



REDUCE EMISSIONS BY PRIORITIZING INSULATION™

## NIA Releases New Study on Insulation's Positive Impact on Energy Efficiency and Emission Reductions

### *Underscores Impressive Role of Mechanical Insulation in Decarbonization*

Herndon, Virginia—November 16, 2023—In keeping with its mission to provide insulation-related educational resources to those in the commercial/industrial construction community, the Foundation for Mechanical Insulation Education, Training, and Industry Advancement with the National Insulation Association commissioned a study to assess the energy saved and reduction in carbon and other greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions achieved through the use of mechanical insulation systems, as well as the cost of under-insulating equipment and processes in the higher temperature market segments. The results of *A Study on Insulation's Positive Impact on Energy Efficiency and Emission Reductions* may be used to help government and industry explore how mechanical insulation can be of benefit as a decarbonization strategy.

Mechanical insulation has long been recognized for its ability to save energy and provide an attractive return on the investment. More recently, however, its value as a "green" technology has entered the dialogue. While energy savings previously have been calculated on a project or facility basis, information was not available across industry and market segments, or across a large geographic base. The new study, conducted by an independent third party, includes data from the commercial and industrial mechanical insulation segments in the United States and Canada. **The results are massive, including emissions savings of more than 16 and a half trillion pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> (7.5 billion metric tons) across the study period, along with 85.9 trillion Kbtu and more than \$278 billion.**

As impressive as those numbers are, more impactful takeaways may be the study's assessment of potential lost opportunity from under-insulated areas (7.5+ billion metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions) or the calculation of GHG savings from the use of mechanical insulation

compared to other green technologies—e.g., GHG emissions saved over the course of the study period are equivalent to those released by 1.7 billion gas-powered passenger vehicles driven in 1 year.

Government and industry are increasingly looking for ways to reduce their carbon footprint and reach net-zero targets. Correcting under-insulated areas offers an opportunity to regain potential lost energy and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> and GHG emissions while supporting other vital goals, such as saving money, personnel safety, process control, and more. And while many other decarbonization initiatives require substantial time and financial resources to implement—e.g., investing in the electrical infrastructure to support widespread replacement of gas-powered vehicles—mechanical insulation is a decarbonization technology that is proven, available for use now, verifiable, and offers a rapid return on investment (often within months).

- [View the results infographic here.](#)
- [Read the press release here.](#)
- [Read the Executive Summary here.](#)
- [Read the article from the November 2023 issue of \*Insulation Outlook\* magazine.](#)
- [Read the full Energy and Emissions Study here.](#)
- [Click here to register for a free webinar at 1 pm ET on December 1, 2023.](#)

To learn more, visit [www.insulation.org/carbon](http://www.insulation.org/carbon) or [www.insulationeducationfoundation.org](http://www.insulationeducationfoundation.org).

**For questions, comments, and interview requests, please contact Michele M. Jones, NIA EVP/CEO, at 703-464-6422 or [research@insulation.org](mailto:research@insulation.org).**

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NIA is a not-for-profit trade association representing both merit (open shop) and union contractors, distributors, laminators, fabricators, and manufacturers that provide thermal insulation, insulation accessories, and components to the commercial, mechanical, and industrial markets throughout the nation. Since 1953, the northern Virginia-based association has been the voice of the insulation industry and is dedicated to keeping the commercial and industrial insulation industry up to date on the latest industry trends and technologies. For more information, visit [www.insulation.org](http://www.insulation.org).