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## [Insulate Your Home With Super-Efficient "Frozen Smoke"](#)

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Here's a green building material that seems pretty spiff: using "frozen smoke" as an insulator. [Aerogel](#) has, according to [this article](#), the "lowest density of any product known to man," can "withstand a direct blast of 1kg of dynamite and protect against heat from a blowtorch at more than 1,300C," and can, sponge-like, absorb pollutants.

Clearly, this stuff is the Superman of insulation materials.

It's made by extracting water from silica

el, then replacing it with a gas. The final material is 99% gas, and an amazing insulator. I'm really curious as to how it feels in your hand.

It was invented by an American chemist for--what else?--a bet, and previously it was too expensive to be widely used. But now, prices have come down. It might be a while before you can find it at Home Depot, but this seems to be the green insulator of the future.