Message from SWICA President
Daniel King
Bay Insulation

As SWICA President the message for the newsletter may be too much you want to say and other times maybe not enough. But this month there’s plenty of updates and progress I would like to share with our members. In an effort to keep my message simple as possible, I have noted the short/bullet version. Which hopefully brings awareness to continuing efforts making our organization “better serving” for our members. To start, we are very proud that the new SWICA website is up and running and more interactive. Linked to social media, links to all members websites and other industry associations. Just too much to list, so please visit our website and see all that has been done. But keep in mind, still more to be done and suggestions welcomed. Our 2019 Expo and Craft Competition is fast approaching. We are very pleased and excited with the number of exhibitors with limited space left. So if you have not registered yet as an exhibitor please contact us ASAP. All the event times for the craft competitions and expo are in this newsletter. So make note, save the date and spread the word to attend. There is more to come and work in progress for the SWICA association. Over the next few

Cryogenic Competitors get registered TODAY! There are to be 3 man teams including a foreman in 3 bays allowing 6 competing teams. Two flights contestants AM group to arrive at 7 AM for safety and orientation to compete 7:30-11 AM. All teams test 11:00 AM- Noon. Afternoon flight arrive at 10:30 AM for orientation and safety and compete 12:30-4:00 PM. Between 11 AM and 12:30 models will be stripped for PM competition. Sponsored lunch will be served to all competitors and attendees between 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM. All are encouraged to attend at no charge. Bring hardhats. Register to attend: www.swicaonline.org

(Continues page 2)
December 14, 2019 - SWICA BOD Meeting

Feehery WeBQN kitchen

January 15, 2019 Cryo Competition - Rilco Mfg

February 7, 2019 - SWICA EXPO/Bryon Sadler Craft Competition - Pasadena Convention Center

Pasadena, TX

months and by our 2019 conference in Boca Raton we will present more ideas to our members to encourage more PPE (Participate, Plan & Execute) and how we are going to do it. Which also includes bringing more informative content to our conferences, website and newsletter. Plus a few other things.. Stay tuned..

Just a quick thank you and welcome to all our new members that have recently joined our association. We are glad you have joined and look forward to having you involved and part of the SWICA family. Most importantly, being in the holiday season. All of us at SWICA wish everyone a very joyous and safe holiday season.

Happy Holidays.

Keep calm and carry on insulating.

Daniel King, SWICA President
Congratulations Scott Morris, Performance Contracting Group, Houston! Winner of the Combat Marine Outdoors Timberline 850 Grill drawing. With Golf Co-Chairs, Ralph Parrott, Owens Corning and John Harvey, Talon Products. SWICA’s Linda Tracey far right.

SWICA proudly support Combat Marine Outdoors with our event fund raising. Our golf tournament games and auction raised

- Kigar Company with Match from Alpha Engineered Products from the dunking booth raised $260
- And Diamonds in the Rough Sport Memorbilia raised $2515

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED $9,935
Sometimes the best amenities are the ones you don’t see

FastWrap™ XL

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Flexible, 1/2-inch thick optimizes installation costs and space
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Won’t age, become brittle, or shrink
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For nearly 40 years, our fire-rated enclosure systems have been providing peace of mind, while quietly protecting lives and investments. From our DryerWrap products - extensively used throughout multi-family housing ductwork - to our FastWrap XL products - for commercial kitchen exhaust and ventilation ducts - more people trust the FireMaster® family of products to hold the line.

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One Big Day for Mechanical Insulation - Thursday, February 7th at Pasadena Convention Center

2019 EXPO & Byron Sadler
Craft Competitions Schedule
Wednesday, February 6, 2019
7:00 AM – Noon - Phoenix decorating pipe/drape set up
Noon – 5:00 PM Exhibitor move in Pasadena Convention Center Exhibit Hall

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM – “Exhibitors Appreciation Reception” Exhibit Hall Pasadena Convention Center

Thursday, February 7, 2019
8:00 AM – 10:00 AM – Exhibitor final move in materials
10:00 – 11:00 AM – Peter Beard, Greater Houston Partnership – Workforce program

