



# *Behind the logo.....*

*Those logos you see are designed to communicate important information. We want you to understand the benefits they offer!*



The official test for all windows in Canada to determine their performance level and durability is called the CSA A-440 M98. Almost every window sold in Canada has been tested to this standard where a single test window is shipped to a laboratory and a written report is issued. This is properly called ***“CSA tested”***.

It is a reality of testing a special window that windows manufactured may not meet the same level of performance as the test sample.



As a result, a program known as the CSA Window Certification Program was created. Windows that are ***“CSA Certified”*** are windows where the quality of the windows produced is monitored and tested independently to assure that they are the equivalent quality to the published test report.



The National Fenestration Ratings Council is a U.S.A. based program that develops and operates a uniform national rating system for energy performance of fenestration (window) products. The program creates a standard ‘U’ ® value for a window product and as a separate rating also offers the SHGC (Solar Heat Gain Coefficient) for the window.

The SHGC is important because more solar heat is considered beneficial under the Energy Star program for more northerly geographic regions.



The American Architectural manufacturers Association develops and operates a certification and labeling program. Windows are mainly tested for air, water, structural performance and resistance to forced entry.

This program is similar to testing a window in Canada to the CSA A440 M98 standard.



Energy Star is a program developed by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The program has been adopted by the Canadian Government as a major weapon in the fight for energy conservation.

The E.R. System utilizes the SHGC to geographically vary the requirements according to different climate regions. The farther north a climate region, the higher the SHGC must be for the window in order to qualify. The higher the E.R., the better the window. (The system changed in 2005 from a negative numbered system to a positive system. Do not compare old numbers with new!)



The Canadian Window and Door Manufacturers Association is the creator of the window certification presently being administered by the CSA. Out of date material from various manufacturers may indicate that a window series is CWDMA Certified instead of saying CSA Certified. It is the same program.



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The Window Wise program is a “certified installation” program operated under the auspices of the Siding and Window Dealers Association of Canada (SAWDAC).

Only dealer members of SAWDAC are allowed to participate in the program. Installers are required to take a one day course on installation technique and air flow within a home. They must pass a written test at the end of the day.

Any crew working on a Window Wise installation must have a certified installer on site. Windows must be installed according to the specifications of the program and random inspections are carried out on site by independent inspectors.



The Insulated Glass Manufacturers Association (IGMA) has replaced previous U.S. and Canadian Associations as the certifying body for sealed units for manufacturers.

Manufacturers of sealed units submit sample units to IGMA’s authorized testing laboratories. The units are tested with accelerated aging procedures and other tests to determine their durability and overall worthiness.



The Window and Door Manufacturers Association is the U.S. association for window manufacturers. It represents the window manufacturers in the ongoing development of new, enhanced, or harmonized standards.

The WDMA also runs a certification program for window performance testing.



The American Society for testing and Materials is one of the largest voluntary standard organizations in the world. It maintains and updates many standards that are an integral part of window testing programs in the United States and around the world.

Its Canadian counterpart is the Canadian Government Standards Bureau (CGSB) which maintains many of the Canadian standards used in test programs in Canada.



The Canadian Construction Materials Centre (CCMC) maintains a list of approved building materials that is available in book form to the public. The publication is called the “Registry of product Evaluations” and is updated annually.



The National Research Council (NRC) is an international leader in promoting better technology in the building industry.

The NRC includes The Institute for Research in Construction and the Canadian Construction Materials Centre as part of its mission to promote better building materials and practices in Canada.

**ISO 9002**



ISO is an international standard for business practices. To qualify for ISO certification, a company must demonstrate the effectiveness and consistency of its internal systems and procedures at focusing on product consistency and customer services.



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The Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) continues to play an important role in assisting Canadians in improving the quality of our housing. The CCMC registry was previously created and administered under the auspices of CMHC and a listing is still often referred to as a “CMHC number”. CMHC is active in providing detailed information for industry and homeowners to assist in improved construction technique and to solve problems in the home.

CMHC provides excellent information to homeowners in regard to common mold and humidity (condensation) problems including detailed solutions. Information is available through the CMHC website and in booklet form.



