

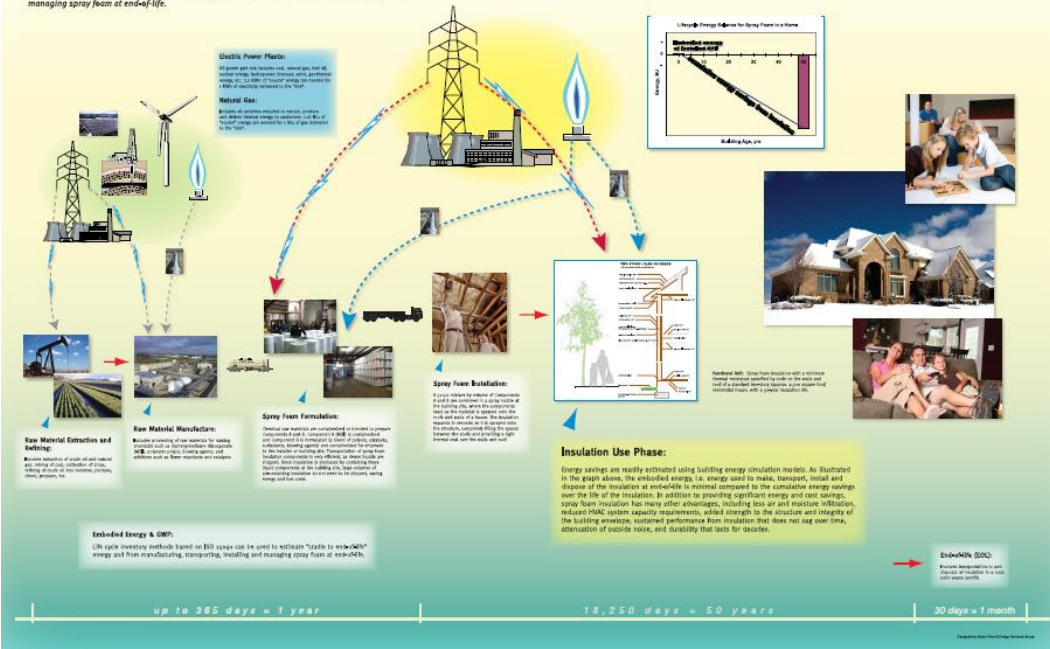
# Spray Foam Insulation

Saving Energy, One Spray at a Time...



Spray foam insulation saves energy during insulation use that far outweighs energy associated with manufacturing raw materials, formulating spray foam components, transporting, installing and managing spray foam at end-of-life.

James Lambach and George Pavlovich  
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# Life Cycle Analysis

- LCA Software and Database
- Materials Inventory and Processes
- Energy Consumption and GWP
- Transportation and landfill

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# What is “Life Cycle Analysis?”

A methodology to holistically assess energy and environmental impacts of a material, cradle-to-grave.

Standardized method per ISO 14040 series

- Wellhead to installation includes ...
  - Raw materials for electricity, oil & natural gas for chemicals
  - Manufacturing of components, preparation
  - Transportation and installation
- Use phase modeled using recognized whole building energy simulation methods
- End of life removal and disposal

# Why is LCA Important?

- Product Reputation

Communicating facts based on comprehensive and sound technical analysis

- Product Positioning

Beneficial for LEED and other environmental programs

- Marketing

Sell the unique benefits of SPF

- Product Optimization

Improve SPF product (and sales) by addressing impacts from each life cycle stage

# Data Sources

- Published inventory data from recognized life cycle engineering software; e.g. NREL, GaBi, EIO-LCA
- Published life cycle reports for comparison and validation
- Process data from manufacturers, e.g. BaySystems, local installers
- Include European data sources for similar operations, where US sources not available

# LCA Process Software

## Ex. Gabi - for Wellhead to Installation

Use software to ...

