

AG-TITE

SPECIAL REPORT #2

How To Save Big \$\$\$ Retrofitting Poultry Houses

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As the poultry industry continues to move from the traditional open air ventilation to tunnel ventilation, a new factor has entered into the equation – energy savings. With high sustained propane costs now a reality, it is critical to address three issues when retrofitting a poultry house.

- 1. How can you build a solid sidewall poultry house at an affordable price if traditional building materials (wood, plastic, etc.) have gone up in price ?**
- 2. How can you minimize the downtime of the retrofitting so that you can get the houses back into production quickly?**
- 3. When the houses have been retrofitted, are they air tight so that they are energy efficient and are maintaining a high static pressure rating?**

The purpose of this special report is to educate the reader as to how new technologies in the polyurethane spray sealant can address some of these issues so that poultry houses can be retrofitted less expensively and with a higher performance than traditional building materials. Of course, polyurethane sealant has been used a lot in many other industries, from boat builders to residential house manufactures, but it has not really taken a prominent place in the agricultural industry until just recently.

AG-Tite soy sealant was designed specifically for the harsh environments of a poultry house. With its closed cell construction, it is impervious to moisture and water and because of its high R value (5.5 per inch) it is the best insulator in the world. AG-Tite is very effective in helping in the work of retrofitting of a poultry house so with this in mind, how would this sealant address the three issues listed above?

1. Polyurethane foam is less expensive than using traditional building materials!

Because of the building boom in the United States and around the world, the costs for items such as OSB, plywood, plastics and other materials has gone up considerably. Remember also that when a poultry house is going through a traditional retrofit, a lot of material is thrown away to make a place for the new material. See the example below:

Example #1 – Traditional retrofit to build a solid sidewall on a 500' house

- Tear out the old curtain & wire & siding
- Dispose of this old material
- Build a new sidewall with OSB, bubble wrap and siding
- Throw away the waste for the new building material.

Example #2 – Building a wall with soy sealant

- Prep curtain to make sure that it is tight
- Spray the sealant along the wall
- Leave – No waste

2. Soy sealant is fast so that you can put the houses back into production quickly.

Often, when considering a retrofit project, it is just assumed that the houses will be out of production for a long time. That is not the case when you use soy sealant. In most cases, a 500' house could have two solid sidewalls in 2-3 hours and an entire complex could be completed in 3+ days. Soy sealant will stick to most material so it really doesn't matter what material the poultry house is made of, a solid wall could be built.

3. Soy sealant not only seals, but it insulates which dramatically increases the static pressure of the houses.

Even after a poultry house is retrofitted using the traditional building materials, there is no guarantee that the building will be tight. If the building specifications has a targeted static pressure minimum, it may not be met which means that now the houses have to be tightened up some how, usually with wood or some type of plastic which is very time consuming and expensive. Soy sealant can seal up most if not all of the cracks in an old poultry house and dramatically increase the static pressure, which helps to save substantial energy over the winter months.

For more information about AG-Tite or any of our other energy related products, contact us or visit us on our website

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