



**Johns Manville**

*A Berkshire Hathaway Company*



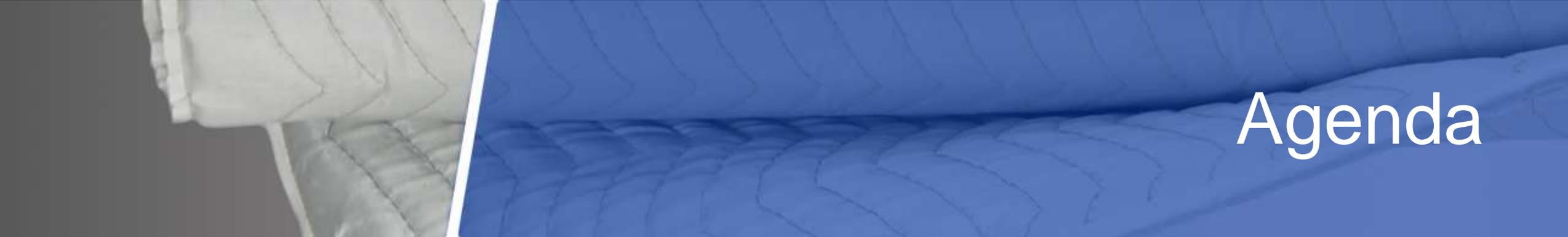
## CONSIDERATIONS FOR THIN BLANKET INSULATIONS

# Michaela Roy



- Chemical Engineer
- Technical support for Industrial, HVAC, Mechanical and Building Insulation divisions
- Former survey management specialist in the O&G industry

Johns Manville  
Regional Technical Manager  
Western US & Canada  
[Michaela.Roy@jm.com](mailto:Michaela.Roy@jm.com)



# Agenda

# Overview

---

- Microporous Blanket Insulations: Description/Benefits
- Thermal Performance
- Corrosion Prevention
- Health & Safety

# InsulThin® HT Microporous Blanket Insulation

- Temp Range: Ambient – 1200°F
- Not to be used in cryogenic applications
- Quilted product
- Hydrophobic



# Thin Blanket Uses

---

- Confined spaces
- Large-diameter
- Small-diameter
- Temperatures between ambient -1200°F
- Meet code requirements at smaller profile

# Code Requirements

- Changing energy codes are requiring more insulation – but there is no room for it
- Additional pipes in existing tunnels are requiring thinner, more efficient insulation materials
- Thermal conductivity values based on mineral fiber insulation
- Meet code with less insulation

TABLE C403.11.3  
 MINIMUM PIPE INSULATION THICKNESS (in inches)<sup>a, c</sup>

FLUID OPERATING TEMPERATURE RANGE AND USAGE (°F)	INSULATION CONDUCTIVITY		NOMINAL PIPE OR TUBE SIZE (inches)				
	Conductivity Btu • in./ (h • ft <sup>2</sup> • °F) <sup>b</sup>	Mean Rating Temperature, °F	< 1	1 to < 1 1/2	1 1/2 to < 4	4 to < 8	≥ 8
> 350	0.32 – 0.34	250	4.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
251 – 350	0.29 – 0.32	200	3.0	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.5
201 – 250	0.27 – 0.30	150	2.5	2.5	2.5	3.0	3.0
141 – 200	0.25 – 0.29	125	1.5	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.0
105 – 140	0.21 – 0.28	100	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.5
40 – 60	0.21 – 0.27	75	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.0
< 40	0.20 – 0.26	50	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.5

