a galvanized steel, stainless steel or aluminum air duct, provided at the formation of the property is not provided to a runk during the property is not less than
- b) the temperature within the ductwork where the insulation is installed not greater than 50°C.

  Aust foints are taught with a product conforming to Sentence 9.33.6.3.(1)
- d) return air plenums are separated from the foamed plastic insul
  e) the foamed plastic insulation is protected
  i) by one of the interior finishes described in
- Subsections 9.29.4, to 9.29.9, ip provided the building does not contain a Group C major eccapancy, by sheet metal that is mechanically fastened to the supporting assembly independent of the insulation, is not less than 0.38 mm thick and has a melting point of econ.
- 650°C or more, or
   iii) by any thermal barrier that moets the requirements of Clause 3.1.5.15.(2)(e).



#### Thermal barriers: Alternatives

- Some products do comply with the prescriptive criteria (\$124 test):
  - Thick coatings (several)
  - Mineral fibre (x2)
  - Thin coatings (x1)
- Any CCMC report:
  - An alternative solution
  - Read Scope and Limitations carefully





# SPF and soil gas barrier?

- No materials referenced in NBC 2015 9.13.4.2
- No tests referenced for soil gas barrier material
  - However, is under study
- Solution:
  - Provide an air barrier system

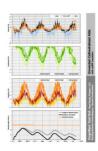
9.13.4.2.	Protection from Soil Gas Ingress
	<ol> <li>All wall, not and floor assembles separating conditional space from the ground shall be protected by an air barrier system conforming to Subsection 9.25.3.</li> </ol>
	2) Unless the space between the air barrier system and the ground is designed to be accessible for the finite installation of a subfloor depresentization system, during access and sulfarge containing ensistential companies shall be provided with the rough in for a ration outstantion system conforming to Article 9.33.43.
- 1	2) Where haldings are used for compresse other than those discretibed in Sentence CB; procedum from section ringers and the sasars to address high radian concentrations in the fature shall conform to.  3. Article 2.15.8.3, or  3. Print's And 6 (see Article 8.4.1.1 and 8.2.1.1.). [Bee Now A.6.1.4.2.(1)].
	Providing for the Rough-in for a Subtleor Depressurization System (See Nov. 44114.1)



#### Unvented Roofs Can Work

- · Studied roof/attic spaces in a "test hut" scenario
  - Instrumented
- Climate Zone 4/5







### **Unvented Roofs Can Work**

- Opened up actual installations
- · Low "mould index"
- No damaging moisture content
  - Instrumented
  - Measured
  - Visual





# **SPF Summary**

- Opportunity to simplify construction and meet Code with a material that serves multiple functions, control of any / all of:
  - Heat flowAir flow

  - Moisture (bulk)
  - Moisture (vapour)
- More mainstream use of SPF, moving beyond solving specific
- SPF is a thoroughly tested material
- Third-party oversight of training and Quality Assurance process



Thanks for Your Attention	
Questions / Discussion	
pbirkbeck@lcynene.com 800.758.7325 www.lcynene.com	
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