10: 30 AM – Rigid, Removable, Commercial Craft Competitors check in/orientation
11:00 AM – Morning flight of contestants report to models for installation competition
• Afternoon flight contestants report to written test room.
11:00 AM – Exhibit Hall Opens
11:30 – 2:00 – Lunch served
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11:30 – 2:00 – Lunch served
Noon – 1:00 PM – Ron King – Thermal Insulation Inspectors Program Certification
2:00 PM – Morning competitors report for testing, Afternoon flight of contestants report to models
2:00 – 3:00 PM – Michael Bergen Industrial Info Resources Update
5:00 PM – Competitions end. Contestants change to company shirts for Awards Ceremony
5:30 PM – Exhibits close. Awards Ceremony.
**Competitors Needed for All Competitions**

Cryogenic Competition will be offsite at Rilco Manufacturing on January 15th using PIR products. Trophy holder Apache Industrial

Rigid Competition will use an Aerogel product and the current Trophy holder to beat is BrandSafway

Removable/Reusable Pad competition current Trophy Holder to beat is Brock Group

The Commercial Competition current trophy holder is Building Specialties.

**Do You have what it takes to take the trophy away from the above and home for your company??**
Sponsors Needed

Byron Sadler
Craft Competition 2019

Our Byron Sadler Cryogenic Craft Competitions will be held off site at Rilco Manufacturing Facility at 12700 Tanner Road on January 15, 2019. Cryogenic competition winners will be presented again at the SWICA Expo and Rigid/Removable/Commercial competitions event February 7, 2019 at the Pasadena Convention Center. The Cryo Competitors will have a foreman and two insulators per model. We will have two rigid insulators per model and have refined the removable blanket competition with single or dual optional competitors and the same with the commercial competition. This year’s

Rigid, Removable and Commercial competitions will be held with the SWICA EXPO 2019 and accessible only in the exhibit hall at the Pasadena Convention Center. This is an expensive and timely event that the Craft Education Committee has spent endless hours preparing exams, building models and setting standards long before the actual execution of such an event. Our Expo and Competitions bring out virtually everyone in the mechanical insulation industry. This is your opportunity to show your support and help the Education Committee set new education and safety standards for our industry. Please join industry leaders by sponsoring this worthwhile event.

All sponsors will be graciously thanked, referenced in all printed data and banners will acknowledge their sponsorship at the event. Awards Program 5:00 PM at the close of the EXPO.

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- Offers metal crews more time to install the jacketing when a storm passes through*
- Provides flexibility that can save time and money during installation
- Includes XOX Corrosion Inhibitor® to help inhibit CUI

* See data page for complete details

NIA’s program provides a quality process metric for engineering/design firms, facility owners, and contractors to inspect mechanical insulation systems. The industry’s knowledge base is dwindling. This—in combination with the shortage of qualified labor, compressed construction schedules, modularization, and other factors—has contributed to an increasing need for independent review by trained and certified inspectors.

NIA’s Certified Insulation Inspectors dedicate their time to improving the industry by gaining their certification. They are the leaders in this area and are raising the bar for the entire industry.

PLATINUM Sponsor @ $3,500
GOLD Sponsor @ $2,500
SILVER Sponsor @ $1,500
BRONZE Sponsor $750

Contestant shirt sponsor $1500

‘Gift’ Patron (a gift for contestants)

These funds will not only support the costs of this competition, awards for contestants but support our new Scholarship program to provide registrations for the new Thermal Insulation Inspector Program.

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Strong Gains for Combined U.S. & Canadian Industrial Spending
RALEIGH, NC – October 1st, 2018

Research by Industrial Reports, Inc. shows combined U.S. and Canadian planned capital spending grew by 37 percent in September compared to August with $64.09 billion in spending for the two nations. August’s planned investment showed $46.74 billion. The research organization reported 218 planned U.S. and Canadian projects in September.

Planned U.S. project spending expanded by 44 percent in September with $55.66 billion in planned investment compared to the August total of $38.60 billion.

Process projects led U.S. spending with $41.60 billion in planned investment, followed by manufacturing projects with $8.28 billion. Power and energy projects reported $2.38 billion in planned U.S. spending.