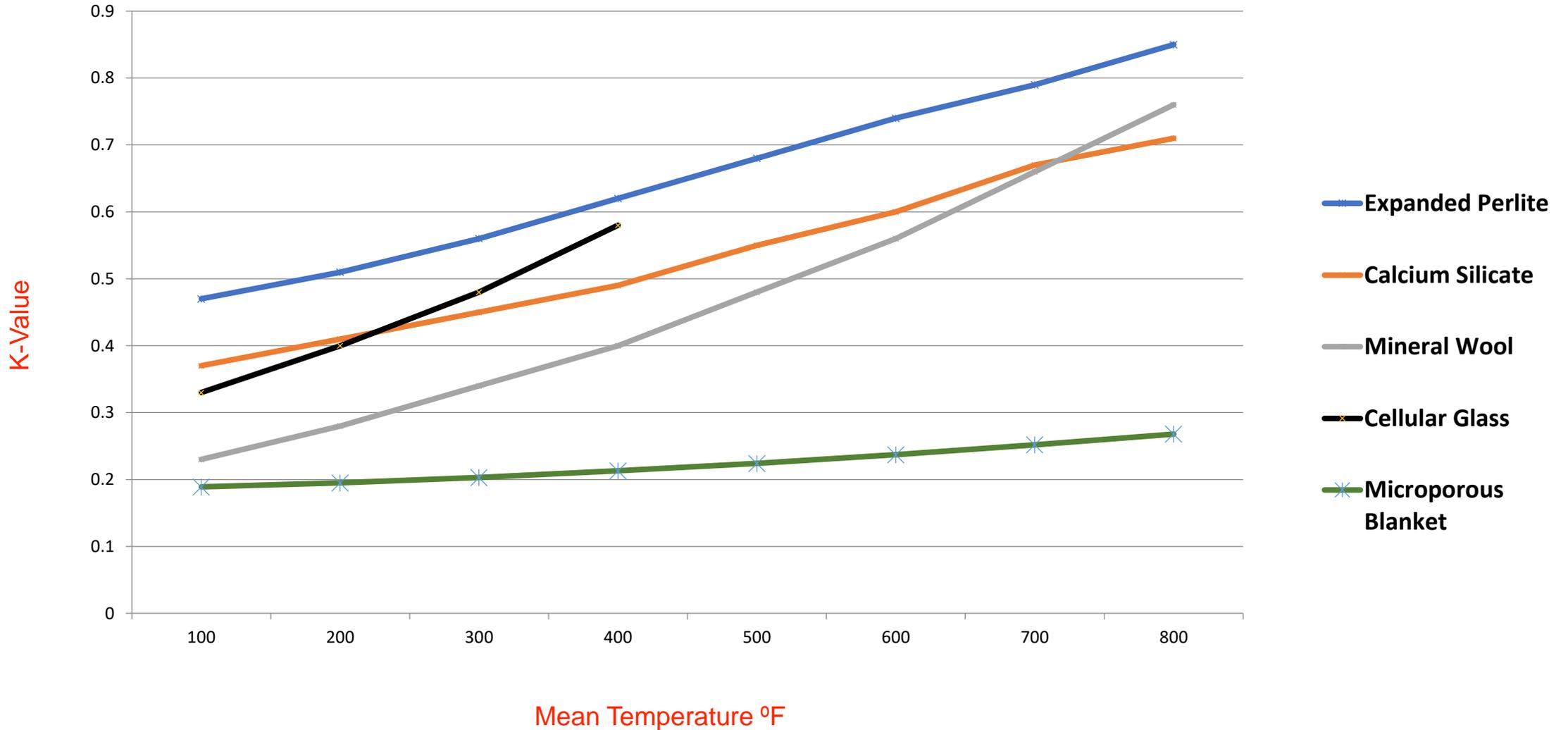
For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, °C = [(°F) - 32]/1.8.

<https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/iecc2018/chapter-4-ce-commercial-energy-efficiency>



