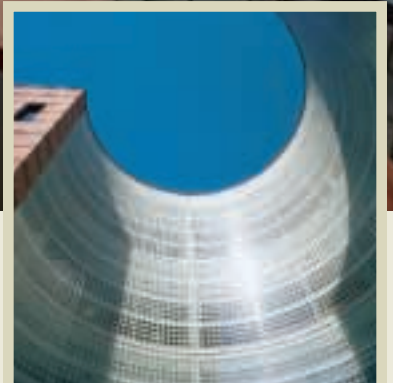




architectural products



# GLASS BLOCK PRODUCTS & DESIGN INFORMATION



# PITTSBURGH CORNING GLASS BLOCK

Pittsburgh Corning Corporation has been manufacturing Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block products since 1937 and today is the only domestic manufacturer in North America. The company recognizes its responsibility to provide a variety of products and to furnish accurate descriptive and technical information which will help the design professional select and specify Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block products.

The comprehensive variety of patterns, styles and sizes available have been designed to work together in your projects as a total system. Pittsburgh Corning stands behind all its glass block when used exclusively with Pittsburgh Corning accessory products by offering a limited five-year warranty.



ISO 9001:2000 Certification assures that Pittsburgh Corning is committed to quality innovation.

## [www.pittsburghcorning.com](http://www.pittsburghcorning.com)

features application photos, product information, specifications, installation details, literature, continuing education, case histories, and much more information on how to design with Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block products.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction .....	2
Glass Block Benefits & Applications .....	3-5
Glass Block Products .....	6-7
Physical & Design Data .....	8-10
Fire Ratings and Code Information .....	11
Accessories .....	12
Typical Construction Details .....	12-18
Typical Details For Fire Rated Construction .....	15
Standard Specifications .....	18-19
Residential Products .....	Back Cover

### ON THE COVER:

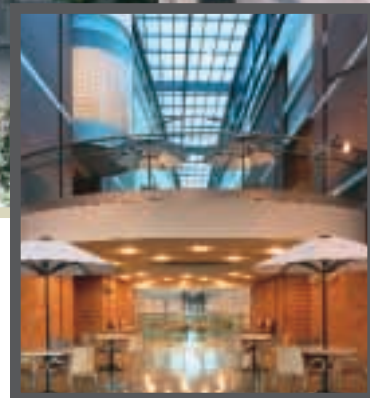
Lake Dallas High School, Dallas, TX // Architect: DMS Architects  
 VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block and VUE® Pattern  
 North Hollywood Police Station, N. Hollywood, CA // Architect: Meyer & Allen Associates  
 ARGUS® Pattern and HEDRON® Corner Block  
 Lawrence College, Appleton, WI // VUE® Pattern  
 Appalachian State University, School of Business, Boone, NC  
 Architect: J.N. Pease Associates // VUE® Pattern



### Circle of Design Excellence Award Winner

Sponsored by Pittsburgh Corning, this program recognizes those designs where glass block forms a prominent architectural feature of a building, either interior or exterior.

Hillman Cancer Center, Pittsburgh, PA // Architect: IKM Inc.



“We selected the glass block to create a visually stunning separation between the research and clinical pavilions. It enabled the transmission of natural daylight into the labs and treatment areas while still maintaining the appropriate degree of privacy. The use of glass block greatly contributed to the Hillman Cancer Center’s artful expression of both the functional and emotional needs of the clinical pavilion dedicated to healing, and the opportunity for interaction and flexibility of a research pavilion dedicated to finding a cure.” — Mihai Marcu, AIA, President, IKM Inc.

## PITTSBURGH CORNING’S NEW EZ DESIGN GLASS BLOCK LIBRARY

This easy to use system is powered by SketchUp®, an award-winning design program that allows you to create, view and modify your designs in 3D. It allows you to take your designs from initial concepts all the way through detailing and documentation.

### The EZ Design Library features:

- ProVantage™ Glass Block Installation System
- Traditional Mortar Installation System
- Predesigned Applications

You can design with any shape or size Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block and the installation method is already taken into account. Plus, the EZ Design Library will tell you exactly what materials you need based on your design.