In Canada, process projects led all markets with $6.69 billion in planned spending. Manufacturing projects accounted for $1.89 billion and power and energy projects showed $28 million.

Texas was the U.S. leader in planned investment for the month with $16.94 billion, followed by Ohio with $6.97 billion and Pennsylvania with $6.82 billion.

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In Canada, Alberta led the provinces and territories with $3.69 billion in planned spending. Québec reported $2.91 billion and Ontario reported $1.44 billion.

Texas was the leader in U.S. project activity with 22 planned projects. North Carolina reported 11 planned projects and Kentucky had nine.

Ontario led Canadian project activity with nine planned projects. Alberta reported five projects and British Columbia and Québec each had three.

Industrial Reports researches projects in the United States and Canada for companies that provide services, materials and equipment for new and expanding industrial facilities, including:

- Manufacturing Facilities
- Pharmaceutical Facilities
- Process Facilities   - Food Process Facilities
- Chemical Process Plants   - Pipelines
- Oil & Gas Projects   - Mines
- Research & Development Laboratories
- Distribution Facilities   - Energy Facilities
- Industrial Buildings
- Water/Wastewater Treatment Plants
- Solid Waste Facilities   - Plant Dismantlements

A summary of the most recent opportunities is available on-line at:

http://www.industrialreports.com/seereports.htm

Ontario:
Popular Stretch Fabric Display
Exhibit stress free with this brilliant, high-resolution stretch fabric display. Silhouette™ is an ultra-light weight tubular frame that assembles tool free with ExpoDisplays Build By Number™ Assembly system. The dye-sublimated fabric slips easily over the frame and provides a vibrant message in minutes. Silhouette™ is perfect for a variety of exhibiting options because it is easy to transport and set up. List Price is $1758 less your $300!! See full discounted 10’ exhibit line at www.expodisplays.com
Then call Linda Tracey - 218-435-3859
Welcome Aboard Prefab Innovations as new Distributor/Fabricator Member

Price Manufacturing Company originally founded in Northern California by Todd Price.

“As a skilled craftsman with over 20 years of “in the field” experience in the mechanical insulation industry, I understand the requirements of the insulator “in the field”. Guaranteed that all of our products fit properly, are less labor intensive to install and have the highest quality appearance available. “EXPECT THE BEST”.

In 2007, Price Manufacturing Corp. (Canadian Corporation) was born in Calgary, Alberta Canada whereby the Canadian market was serviced and the head quarters remain to PreFab Innovations LLC (wholly owned subsidiary of PMC) is a distributor for the products.

Price Manufacturing Corp. services the mechanical insulation contractors through their distributors globally. We provide quality specialty metal products of any gauge, thickness or type at competitive pricing and delivered to meet your schedule.

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Nanoparticles: The Next Asbestos?
Christine G. Barlow, FC&S Underwriters
Nanotechnology is a relatively new technology with the potential for significant impact on society. Nanoparticles have been around for hundreds of years, but the invention of microscopes that can see atomic-sized particles made it possible for scientists to develop a wide variety of uses.

Nanoparticles are extremely small. They are generally from 1 to 100 nanometers, that is, one-billionth of a meter. A two-nanometer-size particle is more than 10 billion times smaller than a red blood cell. For perspective, a human hair is 20,000 nanometers.

When materials are reduced to the nanoparticle level, they may have different properties, such as increased strength or making coatings more slippery. This change in properties makes it possible to deliver medication to specific areas, create a fabric that is stronger or that doesn’t wrinkle, or create medical bandages that fight bacteria, among other applications.

Nanoparticles can enhance consumer products, advance medical treatments, improve building components, and help in the cleanup of contaminated sites, for example. However, one downside is that the small size of nanoparticles allows them to enter the body through the skin, enter the bloodstream and cross the blood-brain barrier, pass through lung tissue, affect cells and accumulate in the air or soil, along with other potentially harmful effects. This possibility combined with the potential of the nanoparticles having different characteristics than the macroparticles raises some concerns about safety.

