



7315 Wisconsin Ave., Ste. 400E
Bethesda, MD 20814
PHONE: (301) 654-0000
FAX: (301) 951-8401
www.polyiso.org

Improved Energy Standard Will Have Unprecedented Impact
ASHRAE Increases Minimum Required Roof and Wall Insulation Levels By 33%

New York City, NY, January 22, 2008 – For the first time in over 19 years, ASHRAE (The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers) announced today an increase to the minimum required prescriptive R-value (resistance to heat flow) for roof and wall insulation levels in Standard 90.1 – the national model energy code for commercial buildings. The above-deck roof insulation requirements currently at **R-15 go to R-20 – an increase of 33%** – in every climate zone in the U.S. Similar increases were approved for walls.

“ASHRAE is to be commended for establishing a new benchmark for building energy efficiency,” said Jared Blum, President of PIMA. “According to the Department of Energy commercial buildings and homes account for 40% of the energy consumed in the United States. The increased values establish a new national standard minimum against which all codes can be compared and pave the way for buildings with improved efficiency and decreased carbon footprint.”

The increased roof and wall insulation values apply to all commercial and high-rise residential buildings covered by Standard 90.1. These changes now become a part of the newest edition of the Standard – 90.1-2007.

“Recognizing the economic and environmental benefits achieved by increasing building thermal performance, many architects and contractors across the country are already installing insulation at levels that exceed these values. Those architects and designers seeking beyond-code recognitions (such as LEED, Energy Star, Building America, etc.) will now go even further to deliver advanced building envelopes with higher levels of insulation,” added Blum.

For a copy of the Standard 90.1-2007 visit the [ASHRAE bookstore](#).

About the ASHRAE Standard

The ASHRAE Standard addresses building envelope and system requirements for commercial buildings, residential buildings higher than three stories, and semi-conditioned buildings (warehouses, etc.). It is the nation’s model standard for establishing the energy performance requirements of these building types.

About PIMA

For 20 years, the Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA) has served as the unified voice of the rigid polyiso industry proactively advocating for safe, cost-effective, sustainable and energy efficient construction. PIMA’s members, who first came together in 1987, include a synergistic partnership of polyiso manufacturers and industry suppliers. Polyiso is one of the Nation’s most widely used and cost-effective insulation products available.

For continued updates and additional information on this important topic visit www.polyiso.org, or contact a polyiso manufacturer.