MAKING OUR CASE

Job Name Manor High School
Location Manor, Texas
Product Hunter Panels Xci CG 1.7" polyiso - 90,000 sf
Contractor Alpha Insulation & Waterproofing, Austin, Texas
Architect Perkins + Will, Austin, Texas
General Contractor Balfour Beatty, Austin, Texas
Job Insights Changing insulation spec from extruded polystyrene (XPS) to Hunter Xci CG polyiso provided better thermal performance and met NFPA 285 fire requirements

Hunter Xci CG meets NFPA 285 fire requirements in metal-clad wall without busting the budget

The fast-growing Austin, Texas, metro area added nearly 300,000 people from 2010 to 2015, and the region remains one of the top 10 for growth in the U.S. The Manor Independent School District in suburban Manor, Texas, experiences the Austin region’s growth impacts first hand as it prepares to double its student count in the next five years from 9,000 to 18,000 students, reports KXAN TV.

To serve the larger student body, the district in 2017 added a new Manor High School on an adjacent campus to supplement the existing high school.

One challenge the building team faced was providing continuous insulation while also meeting fire requirements under NFPA 285, *Standard Fire Test Method for Evaluation of Fire Propagation Characteristics of Exterior Non-Load-Bearing Wall Assemblies Containing Combustible Components.*

“The project was originally spec’d with XPS insulation, but swapping that out for Hunter Panels Xci CG polyiso improved the thermal performance, and met NFPA 285,” says Darren Butler, president of NVLP Materials. “The price did not change when switching to Xci CG for the contractor and everyone was happy and code compliant.”
Hunter Panels Xci CG is a high-thermal rigid insulation panel composed of a closed cell polyisocyanurate foam core manufactured on-line to premium performance coated glass facers on both sides. The product has passed NFPA 285 testing in numerous wall assemblies, including the Manor High walls comprised of rock masonry, metal cladding, and metal stud framing with exterior gypsum.

In addition to polyiso offering the highest R-value per inch of any foam plastic board insulation, and Hunter Xci CG passing NFPA 285 in numerous wall assemblies, Xci CG “is a more vapor-open product than XPS, which allows buildings to dry out if necessary,” says Butler. “The durable coated glass (CG) facers also produce a more wear-resistant insulation when moved around the jobsite.”

“To deliver the best value projects for our clients, we look for building products that can serve multiple functions,” says Scott German, senior project manager with Balfour Beatty, general contractor. “Hunter Xci CG really fit the bill with this project: exceptional thermal performance, NFPA 285 compliant, and easy for our crews to install – all in one panel!”