Toxicity and cancer
There are concerns that nanoparticles could lead to cancer. Toxicity depends on the type of nanoparticle...
and the type of exposure. Nanoparticles embedded in final products such as fabric may cause no problems, while the inhalation of powder could lead to complications similar to those found with asbestos.

Studies of titanium dioxide have shown that low toxicity particles of fine and ultrafine (nanoscale) sizes have exhibited pulmonary responses in exposed rats, including inflammation and lung tumors. Exposure to carbon nanotubes and nanofibers has shown similar results. Although there is no hard evidence that exposure to nanoparticles can eventually lead to cancer, the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has developed guidelines for workplaces to follow if employees are exposed to nanoparticles and posters that can be displayed in the workplace as well.

(Continues Page 18)
Ray Sears, SPI, LLC announces the successful sale of the Mechanical Insulation segment of Foundation Building Materials. Our name is now SPI - “Specialty Products & Insulation,” our legacy name and brand. This is an exciting development for SPI, one that will allow us to focus solely on our core business and become a platform for growth and expansion in the future.

As of today, we are a standalone company in the Dunes Point Capital portfolio. Dunes Point Capital is a family office and private investment firm based in Rye, New York with a mission to build great companies through vision and long-term commitment. Dunes Point is excited about acquiring SPI and committed to investing in and growing our business, while supporting our mission of being the distributor of choice in the industry.

SPI is now better positioned to accelerate our growth and expand our product portfolio while continuing to deliver exceptional levels of customer service and operational excellence to you. SPI will continue to be run by the same experienced management team and the same great teams in our branches and fabrication shops. You will begin seeing some changes, starting with the re-branding of our facilities and fleet. For now, it is business as usual with the team of people you know and the same great customer service, expansive branch network, and broad product offerings for which we are known. You have our commitment to keep you updated on future changes as we move forward.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We hope you are as excited about the future of SPI as we are. We look forward to continued growth with you as we work together in the future. If you have any questions, please let us know.
Welcome Iberia Insulation Inc. as New Contractor Member

3 Generations of Mechanical Insulation
The Rogero family entered into the mechanical insulation industry in 1951. We are honored to be a pillar in the industry. Iberia Insulation stands prepared to get underneath your mechanical insulation needs.

Mechanical Insulation Masters
Iberia Insulation will actively participate and accept any/all invitations to mechanical

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18107 N. Eldridge Parkway
Tomball, TX 77377
832-334-6861
Ian Rogero
ian@iberiainsulationusa.com
www.iberiainsulationusa.com
Welcome Integrity Products & Supplies Inc. as New SWICA Associate Member

Integrity Products creates, manufactures and distributes world-class products for various industries, including NDT, Oil and Gas, Petrochemical, Pulp and Paper, and Power Generation. Core products include our patented inspection access ports Integrity Plugz™, and our growing line of Corrosion Under Insulation (CUI) Products. Our company is driven by the desire to innovate and has a proven commitment to research and development that has given us a reputation of responsiveness and the ability to customize product solutions for our customers.
Petrin’s David Gottlich and Debra Barrett will be married December 29th. We’ve loved getting to know Debra and so happy for David to have been blessed with this new life! Congratulations to this great couple!
Control exposures

Dry powders present the most potential for exposure, either through the skin or through inhalation. Likewise, nanomaterials suspended in liquids have the potential for inhalation when in spray form.

Various controls are recommended for various exposures. Fume hoods, ventilated bagging stations, exhaust vents, ventilated spray booths, downdraft tables and wet cutting or machining are all recommended ways to control exposure.

The use of procedures when handling nanoparticles is recommended, as well as training workers on the risks of exposure and how to handle the materials. The use of personal protective equipment is recommended when other measures can’t guarantee safety. The use of gloves, lab coats or coveralls, safety glasses or face shields, and respiratory protection are
all recommended for workers who may be exposed to the particles.

Exposure to asbestos presents a known risk of cancer, although it took several decades of exposure before bans were put in place. The Environmental Protection Agency banned it in 1989, overturned that ban in 1991 and put a new ban in place in 2000. The EU and France banned all forms of asbestos in 1998. The United States is considering allowing some specific uses of asbestos once again, even though new cases of mesothelioma, which is caused by exposure to asbestos, continue to occur.

