

Builder/Architect

Green Building

Insulate Green

Homeowners Save Up to 50 Percent on Utility Bills

By Valerie Okunami

Title 24 Energy Regulations force builders to seek better ways to insulate their homes. The standard fiberglass batts will not pass the code changes. In the last several years, spray-applied, soy-based foam has become the emerging environmentally responsible technology in insulation. With its farm-grown content and ability to form a complete seal, soy foam is emerging as an insulation of choice

among builders. Here's why.

Initially starting off as a liquid, upon application the insulation expands to 100 times its original size, thus conforming to any shape or size space, even the smallest crevice. This creates a water and airtight seal, eliminating mold and mildew growth, reducing outside noise and effectively eliminating outside dust and allergens. And, most importantly, the tight seal

maintains temperatures more evenly, thereby greatly reducing utility bills and the need for sizable heating and air systems.

Soy-based insulation is also environmentally friendly, both in its make-up and means of application. Since the insulation uses soybean oil as its base, the demand for oil and gas drops. It also contains no formaldehyde and significantly less petroleum content than other

Bill Hester, Fleet Manager and General Superintendent, Mike Jenson, Production Manager and Gary Talbott, owner of Five Star Performance Insulation.





foam insulations. It is a water-blown foam, containing no harmful propellants, such as CFCs or HCFCs that are believed to be harmful to the ozone layer and people as well.

Five Star Performance Insulation are specialists in high-performance, environmentally sensitive and recycled, spray-insulation products like this. Gary Talbott, owner, has been an insulation contractor in California, Arizona and Pennsylvania for over 30



years. He has also appeared on *This Old House*, been featured in numerous magazines and has appeared on local Sacramento television shows

like *Good Day Sacramento*.

Builders count on 5 Star Performance Insulation for several reasons. Their level of experience and service is second to none. Everyone is thoroughly and professionally trained in applying spray insulation. Their service and products are also guaranteed for the life of the structure. Service area covers Lake Tahoe to the Pacific Ocean. Unique and unusual applications are part of their normal workday as are multi-million-dollar super custom homes throughout Northern California. Five Star Performance Insulation is also a PGE/SMUD-approved contractor and recognized by the California Energy Commission as leaders in their field.

For more information on how you can benefit by building with green insulation, call Gary Talbott at (916) 416-5170, or visit them at www.5starperinsul.com. They have offices in Stockton, Truckee and Sacramento. SCL#739707. ■



REFERENCES

- Grupe Development (209)473-6116
- Kimball Hill (916) 525-4100
- Lakemont Homes (916) 478-2990
- Treasure Homes (916) 773-5581
- FCB Homes (209) 957-8112