



**PROVIDES MORE THAN JUST EFFICIENCY FOR BUILDINGS**



### **Environmental benefits:**

- Buildings account for over 20% of Australia's GHG emissions
- Energy consumption in buildings is growing faster than most other areas of use.
- Insulation is the most cost effective way of reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gases emissions in the built environment
- Insulating buildings is the most financially attractive of all energy efficiency and renewable energy measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Insulation alone can cut Australia's greenhouse gas emissions by up to 5%.
- Current insulation production technology is proven and available now installing insulation has an immediate impact on energy demand and GHG emissions.
- A response to climate change demands well-insulated new and existing buildings.

### **Economic benefits:**

- Insulation reduces average home heating and cooling costs by around 30%
- Insulation reduces the burden of increasing energy prices.
- The cost of installing insulation already pays for itself in around 3-5 years through reduced energy bills, and payback time will improve as energy costs rise.
- The right insulation is a once-only cost that lasts for the life of the building (typically 50 – 70 years) and requires no further maintenance.
- Saved energy is the most sustainable energy. Insulated buildings reduce the need for additional power generation capacity by "smoothing out" the peaks in energy demand.
- Well insulated buildings have reduced need for air-conditioning.
- Insulation improves property values and has been shown to increase the return on rented and leased properties.
- Insulation is not expensive. To insulate the ceilings, walls and floors of a typical house costs less than 1% of the construction cost.

### **Social benefits:**

- People spend a great proportion of their lives in buildings. Insulation provides more than energy efficiency. Thermal and acoustic insulation play important roles in improving the quality of life by providing environments that are more comfortable – this leads to greater productivity at work.
- Studies show that well insulated buildings provide a healthier environment by controlling temperature and noise levels.
- By reducing household and business running costs, energy saving from insulation can provide a buffer to other cost of living increases.
- Insulation protects and improves the quality of life of the elderly and socially disadvantaged.