Early warning
It’s important to control the exposure of workers to nanomaterials as much as possible. Because of the studies so far, NIOSH has set an acceptable exposure limit of one microgram per cubic meter of elemental carbon as a respirable mass eight-hour time-weighted concentration. The exposure to raw materials is different from exposure to sunscreen and other end products, but nanomaterials may not be completely safe.

A factory worker in 1898 warned of the harmful effects of asbestos, and over subsequent years there were more suspicions linking asbestos to disease and death before countries finally banned it. What if it works the same way for nanoparticles, and not just for workers, but for consumers as well? One inventory lists 1,827 products containing nanomaterials. Items range from sheets to bicycle-cleaning kits to socks to hair dryers to lip balm, among others. With this wide range of products, the unknown aspect of whether nanomaterials do have detrimental effects or whether they might over long-term exposure is significant.

Product liability issues
Substantial product liability issues may arise. One factor, of course, will be which product the consumer was exposed to that caused the ill effects. With asbestos, the product exposure is limited. Nanoparticles could be in almost anything. At the point of illness related to exposure, would the consumer have to prove that it was the lip balm and not the sheets or sunscreen that caused the illness, or would there be reasonable claims against all manufacturers on a proportional basis? The product liability exposure is enormous, and something the industry should look at going forward.

Nanoparticles are in many ways useful and exciting technology, but there are concerns. These concerns must be carefully reviewed and studied so that people, and particularly workers, are protected from possibly serious effects.
Welcome Thermal Supports as a New SWICA Distributor/Fabricator Member

The Page family has been owning and operating fabrication shops since the late 1970’s with industrial refineries, chemical plants and offshore marine as our main clientele.

At Thermal Supports, we take our customers’ needs seriously and know how to keep projects on time and on budget.

FROM INDUSTRIAL WELDING TO THE EASIEST FABRICATION,
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XSPECT™ ISOfoam APF

XSPECT ISOfoam APF is a durable, lightweight board designed to simplify fabrication and installation while maximizing versatility.

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- Variety of hot and cold and mechanical and OEM applications
Our current product line consists of but is not limited to:

- Cold Shoes
- Cold Shoe Inserts
- Insulation Support Rings
- Personnel Protection
- Instrument Stands & Switch Racks
- Piping Accessories
- Custom Fabrications
- Gulf Coast Manufacturing has enough tooling to do many projects that requires bending, shaping and cutting of metals that would be impossible without them. We have been collecting tools for many years to keep up with our product line and specialty work.

DJ Page has generously volunteered his time and expertise to judge the SWICA Cryogenic Competition on January 15th and the Rigid/Removable & Commercial competitions on February 7th.
Welcome Aboard Dana Insulation Group as New SWICA Contractor Member

Dana Industrial Group LLC is a multi craft contractor located in Houston’s gulf coast region. With a main office in east Houston at beltway and I10 and a satellite office in La Porte TX.

We specialize in civil, insulation scaffolding coatings blasting and abatement. As well as instrumentation and electrical

In business for 9 years and without a single lost work time recordable incident in that time period.

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Armacell Announces New ArmaFlex® Shield: Tough Enough for the Job
Continuous Coil Pipe Insulation with a Strong Protective Coating for Challenging Applications
• Offers protection against thermal losses, condensation and moisture ingress
• Durable outer jacket resists weather and environmental impacts
• Comes in continuous coils for fast installation

Chapel Hill, NC, September 18, 2018 – Armacell, a global leader in flexible foam for the equipment insulation market and a leading provider of engineered foams, announces the launch of ArmaFlex® Shield, a new pipe insulation for HVAC, plumbing and refrigeration with a built-in protective jacket that resists impacts from the jobsite or the environment.

