

# HOW SAFE IS SPRAY FOAM?

## THIRD PARTY TESTING

In response to the demand for more energy efficient, durable and healthier homes, builders and designers now have an innovative yet proven system called AIRTIGHT SPRAYFOAM® to create a superior building envelope to act as the basic building block to meet that demand.

Unrelated to AIRTIGHT SPRAYFOAM® and most modern two component closed cell polyurethanes, urea formaldehyde foams have left a legacy of inadequate thermal performance, poor durability and unacceptable health and safety risks. AIRTIGHT SPRAYFOAM® never has and never will have urea formaldehyde as a component of our spray foam system.

As a result of this past performance, modern formulations of spray polyurethane foam, including AIRTIGHT SPRAYFOAM®, have undergone extensive scientific scrutiny. The conclusions of this research underscore the superior performance and safety of this durable, dependable building product.

A study conducted by the Fire Safety Center of the University of San Francisco, underwritten by NASA, stated that "...the

unusual toxic effects (of spray polyurethane foam) that have been publicized appear to be encountered only under very specific test conditions" and "raises a degree of doubt as to whether such unusual toxic effects would be encountered in many or any fire situation". Natural cellulosic materials (such as the wood in the framing members of your home and cotton) were determined to be some of the most toxic when burned, of all the 300 materials commonly found in a home tested during this University of San Francisco study.

In addition to the scrutiny of spray polyurethane foam under hazardous fire conditions, "outgassing" or the presumed leaching of blowing agent into the indoor environment has been a topic of much discussion. Research conducted at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Medicine concluded, "A fully cured polyurethane foam contains no residual isocyanate or polyol and, in contrast to the urea formaldehyde foams, present no problems of bleed-off toxic products". The findings of this research reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association by the physicians who conducted the tests went on further to state, " There is no evidence of toxicity in occupants of homes insulated with fully-cured polyurethane."

Proven, durable and safe, AIRTIGHT SPRAYFOAM® is the product of choice for modern home builders and the informed public who wish to have an environmentally conscious, safe and operationally efficient home that will bring a comfortable, safe living environment for the life of their home.



### BUILDING: CODES AND EXPECTATIONS

In many communities local building codes may dictate other applications or variations on the approach described here. The building code exists to insure that accepted construction practices are followed and certain minimums in performance standards are met. They also exist to benchmark innovative applications and concepts to make sure buildings are built safely with sound construction technique.

