



# High Performance Glazing

Technologies, Applications & Resulting Performance

Presented by Al & Aynsley Dueck, DUXTON Windows & Doors



# Continuing Education Credits

In accordance with the Department of Labor and Industry's statute 326.0981, Subd. 11,

“This educational offering is recognized by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry as satisfying **1.5 hours** of credit toward **Building Officials and Residential Contractors** continuing education requirements.”

For additional continuing education approvals, please see your credit tracking card.

# Presentation Overview

- Window vs. Overall Wall Performance
- Performance Specifications
  - Insulating low conductivity frames
  - Insulating glass coatings and spacers
  - Operable window types
  - Durability
  - Installation details
- Selective Glazing by Orientation
- Occupant Considerations
- Emerging Technologies



# Food for Thought

*Responsibility towards our environment*

Design  
Respon-  
sibility



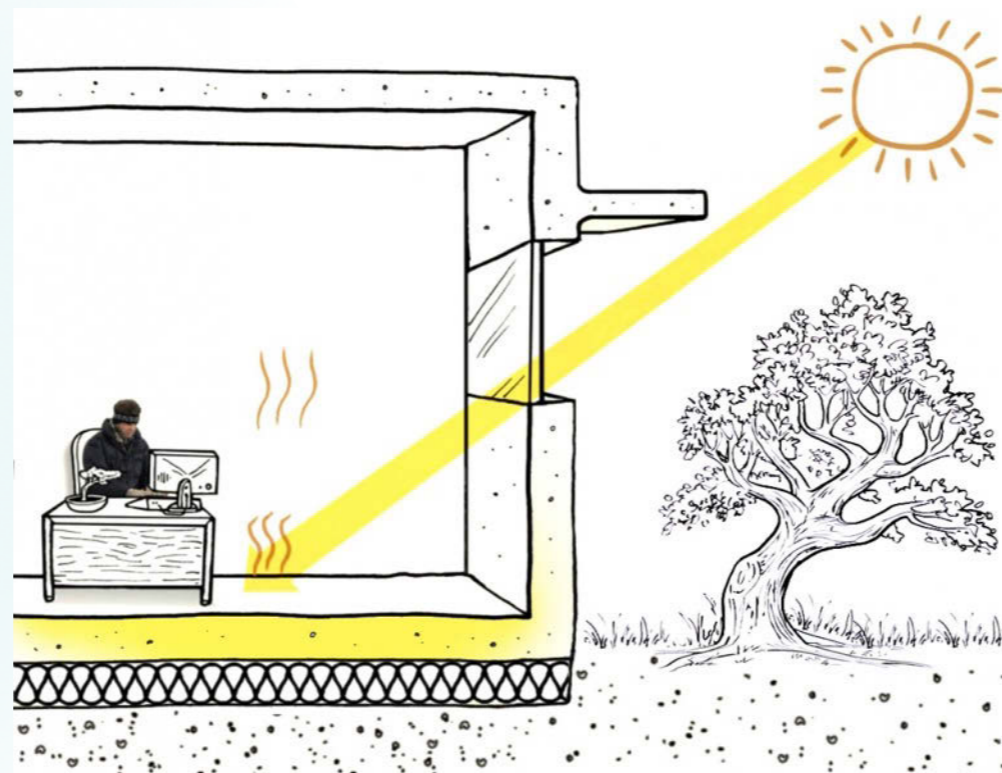
**RESPONSIBILITY**

No single drop of water thinks it is responsible for the flood.

*~ Author Unknown*

# How do Windows Contribute to Overall Building Performance?

- Windows in the U.S. consume 30% building heating and cooling energy
- Focus on the building envelope 1<sup>st</sup> – heating & cooling 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Windows can be “net energy gainers”
  - Windows with high solar heat gain coefficients (SHGC) can admit more useful solar gain than the conductive energy lost



# Net Zero Home – Passive Solar Gain Application

Habitat Studio, Edmonton, AB

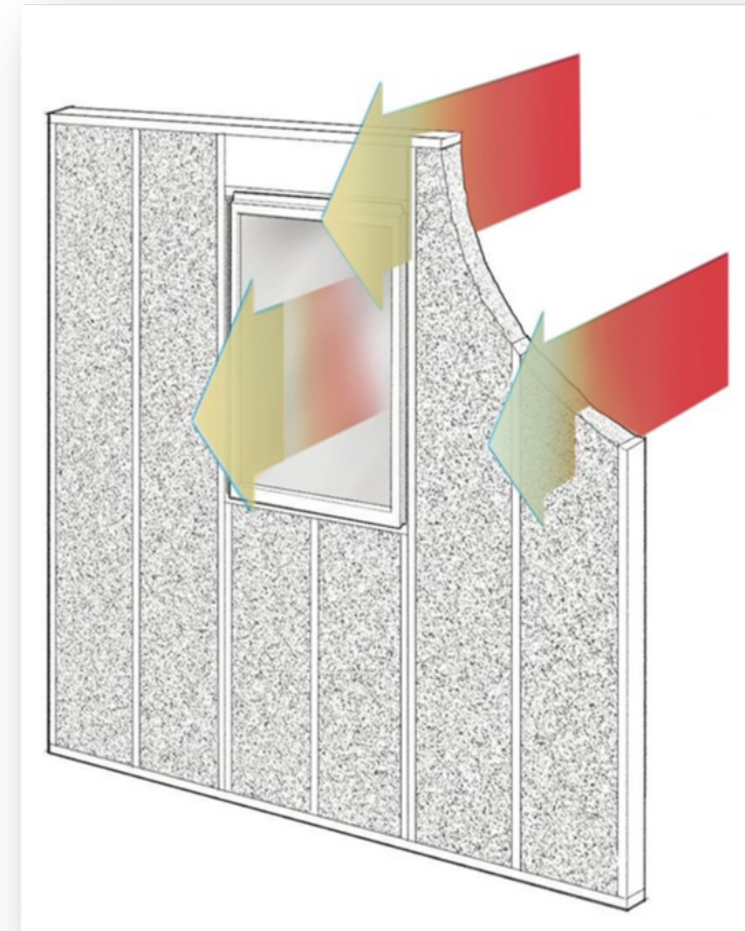
Building  
Envelope



"One of the reasons this house has such a simple mechanical system is because **it is getting over 50 per cent of its energy just from the sun coming through those south-facing windows,**" says Amerongen. "So once you reduce your total heating load it's small enough we can get all of the energy we need from those solar panels."

# Impact of Window R-Value on Overall Wall R-Value

| Window<br>15% of<br>Wall Area | Wall R-Value with Windows<br>w/Variied Wall Insulation Levels |        |      |      |
|-------------------------------|---|--------|------|------|
| U-Value                       | R-0   | R-18   | R-39 | R-60 |
| 0.30                          | R-5   | R-11   | R-15 | R-17 |
| 0.20                          | R-5   | R-13   | R-19 | R-23 |
| 0.15                          | R-5   | R-14.5 | R-23 | R-28 |
| 0.10                          | R-5.5   | R-16   | R-27 | R-34 |

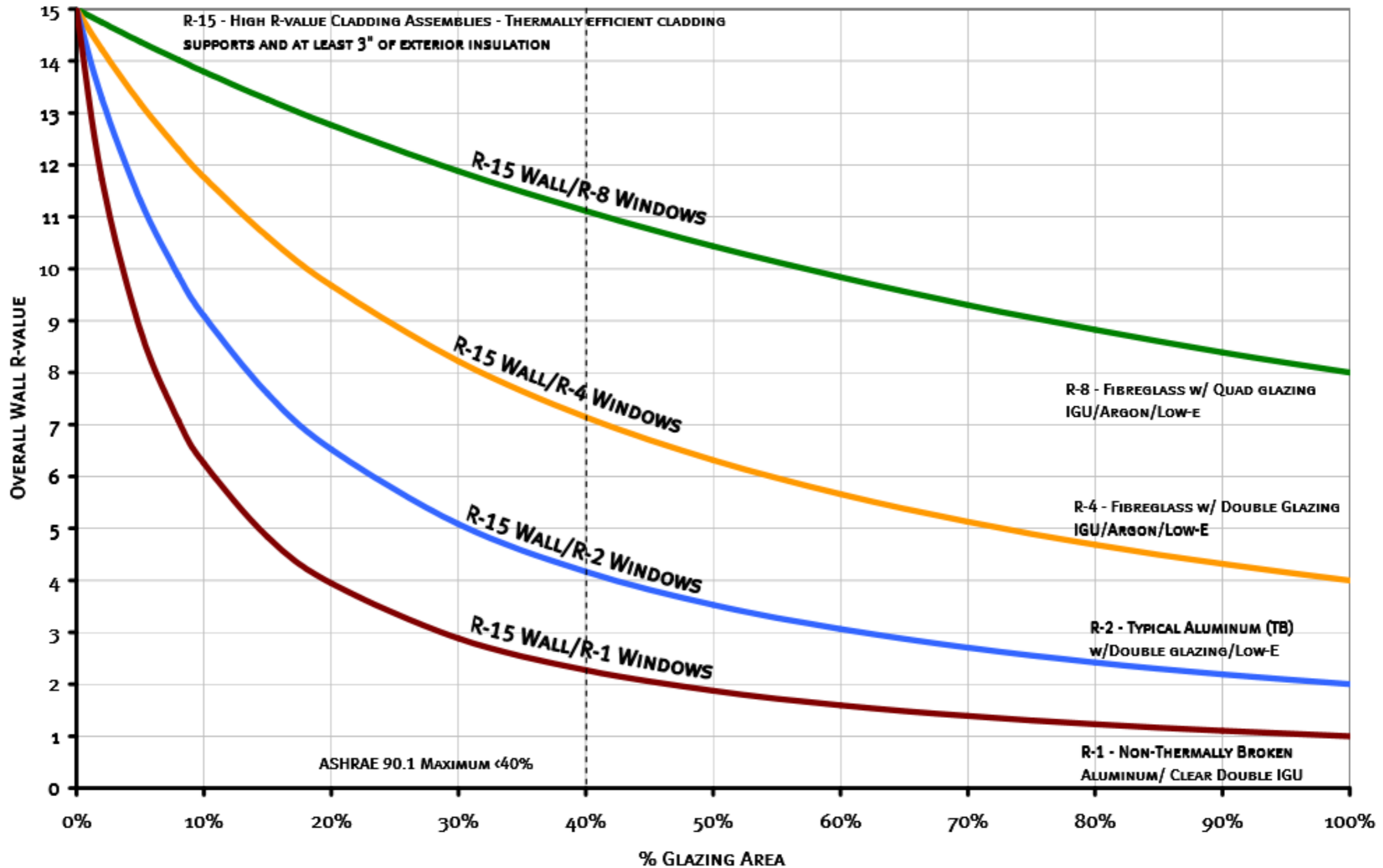


## Sources:

“Holes in the Wall: To Improve the Energy Performance of Walls, Look at the Total R-Value,”  
 Journal of Light Construction, February 2014;  
 Multi-Assembly R-Value / U-Value Calculator – Cascadia Windows and Doors;  
 Michael Blasnik Presentation, 2014 ACI Conference

# Impact of Window R-Value on Overall Wall R-Value

OVERALL WALL R-VALUE FOR HIGHRISES - BASED ON WINDOW TYPE AND % GLAZING AREA



➤ The more glazing, the bigger the impact of window performance



# Keeping Heat In (or Out)

## U-Value (U-Factor)

The measure of a window's **rate of non-solar heat loss or gain** (Btu/hr.-sq. ft.-°F in imperial).

