Fiber Glass and Rock Wool and Slag Wool Loose-Fill Insulation
For Weatherization Assistance Programs

Fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation products qualify for use in the Weatherization Assistance Program. While there are several types of insulations typically used for the weatherization market none has the many advantages of loose-fill fiber glass or rock wool and slag wool insulation. Fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool loose-fill insulation have proven to be a smart choice for the homeowner and insulation contractor.

THE ADVANTAGES

Recycled Content
Fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation can meet the federal government’s recycled content requirements.\textsuperscript{1} Today’s fiber glass insulation products contain upwards of 40% recycled glass and are made from sand, a highly renewable resource. Slag wool insulation contains approximately 70-75% recycled blast furnace slag. Manufacturers of cellulose, a common insulating material, may claim their product is 100% recycled, but at least 20% (by weight) of the final product is fire-retardant chemicals.

R-value
Blown-in fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation products can achieve up to an R-15 in a 2x4 cavity and an R-23 in a 2x6 cavity – more than any other traditional loose-fill insulation on the market today.

Loose-fill fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation can be blown with most types of pneumatic machines and provide the R-value needed to meet the building codes. Once installed they work for the life of the building with negligible settling and no maintenance.
Coverage
Loose-fill fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation products can be blown with most types of pneumatic machines and provide the equivalent R-value with less material than cellulose.

Air Infiltration
Research has shown that air infiltration is dependent on the overall sealing package, and not the insulation type installed in the wall cavity. Recent testing indicates that loose fill fiber glass insulation performs as well, if not better, than other loose fill insulations under identical conditions.

Light Weight
Some loose fill insulations are heavier than others and their installed weight may not be safe for the application. Loose-fill fiber glass can be installed to an R-70 over ½ inch ceiling drywall with 24 inch on-center framing. Based on U.S. Gypsum weight limit recommendations for back loaded standard drywall and the installed density of shredded newspaper insulations, cellulose insulation may cause ceiling drywall to sag at high R-values when installed over ½ inch ceiling drywall with framing spaced 24 inches on centers.

Settling
Fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation products exhibit virtually no signs of settling or R-value loss over time. On the other hand, another traditionally used loose-fill insulation, cellulose, settles up to 20% and requires compensation for settling during installation.

Sound Control
Fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation reduce sound transmission in wall, ceiling, and floor assemblies by approximately 4 to 6 STC points. Insulation thickness has a more significant effect on STC ratings than does density. According to the Institute for Research on Construction, wall systems containing sprayed-on and blown-in cellulose fiber demonstrated greater variation in performance than those with other types of insulation. These variations were attributed to differences in installation (which is difficult to control) rather than to differences in the acoustical properties of the materials.

Moisture Absorption
Under normal conditions, all insulation is exposed to humidity in the air. Fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation products will not wick up and hold water, thus they resist permanent loss of R-value. This also lessens the chances of mold growth, mildew or rotting issues.

Corrosiveness
Fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation products contain no chemicals that can corrode pipes and wires and structural metal components. When chemical fire retardants are used, such as those found in cellulose insulation, corrosion can occur.

Fire Performance
Fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation products are naturally noncombustible since they are made primarily from sand, recycled glass, rock wool and blast furnace slag. Cellulose insulation is made of pulverized newspaper that is highly combustible. Cellulose insulation is regulated as a fire hazard by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

Product Testing for Health Safety
Fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation products are the most thoroughly tested building materials in use today. The great amount of medical scientific evidence compiled over more than 70 years by industry, government, and independent research organizations supports the conclusion that these insulation products are safe to use when manufacturers’ recommended work practices are followed.

Other loose-fill insulations typically used for weatherization programs have limited health and safety testing.

Recyclable
Fiber glass, rock wool and slag wool insulation can be recycled and reused.
For information on additional fiberglass, rock wool and slag wool insulation products for residential & commercial building contact:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Website</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aislantes Minerales, S.A. de C.V.</td>
<td>Descartes #104, Neua Anzures, 11590 D.F., México</td>
<td>52-55-1036-0640</td>
<td><a href="http://www.rolan.com">www.rolan.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amerrock Products LP</td>
<td>440 Jackrabbit Road, Nolanville, TX 76559</td>
<td>800-762-9665</td>
<td><a href="http://www.amerrock.com">www.amerrock.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CertainTeed Corp.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 860, Valley Forge, PA 19482</td>
<td>800-233-8990</td>
<td><a href="http://www.certainteed.com">www.certainteed.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FiberTEK Insulations, LLC</td>
<td>925 South 4400 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84104</td>
<td>801-973-9423</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fibertekinsulation.com">www.fibertekinsulation.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fibrex Insulations Inc.</td>
<td>561 Scott Road, Sarnia, Ontario, Canada N7T 7L4</td>
<td>800-265-7514</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fibrexinsulations.com">www.fibrexinsulations.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Insulation Group, LLC</td>
<td>2100 Line Street, Brunswick, GA 31520</td>
<td>912-264-6372</td>
<td><a href="http://www.iig-llc.com">www.iig-llc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolatex International</td>
<td>41 Furnace Street, Stanhope, NJ 07874</td>
<td>973-347-1200</td>
<td><a href="http://www.isolatek.com">www.isolatek.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johns Manville</td>
<td>P.O. Box 5108, Denver, CO 80217</td>
<td>00-654-3103</td>
<td><a href="http://www.jm.com">www.jm.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knauf Insulation</td>
<td>One Knauf Drive, Shelbyville, IN 46176</td>
<td>800-825-4434</td>
<td><a href="http://www.knaufinsulation.us">www.knaufinsulation.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owens Corning</td>
<td>One Owens Corning Parkway, Toledo, OH 43659</td>
<td>800-GET-PINK</td>
<td><a href="http://www.owenscorning.com">www.owenscorning.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roxul Inc.</td>
<td>551 Harrop Drive, Milton, Ontario, Canada L9T 3H3</td>
<td>800-265-6878</td>
<td><a href="http://www.roxul.com">www.roxul.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermafiber, Inc.</td>
<td>3711 Mill Street, Wabash, IN 46992</td>
<td>888-834-2371</td>
<td><a href="http://www.thermafiber.com">www.thermafiber.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USG Interiors, Inc.</td>
<td>550 West Adams Street, Chicago, IL 60661</td>
<td>312-436-4000</td>
<td><a href="http://www.usg.com">www.usg.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fiberglass, rock wool and slag wool are made from a combination of natural and recycled ingredients such as basaltic rock, blast furnace slag, recycled glass cullet and sand. The natural ingredients, sand and rock, are readily available. The use of blast furnace slag and glass cullet are recycled materials that are transformed into a product that saves energy and reduces pollution.
References:

1. 5.3 PROCUREMENT OF BUILDING INSULATION PRODUCTS AND MATERIALS CONTAINING RECOVERED MATERIALS: Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA), states that if a procuring agency using Federal funds purchases certain designated items, such items must be composed of the highest percentage of recovered materials practical. On February 17, 1989, the EPA promulgated the Final Rule containing the guidelines for the procurement of building insulation products. Policy guidance was issued by the DOE on February 16, 1990, providing further clarification on this issue.


10. 16 C.F.R. 460.12(b)(2).