New ArmaFlex Shield flexible foam insulation is a moisture- and UV-resistant product solution with a durable protective coating specially designed for line set and HVAC/R applications. Its strong coating resists tears and punctures when pushed through walls or rough openings. Once installed, it stands up to the effects of weather and protects against thermal losses, condensation and moisture ingress.
“ArmaFlex Shield provides all the benefits of a closed-cell foam insulation while providing added tear resistance and UV protection right out of the box,” says Justin Hardy, Armacell’s General Manager, AMERICAS. “Residential and commercial spaces of all types will value the long-term performance and peace of mind that ArmaFlex Shield lends to the mechanical and HVAC/R piping systems.”

Armacell’s latest innovation meets the IECC code requirements for outdoor insulation and is code-compliant for use in air plenums. It is a low-maintenance alternative to unprotected insulation or adding a separate jacket on the jobsite. Because the strong factory-applied jacket resists abrasions, it protects the piping from line trimmer damage making it a great choice for outdoor applications.

ArmaFlex Shield is available through Armacell’s network of insulation distributors and HVAC and plumbing wholesalers. Visit www.armacell.us for locations.

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Choose Your Exhibit Space Now..Few Booths Left!!!

**Already sold:**

100 KFLEX - USA
101 Polyguard Products
104 Insultherm Int Inc.
106 Information Info Resources
107 FasTest, Inc.
108 Rockwool Technical
109 Dana Industrial Group
112 Amacell LLC
116 Inspection Point Seals
117 Amatex Corp
200 Howred
201-203 Owens Corning/Foamglas
202 Morgan Advanced Materials
204 Integrated Marketing Group
205 Midwest Fasteners
206 Extol of Ohio
207 Bay Insulation
208 Inspection Plug Strategies
209 Orange County Thermal
210 Design Polymerica
211 Permatherm
213 ACS Industries
216 Access Plug Flange
217 Dyplast Products
300 Petrin LLC
301 & 303 Distribution Intl/MIT
302 RPR Products
304 Goebel Fasteners
305 & 307 Lewco Specialty Products
306 Apache Industrial
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312 NDT SEALS
313 Aeroflex
315 General Insulation
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317 Ideal Products
400 ITW Insulation Systems
402 Coverflex MFG.
404 GLT Fabricators
406 Aspen Aerogel
408 & 410 Specialty Products & Insulation
412 & 414 Talon Products
416 Duna USA

As a national industrial insulation contractor, Miller Insulation is equipped to install all types of thermal insulation systems for a wide range of applications. From power generating plants and petro-chemical refineries, to ethanol and food processing plants, we have experience in a vast array of projects.

With an OSHA incident rate and EMR well below industry average, coupled with superior workmanship and on-time delivery, Miller Insulation is placed as a preferred contractor with a variety of firms.

Project Managers at Miller Insulation use the latest and most advanced software programs to manage the construction process, estimating through project completion. Miller Insulation has fine-tuned advanced processes to result in outstanding craftsmanship for the customer.

**Texas Branch Locations:**

*Miller Insulation Co., Inc.*

5656 N Sam Houston Pkwy E
Ste 120 **Houston**, TX 77032
Office: 346-998-5511

*Miller Insulation Co., Inc.*

704 W 3rd St
**Big Spring**, TX 77032
Office: 346-998-5511

[www.millerinsulation.com](http://www.millerinsulation.com)
You are invited to join industry leaders in this one day educational and information packed exhibits, seminars and craft competitions.

EXHIBIT SPACE REGISTRATION CONTRACT
11:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Thursday, February 7, 2019
Pasadena Convention Center
Pasadena

REGISTER ON-LINE TODAY
WWW.SWICAONLINE.ORG

CRAFT COMPETITIONS

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FAX: 713.977.1321
Ltracey888@aol.com
With the SSL II® double closure system providing a superior seal and ASJ Max polymer jacket resisting mold and mildew growth¹, Fiberglas™ Pipe Insulation is tailored to fit and tailored to perform for any application. Flexible core compresses over copper and some small-bore iron pipes and fittings, saving time by eliminating the need to fillet. Rigid core provides fast and easy fabrication on larger pipes. Used to insulate pipes with operating temperatures between 0°F (-18°C) and 1000°F (538°C) (with heat-up schedule). Also available in No-Wrap and metric sizes.

¹ASJ Max jacket does not support mold growth when tested in accordance with ASTM C 1338.

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