

More Than A Decade of Hassle-Free Service:

Durable Heat Saver Blankets Maintain Energy & Chemical Conservation For Indoor Pool

CUSTOMER: JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL, ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

EQUIPMENT: USFILTER'S STRANCO PRODUCTS HEAT SAVER BLANKETS

INSTALLED: 1988

BACKGROUND: Heated pools can be huge consumers of energy, primarily due to water evaporation. It takes only 1 BTU to raise one pound of water one degree, but each pound of 80-degree water that evaporates takes a whopping 1,048 BTUs of heat out of the pool. In the late 1980s, Rockford School District building personnel realized the best way to curb high energy usage at its Jefferson High School was through effective insulation and evaporation control in the school's 197,000-gallon pool.

ACTION STEPS: A Heat Saver Insulated Pool Blanket system from USFilter's Stranco Products was installed to prevent evaporation and heat loss during times when the pool is not in use. The Heat Saver Blanket system consists of three custom-made 15' x 75' sections manufactured using a two-step fabric-to-foam flame lamination process designed for long life in swimming pool environments. For ease of operation, the three sections are rolled on and off the pool surface by way of three stainless steel, floor-mounted USFilter Stranco Storage Reels.

RESULTS: Today, more than 12 years later, the Heat Saver Blankets at Jefferson High School are still doing a great job. According to Larry Paladino, building engineer for the school, the blankets are used religiously. "It is very easy for one person to deploy the system," he says. "It only takes us about 10-15 minutes in the morning, and again at closing."

In a 1996 U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) study, every dollar spent on pool covers (and related energy efficient pool equipment) resulted in an average annual energy savings value of more than \$0.78. Based on the DOE study, and given the 12-year longevity of Jefferson High School's Heat Saver Blankets, the school's blankets have paid for themselves almost 10 times over!

Besides saving energy, Paladino says that using Heat Saver Blankets also provides other benefits, including chemical savings because less chemicals are depleted through evaporation. Another major benefit is that the blankets help protect the pool's features and equipment from corrosion. "Whenever the blankets have been off, heavy condensation begins to form all over the ceiling and walls, and this can be highly corrosive due to the chlorine content in the condensate. This corrosion is a maintenance headache regardless, but using the blankets is a good preventive measure — it helps keep corrosion from being a lot worse."

Twelve years of continued use is a testament to the durability of Heat Saver Insulated Pool Blankets. Double polyethylene-woven fabric used in an interlocking end-to-edge treatment along with a double-locking chain stitch allows for extreme strength and flexibility as well as makes the blankets easy to handle. "In the eight years that I've been here at the school," says Paladino, "the only attention they have required was last year, when one seam in one of the sections needed repair. This repair was performed promptly by the manufacturer."

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION:**

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