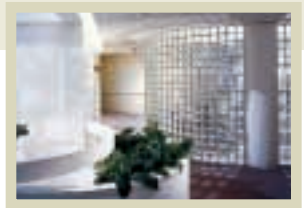


Please visit our website at [www.pittsburghcorning.com](http://www.pittsburghcorning.com) to access this useful tool.



# GLASS BLOCK BENEFITS & APPLICATIONS

(l to r): AT&T Information Systems, Weston, MA  
Designer: Hugh Stubbins & Associates // VUE® Pattern  
Zcon Builders Building, Oakland, CA  
Architect: Sandy & Babcock Architects // VUE® Pattern



“This building is going to be used for everything from black tie parties to basketball games. So every inch of this place has to endure years of hard wear – and look great doing it. VISTABRIK® Glass Block has the perfect balance of durability, security and sheer beauty to make this place special.”

– Lisa Armstrong, AIA, Architect  
Armstrong Kaulbach Architects



Lloyd Hall, Philadelphia, PA // Architect: Armstrong Kaulbach Architects // VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block, VUE® Pattern

## BEAUTY AND VERSATILITY

Extraordinarily versatile and available in many aesthetically pleasing sizes and styles, glass block offers virtually limitless design possibilities. Glass block walls, partitions and windows combine the delicate beauty and light transmission of glass with the strength of glass block.

Big opportunities generally mean big challenges. So when Armstrong Kaulbach Architects designed the first new building, Lloyd Hall (see photo above), on Philadelphia's Boathouse Row, they were looking at a once-a-century challenge. It had

to be big without dwarfing its neighbors. A modern classic with 19th century charm and 21st century convenience. They achieved this with a skylit, peaked profile and a three-sided exposure of VISTABRIK® Glass Block.



Veteran's Administration Hospital Chapel, Detroit, MI  
Architect: Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, Inc. // DECORA® Pattern



## SECURITY

When top architects need to add security to their projects, Pittsburgh Corning answers with a range of solutions:

### Premiere Series

Available in the widest range of sizes, shapes and patterns, these blocks offer enhanced resistance to impact, fire, sound transmission, graffiti and weather.

### THICKSET® Series

These thicker-faced blocks offer all the performance features of our Premiere Series but with an extra reduction in sound transmission and increased fire resistance available in 60- or 90-minute ratings.

### VISTABRIK® Glass Block

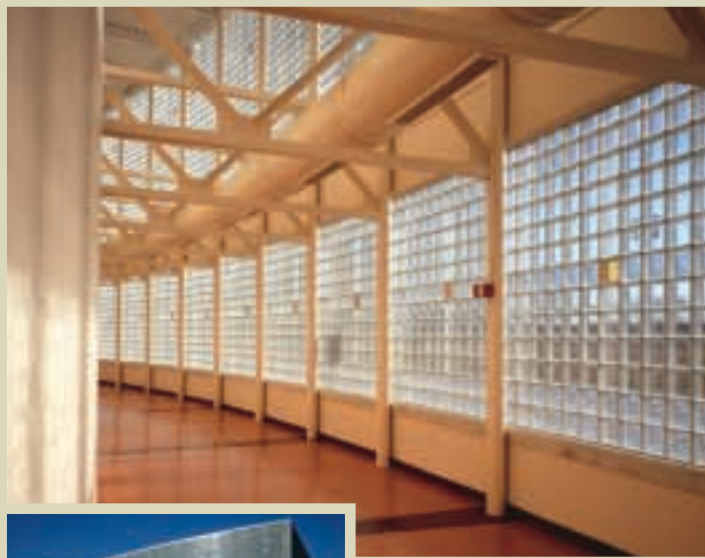
Three inches of solid glass block make this the top-performing product offering the highest ballistic ratings, resistance to impact and sound transmission while still transmitting 80% of available light



Regional Transit District Station, Denver, CO  
VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block, VUE® Pattern



