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## **Results of Second Energy Study Reinforce that Awnings Save on Cooling Costs**

*Research in five additional cities proves awnings reduce home energy consumption*

ROSEVILLE, MINN. – (October 4, 2007) – The second round of an energy study conducted by the Center for Sustainable Building Research at the University of Minnesota further determined that [awnings](#) can provide savings on home cooling costs by reducing the load on air conditioners.

“By expanding the study’s research base to five additional cities, we were able to evaluate the effectiveness of awnings in more diverse climates,” said John Carmody, director of the Center for Sustainable Building Research. “Holding true again, the second study reinforced that awnings can reduce home cooling energy consumption.”

Commissioned by the [Professional Awning Manufacturer’s Association \(PAMA\)](#), round two of *Awnings in Residential Buildings: The Impact of Energy Use and Peak Demand* calculated the impact of awnings in Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Jacksonville, Houston and Miami. The previous study included Seattle, Boston, Minneapolis, Sacramento, Albuquerque, St. Louis and Phoenix.

According to the study, awnings can reduce annual cooling energy by as much as 16 percent in hot climates, such as Houston, and as much as 14 percent in moderate climates, such as Washington, D.C., compared to homes with completely unshaded windows. The amount of cooling energy saved varies depending on the number of windows, type of glass in the windows, window orientation and the climate the house is in. The homes that receive the greatest energy-savings benefits from awnings have mostly west-facing windows.

“What some people don’t realize is that in most homes, more cooling energy is lost through glass doors and windows than any other part of the house,” said Michelle Sahlin, managing director of [PAMA](#). “Awnings are an effective way to reduce heat gain and cooling energy costs in households. This benefits the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the homeowner by saving them money on energy bills.”

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To conduct both of the studies, University researchers used a computer program to investigate variables in conjunction with awnings installed over windows. The variables tested included climate, window orientation, window glazing type and usage in the summer, winter and year round.

#### **About IFAI**

The Industrial Fabrics Association International (IFAI) is a not-for-profit trade association with more than 2,000 member companies representing the international specialty fabrics marketplace. Member companies range in size from one-person shops to multinational corporations. Members' products span the entire spectrum of the specialty fabrics industry, from fiber and fabric suppliers to manufacturers of end products, equipment and hardware.

#### **About PAMA**

The [Professional Awning Manufacturers Association \(PAMA\)](#), a division of the Industrial Fabrics Association International (IFAI), is the only international trade association committed to the awning industry. PAMA membership is open to companies who are current members of IFAI and manufacture or sell awnings, as well as those who supply goods/services to the awning industry.

PAMA maintains two Web sites – [www.awninginfo.com](http://www.awninginfo.com), which focuses on association members and commercial awning use, and [www.awningtoday.com](http://www.awningtoday.com), which educates consumers about awnings and awning benefits.

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