

# FOAM FACE-OFF

CONTROL,  
NOT COMPROMISE.®




Extruded Polystyrene  
XPS




In a balanced and fair comparison of performance attributes, in-service application, and economic value, Foam-Control EPS is the clear choice over XPS.

## Foam-Control EPS

-  Polystyrene Foam
- Complies to ASTM C578
- 3rd Party/ICC-ES Recognized
- Lower cost/R-value
- 100% R-value warranty
- Can go big - 3' x 4' x 16'
- Easy surface to laminate and apply coatings
- Cut square, flat, and any size
- Fabricates like a dream

✓	✓
✓	✓
✓	✓
✓	
✓	
✓	
✓	
✓	
✓	

## XPS

-  Polystyrene Foam
- Complies to ASTM C578
- 3rd Party/ICC-ES Recognized
- Higher cost/R-value
- 90% R-value warranty
- Standard max. size - 4" x 4' x 8'
- Surface skin must be sanded to laminate or apply coatings
- Comes off extruder with limited size choices & thickness variability
- Fabrication can be done, but thickness limits options

**Foam-Control EPS is the choice.  
Control, Not Compromise.**

# XPS, a **COMPROMISE** in real world applications



**Roofing:** XPS costs more. XPS loses R-value over time and warrants a diminished R-value for their product. EPS never loses original R-value. 30 year old “in-service” EPS has been tested to show that it has the same R-value as the day it was installed and is warranted for 100% original R-value for 20 years. EPS is easier to fabricate for taper systems and is thicker so it can be applied in one layer which reduces labor and time.



**Perimeter, Underslab and Geof foam:** XPS used in long term ground contact does absorb moisture and lose R-value. EPS in perimeter and underslab installations performs as well or better and cost less. In Geof foam uses, contractors have to apply layer, after layer, after layer of small XPS boards. EPS comes in thick large blocks (typically 3’x4’x16”), has a more competitive price, and this equals success in Geof foam projects.



**Fabricating:** XPS boards are thin, small, and expensive. EPS comes in large blocks, is less costly, and can yield fabricated parts in one piece. XPS is hard to coat and finish. EPS accepts multiple finishes and texture coatings to create realistic appearance of the replicate shape. XPS is no match against EPS for creating imaginative, beautiful and cost efficient architectural, theater/movie sets, and display shapes.



**SIPs:** Standard thicknesses of XPS don’t work well in SIPs. In roofs and floors SIPs develop strength against bending by being 8, 10, or 12” thick and XPS is not available in these sizes. XPS has a surface skin and must be sanded and squared up before you can laminate. EPS can be fabricated square, flat, in proper thickness, and has the perfect surface for laminating SIPs. Bottom line, XPS just costs more and brings no performance benefits to SIP applications.



**Exterior Wall Insulation:** The XPS surface skin causes difficulty for adhering exterior finish coatings and cannot easily be prepared to achieve proper flatness. XPS performs like a vapor blocker while EPS allows for controlled moisture transmission. EPS can be fabricated for optimum performance with one-coat and hard coat stucco systems and siding underlayment applications, and no matter what the exterior insulation application, EPS always is more cost effective.



Foam-Control EPS products are manufactured by AFM Corporation licensees.

Copyright ©2009 AFM Corporation.  
All rights reserved. Printed in USA.  
Foam-Control, Perform Guard, and Control, Not Compromise are trademarks of AFM Corporation, Lakeville, MN.

FC14-10/09



# EPS

[www.foam-control.com](http://www.foam-control.com)

**CONTROL,  
NOT COMPROMISE.®**