



## Industrial Strength ICF

Fox Blocks  
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### 5.9 Mechanical Systems (HVAC)

One of the major advantages of ICFs in general and Fox Block ICF in particular is the thermal performance of the wall system. There have been several successful studies conducted by the Portland Cement Association, ORNL laboratories and in Canada by NRC.

In summary technical bulletins published by the ICFA and the PCA, found in Chapter 8 of this manual, describe the ICF effect. As well the PCA report prepared by Dr. Pieter VanderWerf identified that ICF houses experienced a reduction in energy use of 32% for space cooling and 44% for space heating when compared to typical stick frame construction.

These clearly indicate the energy savings that can be realized by constructing buildings with Fox Block ICF walls.

To assist customers in the correct sizing of HVACs equipment Fox Block ICF offers 2 references:

- i) The Portland Cement Association has prepared HVAC Sizing software for Concrete Homes  
Contact information: [www.cement.org](http://www.cement.org)
- ii) Energy wise, an energy consulting firm in Texas provided project specific information.  
Contact Information: Tel: 972-540-5365 & website: [www.energywisestructures.com](http://www.energywisestructures.com)

The Fox Block walls with their reinforced concrete core also function as a very effective air barrier. This when combined with the thermal performance of Fox Blocks walls results in buildings which can be readily designed and constructed to have consistent interior air quality, less impacted by variable infiltration of outside air.



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