University of New Hampshire // DECORA® Pattern



University of Toledo - Nitschke Auditorium  
ARGUS® Pattern and VUE® Pattern



Terminal A Parking Garage, Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, Washington, D.C.  
Architect: Hartman-Cox Architects (In association with HNTG Corporation) // DECORA®, ESSEX® AA and VUE® Patterns

“We started with the vertical elements of the garages – the elevator towers – and using the VUE® pattern, turned it into a virtual wayfinder system. Then, we continued that theme with small wayfinder devices – information pylons using ESSEX® AA – throughout the garages.” — Graham Davidson, Architect

## VISIBILITY/LIGHT TRANSMISSION

Glass block provides exceptional visibility in compliance with ADA guidelines for enclosed areas. It is also scratch-resistant and transmits up to 80% of available light in both directions without any yellowing, clouding or weathering.

## NOISE RESISTANT

Three inches of solid glass makes VISTABRIK® a dense barrier to sounds from trains, traffic, crowds, sirens, and machinery with a 53 STC level. THICKSET® Series Block STC ranges between 48-50, and Premiere Series Glass Block 35 to 40.

## BULLET RESISTANT

UL® tested and approved for Levels 1, 2, and 6, VISTABRIK® resists penetration from high-impact ballistics, including 9mm and .357 magnum bullets.

## GRAFFITI RESISTANT

Glass block resists damage and is easy to clean.

## ENERGY CONSERVATION

Glass block can provide more than double the thermal resistance (R-Value) of single-glaze 1/8" thick plate glass. The differences between the shading coefficient of glass block and flat sheet glass is also significant. Contributing to this is the lowering effect of glass block's horizontal mortar joints, which helps reduce light transmission from the higher summer sun. The size and orientation of the block can greatly affect the amount of shading that can occur. Now with the advent of new energy codes, solar heat gain has become an important issue. Glass block can satisfy the higher SHGC (Solar Heat Gain Coefficient) requirements of northern states, as well as lower SHGC requirements of southern states with the SRT (Solar Reflective Tint) glass block.



University of New Hampshire // DECORA® Pattern



Swindon Market – Swindon, Wiltshire, U.K. // Architect: Harrison Patience, Architect // VUE® Pattern



“This building had to embody the LAPD’s more open, community-oriented mission. The ARGUS® pattern glass block was really critical in creating that openness. It gives us the perfect balance of light and security.” — Clifton Allen, Architect

## EARTHQUAKE RESISTANCE

Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block met the requirements of Section 1630.2, (Vol. 2) of the 1994 Uniform Building Code which governed seismic design of nonstructural components supported by structures.

The Northridge, CA earthquake on January 17, 1994 was the largest earthquake in the United States to have its epicenter in an urban area. A detailed survey was made of the performance of structures containing Pittsburgh Corning glass block panel applications. In all sites visited, the glass block walls and panel systems that were designed and constructed in accordance with Pittsburgh Corning

specifications and the provision of the Uniform Building Code resisted the seismic forces without failure.

Glass block panels inherently have attributes that make them very safe in earthquakes, including the fact that since glass block panels are isolated from the framing with expansion joints, the glass block are better able to resist the seismic forces independent of their surrounding frames. In summary, glass block panel design criteria currently specified in the UBC provides an excellent architectural product that performed very well during the Northridge earthquake.



North Hollywood Police Station, N. Hollywood, CA // Architect: Meyer & Allen Associates  
ARGUS® Pattern and HEDRON® Corner Block



Combined Operations Center // Heathrow Airport, U.K. // Architect: Nicholas Grimshaw & Partners // VUE® Pattern

## FIRE RESISTANT

An important feature of glass block, critical to safe building design, is the product’s inherent fire-resistance property. By varying the face thickness of the product and conforming to installation specifications, Pittsburgh Corning is able to offer a family of fire rated products approved and rated according to Underwriters Laboratory (UL®), standards. Glass block are available in 45-, 60- and 90-minute ratings for window assemblies. See pages 11 and 15 for additional technical information. Visit our website at [www.pittsburghcorning.com](http://www.pittsburghcorning.com) for electronic details.



