

# SPRAY FOAM INSULATION: HELPING ACHIEVE SUSTAINABILITY

Insulation, like all building products, has an 'embodied' carbon footprint resulting from energy use during the manufacturing process. **However, spray foam insulation is a highly energy-efficient product and quickly offsets its manufacturing footprint.**

## What Is Embodied Carbon?

Embodied carbon is the measurement of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) released to manufacture a product.



## How Does Spray Foam's Environmental Payback Compare to Other Insulation and Air Sealing Products?

Compared to other insulation and air sealing products, the environmental payback period for spray foam can be as little as 7 to 8 years. With the typical insulation life span of 75 years, this means that spray foam can save energy for generations.<sup>1</sup>

**Environmental payback** = the amount of time needed for a product to offset its embodied carbon.

**All insulation products help offset embodied carbon by reducing the energy needed to heat or cool a building, but not all insulation products are equally effective at doing this.**

### Benefits of Spray foam:

- Spray foam is the only product that insulates and air seals the thermal envelope without requiring additional products.
- Spray foam does not sag or settle over time like other insulation products.
- Spray foam can be used to bring the ductwork in attics into the conditioned space of the building, further increasing the energy efficiency of the building.

**These qualities allow spray foam to better reduce carbon emissions during the use phase and offset embodied carbon in a shorter period of time than other products.**

## THE CHOICE IS CLEAR!

With a low environmental payback and substantial greenhouse gas emissions reductions during the use phase, the choice is clear. **Spray foam is a premier all in one insulation and air barrier solution.**

<sup>1</sup>Counting Carbon: Demand a Better Insulation for your Next Home



Spray Foam Coalition