- Consider *overall* u-value

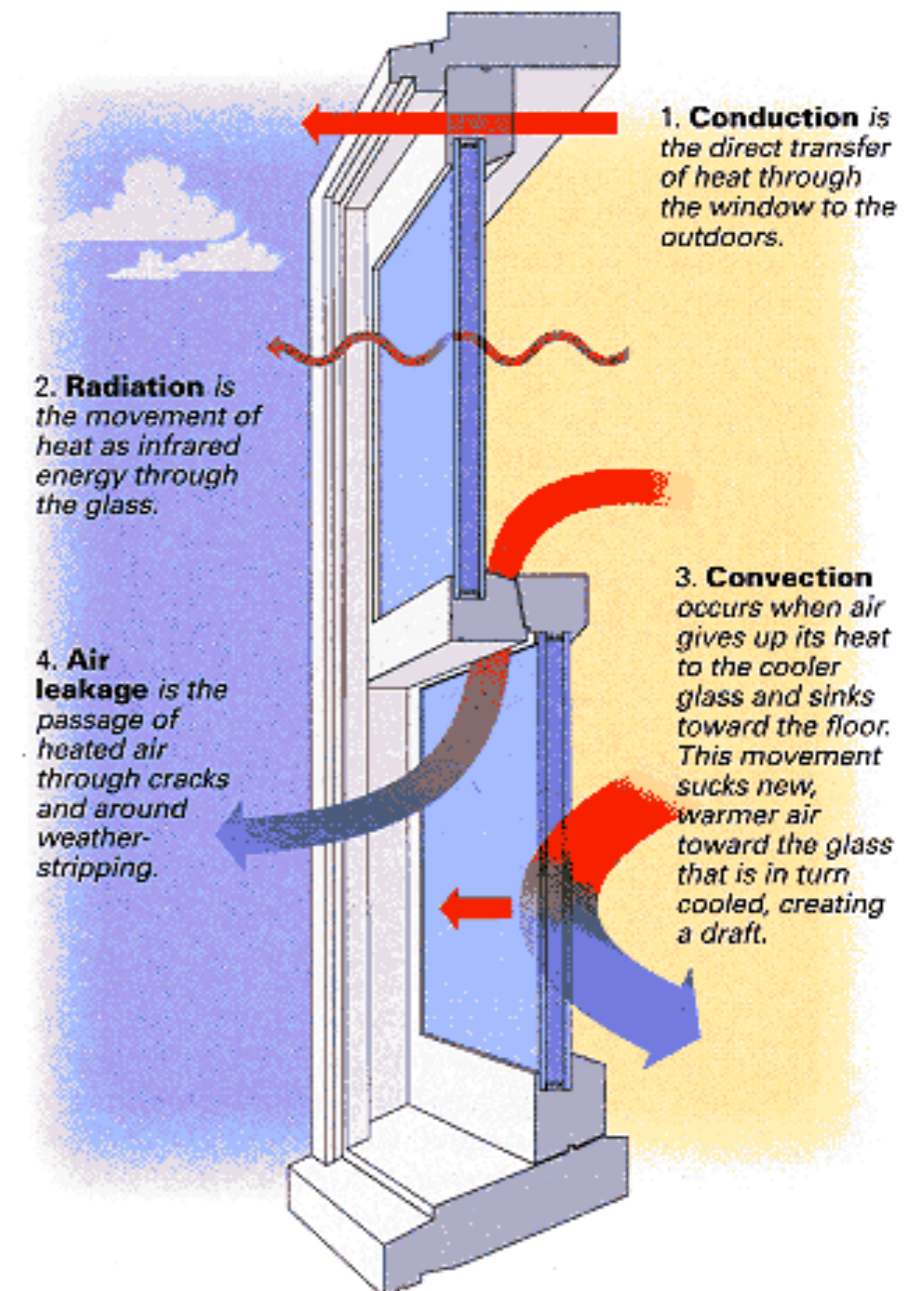
## R-Value:

The measure of a window's **resistance to heat flow**.

- The inverse of U-value, or  $R = 1/U$ .

## Windows lose and gain heat by:

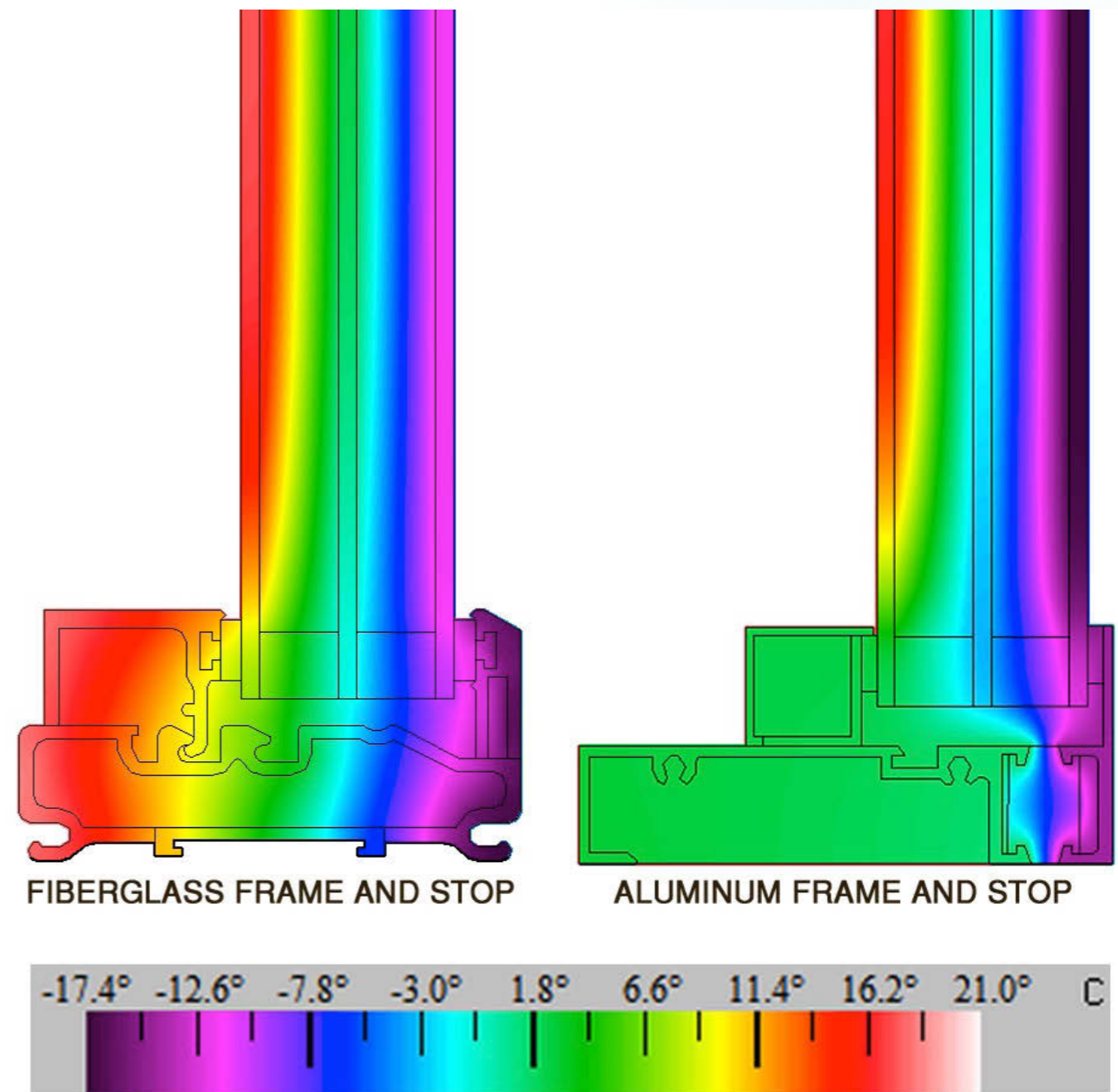
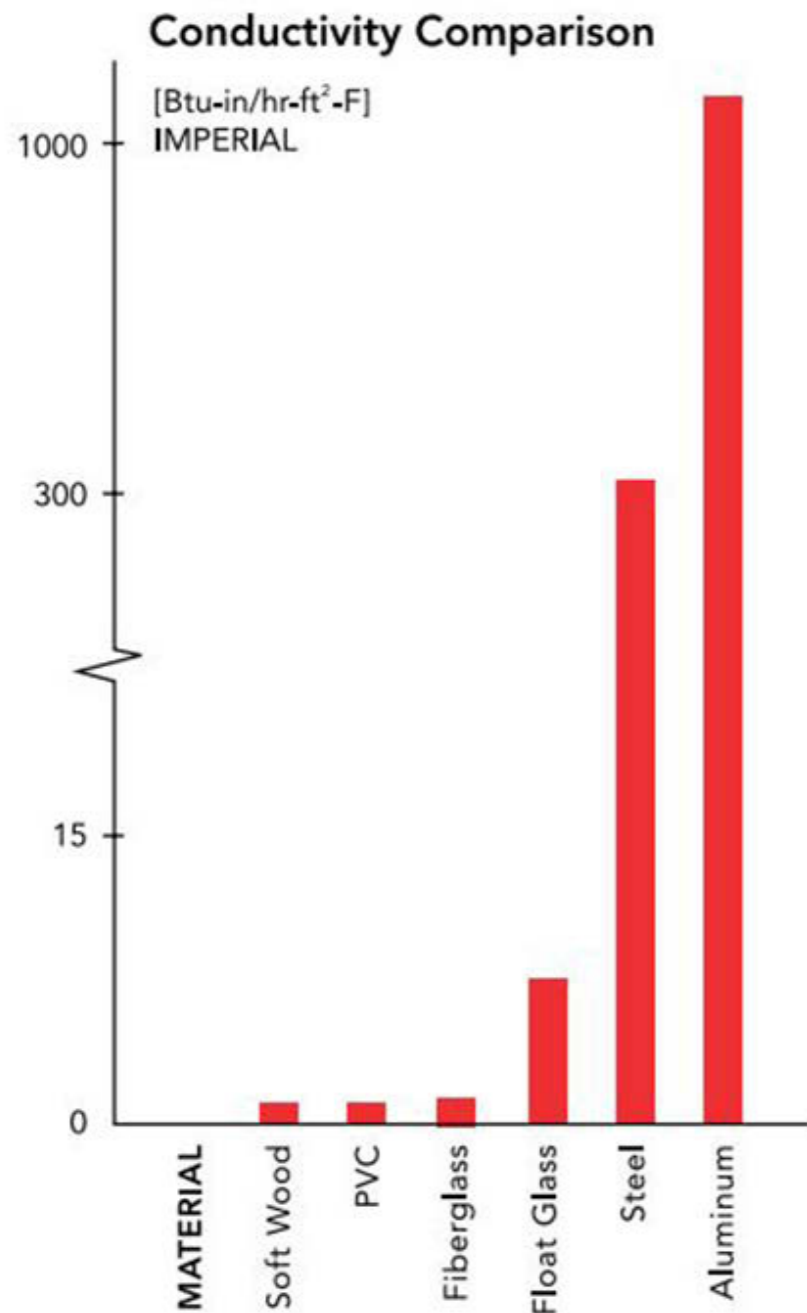
- Conduction
- Convection
- Radiation
- Air Leakage



# Conduction

Definition: Movement of heat through a solid material – like touching a hot skillet

- Aim for a less conductive frame material

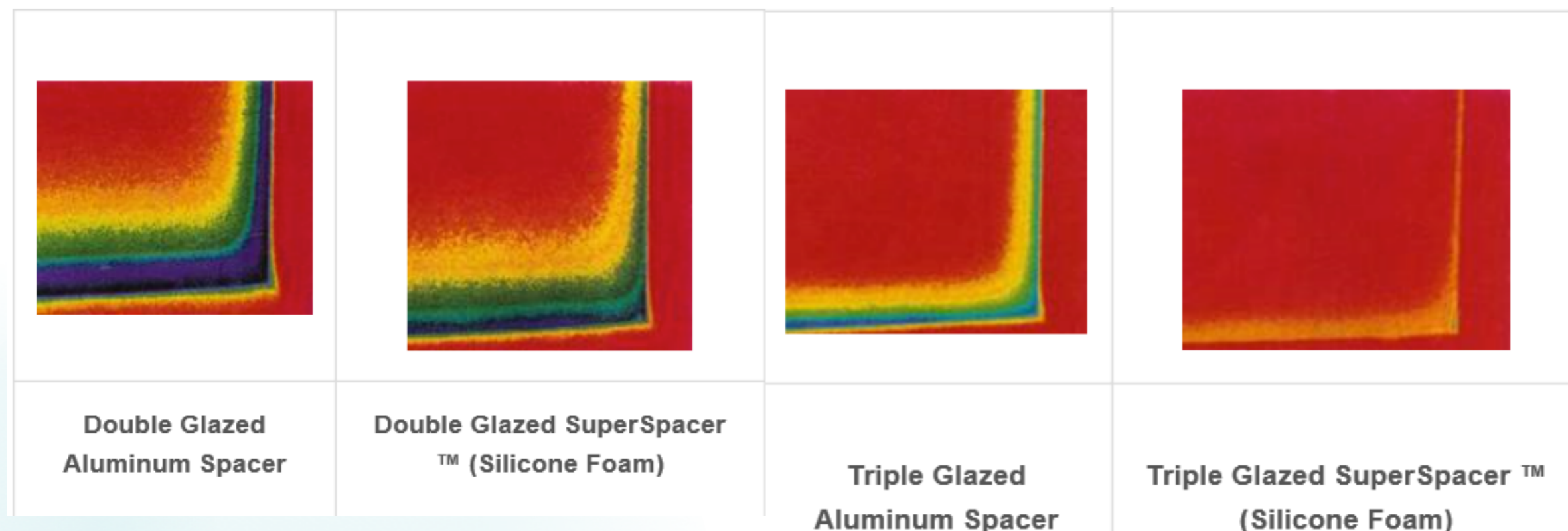


Both simulated with a Tripane 2 Low-E Silver Coatings (2&5), Argon, Warm Edge Space