# Thermal Performance

# Thermal Performance

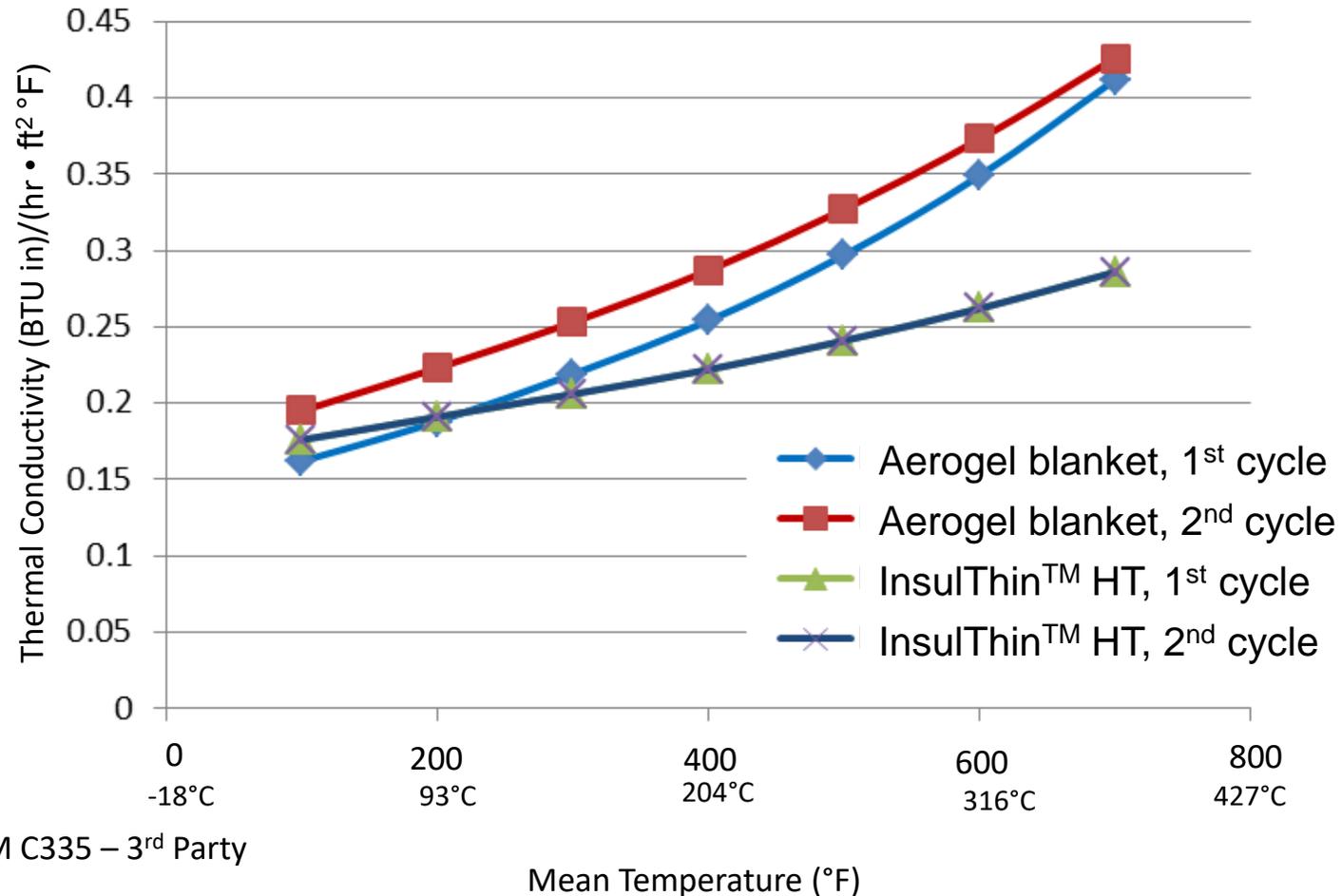


# Thermal Shift Definition

Thermal Shift: the permanent change in an insulation material's thermal conductivity due to exposure to high temperatures (>300°F/149°C).

# Silica Aerogel vs. Microporous Insulation

Microporous insulation performs better than silica aerogel blanket after being heated to 700°F mean temperature

