



**For Immediate Release: August 9, 2006**

***Seal the deal with Icynene<sup>®</sup> dual-performing insulation and air barrier system***

(Toronto, ON) Accredited third party testing confirms that Icynene<sup>®</sup> soft foam insulation is an effective air barrier material. Performed by Bodycote Materials Testing Canada in accordance with ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) E2178-03, five specimens of The Icynene Insulation System<sup>®</sup> were tested separately to verify the product's performance as an air barrier.

To qualify as an air barrier, a material must allow an air leakage rate of no more than 0.02 L/s/m<sup>2</sup> at a differential pressure of 75 Pa. Open-cell foams like Icynene<sup>®</sup> generally require an application of 5.5 inches to pass the minimum requirements and qualify as an air barrier. Applied at only one-inch thickness, Icynene<sup>®</sup> surpassed the requirements with an air permeance rating of 0.016 L/s/m<sup>2</sup> @ 75 Pa.

Air leakage can account for up to 40% of a home's heating and cooling costs<sup>1</sup>. In the average home, typical areas through which air escapes include joints at windows, cracks at doors, ductwork and chimney leaks. To avoid this loss, the U.S. Department of Energy recommends the use of an effective, continuous air barrier system, as well as insulation.

The most common air barrier used in North America is house wrap, an additional material which increases the cost and time of a building project. The performance of house wrap as a continuous air barrier can be compromised (up to 20%) if all holes and seams are not properly sealed.<sup>2</sup>

Because it is applied during construction, house wrap is not a practical solution

(more...)



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for existing homes requiring additional air-sealing. Fortunately, there is an air barrier product available to trade professionals that can insulate and air seal in one step, facilitating the construction process and optimizing home performance.

Without the need for additional material, Icynene<sup>®</sup> performs as both insulation and an effective air barrier system. Filling and sealing crevices that compromise airtightness, Icynene<sup>®</sup> minimizes air leakage through the building envelope and helps reduce heating and cooling loads on mechanical equipment. This allows for the installation of smaller, less expensive equipment and can save homeowners as much as 50% on monthly energy bills. With up to 99% of moisture carried in the air, controlling random air leakage also helps prevent moisture build-up and subsequent problems such as mold growth and premature structural deterioration. Starring in this dual role, Icynene<sup>®</sup> is a top-performer in any home.

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**About Icynene Inc.**

Icynene Inc. is the leading manufacturer of soft foam insulation products that are designed to help create Healthier, Quieter, More Energy Efficient<sup>®</sup> homes. These products are distributed (across the United States, Canada, Mexico, Japan, and Korea) through a network of Icynene Licensed Dealers who then install the Icynene products on-site for each custom application. For more information about Icynene, visit [www.icynene.com](http://www.icynene.com).

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<sup>1</sup> [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov)

<sup>2</sup> EERE Consumer's Guide: Air Barriers, <http://www.eere.energy.gov>