Insulation Matters!

ICANZ Purpose:
The issues of energy supply, energy efficiency, climate change and sustainability are now high on the agendas of Governments, Councils and Industry. Insulation has an important role to play to address these issues.

And insulation is not just about energy efficiency. Importantly it provides increased comfort, better health and well being for building occupants for the full building life.

ICANZ is actively involved in the advocacy of these issues at Local, State and Federal levels of Government on matters of policy development.

Insulation plays a fundamental role in good building design but it is only part of the total product mix. ICANZ works closely with other allied organisations both locally and overseas to provide better data and cost-effective energy efficient solutions for buildings.

ICANZ members are committed to meeting the latest provisions of the insulation performance standard AS/NZS 4859.1 and producing products that last for life.

The progressive introduction of regulations for minimum energy requirements in residential and commercial buildings has unearthed a significant lack of knowledge of energy efficient design and insulation performance.

The recently published **INSULATION HANDBOOK, Part 1: Thermal Performance** is produced to provide education and information to assist building professionals to better understand insulation applications and performance.

For further information contact info@icanz.org.au

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### Principles

- Research and Education
- Advocacy and Promotion
- Performance
- Health and Well Being
- Energy Efficiency and Economic Value
- Sustainability
- Environment and Conservation

For more information visit our website at: www.icanz.org.au
## Insulation Matters!

### Environmental benefits:
1. Buildings account for over 20% of Australia’s GHG emissions.
2. Energy consumption in buildings is growing faster than most other areas of use.
3. Insulation is the most cost-effective way of reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions in the built environment.
4. Insulating buildings (new and existing) is the most financially attractive of all energy efficiency and renewable energy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
5. Insulation alone can cut Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions by up to 5%.
6. Current insulation production technology is proven and available now. Insulating insulation has an immediate impact on energy demand and GHG emissions.
7. A response to climate change demands well-insulated new and existing buildings.

### Social Benefits:
1. People spend a great proportion of their lives in buildings. Insulation provides more than energy efficiency. Thermal and acoustic insulation play important roles in improving the quality of life by providing environments that are more comfortable – this leads to greater productivity at work.
2. Studies show that well-insulated buildings provide a healthier environment by controlling temperature and noise levels.

### Social Benefits continued:
3. By reducing household and business running costs, energy saving from insulation can provide a buffer to other cost of living increases.
4. Insulation protects and improves the quality of life of the elderly and socially disadvantaged.

### Economic benefits:
1. Insulation reduces average home heating and cooling costs by around 30%.
2. Insulation reduces the burden of increasing energy prices.
3. The cost of installing insulation already pays for itself in around 3-5 years through reduced energy bills, and payback time will improve as energy costs rise.
4. The right insulation is a once-only cost that lasts for the life of the building (typically 50–70 years) and requires no further maintenance.
5. Saved energy is the most sustainable energy.
6. Insulated buildings reduce the need for additional power generation, capacity by “smoothing out” the peaks in energy demand.
7. Well-insulated homes have reduced need for air-conditioning.
8. Insulation improves property values and has been shown to increase the return on rented and leased properties.
9. Insulation is not expensive. To insulate the ceilings and walls of a typical house costs less than 1% of the construction cost.

### Glasswool and Rockwool insulation products:
1. Glasswool and Rockwool products represent greater than 60% of all insulation used worldwide.
2. For over 70 years Glasswool and Rockwool insulation products have proven to deliver successful performance. They are widely considered the insulation products of choice across the residential, commercial and industrial building sectors.
3. Glasswool and Rockwool insulation products offer the most diverse and tested range of insulation products covering the widest range of applications.
4. Up to 80% of the content used to manufacture Glasswool and Rockwool insulation comes from recycled materials. And the bulk of virgin materials used are either abundantly available or from renewable sources.
5. Insulation puts energy back into the economy. Energy saved by installing Glasswool and Rockwool insulation is between 100 – 400 times greater than the energy used to manufacture these products.
6. Glasswool and Rockwool insulation has been exhaustively tested and have been shown to be safe to use and install. No other insulation material has been subjected to such rigorous examination nor do other insulation materials have as comprehensive research data relating to human impact.
7. Glasswool and Rockwool insulation products are guaranteed to perform for the life of the building.