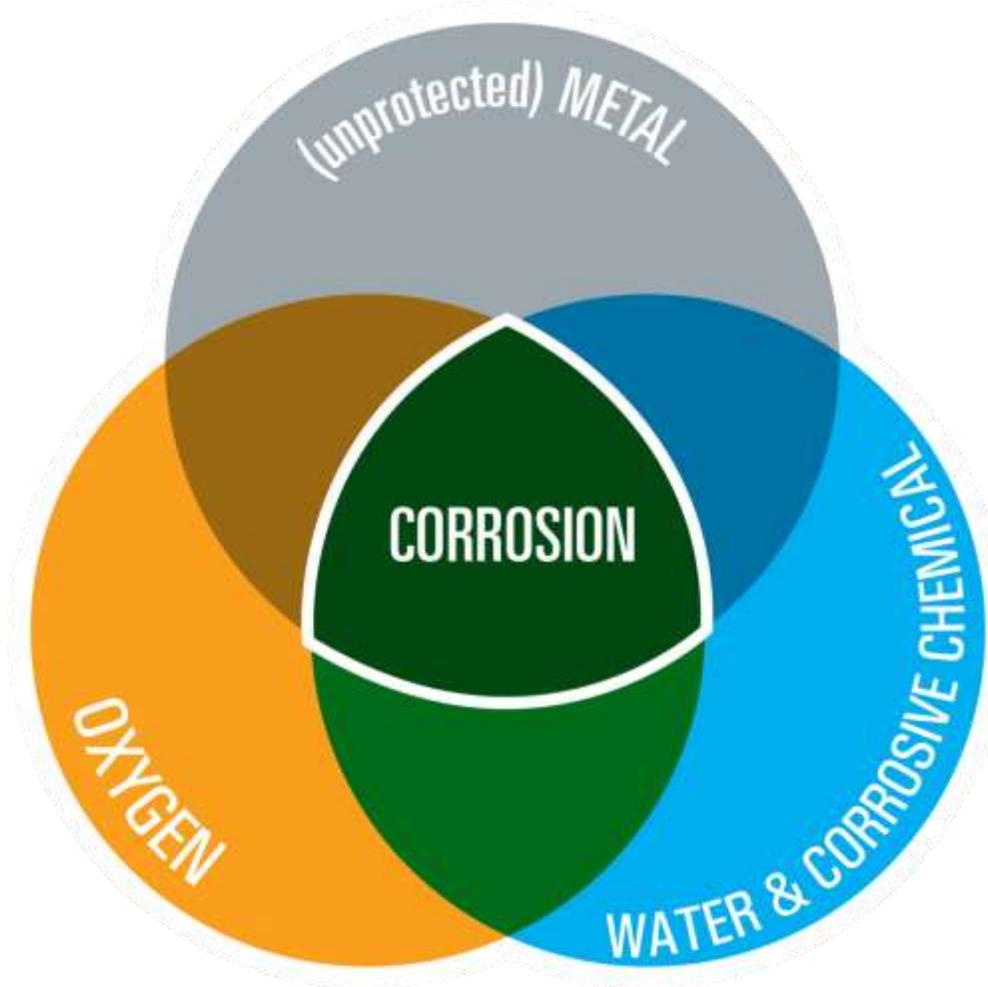


ASTM C335 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Party



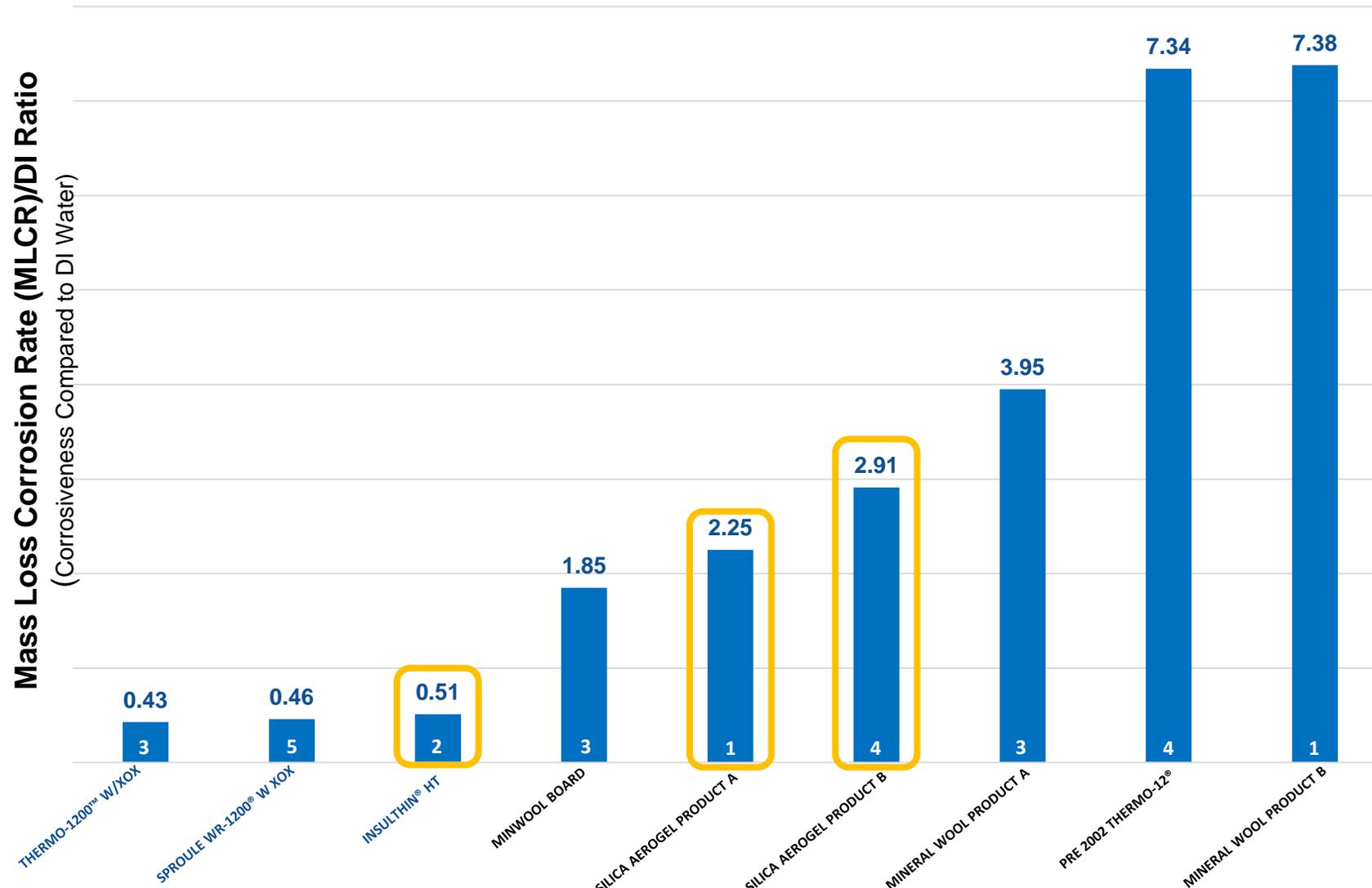
# Corrosion Prevention

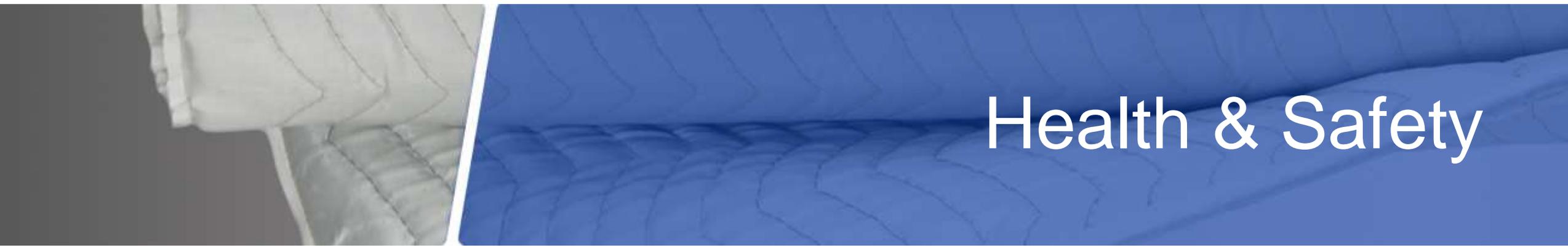
# The Recipe for Corrosion Under Insulation