- Build a plan
- Choose processes or build processes and change parameters
- Connect process
- Balance Calculation then get energy consumption and GWP

*Advantages: Cradle to gate LCA, newly updated data,*

*Disadvantage: not all materials included in their database*

# Flow Chart for cc-SPF

Component B Raw Materials

Polyols

HFC-245fa

Fire Retardant

Catalysts

Surfactant

Water

Other

xxxx MJ  
xxx kg  
CO<sub>2</sub>E

50 kg

U.S.  
Electricity  
Power Grid  
(Gabi)

Component  
B mixing

x MJ  
x kg CO<sub>2</sub>E

50 kg

Component B

Component A  
(MDI)  
Production

x MJ  
x kg  
CO<sub>2</sub>E

50kg

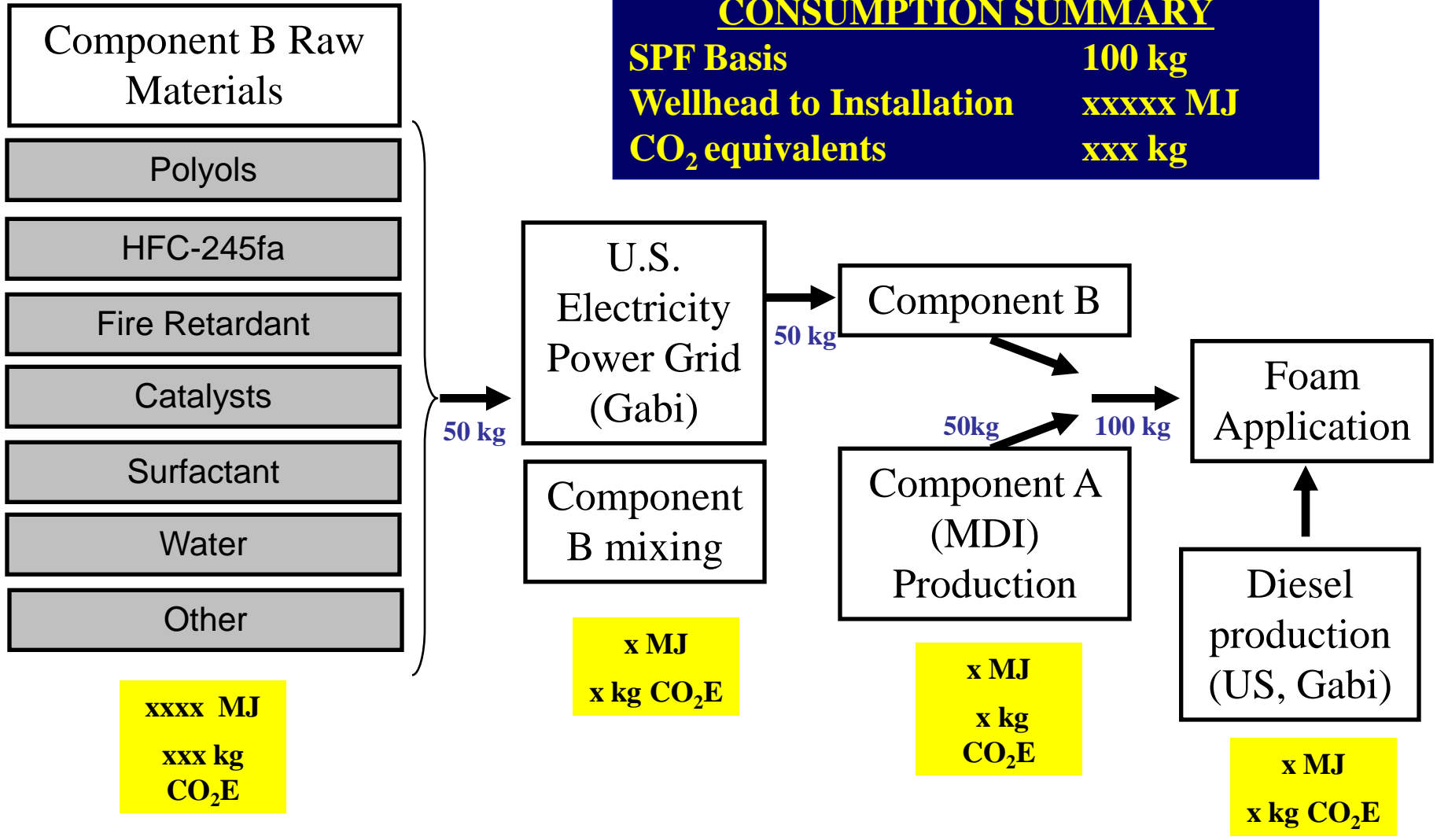
100 kg

Foam  
Application

Diesel  
production  
(US, Gabi)

x MJ  
x kg CO<sub>2</sub>E

<u>CONSUMPTION SUMMARY</u>	
SPF Basis	100 kg
Wellhead to Installation	xxxxx MJ
CO <sub>2</sub> equivalents	xxx kg

