Why are new home buyers specifying Solar Board?

Because Solar Board:
- Reduces radiant heat transfer by as much as 97%*
- Reduces attic temperatures by as much as 30 degrees*
- Effectiveness goes up as solar energy goes up...the hotter it gets, the better it works
- Reduces cooling costs...the hotter it gets, the greater the savings (can vary with geographical location and conditions**)
- Helps keep attic ducts cooler
- Reduces the on/off cycles for your HVAC equipment
- Reduces HVAC running time
- Increases the comfort level in the home
- Pays for itself quickly – and savings will be repeated year after year
- Costs just a few dollars per panel more than ordinary sheathing
- Has a cool 20 year warranty
- Increases the value of your house right now and later when you may sell
- Is made right here in the USA

Solar Board in your home is a good investment.

Today, home owners are aware of the importance of conserving energy and that specifying energy-efficient products before construction begins can make a real difference in the long term cost of owning a home. It not only cuts your energy costs, it makes your home more comfortable.

Solar Board. Cool.

* Documented by Geoscience LTD (an independent testing laboratory using ASTM C-236 methods)
** Geoscience LTD report: “If roof temperatures are greater than 123°F the energy savings could increase”.

For copies of the above reports contact Norbord at 416 363 0710 or www.norbord.com
Your comfort level will be higher with Solar Board in your new home.

How much higher? The comfort level in your new home should be much higher because of the high efficiency of Solar Board in reducing radiant heat transfer through the roof and walls. Cooler in the scorching hot summer sun – a more comfortable house with lower energy costs. And it’s comforting to know the Solar Board panels in your house are backed by Norbord and their 20 year warranty.

Is Solar Board expensive? We have all heard the old saying, “Pay a little now, or pay a lot later.” Solar Board costs only a few dollars more than ordinary sheathing material, very little compared to the overall cost of a new home, and Solar Board can pay for itself very quickly. The savings in energy costs start right away and continue as long as you own your home. And the resale value will be higher if you do sell. We all know that the cost of energy is not about to go down, so the small additional cost of having Solar Board panels in your new home really is a good investment.

Solar Board is a worthwhile option for your new home, not an upgrade done later, so let your builder know now that you would like your home to be Solar Board cool.

The bottom line? Solar Board panels reduce cooling costs.* The hotter it is the more you save, and you save money year after year. Solar Board can help meet energy code requirements. Doesn’t that sound like a good idea?

And what exactly is a Solar Board house?

It could be your new dream home. Except better. Better because Solar Board radiant barrier sheathing has been specified instead of ordinary roof and wall sheathing. More and more home buyers in America who are honestly concerned about saving energy and lowering energy costs are also insisting on having Solar Board in their home.

How much cooler is a Solar Board house? Let’s look at the hottest part inside a house – the attic. A Solar Board house can be up to 30 degrees* cooler in the attic than a house with ordinary roof decking. A cooler attic. A cooler house. The hotter the outside temperature, the better Solar Board works.

Why is it cooler? Solar Board is Norbord’s OSB (Oriented Strand Board) laminated with a layer of aluminum foil which reflects as much as 97% of the radiant energy from the sun back out through the roof. Only a small part of the sun’s energy penetrates into the attic. The end result is an attic that is up to 30 degrees* cooler.

What is the effect of a cooler attic? When an attic is cooler, the rest of the house will obviously be cooler too. There is less heat in the attic to transfer down into the living space. A cooler attic means the surface temperature of insulated attic ducts and cold air returns are lower which means they are more efficient. Unlike traditional insulation, a Solar Board roof significantly reduces the sun’s radiant energy from penetrating the living areas. The results are lower energy costs, compared to ordinary roof systems.

A Solar Board roof means the HVAC system has to cycle less frequently, runs less (this can extend the life of the system) and your home is more comfortable.

When it’s hot, you’re not.

Solar board reflects radiant solar heat back outside.

What does the reflected heat do to the shingles? Research by the Florida Energy Center show that summer sun heats shingles to peak temperatures of 160 to 190 degrees and that the radiant heat reflected by Solar Board panels has little effect on the roof shingles, increasing shingle temperatures only 2 to 5 degrees F (depending on the shingle color), well within the design limits to which shingles are manufactured.

Is Solar Board used on exterior walls too? Yes, Solar Board is also the ideal wall sheathing. A home with Solar Board wall sheathing will be more energy efficient. When installed as wall sheathing the foil should be applied facing out, with a ¾” air space left between the Solar Board and the siding.