THE EFFECT OF INSULATION ON DAYTIME COOLING FOR INSULATED AND NON-INSULATED BUILDING

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Final Year Project Report Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Science (Hons.) Physics in the Faculty of Applied Science Universiti Teknologi MARA

JULY 2013

This Final Year Project entitled "The Effect of Insulation on Daytime Cooling for Insulated and Non-Insulated Building" was submitted by Mohamad Amerul Akmal Kamarulzaman, in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Bachelor of Science (Hons.) Physics, in the Faculty of Applied Sciences and was approved by

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2 2 JUL 2013

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Upon completion of this project, I would like to express my gratitude to many parties. My heartfelt thanks go to my supervisor Prof Dr Zaini krom Zakaria and also my co-supervisor Prof Dr Razidah Ismail for guiding me in order to complete my projects. Thank you for your support and all your advices which make me feel more matured and eager to complete my project.

Furthermore, I would like to thank all lecturers that always help me to find the suitable materials for my project. All materials and knowledge are useful to achieve the expected result of my project. I feel very fortunate to have kind-hearted lecturers and friends by my side in which they help me so much and always motivate me whenever I face any difficulties.

The author is mostly indebted to the ever helpful master student, Noor Hafizah Abdul Halim and research team members, Nor Azirah Ghazali, Siti Nadzirah Abdul Karim and Mohamad Syahmi Mohamad Pozi for their shared knowledge and unconditional assistance. Not to mention the constant reminders for meetings and deadlines that has made this journey feasible. Thank you very much.

Finally, I would like to show my gratitude toward my family which always give me strength and motivate me. Thank you for your encouragement that indirectly helps me to complete my project successfully.

Thank you,

Mohamad Amerul Akmal Kamarulzaman

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ABSTRACT

In a tropical country like Malaysia, there is a dire need of installing air-conditioning in order to have a more comfortable ambience temperature. However, there are growing concerns about the increasing energy consumption in the world and Malaysia particularly. In order to achieve both comfortable lifestyle and energy conservation at the same time, mostly believed and held upon through studies and research done, the installation of insulation above the ceiling is one of the solution. Therefore this study is aiming to further complement the studies and research done, by evaluating the energy consumptions on non-insulated and insulated building during daytime cooling using field data, and is compared and backed with computer simulation data using Integrated Environmental Solution software (IES) and also to determine the relationship between energy consumption and outdoor temperature. The field study was carried out at energy efficiency test cell with dimensions are 4m width, 4m length and 3m height located in Universiti Teknologi MARA, Shah Alam. measuring the energy consumption on cooling load in daytime cooling for noninsulated and insulated building in 7 days with 10 minutes interval. One of the test cells was equipped with insulation at ceiling and mineral wool insulation with the thickness of and 100mm for fiberglass insulation and was installed with a 950W split unit air conditioning system that setup the temperature at dry bulb temperature, 24°C. The results for both field and computer simulation data gave a similar pattern showed in this study, which is that insulation building will consume less energy, despite the difference in value in terms of the energy consumption between field and computer simulation. From the result, total daily energy consumption recorded was influenced by the outdoor temperature as the outdoor temperature increase, the energy consume by cooling load also increase. From this relationship, the best equation with higher correlation coefficient was generated and the value of correlation coefficient is showing the effectiveness of outdoor temperature on energy consumption.