The Power Smart program originated in British Columbia Canada and has been used to promote energy efficient products in this and other countries. The Power Smart program was briefly used in some Canadian Provinces as a label to identify energy efficient windows. (Windows with a specific E.R. number or better.) The program was withdrawn by its owner, B.C. Hydro and is no longer in use for window products outside that province. Some companies continue to advertise their products as “Power Smart” in markets where this symbol no longer is a regulated mark for the purpose of promoting window.



One of the newest product categories in the window industry includes “self-cleaning” and “easy-to-clean” exterior glass surfaces. These products can have very different characteristics. “Easy-to-clean” glasses have a surface that resists dirt build up. Many of these surfaces will wear away in time. The “Self-Cleaning” glass types also have the capacity to accelerate the disintegration of organic dirt, utilizing energy from the sun. E-Clean is PPG’s Sun-Clean “Self-Cleaning” glass combined with our SolarShield Low E glass.



The Siding and Window Dealers Association of Canada (SAWDAC) is an association of window, siding and door installation companies and supporting manufacturers. Its goal is to improve the quality of work and service offered to the public by the industry. SAWDAC created and implemented the Window Wise certified installation program as a complement to the CSA certified Window program.



Solarban 60 (formerly available as Sungate 1000) is a sputtered Low E coating (soft coat) that is designed to minimize solar heat gain and maximize ‘U’ (“R”) value of the glass. It is excellent in locations where solar heat gain is either not desired or not a factor in energy savings. To assist customers in understanding its benefits, we call it our SolarShield Glass.



The Intercept Spacer System from PPG Glass replaces the traditional aluminum four sided spacer with a steel three sided spacer. The result is a spacer with significantly reduced heat transmission characteristics and the benefit of bent (not assembled) corners for retention of gas fillings.



Energy Advantage from Pilkington is a type of Low E glass designed to maximize heat gain for northern climates. Use of this symbol by a manufacturer indicates that based on the Canadian E.R. (CSA A-440 Energy Rating) system, a window with this label is specified to promote the lowest heating cost through maximized use of free solar energy. To assist customers in understanding its benefits, we call it our SolarGain Glass.



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The TempSmart Spacer System is Vinyl Window designs proprietary brand name for using the Edgetech premium silicone foam spacer material in combination with appropriate frame and sash reinforcements.

Edgetech's silicone foam spacer and other non-silicone spacer materials are marketing under the brand name "Superspacer".



Viper Profile provides extruded pvc lineals to The Window Designs Group. Only the best pvc resins, proven durable and long lasting in our climate are used. The best "dual screw" style machinery is used to produce quality materials.

Extrusions from Viper Profile are sold with a lifetime warranty!



Performance Windows supplies high quality pvc windows designed to meet the requirements of the new construction marketplace.



Aluminum Window Designs Limited is The Window Designs Group's internationally recognized manufacturer of a variety of thermally broken aluminum window products.

AWD's wide variety of styles includes curtainwall for commercial applications, commercial casement and awning products for commercial and high rise residential applications,

and picture/slider combination windows for both high and low rise residential applications.



Vinyl Window Designs Ltd. began production in 1986. The two young partners set a very high standard for their new company.

The objective of VWD was to offer the best quality product, excellent customer service and prompt delivery of its product at a competitive price. VWD progressed rapidly, and the company earned the respect of the marketplace. VWD has sold millions of window and annual sales for the Window Designs Group are approximately thirty-five million dollars!

VWD currently leads the remodeling business in Ontario, Canada in vinyl Window sales. VWD also exports to Japan, Argentina, Columbia, Russia, Germany, Poland and the United States of America.

VWD has an on staff industrial engineer, for product and process development. Our technical/service department head, as are all key personnel, is a knowledgeable professional veteran with many years of window experience. The company also has a fleet of trucks and trailers that deliver daily to our customers in regions of Ontario and the U.S.A.



The new millennium has begun with **ClimateShield™**, our flagship vinyl product line, qualifying for some of the most prestigious product certifications offered in North America as our company is one of the few that has chosen to work closely with the **ENERGYSTAR Program** and the **Canadian Standards Association Certification Program** in Canada and with both the **National Fenestration Ratings Council** and with **ENERGYSTAR** in the United States.



**SecurPlus™** represents peace of mind, security in design performance, security in consistent manufacturing to tested and approved standards, security locks, security glass and yes, a secure registered warranty. It is easy to see that **SecurPlus™** is your opportunity to securely own "**windows for life**"!