### PREMIERE SERIES

- Includes the largest selection of patterns and sizes for the utmost in design flexibility.
- All patterns are classified by UL®, for use in 45-minute rated window assemblies.
- All sizes available are rated except 12" x 12" and shapes.
- Nominal face thickness: 0.25"



### THICKSET® 60 Block

- Classified by UL®, for use as 45- or 60-minute rated window assemblies.
- Nominal face thickness: 0.375"



### THICKSET® 90 Block

- Classified by UL®, for use as 45-, 60- or 90-minute rated window assemblies.
- Nominal face thickness: 0.75"



### VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block

- The ultimate glass block solution, 3 solid inches of glass which resists bullets, fire, noise, and graffiti.
- Classified by UL®, for use as 45-, 60- or 90-minute rated window assemblies.
- Actual face thickness: 3.0"

## PREMIERE SERIES GLASS BLOCK

Pittsburgh Corning's Premiere Series Glass Block exhibit a multifaceted character that begins with the transparent/ translucent sparkling beauty of glass itself. The wide range of glass block provide proven performance, and the best selection of types, thickness, sizes, shapes and patterns; plus a variety of installation methods to allow you truly unique executions of your most exciting ideas.... your inspired designs.



### ARGUS® Pattern

Rounded perpendicular flutes diffuse light while allowing maximum light transmission and a medium degree of privacy.



### ARGUS® Parallel Fluted Pattern

Rounded parallel flutes on each face diffuse light while allowing maximum light transmission and a medium degree of privacy. Complements the SPYRA® pattern.



### DECORA® Pattern

With its trademark wavy undulations, this pattern provides maximum light transmission with subtle visual distortion. The nondirectional faces make installation quick.



### ESSEX® AA Pattern

The fine grid design of the closely spaced ridges in this pattern offers moderate light transmission and a maximum degree of privacy.



### IceScapes® Pattern

Non-directional pattern lets light in without sacrificing privacy. Maximum light transmission/medium to maximum privacy.



### SPYRA® Pattern

SPYRA® Pattern gives you many options for decorative patterns, such as bold circles, rounded corners and the illusions of waves. Maximum light transmission and minimal privacy



### VUE® Pattern

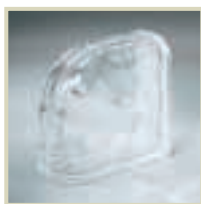
Faces are smooth and undistorted to transmit the most light and allow ultimate visibility. This is your best choice for passive solar collection and visual clarity.

## SHAPES AND FINISHING UNITS



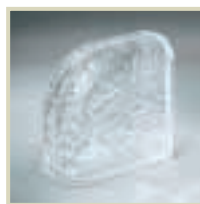
### ARQUE® Block DECORA® and IceScapes® Patterns

ARQUE® Block is a brilliant way to create smooth, graceful curves and columns. ARQUE® Block forms a consistent, tight curve ideally suited for columns.



### ENCURVE® Block, DECORA® and IceScapes® Patterns

Arched, soft edges to round out your design options or finish panels. Use with 8" X 8" EndBlock Finishing Units for a stepped panel.



### ENDBLOCK™ Finishing Unit DECORA® and IceScapes® Patterns 6" x 8"

The rounded, finished surface on one edge of these blocks makes them virtually disappear when used vertically or horizontally on the edges of panels, walls or dividers.



### ENDBLOCK™ Finishing Unit DECORA® and IceScapes® Patterns 8" x 8"

The rounded, finished surface on one edge of these blocks makes them virtually disappear when used vertically or horizontally on the edges of panels, walls or dividers.



### HEDRON® Corner Block DECORA® and IceScapes® Patterns

Hexagonal corner unit allows you to form 90-degree corners resulting in a gently rounded continuous glass face.



### TRIDRON 45° Block® DECORA® and IceScapes® Patterns

The unique shape of this block lets you create everything from 45-degree angles to full circles.