- Wet insulation holds water next to the pipe surface
- The insulation can impact the rate and type of corrosion that occurs on the pipe surface
- We measure the corrosive potential of insulation as a Mass Loss Corrosion Rate (MLCR) using ASTM C1617

# ASTM C1617: Short-Term CUI Testing





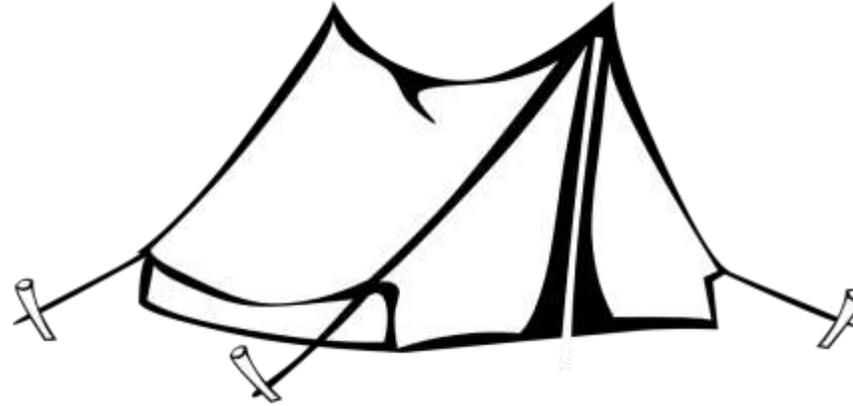
# Health & Safety

# What's the Fuss about Dust?

Nuisance dust generated during installation has caused some facilities to implement additional PPE standards



