

Thermal Storage with Phase Change Materials Jeff Ihnen, P.E.





Outline

- Phase change material (PCM) characteristics
- Types of PCMs
- Applications, considerations, results
- Conclusions



PCM Characteristics

- Latent heat of fusion the whole point
- Sharpness of latent heat
- Melting and freezing proximity
- Stability
- Containment systems



PCM Families





Latent Heat v Freezing Point





Applications





Salt-Water PCMs





vikingcold.com



Salt-Water, Frozen Food Results

- 25-40% energy savings*
- 5-10% demand reduction**



Bio PCM in a Telecommunications App





Bio PCM Telecom Results

- 15-20% energy savings
- No mention of demand savings*



PCMs for Commercial Spaces



Options

- Bio PCM blankets in walls
- Bio PCM blankets in panels ON walls
- Hydrated salts in walls
- Encapsulated paraffin in cellulose insulation



PCM Blanket in Walls





Hydrated Salt in Wall Cavity







Bonus: Encapsulated Paraffin in Walls







My Conclusions

PCMs are great for direct conditioned space contact where several degrees of temperature change is ok.

PCMs may have challenges with conditioning occupied spaces, like offices and institutional facilities.

PCMs in wall structures require substantial testing to get it right.





Thank you Jeff Ihnen, P.E. JLI@MichaelsEnergy.com