Fast Facts About Sealed:
Sealed designs, manages, and finances home weatherization and electrification projects, making it easy and affordable for people to be more comfortable while using less energy.

Their proven holistic approach can reduce energy use by 50% and take a home completely off of fossil fuels with upgrades like high-performance insulation, air sealing, and heat pump HVAC. An expert team designs the solution, matches top-rated local contractors, and manages the project from start to finish. Sealed covers the upfront costs, and are accountable to impact: if they don’t cut energy waste, they don’t get paid.

Founded: 2012
Founders: Andy Frank, Lauren Salz, Paul Gilkerson
Investors: Cyrus Capital Partners, Footprint Coalition, Fifth Wall, City Rock Venture Partners, Keyframe Capital Partners
Headquarters: New York, NY
Services: Insulation, air sealing, and HVAC home upgrades - including project design, project management, and performance-based financing.
Vision: To make all homes comfortable, healthy, and clean for the planet.

Upsizing home comfort, downsizing energy waste

After many frigid winters and hot summers, Sealed helped the Brown family bring comfort to their home for years to come.

After 16 years in their New Jersey home, Stuart Brown and Nancy Zimmerman were debating moving. They decided to stay put. “Even though we’re almost empty nesters, we’re not downsizers,” says Stuart, who loves his home’s spaciousness. “This house has the best layout I’ve ever lived in,” says Stuart, “but when our kids move out, we plan on making a few style changes.”

But the Browns’ Levitt-style home came with a few quirks. “Levitt houses were built with all radiant heat in the floors and baseboards. Over the years, those things kind of burn out,” says Stuart. Their biggest issue has been the central A/C and furnace system, “It’s on its last leg,” says Stuart. “In the summer, my daughter’s room will be way too hot while my wife is too cold in our office,” says Stuart, whose old HVAC causes uneven heating and cooling around the house. The A/C and furnace problems forced Stuart and his family to use extra fans and space heaters to stay comfortable, “We tend to be energy conscious, so it’s not ideal,” says Stuart.
Eventually, general HVAC maintenance stopped helping. Stuart realized he needed a whole new HVAC system, but wanted the most energy-efficient one he could find. That’s when Stuart found Sealed.

“I learned that heat pumps can warm a house in temperatures down to negative 20 or 30 degrees without using fossil fuels. And in the summer, they work the other way in terms of cooling a house,” says Stuart. Stuart considers heat pumps an investment for future comfort, “Upgrading became a very attractive thing to do, especially with maybe having grandkids visiting someday.”

The two-day install began with an evacuation pressure test to make sure there were no leaks in the lines before tearing out the old gas-fired furnace and central air conditioning system. Before testing for air leaks, cellulose was added to the cathedral slopes, the attic peak upstairs, parts of the garage, and the knee wall in the attic. Then, the contractors installed two, four-port high-efficiency cold climate heat pumps. Each unit feeds four indoor wall-mounted evaporator heads that produce heating and air conditioning.

Stuart and his family quickly noticed benefits from their heat pump upgrade. “We all have a little more control now that we can personalize temperatures in the house,” says Stuart. And there were even unexpected perks to Sealed’s whisper-quiet mini-splits. “Usually, when I work in my garden, I notice noise from the air conditioning. The new heat pumps are so quiet they make my garden even more of a zen place,” says Stuart.

“We didn’t even know that it was possible to have a combined heating and cooling system, and this accomplishes that.”

Stuart Brown — Matawan, New Jersey

“We are environmentalists, so Sealed really fits our ideals.”

Stuart Brown — Matawan, New Jersey

Location
Matawan, New Jersey

House Style
Levitt Home

Year Built
1962