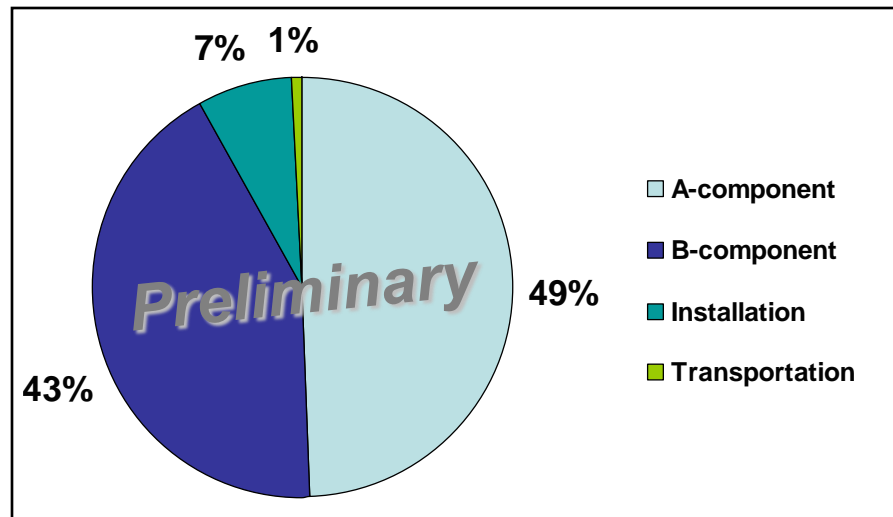


# Transportation

- Assume every raw material is transported by truck trailer
- Avg distance from manufacturing sites for raw materials to blending site, then transportation to insulation installation site
- Factor in truck return; e.g., 20% empty return to 100% empty return, by changing loaded percentage and distances input into Gabi

# LCA Phases

## Phase I Wellhead to Installation



## Phase II Use

## Phase III End of Life

Gabi - commercial waste for municipal disposal (source: plastic Europe)

# Use Phase

## Defining the Functional Unit for Energy Modeling Input

### Factors and Variations

- Selection of US Cities for Analysis
- Weather Data
- Type, Size, and Geometry of House
- Construction
- Number and Schedule of Occupants
- Internal Loads
- Thermal Envelope Variations
- Whole wall/ceiling/roof U-Value Calculations
- Leakage Properties
- HVAC & Environmental Control

# Model Input

## References

- Selection of US Cities for Analysis **US Census**
- Weather Data **World Meteorological Organization / US DOE**
- Type, Size, and Geometry of House **Energy Information Administration**
- Construction **IECC Code**
- Number and Schedule of Occupants **US Census**
- Internal Loads **Energy Information Administration**
- Thermal Envelope Variations **Project Specific, Standard Practice**
- Whole wall/ceiling/roof U-Value Calculations **ASHRAE, ORNL Data**
- Leakage Properties **LBL Leakage Database, Other Data**
- HVAC & Environmental Control **2008 ASHRAE Handbook**