# Conduction

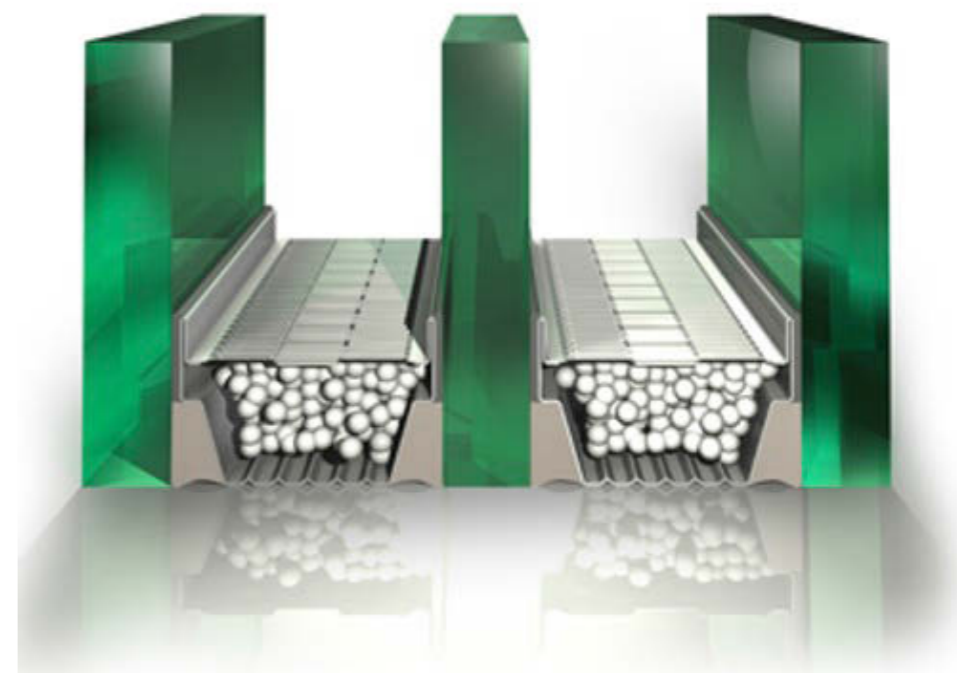
Definition: Movement of heat through a solid material – like touching a hot skillet

- Aim for a less conductive spacer



**The difference between spacers is less meaningful in triples.**

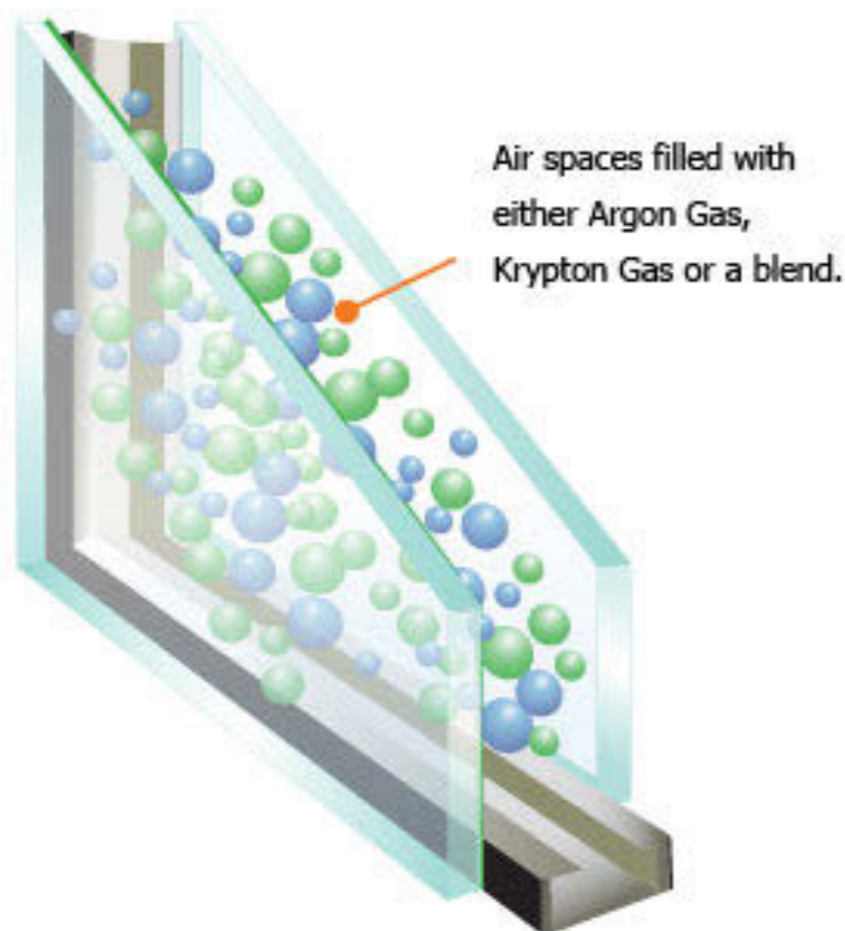
- Typical warm edge triple is at least 8°F warmer than dual equivalents
- Lowest performing spacers in a triple will be equal or better than the best performing double pane.



# Convection

Definition: Heated indoor air contacts the interior window surface, the air cools, drops, warm air takes its place, and creates a loop recognized like a draft.

- Use a gas fill to reduce the convection within the Insulating Glass (IG) unit.
- Same process between layers of glass and in frame cavities



| Insulating Glass Unit   | U-Factor<br>(Btu/hr/ft <sup>2</sup> /°F) |       |
|-------------------------|--|-------|
|                         | Air                                      | Argon |
| 2-Pane Clear            | 0.48                                     | 0.46  |
| 2-Pane with 1-Low E 272 | 0.30                                     | 0.25  |
| 3-Pane Clear            | 0.31                                     | 0.29  |
| 3-Pane with 1-Low E 272 | 0.22                                     | 0.19  |

# Radiation

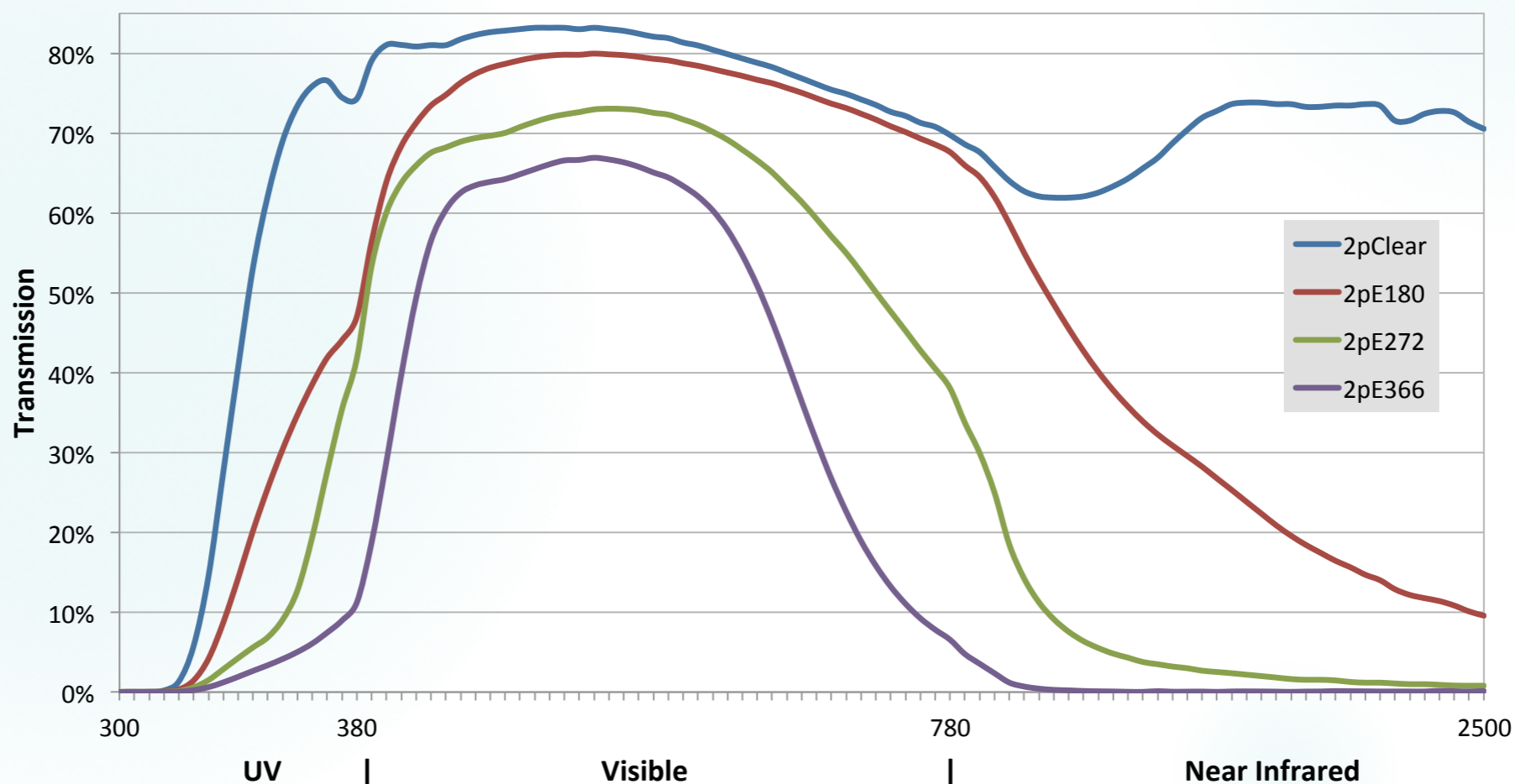
Definition: Movement of heat – like standing near a woodstove

➤ Consider the most appropriate type of low emissivity (Low E) coating to reduce radiation.

## • Types of Soft Coat Low E's:

- 1 coat of Silver – High solar gain, High visible light
- 2 coats of Silver – Mid-to-low solar gain, Low U-value
- 3 coats of Silver – Low solar gain, Low U-value, Low visible light

## Spectrally Selective LoE Coatings % Transmission per Wavelength



# Selective Glazing by Orientation

Customizing Low E Coatings by Elevation

## Typical Objectives in North America

### North:

*Minimize U-value (Maximize R-value) for reduced heat loss.*

### South:

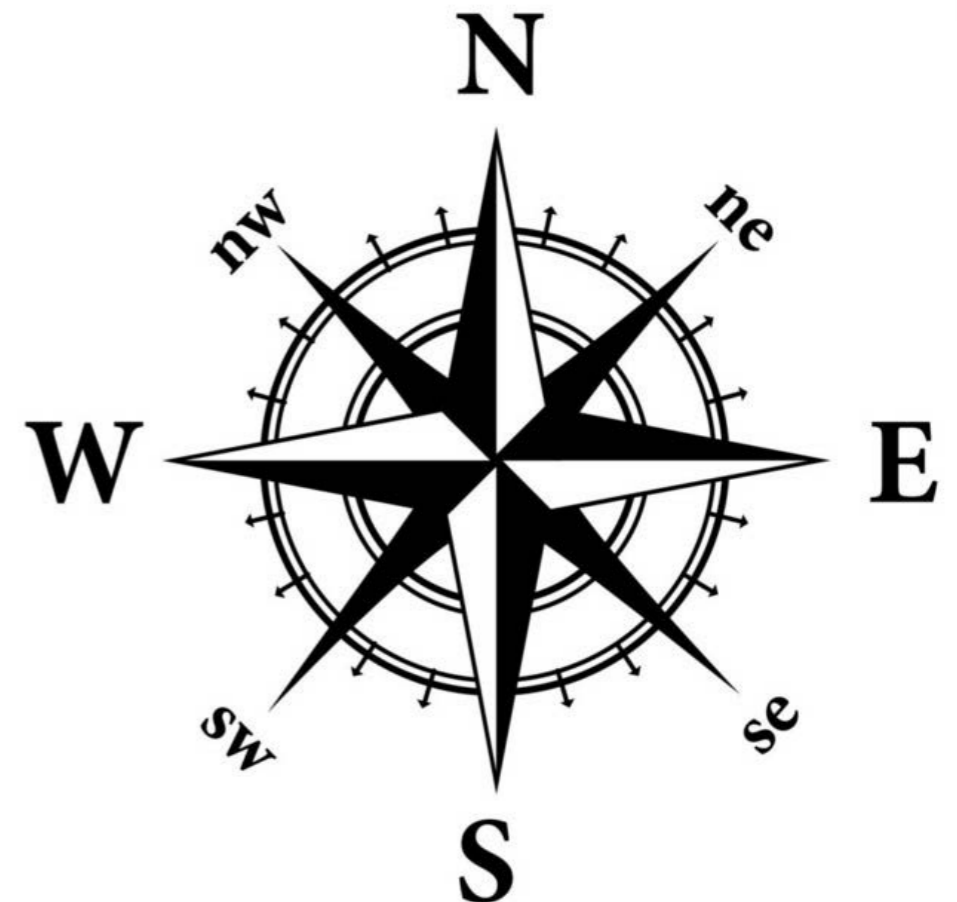
*Take advantage of optimal solar heat gain and visible light.*