## SPECIALTY GLASS BLOCK



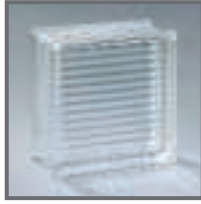
### THICKSET® Block

Cutaways show the greater face thickness of the THICKSET® Series Block. THICKSET® 60 Block on left vs. the THICKSET® 90 Block on right.



### THICKSET® 90 Block DECORA® Pattern

THICKSET 90 block provides a 90-minute fire rating. The DECORA® pattern provides maximum light transmission with subtle visual distortion. The nondirectional faces make installation quick.



### THICKSET® 90 Block ENDURA™ Pattern

THICKSET 90 block provides a 90-minute fire rating. The ENDURA™ pattern's narrow flutes provide moderate light transmission/maximum privacy.



### THICKSET® 90 Block VUE® Pattern

THICKSET 90 block provides a 90-minute fire rating. The VUE® pattern transmits the most light and allows ultimate visibility.



### THICKSET 60 Block DECORA® Pattern

THICKSET 60 block provides 60-minute fire rating. The DECORA® pattern provides maximum light transmission with subtle visual distortion. The nondirectional faces make installation quick.



### THICKSET® 60 Block VUE® Pattern

THICKSET® 60 block provides 60-minute fire rating. The VUE® pattern transmits the most light and allows ultimate visibility.



### DECORA® LX Pattern

Fibrous glass insert adds moderate thermal and light characteristics. Maximum privacy. **Please note: The "LX" fibrous glass insert is available in other patterns and sizes by special order. Minimum order quantities apply.**



### HEDRON® LX Corner Block DECORA® Pattern

Hexagonal corner unit allows you to form 90-degree corners resulting in a gently rounded continuous glass face.



### VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block

Three inches of solid glass. Clear visibility, durable, impact, vandal and bullet resistant, low maintenance and aesthetically attractive. Excellent light transmission. Available in 8" x 8", 4" x 8" and 3" x 8" sizes.



### VISTABRIK® STIPPLED Solid Glass Block

Solid 3" thickness of glass with a stippled finish to add privacy. Durable, impact, vandal and bullet resistant, low maintenance and aesthetically attractive. Good light transition/medium privacy.



### VISTABRIK® 45°/90° CORNER Solid Glass Block

Slight radius for corners or angles. Clear visibility, durable, impact, vandal and bullet resistant, low maintenance and aesthetically attractive. Excellent light transmission.



### VISTABRIK® Paver

One and a half inches of solid glass. Clear, durable, low maintenance. Excellent light transmission. For horizontal applications only.



### SRT™ Glass Block Wavy and Clear Patterns

Features a metal oxide coating on the inside surface of the block which greatly reflects solar energy while reducing the passage of sunlight.



### PC® Custom Signature Block

Custom manufactured with your corporate logo or other design pressed into one or both inside surfaces of an eight inch square, standard unit. **Special Order Only**

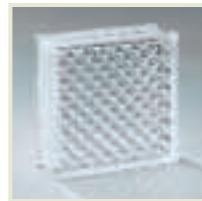
## THINLINE™ SERIES GLASS BLOCK

Thinline™ Series Glass Block are for limited areas in interior and exterior residential applications and light commercial applications.



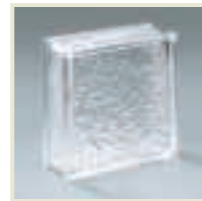
### DECORA® Pattern

With its trademark wavy undulations, this pattern provides maximum light transmission with subtle visual distortion. The nondirectional faces make installation quick.



### DELPHI® Pattern

This raised diamond design lends a prismatic effect to the light it transmits. Moderate light transmission and maximum privacy. DELPHI® Pattern available in Thinline™ Series only.



### IceScapes® Pattern

Non-directional pattern lets light in without sacrificing privacy. Maximum light transmission/medium to maximum privacy.



### EndBlock™ Finishing Unit, DECORA® Pattern

For finishing horizontal or vertical edges of panels. This 4" x 8" size available in Thinline™ Series only.