# Climate in Various U.S. Cities

CITY	CLIMATE ZONE	CLIMATE NAME AND TYPE	THERMAL CRITERIA*	by Population*	NEW HOUSING STARTS 2007*
Miami	1A	Very Hot – Humid	5000 < CDD10°C	43	15,145
Houston	2A	Hot – Humid	3500 < CDD10°C ≤ 5000	4	63,274
Phoenix	2B	Hot – Dry	3500 < CDD10°C ≤ 5000	5	37,272
Atlanta	3A	Warm – Humid	2500 < CDD10°C ≤ 3500	34	44,770
Dallas	3A	Warm – Humid	2500 < CDD10°C ≤ 3500	9	43,568
Charlotte	3A	Warm – Humid	2500 < CDD10°C ≤ 3500	19	21,190
Las Vegas	3B	Warm – Dry	2500 < CDD10°C ≤ 3500	28	24,089
Los Angeles	3C	Warm – Marine	CDD10°C ≤ 2000	2	26,616
DC	4A	Mixed – Humid	CDD10°C ≤ 2500 AND HDD18°C ≤ 3000	25	22,459
Seattle	4C	Mixed - Marine	2000 < HDD18°C ≤ 3000	24	25,403
Boston	5A	Cool - Humid	3000 < HDD18°C ≤ 4000	23	11,248
NYC	5A	Cool - Humid	3000 < HDD18°C ≤ 4000	1	56,405
Chicago	5A	Cool - Humid	3000 < HDD18°C ≤ 4000	3	33,933
Milwaukee	6A	Cool - Humid	4000 < HDD18°C ≤ 5000	22	3,266

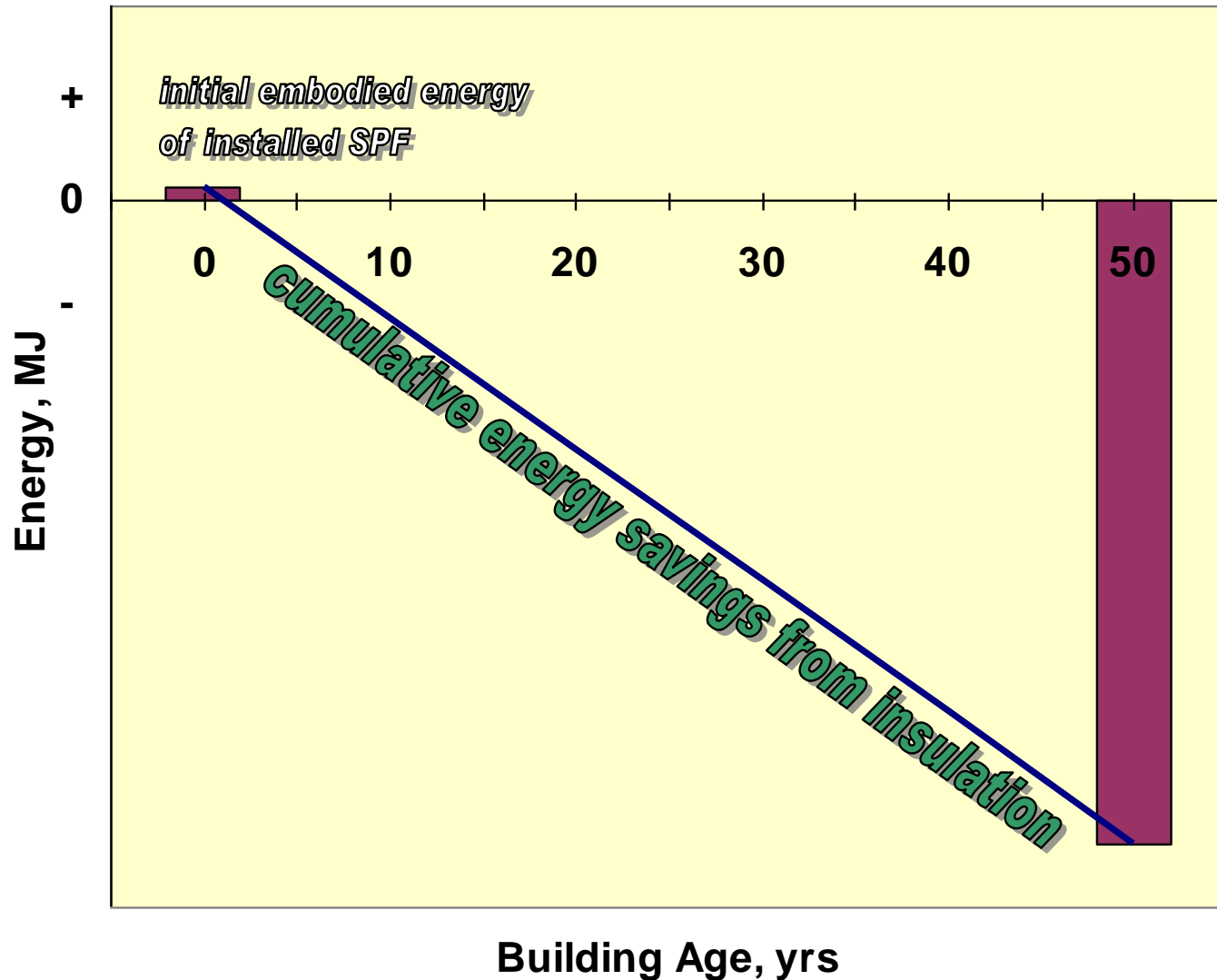
\* US Census Bureau. "Cities with 100,000 or More Population in 2000 ranked by Population per Square Mile, 2000 in Alphabetic Order". County and City Data Book. Table C-1.

