



WinTech

How Green Is Window Tech Systems?

Going green is a hot topic in the building industry. Window Tech Systems has capitalized on this concept by incorporating green features in everyday functions.

Window Tech Systems is a manufacturer of high performance, commercial rated, Aluminum and Vinyl windows. These windows are structurally tested and certified to AAMA 101/I.S. 2-97. The Aluminum windows are thermally tested to AAMA 1503-98, ASTM C 236-91 & NFRC 100/200, whereas the Vinyl windows which have the Energy Star® rating, are thermally tested to NFRC 100/200. To achieve a "green" rating, windows must have an energy rating, certified window components, recycled content, manufacturing efficiency, and quality installation practices.

The U.S. Green Building Council has established a Green Building Rating System identified as LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design). LEED provides a basic system for evaluating building performance and meeting sustainable site development, energy efficiency, materials selection, water savings and indoor environmental quality.

All WinTech aluminum extrusions are processed from Keymark aluminum billets, consisting of a recycled content of 64%, which meets LEED requirement 4.1 - worth one credit point.

In becoming even more "green", WinTech relies heavily on a lean manufacturing process. This eliminates waste

in all areas of operation. In 1996, a new facility was designed exclusively for window production. The build-itself generates a favorable airflow, which improves thermal efficiency. Florescent light bulbs, which use half the energy as standard light bulbs, were installed in all offices and over the plant workstations. Since the opening of the new building, Window Tech Systems has formal recycling programs for aluminum, vinyl, cardboard scrap and office paper. The company reuses wood pallets and lumber involved with vendor packaging. Recycling also occurs for batteries, oil, oil filters, tires, toner & in cartridges and computer parts.

Embodied Energy, the next step in the process, is all the energy required for the manufacturer to produce and the contractor to install the window. This tracks energy consumption from creation to demolition. All Window Tech Systems personnel are informed of Embodied Energy and the Green rating. This has resulted in elevated performance, makes a positive impact on the environment and enhances customer satisfaction.

While increases for materials for "LEED-Certified" buildings can be 20-30%, the price of thermally improved WinTech windows rises only 10-15% to achieve a "green" standard.

ON THE BASIS OF CURRENTLY PROJECTED STANDARDS, WINDOW TECH SYSTEMS IS A VERY GREEN MANUFACTURER OF WINDOWS.

