Formerly used as an Ulster Weavers bleachworks factory, the 32-acre Linen Mill Film and Television Studios in Banbridge, Northern Ireland had Icynene LD-C-50 installed for acoustic and condensation purposes. Film and television productions filmed at the studios now benefit from improved acoustics and minimized external noise.

Set in the rolling hills of County Down, near the town of Banbridge in Northern Ireland, the Linen Mill Film and Television Studios house approximately 7,153 square meters (77,000 sq. ft.) of indoor sound stage and up to 1,486 square meters (16,000 sq. ft.) of office suites¹.

Originally an Ulster Weavers bleachworks factory, the film studios are within 30 minutes of the capital, Belfast and were the filming location for the second and third seasons of the popular HBO series, Game of Thrones. Facilities at the Linen Mill Film and Television Studios include a preview theatre, make-up and wardrobe space, pastures and stables as well as storage space for props.

When operations at the bleachworks factory ceased in May 2008, the opportunity to convert the space into film and television studios was presented to owners Ulster Weavers.

The Challenge
Converting the vast factory spaces into usable sound stages required the owners to seek modern construction materials, such as spray foam insulation.

Although set in a rural area of County Down, the studios sit on the A50 road which connects the towns of Portadown and Newcastle. Noise from road traffic as well as aircraft from nearby airports was a concern for the studio's owners as well as for any production crew considering using the space.

With chilly autumnal and winter weather common within the region, thermal comfort was a top priority for the converted studio spaces. The studio owners wanted to find ways to prevent condensation from occurring on the underside of the roof during filming, while also finding a solution that could provide thermal comfort.

The Solution
To ensure that external airborne sounds were reduced and condensation was prevented, the studio owners considered using Icynene® spray foam insulation.

Icynene’s open-cell, light-density spray foam - LD-C-50 - has excellent sound absorption characteristics and is able to minimize both flanking and airborne noises. These sound dampening qualities are ideal for film studios where minimal sound disruption is critical.

The studio owners worked with local licensed Icynene contractor, Thermloc Insulation Ltd, to properly assess the various buildings within the studio grounds and how to effectively
insulate and sound proof the buildings. Thermloc was able to successfully install the spray foam within two days helping ensure that any delays in film production were kept to an absolute minimum.

Icynene® LD-C-50’s excellent sound absorption characteristics and ability to minimize both flanking and airborne noises made the solution ideal for film studios where minimal sound disruption is critical.

**The Result**

By installing Icynene light-density, open-cell spray foam, the studio owners were able to make use of otherwise disused farm buildings thereby increasing the space available to rent. The spray foam and its sound dampening qualities helped ensure that these new studio spaces were brought up to the high standard expected for film production.

Installation of the spray foam now provides actors, production crews and studio employees the opportunity to work in comfort throughout the changing seasons in Northern Ireland. External sounds, such as low-flying aircraft and traffic, are now significantly minimized. Inside, the thermal comfort is high while the probability of condensation on the ceiling is low helping avoid any costly production delays.

A former linen bleachworks to a renewed life as a television and film studio, Icynene spray foam insulation has helped ensure the Linen Mill Film and Television Studios remain comfortable, moisture-free and noise-free.

**Footnotes:**

1 Source: Northern Ireland Screen, www.northernirelandscreen.co.uk

For further information, contact your local licensed Icynene dealer.