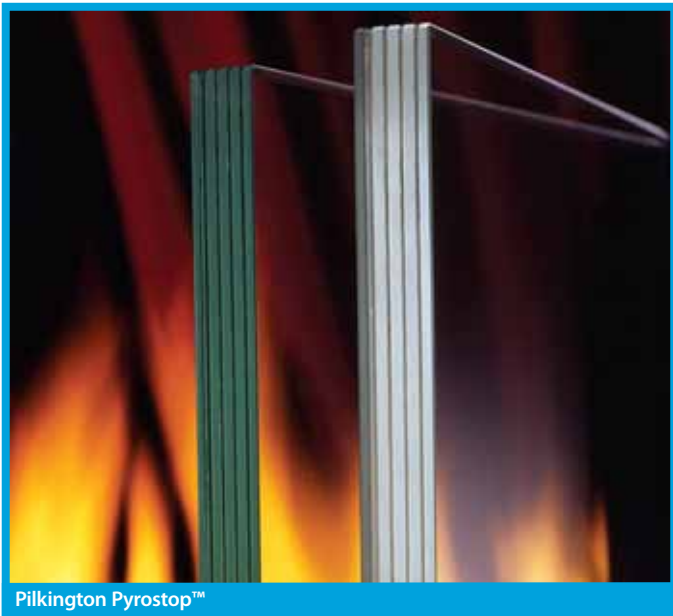


Modern Fire-Rated Glass Adds Beauty and Performance to Life Safety

NEW PRODUCTS ALLOW ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS TO USE GLASS THROUGHOUT SCHOOLS



Pilkington Pyrostop™

FOR DECADES, POLISHED WIRED GLASS WAS THE ONLY fire-rated glazing product available for blocking the spread of flames and smoke. While it serves this purpose well, it can be broken relatively easily in the course of everyday use—such as is common in busy school hallways and classrooms. Because of the potential for injury from snags in broken wired-glass, in recent years, building codes have eliminated its use in hazardous locations such as doors, sidelites and openings near the floor. Fortunately, advances in materials have created new options that allow architects and designers to incorporate fire-rated glass that is impact-resistant, and does not have the institutional look of wired glass.

»» CERAMICS

Transparent and wireless, ceramic glass offers a distinct aesthetic advantage. It comes in a range of make-ups that can provide many different characteristics, including fire ratings up to three hours, high-impact safety ratings (up to CPSC 16CFR1201, Category II), and sound reduction. Ceramic glass can also be beveled, etched

or sandblasted without affecting the fire rating, and is available in insulated glass units (IGUs) that comply with energy codes for use in exterior applications.

»» GLASS FIREWALLS

In stairwells, exit corridors and other locations where occupants could become trapped for long periods, fire-rated glass and frames must block the spread of flames and smoke and serve as barriers to heat. Transparent glass firewall and door units offer two-hour fire ratings and can be used in floor-to-ceiling designs with unrestricted amounts of glass. Tested to the same standards as solid walls, a fire could be raging on one side of the glass, yet the opposite surface remains cool enough to touch. In addition, glass firewalls offer high-impact safety ratings.

By incorporating modern fire-rated glass, architects and designers can provide fire protection for students and teachers, while capturing natural light and providing the openness and beauty of glazed areas.

»» TECHNICAL GLASS PRODUCTS (TGP)—ONE SOURCE, MANY SOLUTIONS

Since 1980, TGP has been supplying innovative solutions for specialized glazing needs. TGP is the recognized leader in fire-rated glass and framing, working closely with building code officials, designers and manufacturers to identify glass and framing solutions for today's schools and commercial buildings.

The company is the sole North American supplier of the FireLite® family of ceramic glazing products, and offers a range of other fire-rated materials, including Pilkington Pyrostop™ glass and FireFrames® fire-rated framing. ■

PHOTO COURTESY OF: TECHNICAL GLASS PRODUCTS

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