



Sound Insulation Makes a 'Noisy' Business Quieter

Canadian music studio uses JM insulation as part of its solution for acoustic isolation, providing quiet spaces for students to learn and keeping neighbors happy.

One building. Nine studios. Nine music students or groups, all making music at the same time.

That's a building that needs good acoustical insulation.

Darryl Lindenbach, co-owner of The Music Studio in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, knew this when his business relocated to a new and improved location. He wanted to do all that was possible to make the studios as sound insulated from each other (and neighbors) as possible.

His contractor, Zayn Makhamra from ZAYNZ, suggested Johns Manville insulation to Lindenbach, and he's been very pleased with the results.

"True sound isolation can only really be accomplished at the base build and design stage of a building," Lindenbach said. "Since we were going into an existing structure and retrofitting, what everyone wants (100% acoustically sealed) is impossible. It just isn't there. So, when you set up a business in a bay next to something else, you do the best you can, which is what we did."

The Need for Good Acoustics

The Music Studio started in 2011 as a home-based business, moving to a commercial shopping center area that year and then into its new facility in 2024.

Lindenbach has a background in music and theater. Having built and run theaters in the past, he said acoustics have "always been a big part" of his life. He knows that when acoustics are good, they're good- and when they're bad, they're bad.

PRODUCT

JM Unfaced Fiberglass Batts and Rolls

LOCATION

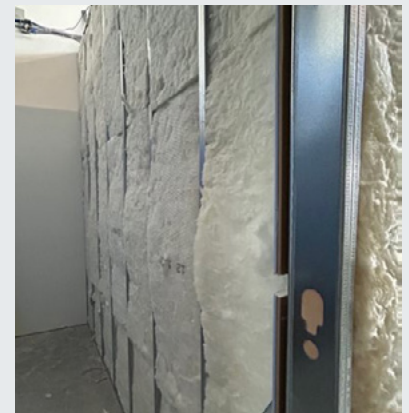
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

INSTALLER

ZAYNZ



JM Unfaced Fiberglass Batts and Rolls





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“When it comes to acoustics and STC (sound transmission class, used to measure a building material’s ability to absorb sound), a lot of people don’t understand how to do it properly. Acoustic isolation is an interesting thing,” Lindenbach said.

“We knew we needed to do the wall assembly and ceiling insulation well, and when Zayn brought up Johns Manville insulation, it was the product that made the most sense.”

Insulating a New Building

The shell of The Music Studio’s new location already existed, as a large commercial development built in 2020. The Music Studio is the first tenant in the 2,000-square foot space, so Lindenbach and crew had the opportunity to finish things to their needs.

There are nine music independent music studios within the location, ranging from 100 to 500 square feet in size. The ceilings in the building were much higher (18-22 feet) than The Music Studio needed, so Lindenbach said the interior partition work and lowering the ceilings to 10 or 12 feet were the biggest challenges.

“We did a combination of steel studs, JM insulation in the walls, specialty drywall in addition to normal drywall, solid doors and good seals – the best you can get, for a smaller company without breaking the bank” Lindenbach explained. “And we have some sound dampening materials in the rooms as well.”

Lindenbach said he hopes sharing his experience in creating the new space and in using JM insulation in the walls (in this case, R-12 fiberglass batts and rolls) will help the industry as a whole.

“I want our industry to understand there are good ways to do this (acoustic isolation), and to do it affordably too,” he said. “In any building, it’s all won or lost in the planning for sound and acoustics. And in monitoring the trades as the build goes, to make sure they don’t change things that affect the sound.”

The Music Studio

There is something for everyone at The Music Studio. Whether parent/child music classes for babies and toddlers to group work to private lessons, anyone interested in music can get instruction and be inspired. They average 400 students annually.

“The group classes are foundational music, largely keyboard based, and then the private lessons are every instrument you can think of,” Lindenbach said. “We’re building people. If you can become a great musician or artist, we can help you do that. In reality, that’s not the path for 99% of people, but everyone deserves the best ‘playing field’ where they can grow and become the best version of themselves. So, we’re looking to provide them with the best possible space we can.”

For JM customer support or technical assistance, call 1-800-293-3393.



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