

# Federal Biobased Products Preferred Procurement Program (FB4P) Process for Industry Investigation

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## Designation Item

This section details the item that has been investigated for designation in the FB4P.

**Item Investigated:** Insulating Foam - Wall Construction

**Item Description:** Insulating foams – wall construction represent that group of products designed as spray-in-place insulation systems for residential or commercial construction applications. Products in this item provide a sealed thermal barrier, which significantly simplifies construction and reduces job-hours required on a project. Biobased insulating foams are typically formulated from natural soy-based feed stocks and contain little to no hazardous ingredients.

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## Industry Investigation

There are four main sources of information used to gather data about items for designation. These include Internet search engines, the Thomas Register, industry associations, and biobased industry contacts. Each of these sources provides different results. The Internet search engines and the Thomas Register provide many results when a keyword is entered. However, when investigating products through the industry associations and biobased industry contacts, the results tend to be product or company specific. A lengthy, but thorough list of biobased companies which product the designation item can be developed best by utilizing all four information sources.

### Internet Search Engines

When searching the Internet, each search engine utilizes a different algorithm to find related topics. To maximize results and ensure correct data, keywords are entered into several search engines. Primary search engines include Google, Yahoo, WebCrawler and Meta Crawler.

Search Engine	Keywords	Results
Google	Insulation Foam Insulation Wall Insulation Spray Foam Insulation	<a href="http://www.owenscorning.com">www.owenscorning.com</a> <a href="http://www.ornl.gov">www.ornl.gov</a> <a href="http://www.naima.org">www.naima.org</a> <a href="http://www.cellulose.org">www.cellulose.org</a> <a href="http://www.certainteed.com">www.certainteed.com</a> <a href="http://www.pima.org">www.pima.org</a> <a href="http://www.insulate.org">www.insulate.org</a> <a href="http://www.insulation.org">www.insulation.org</a> <a href="http://www.jm.com">www.jm.com</a> <a href="http://www.applegateinsulation.com">www.applegateinsulation.com</a> <a href="http://www.greenbuilder.com">www.greenbuilder.com</a> <a href="http://www.icynene.com">www.icynene.com</a> <a href="http://www.nuwool.com">www.nuwool.com</a> <a href="http://www.honeywell.com">www.honeywell.com</a>
Vivisimo	See Previous	<a href="http://www.sprayfoam.com">www.sprayfoam.com</a> <a href="http://www.soyfoam.com">www.soyfoam.com</a> <a href="http://www.foaminsulation.org">www.foaminsulation.org</a>
Alta Vista	See Previous	See Previous

## Thomas Register

The Thomas Register, a free web service found at <http://www.thomasregister.com/>, provides a database of over 173,000 companies that can be searched by company name, product name or keyword. Each result contains contact information and may also include other useful information such as a product catalog.

Keyword	Results
Spray Foam Insulation	<a href="http://www.tigerfoam.com">www.tigerfoam.com</a> <a href="http://www.nomaco.com">www.nomaco.com</a> <a href="http://www.foamenterprises.com">www.foamenterprises.com</a> <a href="http://www.fomo.com">www.fomo.com</a> <a href="http://www.achfoam.com">www.achfoam.com</a>
Wall Insulation	International Cellulose Corp. <a href="http://www.burtlumber.com">www.burtlumber.com</a>
Foam Insulation	<a href="http://www.rhhfoamsystems.com">www.rhhfoamsystems.com</a> <a href="http://www.atlasfoam.com">www.atlasfoam.com</a>

## Industry Associations

Industry associations provide a good source to identify potential manufacturers, determine additional keywords for internet searches, and provide general descriptions of products within an item. Many associations maintain official websites with lists of member organizations and in some cases catalogs of available products.

Association Investigated / Contacted	Results
United Soybean Board Association of the Wall and Ceiling Industry National Insulation Association Insulating Concrete Form Association Structural Insulated Panel Association North American Insulation Manufacturers Association Cellulose Insulation Manufacturers Association Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association Insulation Contractors Association of America	<a href="http://www.artekplastics.com">www.artekplastics.com</a> <a href="http://www.ktmindustries.com">www.ktmindustries.com</a> <a href="http://www.uniseal.com">www.uniseal.com</a> Greenwood Cotton Insulation <a href="http://www.enduratite.com">www.enduratite.com</a> Niemann & Associates <a href="http://www.hmi-mfg.com">www.hmi-mfg.com</a> <a href="http://www.gscsite.com">www.gscsite.com</a>

## Biobased Company Contacts

Company contacts come as a result of interaction with government officials, researchers, and industry representatives. FB4P staff follow-up on personal referrals or potential leads to possible biobased products.

Company	Contact Person	Results
Hobbs Bonded Fibers	Raymond Branter	Natural Wood fiber for Insulation
Biobased Systems	Josh Hutchinson	Biobased 1702 Biobased 501 Biobased 8000 Healthy Seal 500
North Plains Insulation	Nico Hardeman	InsulGreen

## Conclusion

The results from the four information sources indicate that over 16 manufacturing companies in the United States are currently producing Insulating Foam for Wall Construction that may be considered for inclusion in the Federal Biobased Products Preferred Procurement Program.