# PHYSICAL & DESIGN DATA

## PREMIERE SERIES GLASS BLOCK PRODUCTS

Pattern	Nominal Size <sup>1</sup> (mm) (Actual size is 1/4" less than nominal)	Weight (lb/ft <sup>2</sup> ) installed with mortar	Heat Transmission <sup>2</sup> U Value (Btu/hr ft <sup>2</sup> °F)	Thermal Resistance <sup>2</sup> R Value (hr ft <sup>2</sup> °F/Btu)	Visible Light Transmission <sup>3</sup> (%)	Shading Coef. <sup>5</sup>	Sound Transmission S.T.C.	Solar Heat Gain Coefficient <sup>7</sup>
Standard Premiere Series Block—Nominal Thickness = 4"; Actual Thickness + 3/4" (98mm)								
ARGUS®	6" x 6" (146mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	37	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	8" x 8" (197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	39	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	12" x 12" (299mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	35	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
ARGUS® Parallel Fluted	8" x 8" (197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	39	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
DECORA®	6" x 6" (146mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	37	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	8" x 8" (197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	39	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	12" x 12" (299mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	35	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	4" x 8" (95 x 197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	6" x 8" (146 x 197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
ESSEX® AA	8" x 8" (197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	50 <sup>4</sup>	0.45 <sup>4</sup>	39	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
IceScapes®	8" x 8" (197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	39	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	4" x 8" (95 x 197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	6" x 8" (146 x 197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
SPYRA®	8" x 8" (197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	39	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
VUE®	6" x 6" (146mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	37	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	8" x 8" (197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	39	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	12" x 12" (299mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65	35	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	4" x 8" (95 x 197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	6" x 8" (146 x 197mm)	20	0.51	1.96	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
DECORA® "LX" Filter	6" x 6" (146mm)	20	0.48	2.06	50-55 <sup>4</sup>	0.45 <sup>4</sup>		.56
	8" x 8" (197mm)	20	0.48	2.06	50-55 <sup>4</sup>	0.45 <sup>4</sup>	40	.56
	12" x 12" (299mm)	20	0.48	2.06	50-55 <sup>4</sup>	0.45 <sup>4</sup>		.56
Solar Reflective Glass Block								
SRT Clear	190 mm x 190mm x 95 mm (metric size)	20	0.58	1.72	30	0.55		.40
SRT Wavy	190 mm x 190 mm x 95 mm (metric size)	20	0.57	1.75	30	0.55		.34
THICKSET® Block—Nominal Thickness = 4"; Actual Thickness + 3/4" (98mm)								
THICKSET® 60 Block—DECORA® & VUE®	8" x 8" (197mm)	25	0.51	1.96	VUE®=75 DECORA®=49	0.65	48	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
THICKSET® 90 Block—DECORA®	6" x 6" (146mm)	30	0.51	1.96	VUE®=70 DECORA®=38	0.65	50	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
THICKSET® 90 Block—DECORA® & VUE®	8" x 8" (197mm)	30	0.51	1.96	VUE®=70 DECORA®=38	0.65	50	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
THICKSET® 90 Block—ENDURA™	8" x 8" (197mm)	30	0.51	1.96	38	0.65	50	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block—See Nominal/Actual Sizes Listed								
VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block	8" x 8" x 3" Nominal 7 7/8" x 7 7/8" x 3" Actual (194mm x 194mm x 76mm)	40	0.87	1.15	80		53 (NRC=0.05)	.75-.78 <sup>7</sup>
	3" x 8" x 3" Nominal 3" x 7 7/8" x 3" Actual (76mm x 194mm x 76mm)	40	0.87	1.15	80			.75-.78 <sup>7</sup>
	(Paver) 8" x 8" x 1 1/2" Nominal 7 5/8" x 7 5/8" x 1 1/2" Actual (76mm x 194mm x 38mm)	N/A	0.87	1.15	80			.75-.78 <sup>7</sup>
	4" x 8" x 3" Nominal 3 3/4" x 7 7/8" x 3" Actual (92mm x 194mm x 76mm)	40	0.87	1.15	80			.75-.78 <sup>7</sup>
STIPPLE Finish	8" x 8" x 3" Nominal 7 7/8" x 7 7/8" x 3" Actual (194mm x 194mm x 76mm)	40	0.87	1.15	80		53 (NRC=0.05)	.75-.78 <sup>7</sup>
Thinline™ Series Block—Nominal Thickness = 3"; Actual Thickness + 3/4" (79mm)								
DECORA®	6" x 6" (146mm)	16	0.57	1.75	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	8" x 8" (197mm)	16	0.57	1.75	75	0.65	31 <sup>6</sup>	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	4" x 8" (95 x 197mm)	16	0.57	1.75	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	6" x 8" (146 x 197mm)	16	0.57	1.75	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
IceScapes®	6" x 6" (146mm)	16	0.57	1.75	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	6" x 8" (146 x 197mm)	16	0.57	1.75	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	8" x 8" (197mm)	16	0.57	1.75	75	0.65	31 <sup>6</sup>	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
DELPHI®	6" x 6" (146mm)	16	0.57	1.75	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	8" x 8" (197mm)	16	0.57	1.75	75	0.65	31 <sup>6</sup>	.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	4" x 8" (95 x 197mm)	16	0.57	1.75	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
	6" x 8" (146 x 197mm)	16	0.57	1.75	75	0.65		.66-.68 <sup>7</sup>
1/8" FLAT SHEET GLASS COMPARISON (3mm)			1.04	0.96	90	1.00	28	