Head-to-toe protective suits



Temporary enclosure over the installation area



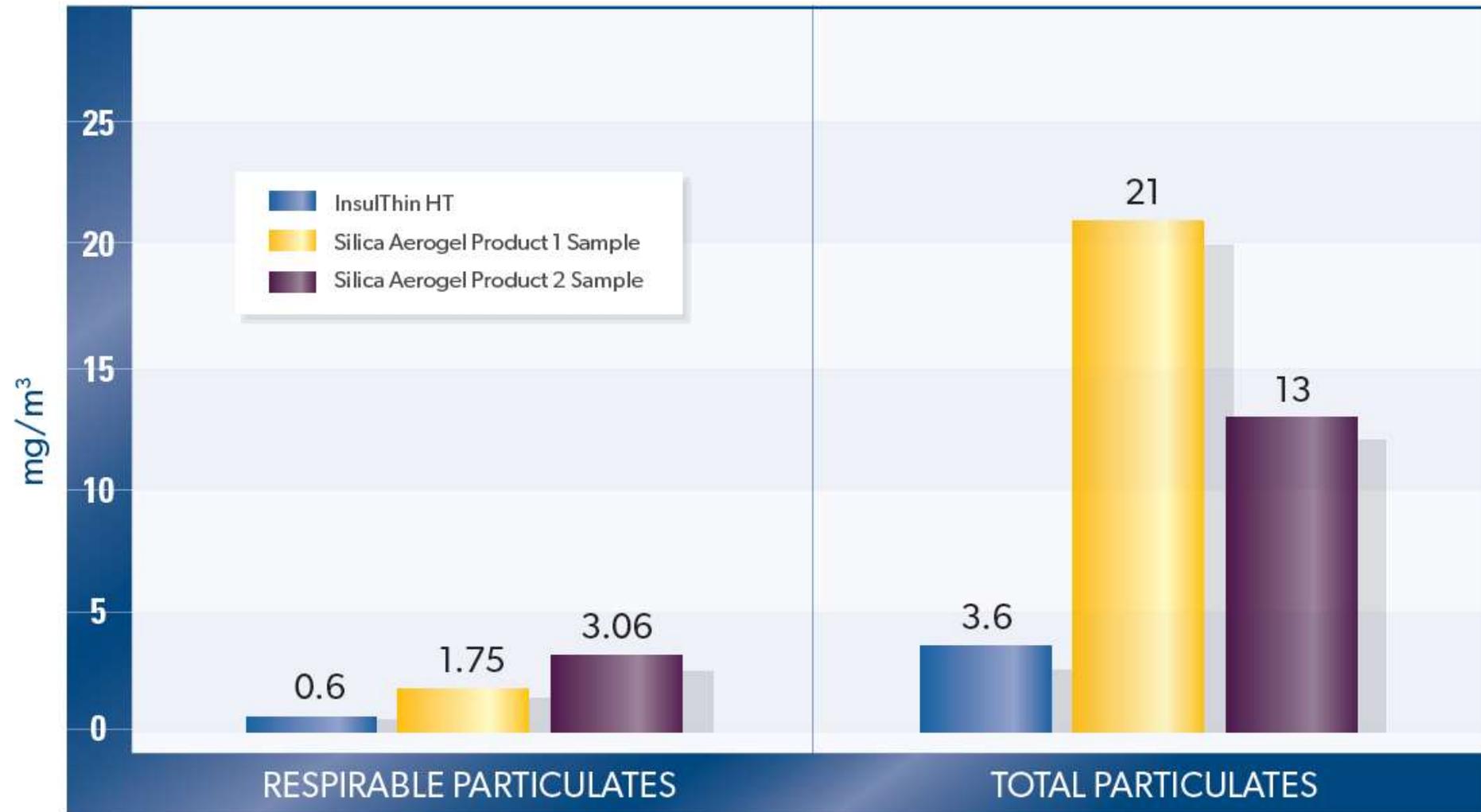
Special clean-up requirements

# Test explanation

- Industrial hygiene sampling measured the total and respirable particulates generated during a 4-hour installation on 20" and 8" pipes (~2 hours per pipe)
- Sampling was performed on 3 insulations:
  - InsulThin® HT Microporous Blanket
  - Silica Aerogel Product 1 Sample
  - Silica Aerogel Product 2 Sample



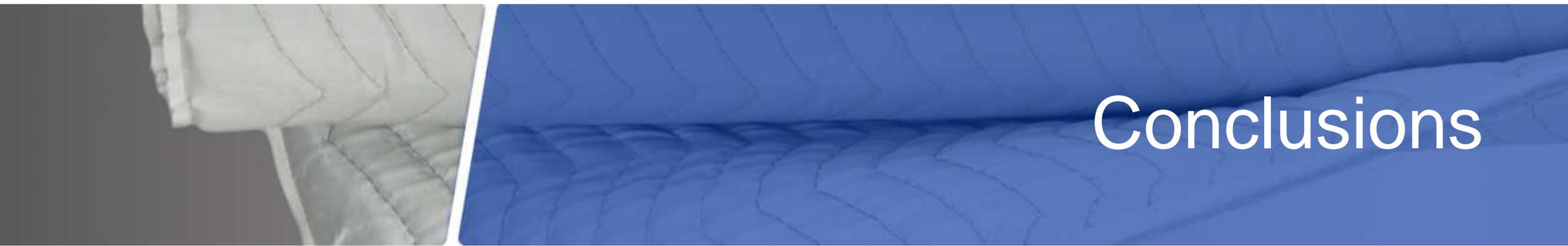
# Respirable & Total Particulates



# Interpreting the Results

---

- In this test InsulThin<sup>®</sup> HT microporous blanket insulation produced **65-80% less dust** than the two silica aerogel product samples that were tested
- The environment and work practices where the material is installed will influence the amount of dust that is present in the air
- Each facility is responsible for meeting OSHA standards

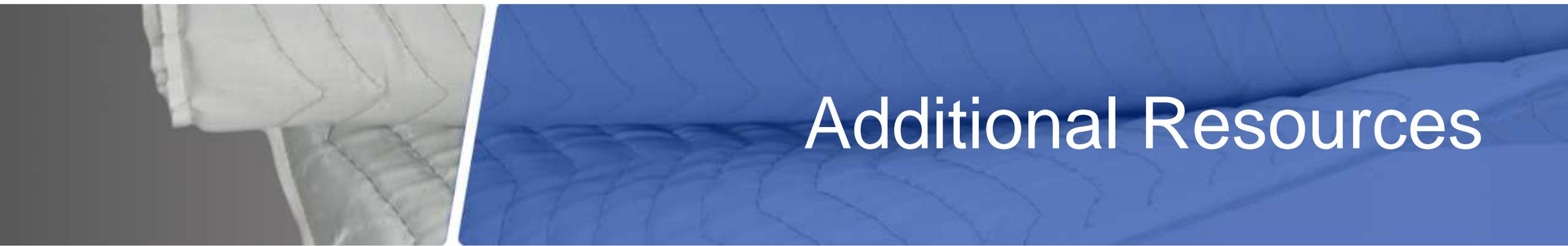


# Conclusions

# Takeaways

---

- InsulThin<sup>®</sup> HT microporous blanket can help achieve code requirements with substantially less insulation thickness compared to other insulation materials.
- InsulThin<sup>®</sup> HT microporous blanket has a lower corrosive potential than the tested silica aerogel blankets as demonstrated by ASTM C1617.
- InsulThin<sup>®</sup> HT microporous blanket generates 65-80% less dust than the silica aerogel blanket products it was tested against.