### East:

*Aim for a mid-range product.*

### West:

*Control solar heat gain.*



# Air Leakage

Air  
Leakage

Definition: Infiltration of outside air into the building

- *Reduced by compression (over sliding) seals and durable multi weatherstripping.*

Best



Worst



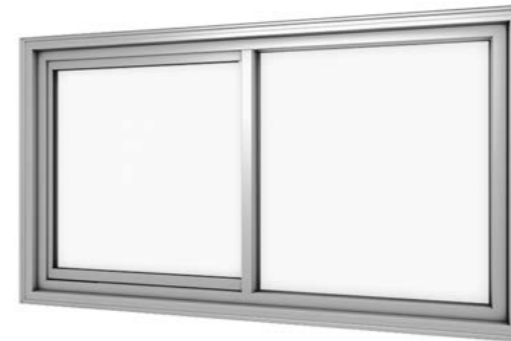
**Fixed**



**Casement**



**Awning**

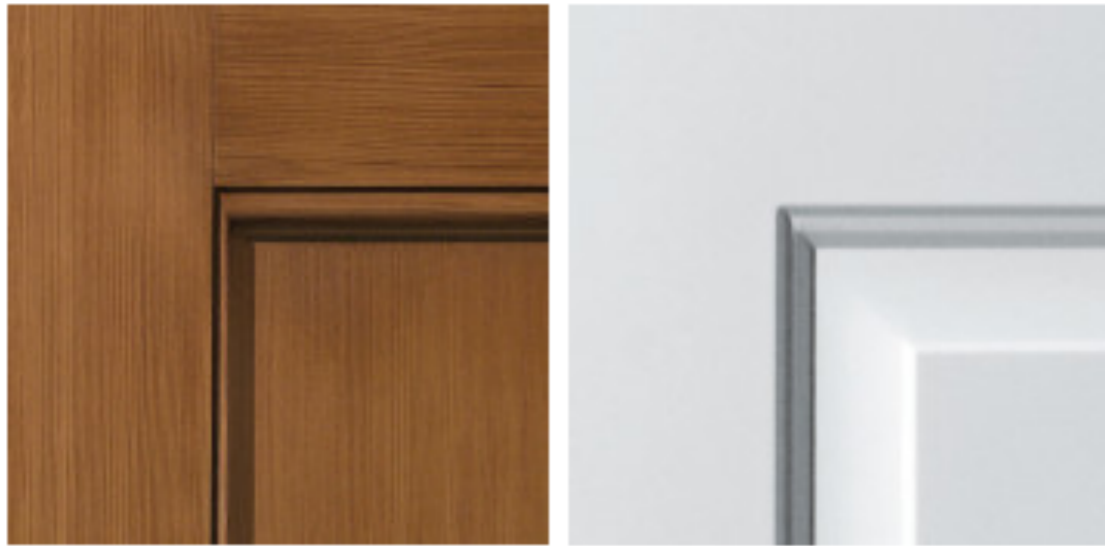


**Horizontal Slider**



**Single/Double  
Hung**

# Performance Advancements on Doors



**Insulated Door Slabs**



**Automotive  
Weatherstripping**



**Thermally Broken Adjustable  
Sills**

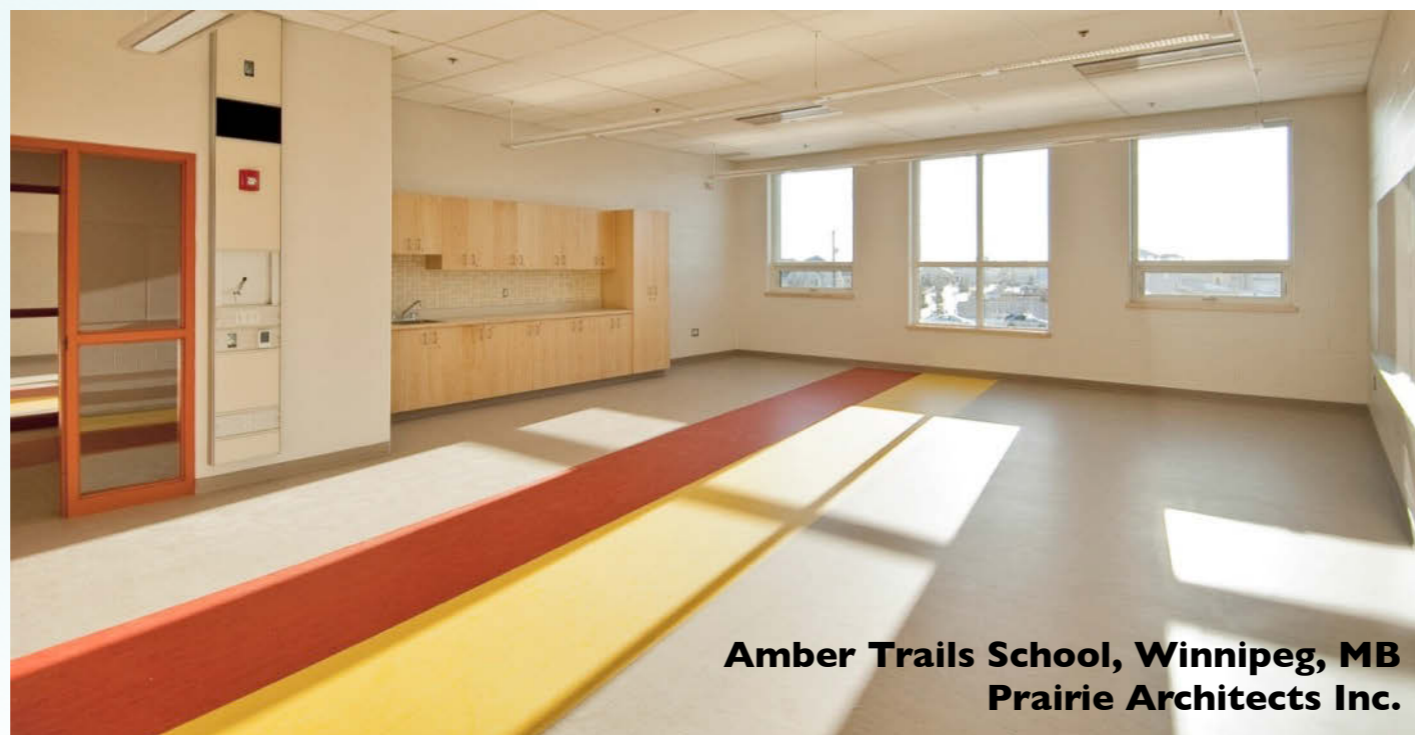


**Multi-Point Locks**



# Real-World Application:

Window Upgrade Allows for Smaller HVAC System



**Amber Trails School, Winnipeg, MB  
Prairie Architects Inc.**

# Condensation Resistance

Definition: The measure of a window's **resistance to condensation** on the inside surface.

- *Condensation Resistance Factor (CRF) is the AAMA rating, ranging 30 to 80 – measured data*
- *Condensation Resistance (CR) is the NFRC rating, ranging 1 to 100 – simulated data*



- Not directly correlated to U-values which is an area-weighted calculation – more related to thermal bridging
  - Coldest part of most modern windows is the bottom 1/2“ of glazing
- Condensation Variables
  - Buildings with high humidity
  - Thermal bridging in the wall construction
  - Installations near the outside of the wall plane reducing interior air flow
  - Blinds / Draperies reducing interior air flow
  - House plants
  - Hobbies

# Condensation Resistance

- Impact of Reducing the Relative Humidity
  - Increased discomfort
  - Drying of skin – chapping and irritation
  - Increased static electricity
  
- Factors to Improve Condensation Resistance
  - Triple pane glazing
  - Warm edge spacers
  - Low E coatings and Argon gas fill
  - Insulated frames
  - Placement of the window in the wall assembly

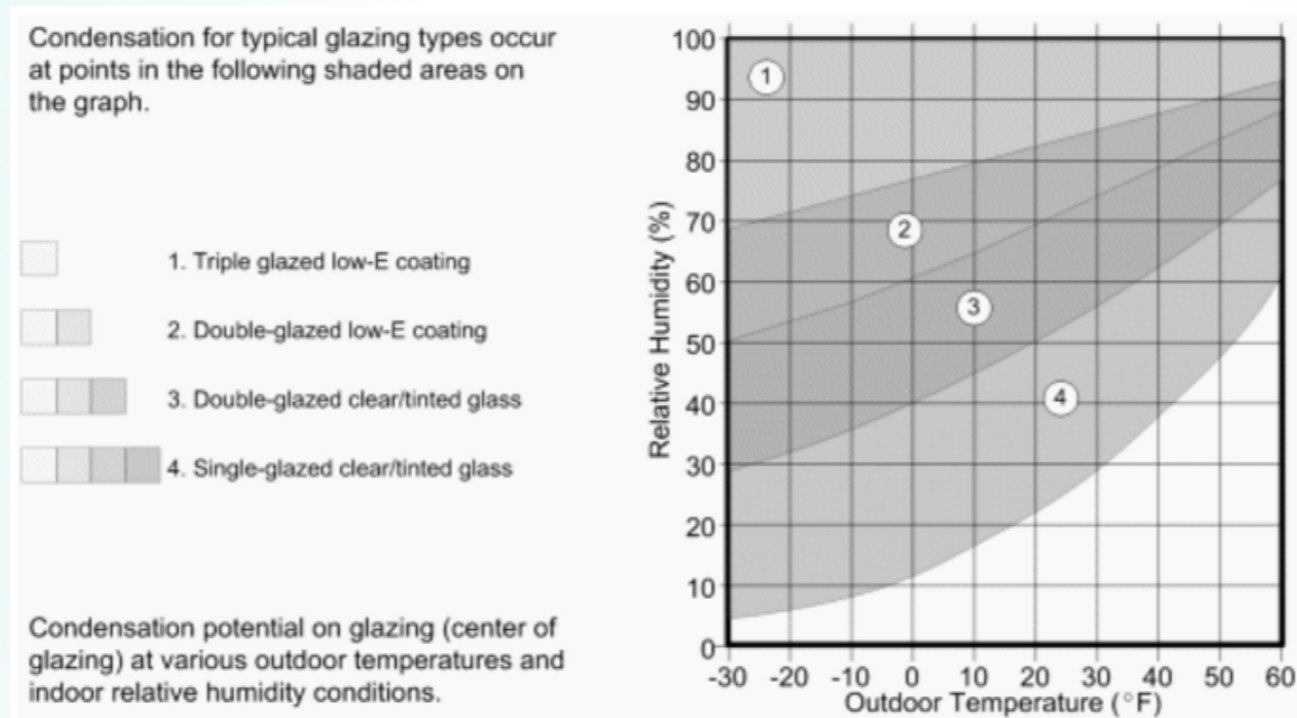
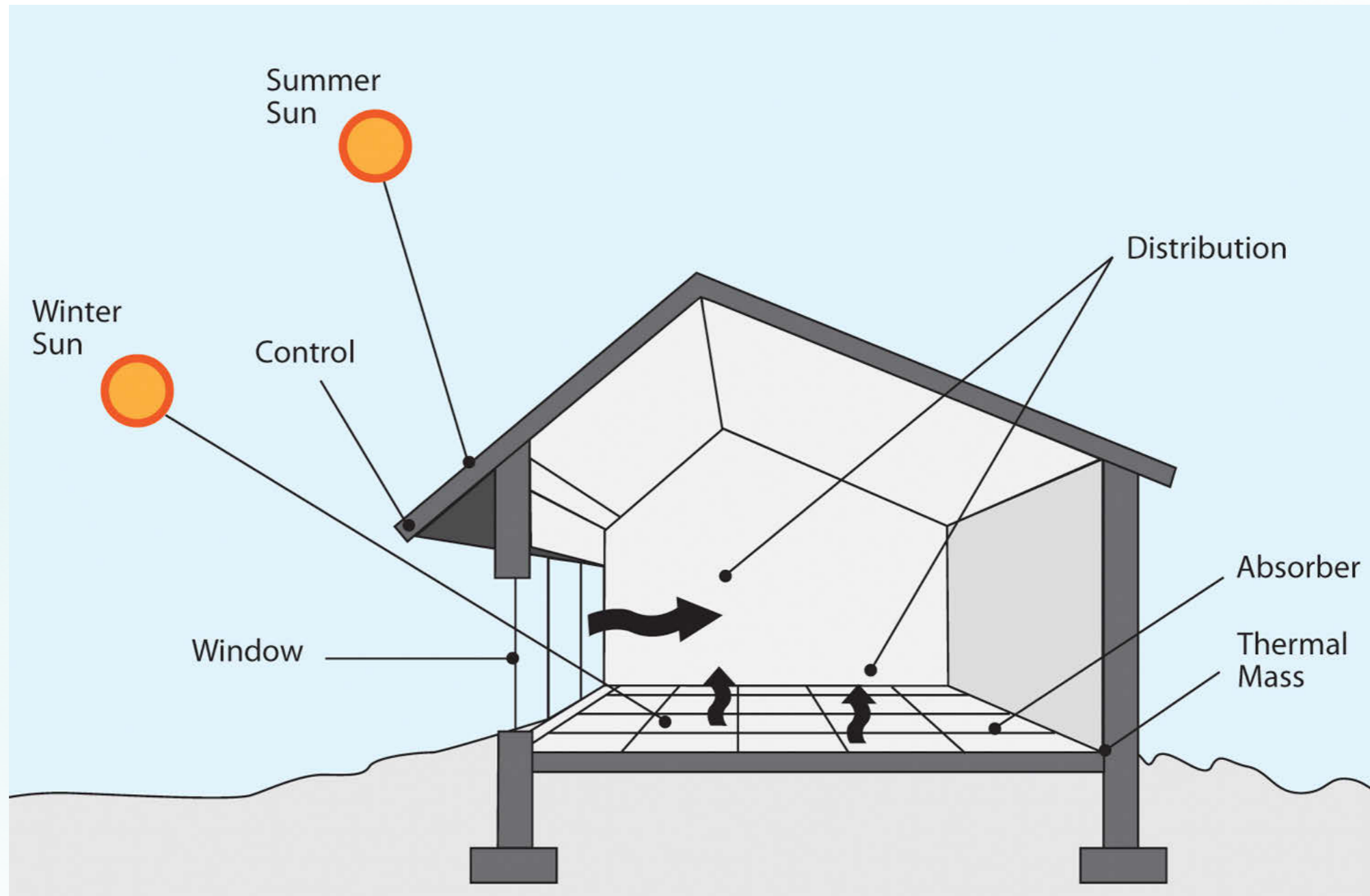


