

What's Behind Your InsulWall[®]?

GAP: Saving Energy and (a lot of) Pocket Change

Challenge

Warehouse space utilization fluctuates throughout the year. When the warehouse has large unoccupied areas, a wall is needed to reduce the facility's energy consumption. When the warehouse is at full capacity, the wall must move easily so that the entire space can be utilized.

Project Summary

The GAP's social and environmental efforts are making a difference all over the world. Looking internally for opportunities to more efficiently use space and energy, its distribution centers represent a significant opportunity for energy savings because of their scale and operation. Unoccupied warehouse space is still incurring energy costs – lighting, heating and cooling. The challenge was to:

- Evaluate a solution that provides flexibility and modularity;
- Reduce operating costs; and
- Minimize energy usage when the facility is not at full capacity.

InsulWall was a very effective solution to this company's search for a flexible, thermal wall to save significant amounts of energy and money.

Challenge

As a global retailer, the GAP views environmental responsibility to extend well beyond its products and how they are manufactured. They also look internally to the facilities they own to audit for energy conservation. Their distribution centers - with large scale and fluctuating inventory - represent an opportunity to make a significant impact in space and energy conservation.

As inventory levels fluctuate so too does floor usage. The GAP found electricity alone accounts for nearly 12% of the energy consumption in their distribution centers*. Sectioning off the unused portion of the warehouse could dramatically cut energy usage. Resorting to a permanent wall structure wasn't feasible.

The wall solution would need to have an aggressive Return on Investment (ROI) equating back to the projected energy savings – heating, cooling, and electricity. In addition, the wall solution requirements included:

- Installation without business interruption;
- Incorporate quick, easy-access doors at the end of each isle into the wall;
- Ability to move easily and quickly when business needs changed; and
- Utilize the existing building structure to create the wall - no additional infrastructure investment.



InsulWall at the GAP – with doors to easily access unused warehouse space



InsulWall Delivered

InsulWall was selected as the optimal thermal, flexible wall solution to efficiently use space and save energy. The economic benefits were clear with the ROI on the project estimated to be 1.2 years based on reduction of HVAC and lighting loads. The design, manufacturing and installation took just four weeks.

*Gapinc.com. 'Environmental Footprint Assessment'



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