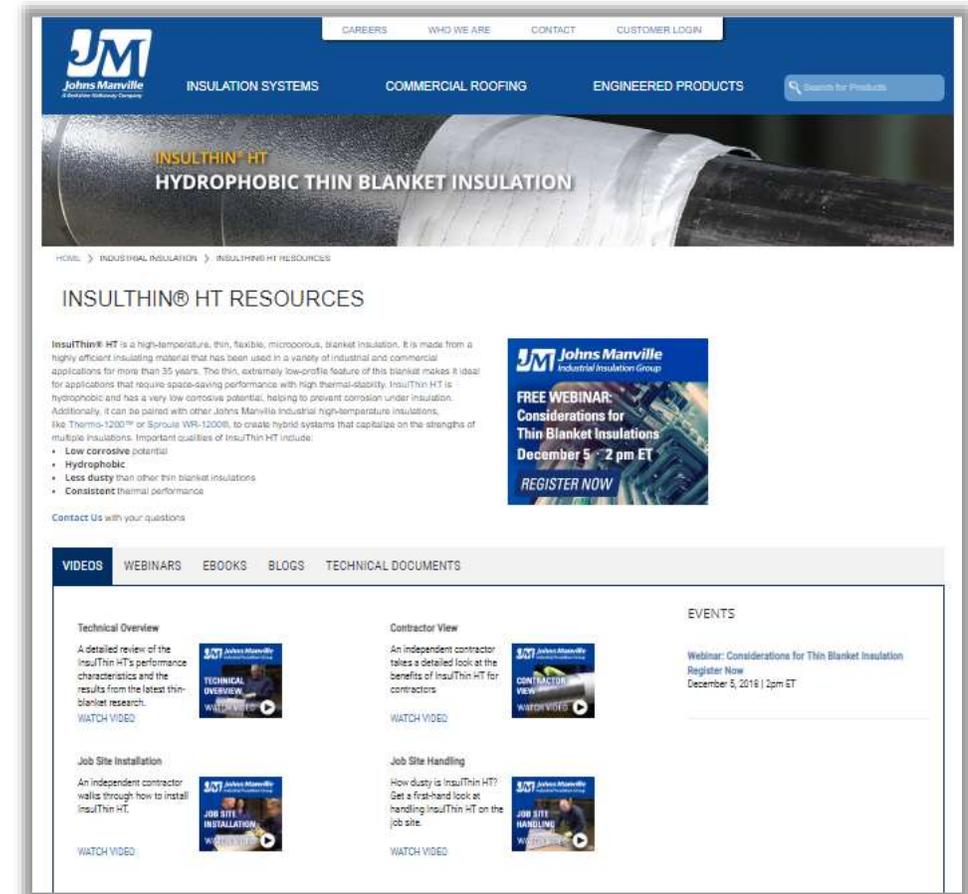
# Additional Resources

# InsulThin® HT Resource Library Page

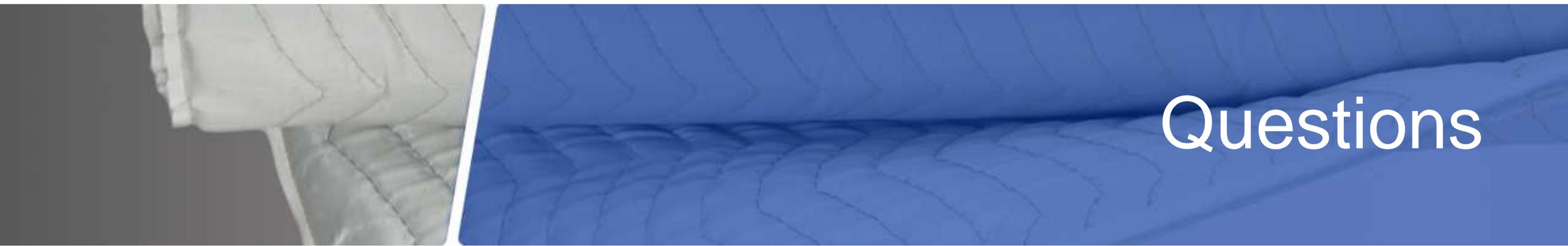
## InsulThin® HT Resource Library

- Insulation Intel® eBook Series: Thin Blanket Insulation Considerations
- Installation videos
- Webinars on-demand
- Blogs about thin blanket insulation
- Technical documents and data sheet
- Installation guide
- CUI Performance data

[www.JM.com/InsulThin-HT](http://www.JM.com/InsulThin-HT)