Figure 1a. Window type performance at various humidities and outdoor temperatures. Source: THERM5.2/Windows5.2 NFRC Simulation Manual, Fenestration Heat Transfer Basics, Condensation Resistance

# Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC)

Definition: The fraction of the **solar radiation admitted** through a window.

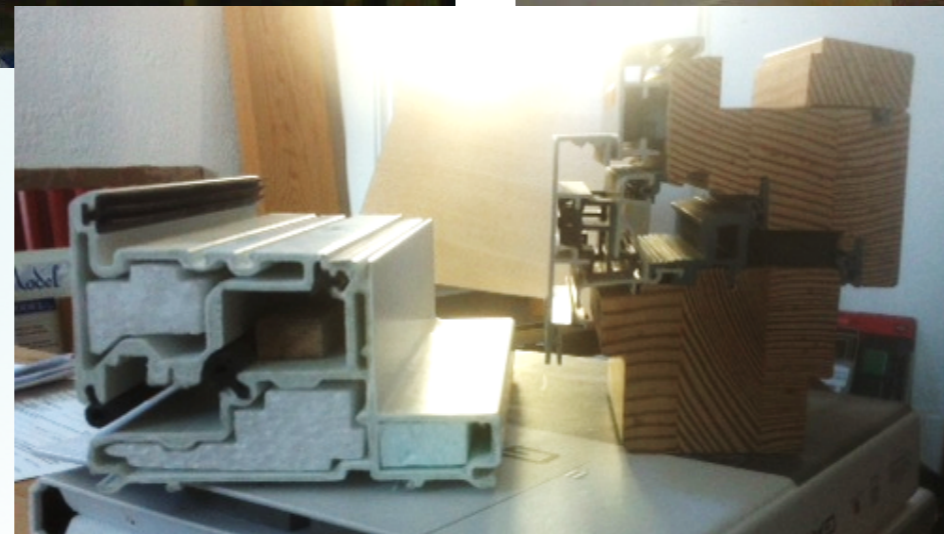
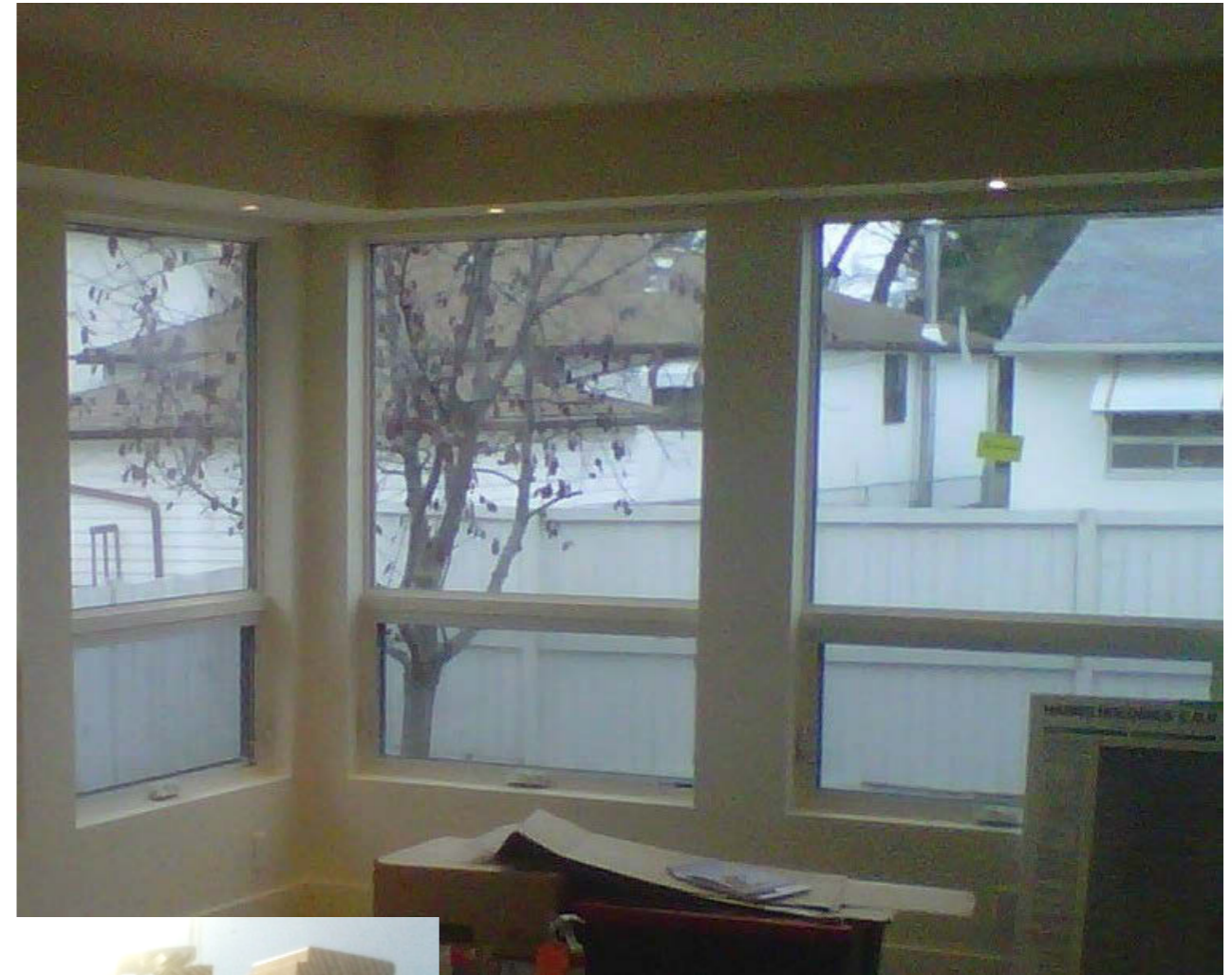
- *Look for passive solar gain opportunities on south elevations and use large glazing*



# Real-World Application:

## Slim Frames for Maximum Gain and Viewing Area

Solar  
Heat  
Gain



# Real-World Application:

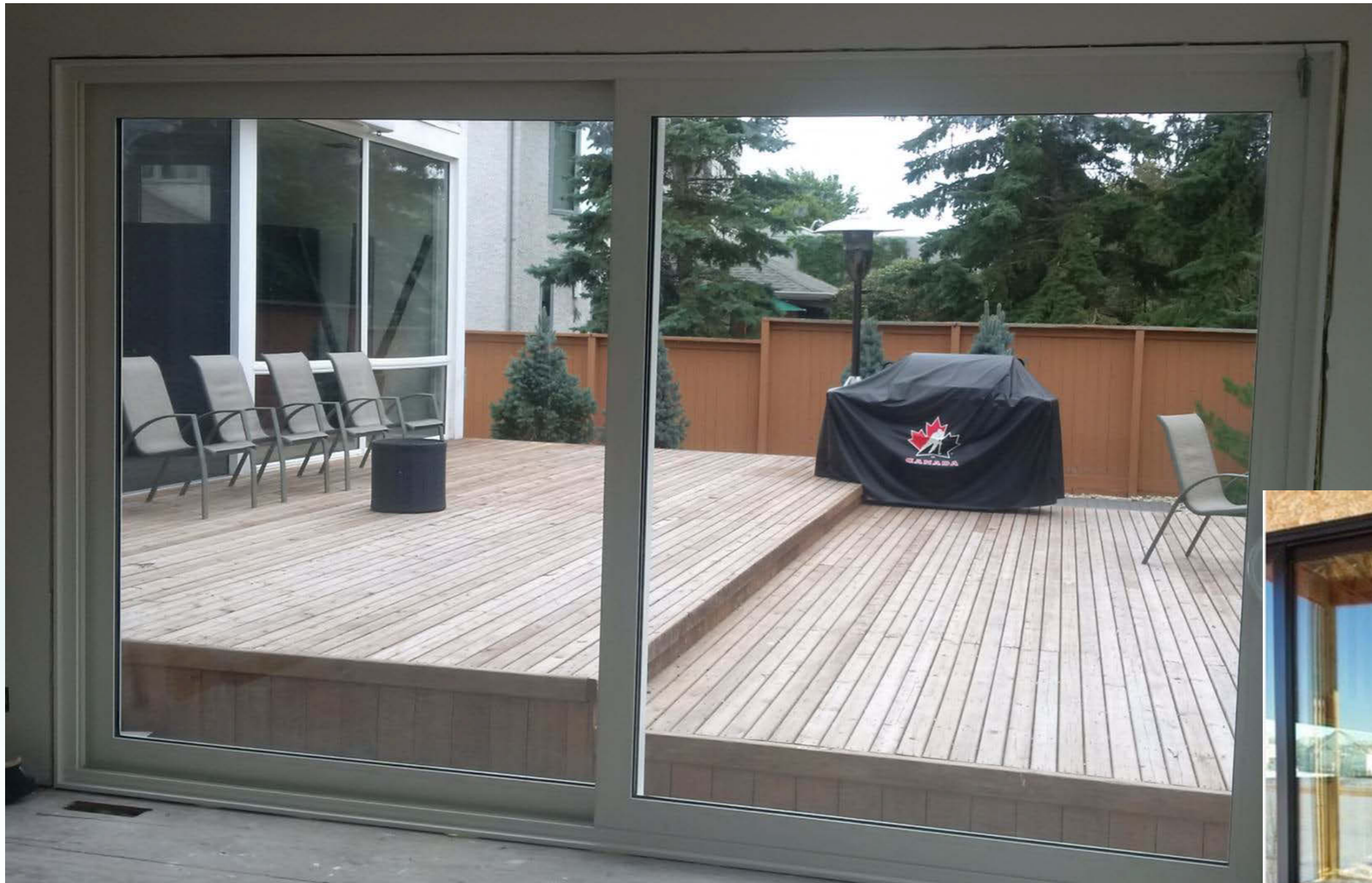
## Passive Solar Gain Glazing with Exterior Shading



- ✓ *Design for a few large windows vs. many small windows to give more light and reduce cost.*

# Real-World Application: Passive Solar Gain with Patio Access

Solar  
Heat  
Gain



# Real-World Application:

## Selective Glazing by Orientation



| Glass type                     | LoE Surface # | Spacer                    | Gas   | R-Value (cog) | Overall U-Value | S.H.G.C. | Visible Light |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|----------|---------------|
| Cardinal LoE-180               |               |                           |       |               |                 |          |               |
| Tripane 2 Coatings             | 2 and 5       | Warm Edge Stainless Steel | Argon | 7.69          | 0.16            | 0.56     | 70%           |
| Cardinal LoE <sup>2</sup> -272 |               |                           |       |               |                 |          |               |
| Tripane 2 Coatings             | 2 and 5       | Warm Edge Stainless Steel | Argon | 7.69          | 0.15            | 0.35     | 58%           |
| Cardinal LoE <sup>3</sup> -366 |               |                           |       |               |                 |          |               |
| Tripane 2 Coatings             | 2 and 5       | Warm Edge Stainless Steel | Argon | 8.33          | 0.15            | 0.24     | 47%           |



# Visible Light Transmittance (VLT)

Visible  
Light

Definition: The fraction of **visible light transmitted** through a window.

