



Certified Armorcoat® Safety & Security Film Dealer

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Protective Glazing Attachment Systems

The application of Safety and Security window film has become a recognized method of turning glass from a hazardous “liability” to a defensive “asset” when trying to protect against violent weather, burglary, or terrorism. No one doubts the proven strength of these tough, transparent polyester products. It is important, however, to understand that film alone, while keeping the glass together, will not ensure that it stays in the frame. Maximizing the film’s performance requires the application of a structural adhesive sealant; called "wet" glazing, such as Dow Corning® 995, which attaches the film/glass combination to the frame (see figure 2). Alternatively, there are "mechanical" glazing systems as well, that are either "stand alone" systems, or use Dow Corning 995® as the adhesive component. No other attachment process outperforms Dow Corning in keeping the glass in place after being broken.

The application of these high-quality; performance enhancing products can add a substantial cost to the installation; however, the cost of these products is high, and the process is labor intensive. But what is the point of applying something that does not work?

Simply running a bead of silicone, tub and tile caulk, or other sealer around the edge of the window will not ensure proper performance. Insist on a proper glazing system from a professional installer - and do not accept "whatever is on sale" from your local home improvement store. There are prescribed standards for a proper application of these products. Building owners and managers who are purchasing Safety Film should insist that their film vendors be qualified in the proper application techniques in order to meet these standards.

Figure 1. Protective Glazing Supplies



Figure 2. Application utilizing a triangular bead of Dow Corning 995 Silicone Structural Adhesive