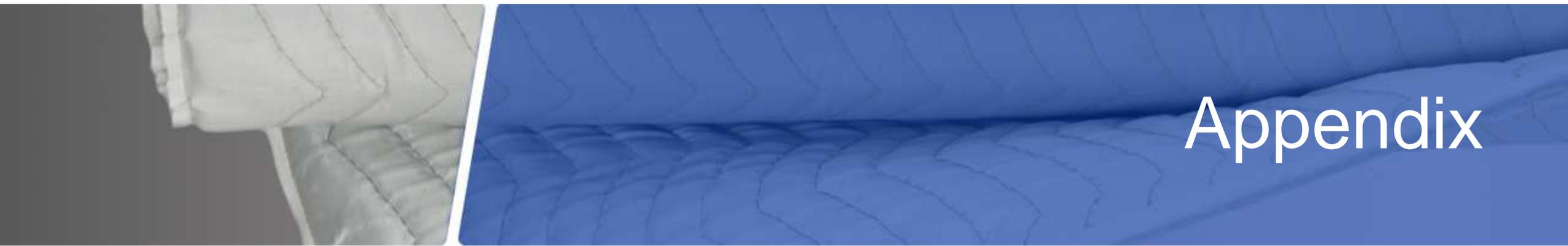
The screenshot shows the website's navigation bar with links for CAREERS, WHO WE ARE, CONTACT, and CUSTOMER LOGIN. Below the navigation is a search bar and a main header for INSULATION SYSTEMS, COMMERCIAL ROOFING, and ENGINEERED PRODUCTS. The main content area features a large image of InsulThin HT insulation with the text "INSULTHIN® HT HYDROPHOBIC THIN BLANKET INSULATION". Below this is a section titled "INSULTHIN® HT RESOURCES" with a detailed description of the product and a list of its benefits: Low corrosive potential, Hydrophobic, Less dusty than other thin blanket insulations, and Consistent thermal performance. A sidebar on the right promotes a "FREE WEBINAR: Considerations for Thin Blanket Insulations" on December 5, 2016, at 2 pm ET, with a "REGISTER NOW" button. At the bottom, there are tabs for VIDEOS, WEBINARS, EBOOKS, BLOGS, and TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS. The VIDEOS tab is active, showing four video thumbnails: "Technical Overview", "Contractor View", "Job Site Installation", and "Job Site Handling". Each video has a "WATCH VIDEO" link. An "EVENTS" section on the right also lists the webinar.



# Questions

Michaela Roy  
Johns Manville  
Regional Technical Manager  
Western US & Canada

[Michaela.Roy@jm.com](mailto:Michaela.Roy@jm.com)



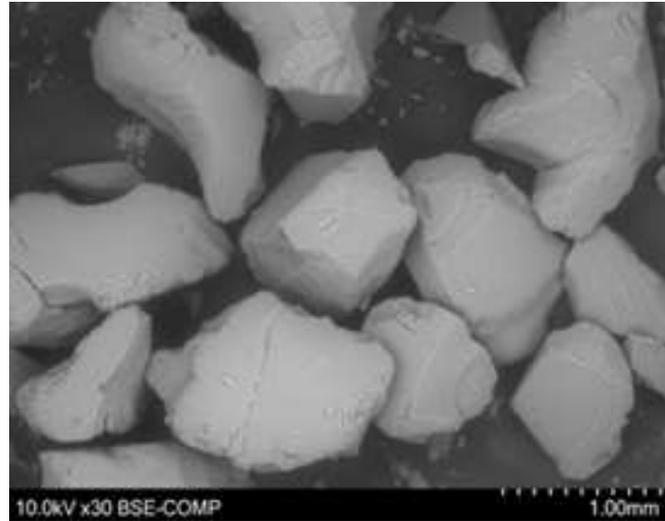
# Appendix

# Thermal Shift Explained

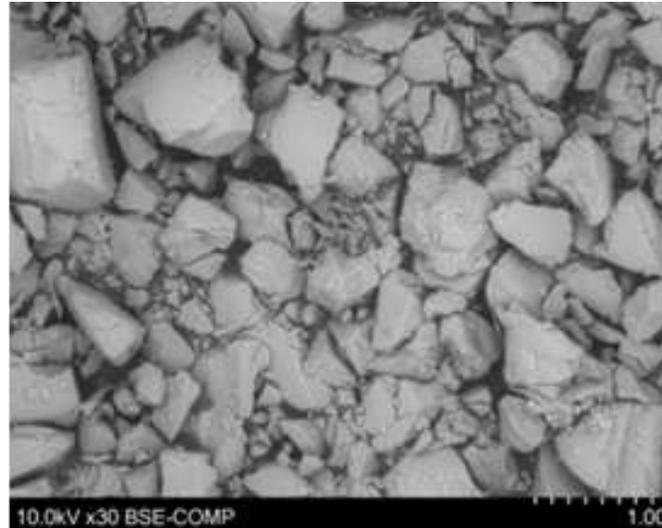
1. Organic components, including hydrophobic agents, are oxidized between 300°F (149°C) and 600°F(316°C).
2. Tested silica aerogels become more friable and break, resulting in fewer closed cell structures.
3. Thermal performance is reduced and is dependent on temperature exposure.
4. Once the silica aerogel within the blanket has been compromised, the thermal performance will be permanently reduced.
5. The material will reach a certain point of degradation, and then plateau, maintaining a new, consistent thermal conductivity afterward.

# Thermal Shift Explained

Before Heat Exposure



After Heat Exposure to  
900°F/482°C



High temperatures break down the organic chemistry and microstructure of silica aerogel particles, reducing thermal performance and water repellency.

# Conclusions

- Thermal Shift is unique to silica aerogel.
- Thermal Shift must be considered during the design phase in order to be certain the insulation performs as required for the life of the installation.
- Existing installations that have experienced Thermal Shift can be easily restored to design conditions by adding additional layers of insulation.