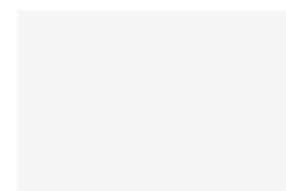
➤ *Note the changes in Visible Light with changes in Solar Heat Gain*



CLEAR | LoE-180



TRANSMITTED APPEARANCE



EXTERIOR APPEARANCE

CLEAR | LoE-272



TRANSMITTED APPEARANCE



EXTERIOR APPEARANCE

CLEAR | LoE-366



TRANSMITTED APPEARANCE



EXTERIOR APPEARANCE

CLEAR | LoE-240



TRANSMITTED APPEARANCE



EXTERIOR APPEARANCE

# Real-World Application:

## Changes in Solar Heat Gain vs. Visible Light

Visible  
Light



| Glass type                     | LoE Surface # | Spacer                    | Gas   | R-Value (cog) | Overall U-Value | S.H.G.C. | Visible Light |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|----------|---------------|
| Cardinal LoE-180               |               |                           |       |               |                 |          |               |
| Tripane 2 Coatings             | 2 and 5       | Warm Edge Stainless Steel | Argon | 7.69          | 0.16            | 0.56     | 70%           |
| Cardinal LoE <sup>2</sup> -272 |               |                           |       |               |                 |          |               |
| Tripane 2 Coatings             | 2 and 5       | Warm Edge Stainless Steel | Argon | 7.69          | 0.15            | 0.35     | 58%           |
| Cardinal LoE <sup>3</sup> -366 |               |                           |       |               |                 |          |               |
| Tripane 2 Coatings             | 2 and 5       | Warm Edge Stainless Steel | Argon | 8.33          | 0.15            | 0.24     | 47%           |

# Real-World Application:

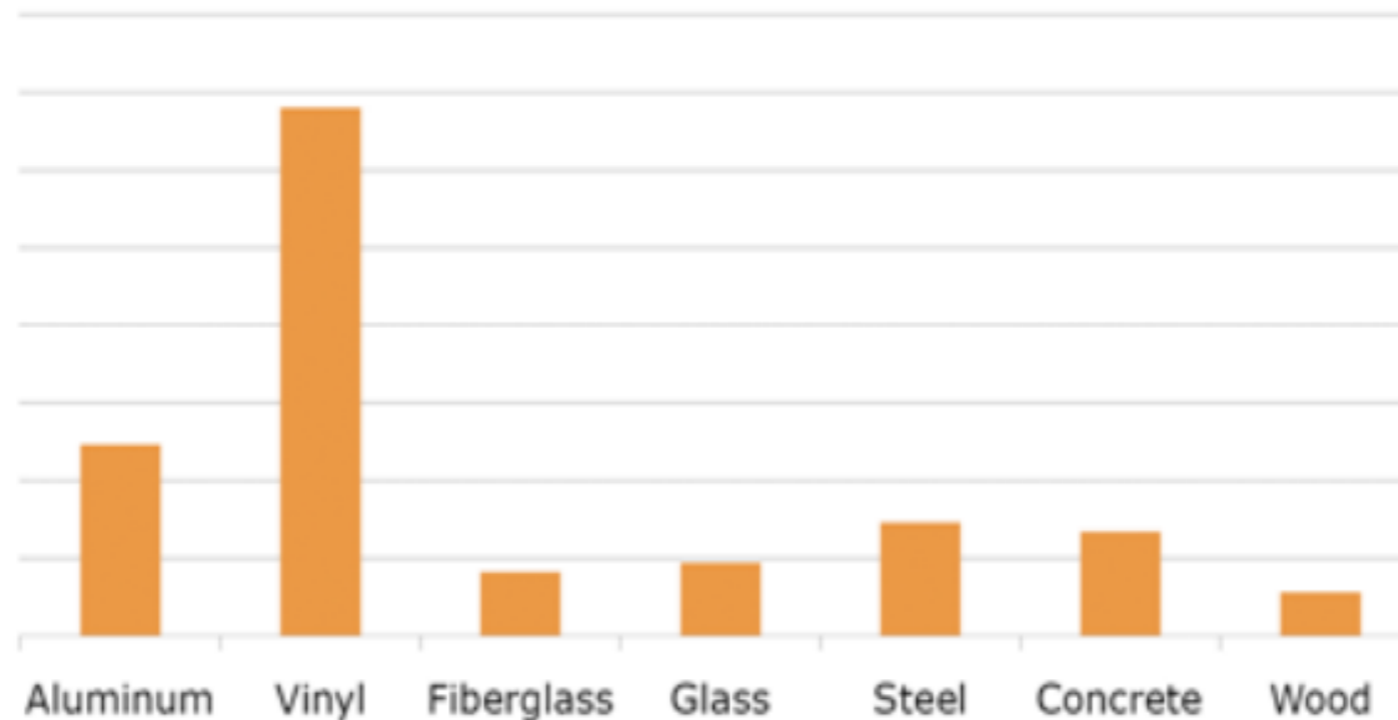
## Selecting the Right Glass for the Setting

Visible  
Light



# Durability by Frame Type

**COEFFICIENT OF THERMAL EXPANSION  
FOR COMMON BUILDING MATEREALS**



| Material                    | Coefficient of Thermal Expansion ( x 10 <sup>-6</sup> per degrees Celcius ) |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Wood (1st generation)       | 0.0 (Wood expands with changes in humidity)                                 |
| Aluminium (2nd generation)  | 23.0  |
| Vinyl (3rd generation)      | 62  |
| Fiberglass (4th generation) | 7.4   |
| Glass                       | 8.7   |

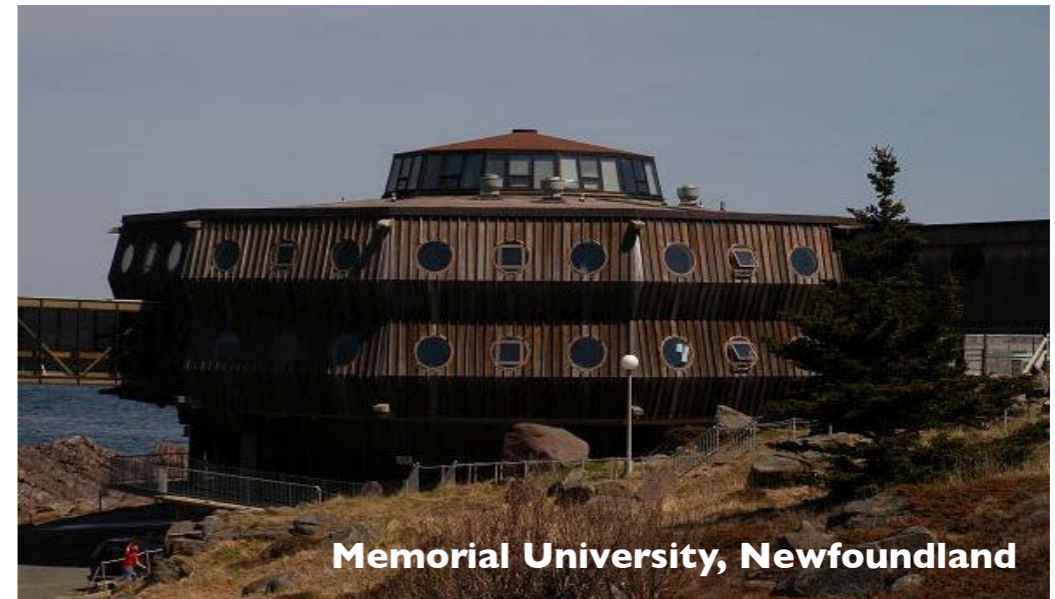
# Real-World Applications:

## Window Selections for Longevity and Reduced Maintenance

Durability



Learning Centre, Rankin Inlet



Memorial University, Newfoundland



Historical Home, Winnipeg

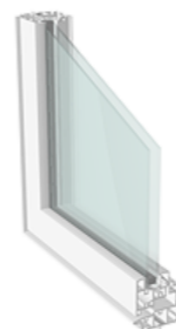
# Characteristics by Frame Type



**Aluminum**



**Composite**



**Vinyl**



**Fiberglass**

## **Aluminum**

- Strong, low maintenance, high conductivity, requiring thermal breaks

## **Wood**

- Good thermal performance, expand/contract in response to weather conditions, require regular maintenance

## **Composite**

- Composite wood products / metal clad vinyl / metal clad fiberglass
- Stable, with better resistance to moisture

## **Vinyl**

- Low maintenance, good thermal performance, less dimensionally stable / shorter life span

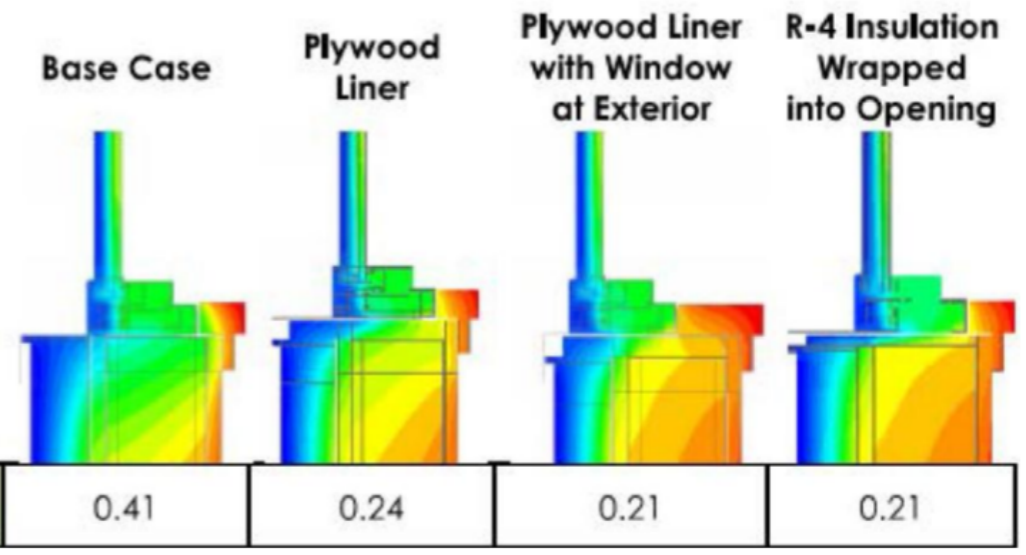
## **Fiberglass**

- Low maintenance, dimensionally stable, with superior thermal performance to aluminum