**1 Size:** Block are manufactured to a ± 1/16" (2mm) tolerance.  
**2 Heat Transmission/Thermal Transmission:** Winter night values. To calculate instantaneous heat gain through glass panels, see ASHRAE HANDBOOK OF FUNDAMENTALS, 1997, Section 29.26.

**3 Light Transmission:** Values ±5%.  
**4 Light Transmission/Shading Coefficient:** Estimated figures based on accumulated data.

**5 Shading Coefficient:** Based on 8"-sq. units; ratio of heat gain through glass block panels vs. that through a single light of double-strength sheet glass under specific conditions.

**6 Sound Transmission:** Assembly construction with Kwik'N EZ® Silicone System.  
**7 SHGC:** Default values as interpreted from International Energy Conservation Code.



## INSTALLED PANEL WEIGHT

Refer to Table on page 8 for weight of panels installed with mortar. Glass block panels installed with the KWIK'N EZ® Rigid Track Silicone System are up to 25% lighter (weigh 25% less per square foot) than panels installed with mortar. Local building codes should be checked for any limits on panel sizes or installation details.

## NON-LOAD BEARING

Glass block panels are non-load bearing; adequate provisions must be made for support of construction above these panels. Panels are mortared at the sill, with jamb and head details designed to provide for building movement and lintel deflection. The compressive strength (for information purposes only) of all hollow glass block is 400 to 600 psi.; of all THICKSET® Series Glass Block is 2500 psi.; and of all VISTABRIK® Series is 80,000 psi.

## THERMAL EXPANSION COEFFICIENT

The thermal expansion coefficient of glass block is  $47 \times 10^{-7} /(^{\circ}\text{F})$ .

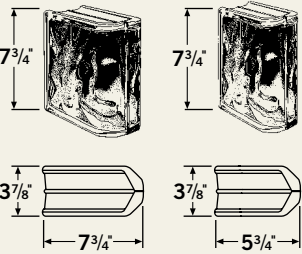
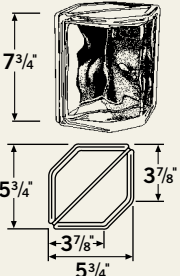
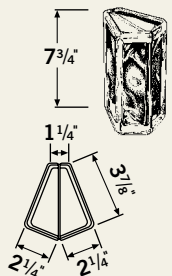
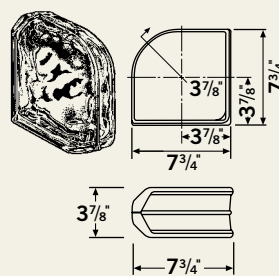
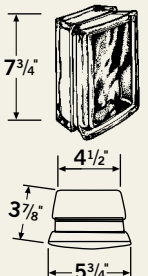
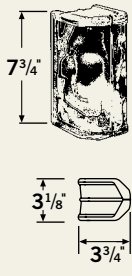
## DETAILED DRAWINGS