\* US Census Bureau. Table 3au. "New Privately Owned Housing Units Authorized Unadjusted Units by Metropolitan Area." Annual 2007.

\* Briggs, Robert S., Robert G. Lucas and Z. Todd Taylor. *Climate Classification for Building Energy Codes and Standards*. Pacific NW National Laboratory.

# Energy Savings in Use Phase

## Lifecycle Energy Balance for SPF in a Home



# Summary

- **LCA Parameters**

- **Standardized ISO Methodology**

- **Three Phases**

- wellhead-to-installation**

- USE**

- end-of-life**

- **Preliminary Results Show Use Phase Energy Savings from SPF Insulation Overwhelm Embodied Energy at Installation and End-of-Life!**

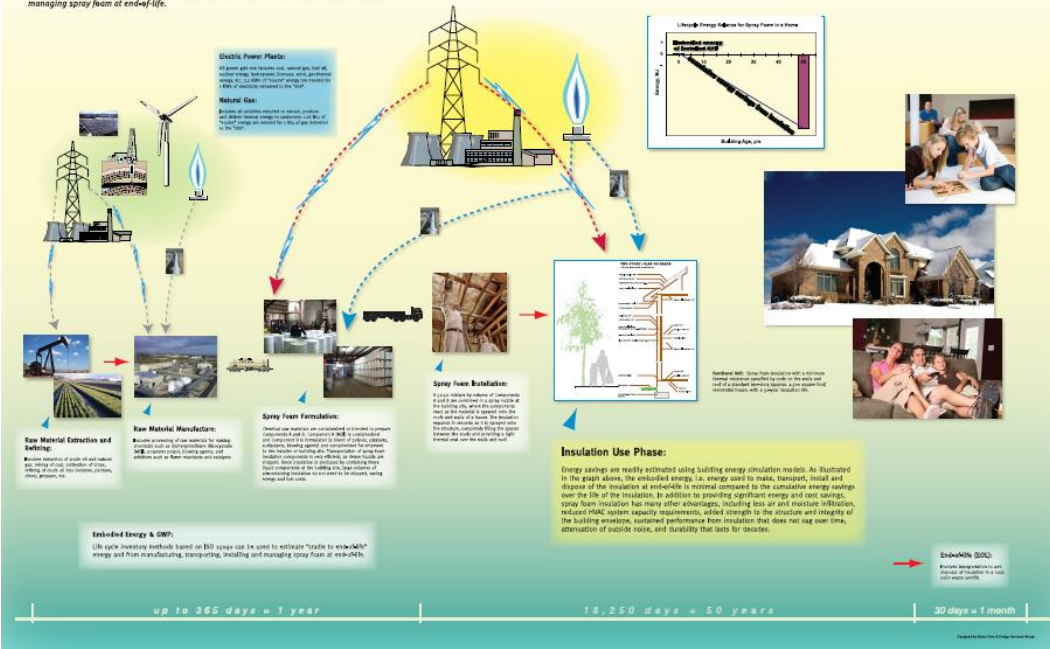
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