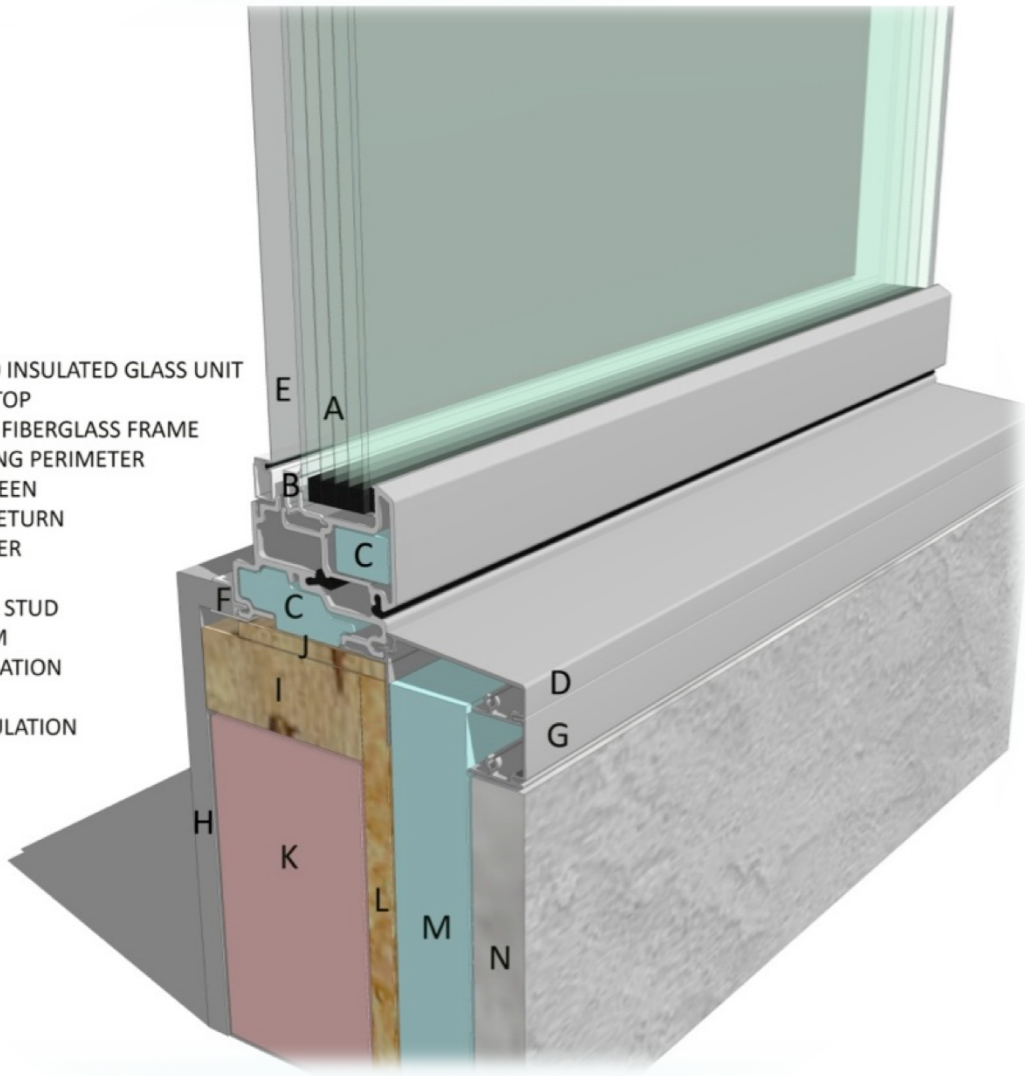
# Impact of Installation

## Placement Within the Wall System

Installation



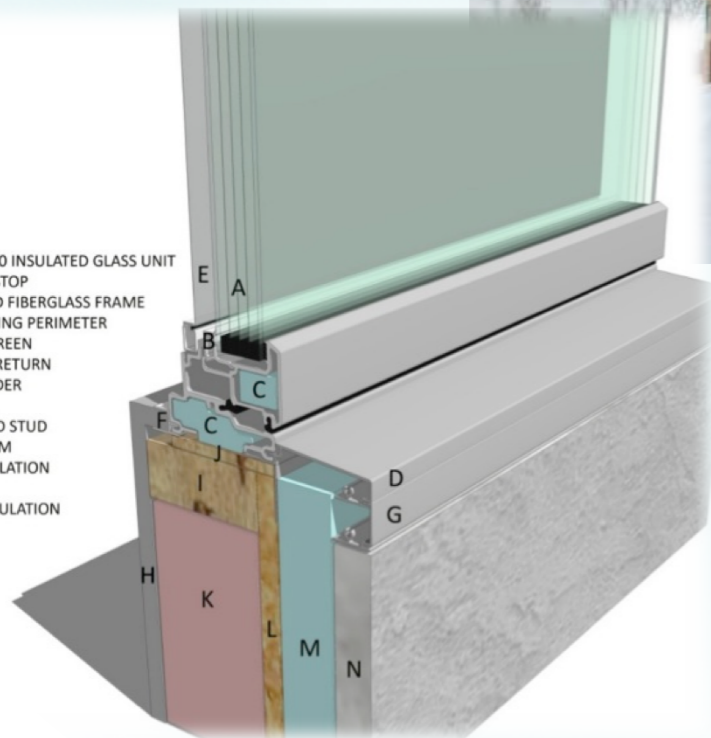
- LEGEND**
- A. 5 PANE R20 INSULATED GLASS UNIT
  - B. GLAZING STOP
  - C. INSULATED FIBERGLASS FRAME
  - D. 250 PANNING PERIMETER
  - E. INSECT SCREEN
  - F. DRYWALL RETURN
  - G. 1" EXPANDER
  - H. DRYWALL
  - I. 2x4" WOOD STUD
  - J. WOOD SHIM
  - K. BATT INSULATION
  - L. OSB
  - M. RIGID INSULATION
  - N. STUCCO



# Real-World Applications:

## Careful Consideration of the Building Envelope as a Whole

Installation



### LEGEND

- A. 5 PANE R20 INSULATED GLASS UNIT
- B. GLAZING STOP
- C. INSULATED FIBERGLASS FRAME
- D. 250 PANNING PERIMETER
- E. INSECT SCREEN
- F. DRYWALL RETURN
- G. 1" EXPANDER
- H. DRYWALL
- I. 2x4" WOOD STUD
- J. WOOD SHIM
- K. BATT INSULATION
- L. OSB
- M. RIGID INSULATION
- N. STUCCO



# Net Zero Projects

The Alberta Sustainable House, Calgary, AB

Projects



Fig. 1: View from S.W.



Fig. 2: Masonry Heater in living room



Fig. 3: Solar Oven on front porch

The total purchased energy requirements per year averages 6% of an ordinary house (0.75 wh/DD/m<sup>3</sup>).

# Net Zero Projects

Riverdale by Habitat Studio, Edmonton, AB

Projects



Built back in 2007 the [Riverdale net-zero home](#) was a 5,000 square foot duplex. It also had a complex space heating system that depended on an over-built solar thermal set-up with a lot of extra engineering bells and whistles.

# Net Zero Projects

The House Company, Edmonton, AB

Projects



“A tough blend of large glazing areas, tight venting windows and innovative triple pane glazing configurations.”

