# Understanding and Using the EN 17956 Standard for Technical Insulation

Introduction

The EN 17956 standard is a key tool for optimizing energy efficiency in technical insulation systems. It defines energy efficiency classes for industrial insulation, providing a systematic approach to reduce energy consumption and CO2 emissions. This document provides a concise overview of the standard and guidance on how to use it effectively.
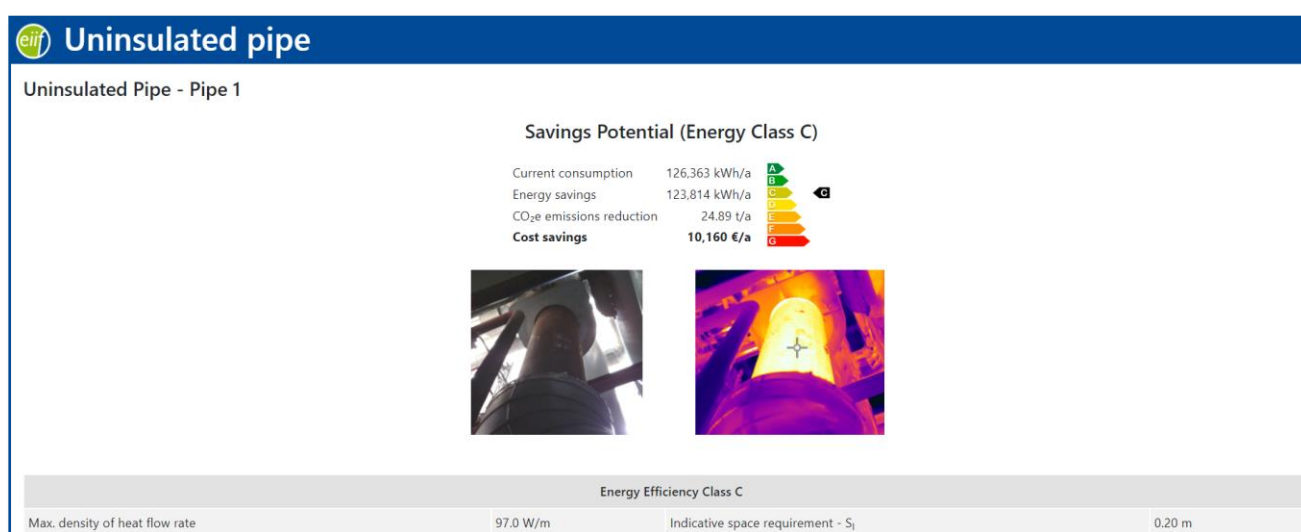
What is EN 17956?

EN 17956 is a European standard that sets out criteria for the energy performance of insulation systems used in industrial applications. It categorizes insulation solutions into energy efficiency classes ranging from A (most efficient) to G (least efficient). Any insulation solution with a higher density of heat flow rate than Energy Class F is considered as Energy Class G. This classification helps in specifying insulation solutions that meet desired energy performance standards.

Benefits of Using EN 17956

- **Improved Energy Efficiency**: By adhering to the standard, you ensure that insulation systems are optimized to minimize energy loss.
- **Cost Savings:** Effective insulation reduces energy consumption, leading to lower operational costs.
- **Environmental Impact:** Enhanced insulation contributes to significant CO2 reductions, supporting environmental sustainability goals.
- **Compliance and Benchmarking**: The standard provides a clear framework for compliance with energy efficiency regulations and benchmarking performance.

How to Use EN 17956

1. Select Insulation Energy Performance Class

⇨ **Objective**: Determine the required energy efficiency level for the insulation.

⇨ **Action**: Choose an energy efficiency class from A to F based on your performance needs. Class A represents the highest energy efficiency, while Class F represents the lowest.

2. Specify Process Temperature

⇨ **Objective:** Provide context for insulation requirements based on operating conditions.

⇨ **Action:** Input the temperature at which the process operates. This helps in determining the insulation thickness and type needed to achieve the selected energy performance class.

3. Define Geometry

⇨ **Objective:** Identify the type and size of equipment to be insulated.

⇨ **Action:** Specify whether the insulation is for pipes, surfaces, or other geometries. Include dimensions and any specific requirements for the equipment being insulated.

4. Interpret Results

⇨ **Objective:** Understand the maximum heat loss permissible for the selected energy class.

⇨ **Action:** The standard will provide the maximum allowable heat loss per class. This indicates the space requirement for a standard insulation solution to meet the chosen energy performance level.

Insulation Energy Efficiency Calculator Online

EiiF offers an easy to use online calculator to specify the maximum density of heat loss rate and the indicative space requirement: https://www.eiif.org/index.php/energy-efficiency-class-calculator
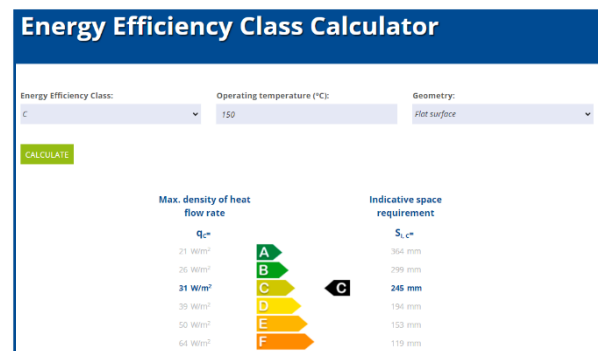
Conclusion

The EN 17956 standard is a vital resource for achieving energy efficiency in industrial insulation systems. By following its guidelines, you can optimize insulation solutions to meet your energy performance needs, achieve substantial cost savings, and contribute to environmental sustainability. For further information and guidance on implementing EN 17956, consult EiiF:

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