# Window Walls with Non-Conductive Frames

Projects



# Punched Openings with Casements

Triple Low E Glazing

Projects



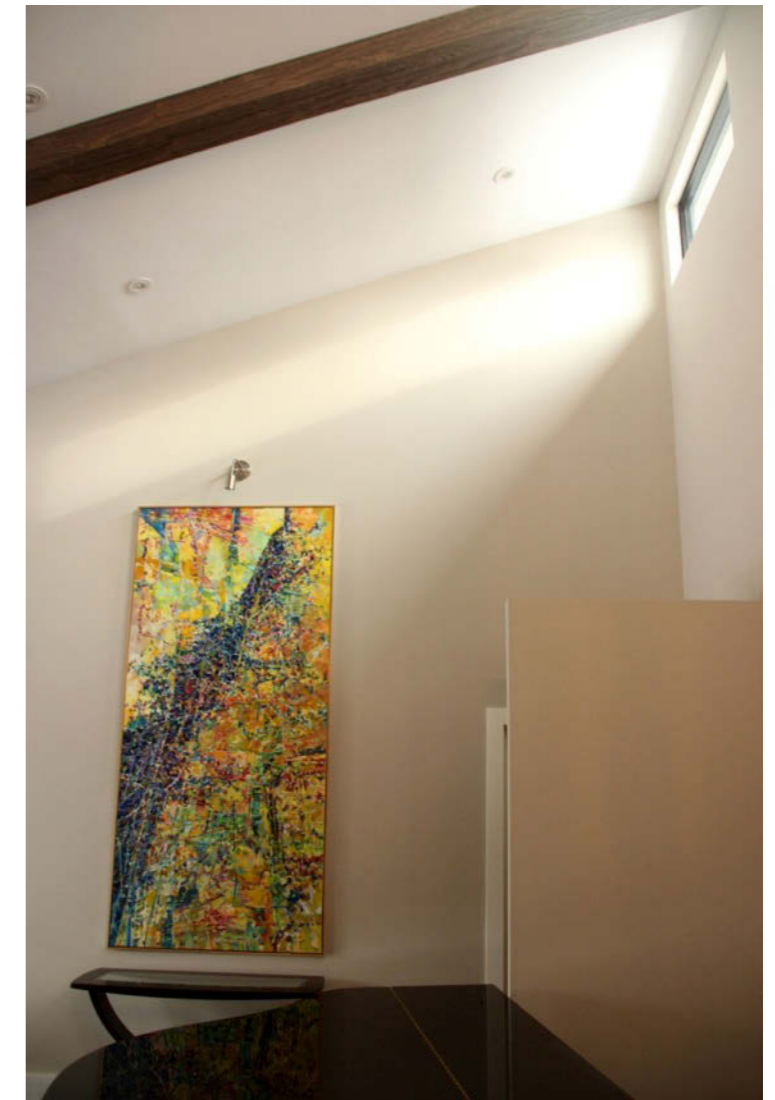
# Occupant Considerations

Quality of Living Spaces

Occupant  
Consider-  
ations



**Views – Comfort all Year-Round**



**Privacy**

# Occupant Considerations

## Quality of Living Spaces

Occupant  
Consider-  
ations



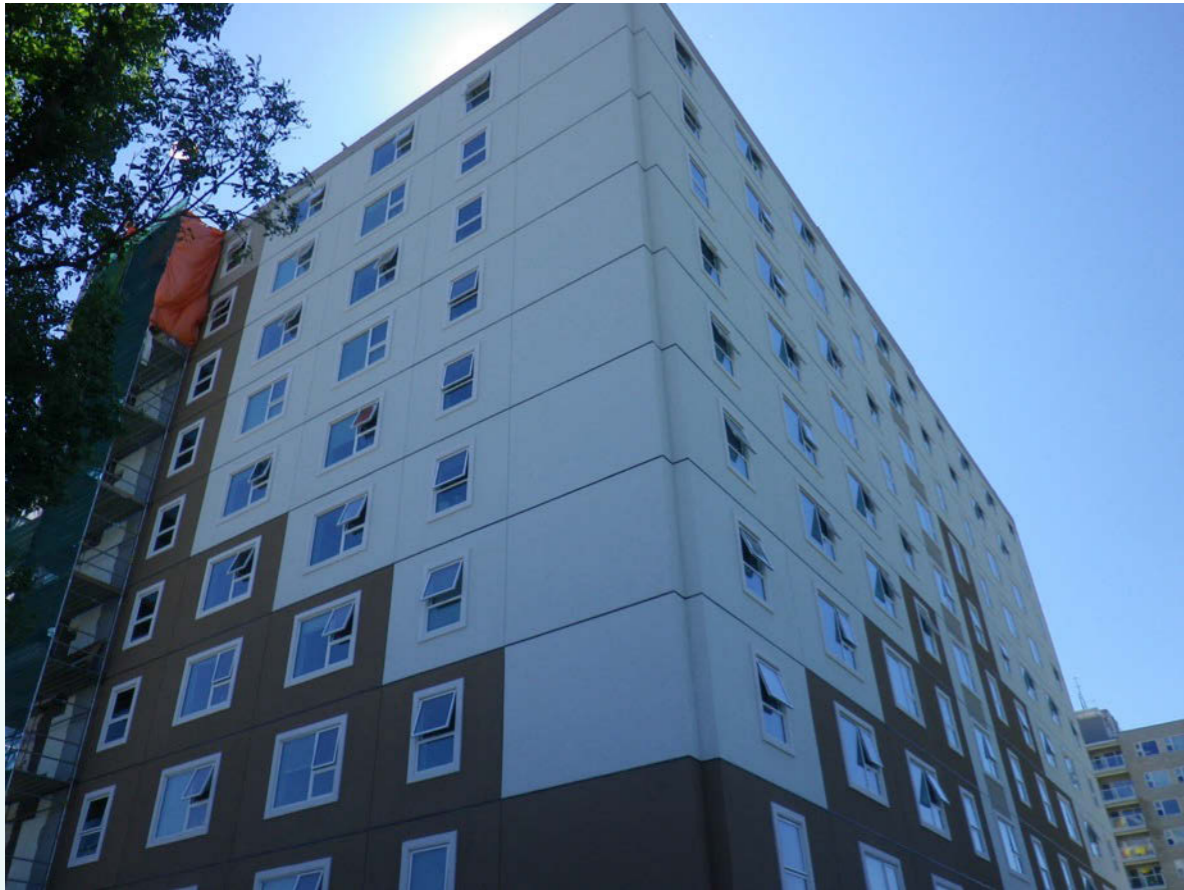
**Natural Lighting**



# Occupant Considerations

## Quality of Living Spaces

Occupant  
Consider-  
ations



**Natural Ventilation**



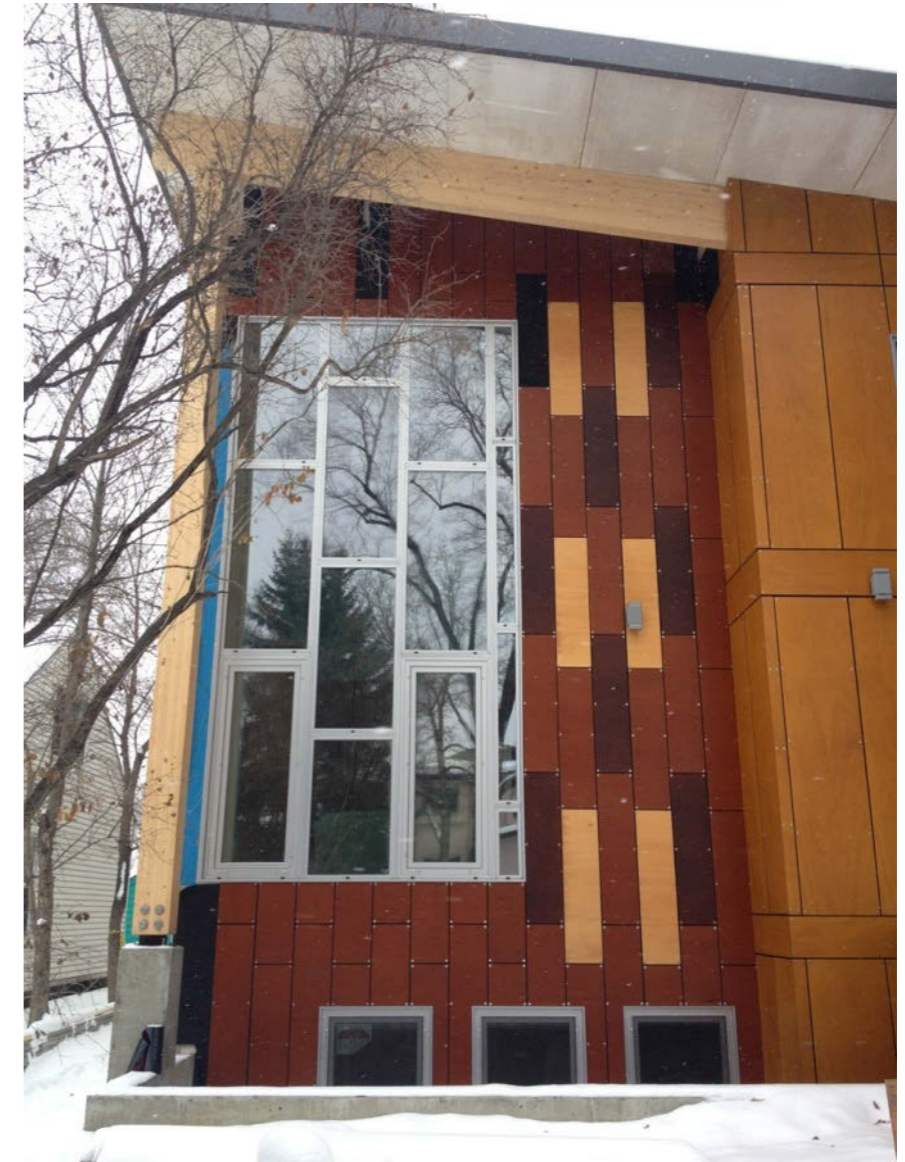
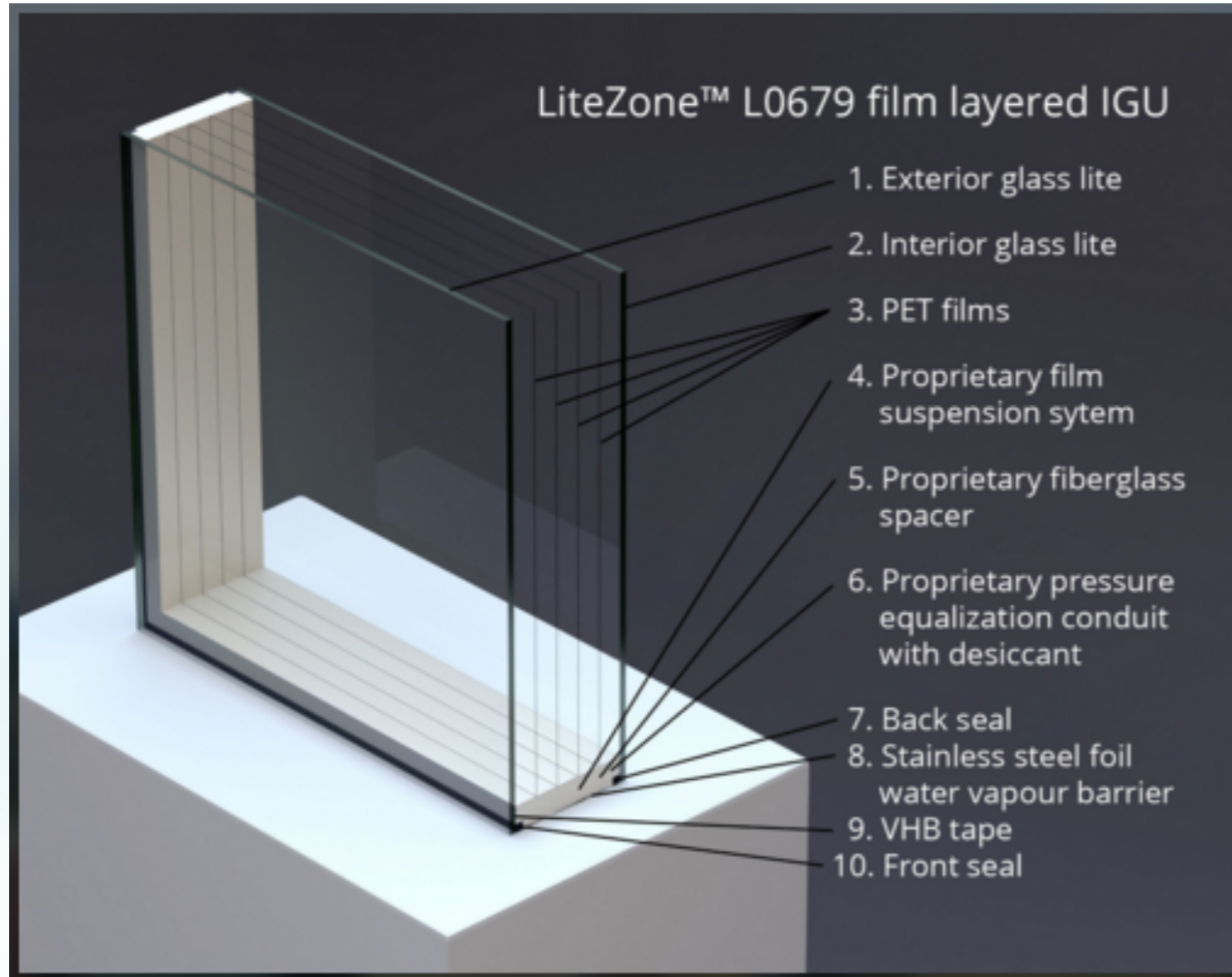
**(Dis) Comfort**



# Emerging Technology

## R-20 Centre-of-Glass Sealed Units

New



# Emerging Technology

## Dynamic Glazing

New

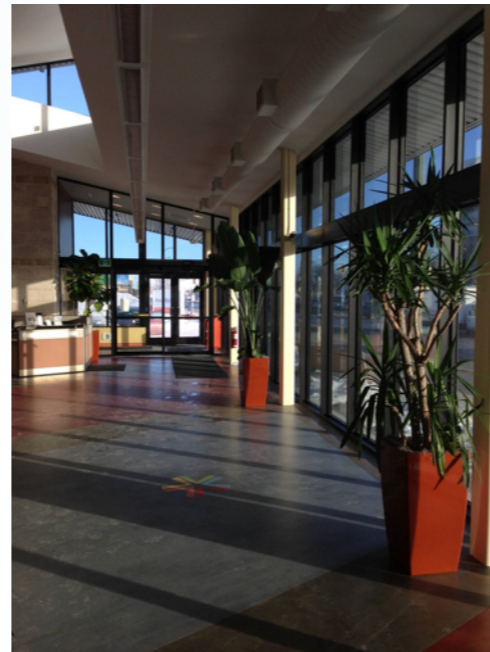
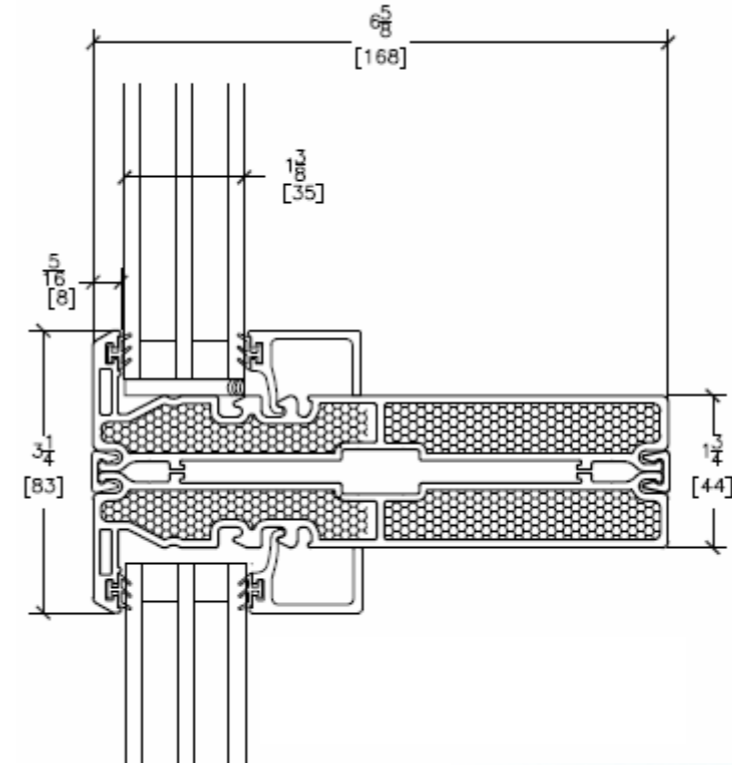
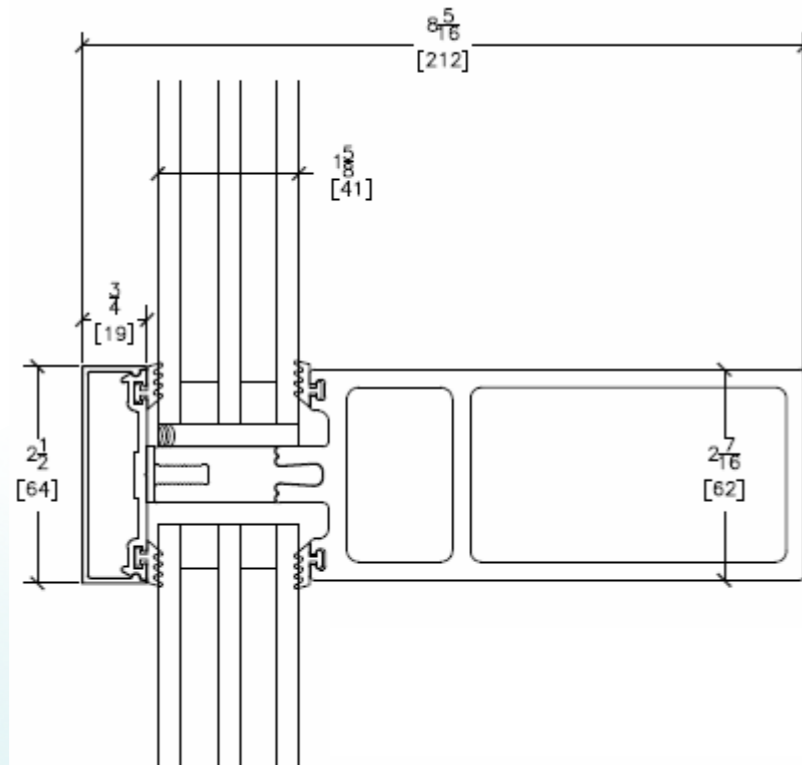


Green Build Toronto

# Emerging Technology

## Fiberglass Curtain Wall

New



# Summarized: Window Shopping Tips

- ✓ **Low Overall U-Value**
  - Consider low conductivity insulated frames, triple pane glass & warm-edge spacers
- ✓ **Good Air Tightness**
  - Triple weatherstripping / Compression seal
- ✓ **Slim Frames**
  - Typically the glass has a better u-value over the frame
- ✓ **Solar Gain Opportunities**
  - South elevations
- ✓ **A Few Large Windows vs. Many Small Windows**
  - Use less energy, give more light, and reduce cost
- ✓ **Durability**
  - A “cheap” investment today can result in expensive operating & replacement costs in the future.