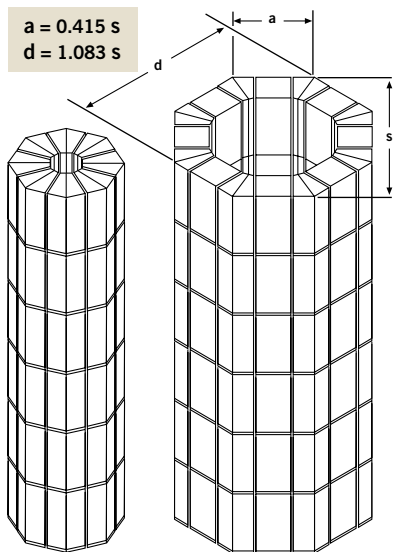
Structural members illustrated on page 14 and other "detail" pages indicate principles of construction. Member sizes should be determined by structural analysis to avoid excessive deflections. Maximum deflection should not exceed  $L/600$ .

## PREMIERE SERIES AND Thinline™ SERIES

All glass block illustrated are Premiere Series Glass Block, the 4" nominal thick products. Modify as necessary for Thinline™ Series, the 3" nominal thick units or VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block, 3" actual thickness. Pittsburgh Corning recommends that the use of the Thinline™ Series units be limited to light commercial and residential applications.

## FINISHING UNITS

PREMIERE SERIES						THINLINE™ SERIES
EndBlock™ Finishing Units	HEDRON® Corner Unit	TRIDRON 45° Block® Unit	ENCURVE® Finishing Unit	ARQUE® Block Unit	EndBlock™ Finishing Unit	EndBlock™ Finishing Unit
 <p>DECORA® &amp; IceScapes® Patterns 8" High Premiere Series</p>	 <p>DECORA® &amp; IceScapes® Patterns 8" High Premiere Series</p>	 <p>DECORA® &amp; IceScapes® Patterns 8" High Premiere Series</p>	 <p>DECORA® &amp; IceScapes® Patterns 8" Square Premiere Series</p>	 <p>DECORA® &amp; IceScapes® Patterns 8" High Premiere Series</p>	 <p>DECORA® Pattern 8" High Thinline™ Series Only</p>	



Columns can be All-TRIDRON 45° Block® (left) or interspersed with 4" x 8" or 8" x 8" glass block.

NOTE: All mortar joints are  $\frac{1}{4}"$ .

## GLASS BLOCK BETWEEN TRIDRON 45° BLOCK®

	a (in.)	s (in.)	d (in.)
None	4.75	11.45	12.40
1 - 4" x 8" x 4"	8.75	21.08	22.83
1 - 6" x 8" x 4"	10.75	25.90	28.05
1 - 8" x 8" x 4"	12.75	30.72	33.27
1 - 4" x 8" x 4" + 1 - 8" x 8" x 4"	16.75	40.36	43.71
2 - 8" x 8" x 4"	20.75	50.00	54.15
1 - 4" x 8" x 4" + 2 - 8" x 8" x 4"	24.75	59.64	64.59
3 - 8" x 8" x 4"	28.75	69.28	75.03

## MAXIMUM PANEL DIMENSIONS\*

	Premiere Series			Thinline™ Series			VISTABRIK®		
	A (Sq.Ft.)	H (Ft.)	W (Ft.)	A (Sq.Ft.)	H (Ft.)	W (Ft.)	A (Sq.Ft.)	H (Ft.)	W (Ft.)
EXTERIOR**	144	20	25	85	10	15	100	10	10
INTERIOR	250	20	25	150	10	15	150	10	15

A = Area H = Height W = Width

\* Uniform Building Code (UBC) limits exterior height and width to 15 feet.

\*\* All exterior areas and dimensions are based on 20 psf design windload with 2.7 safety factor.

## MORTAR MIX AND ESTIMATING TABLES

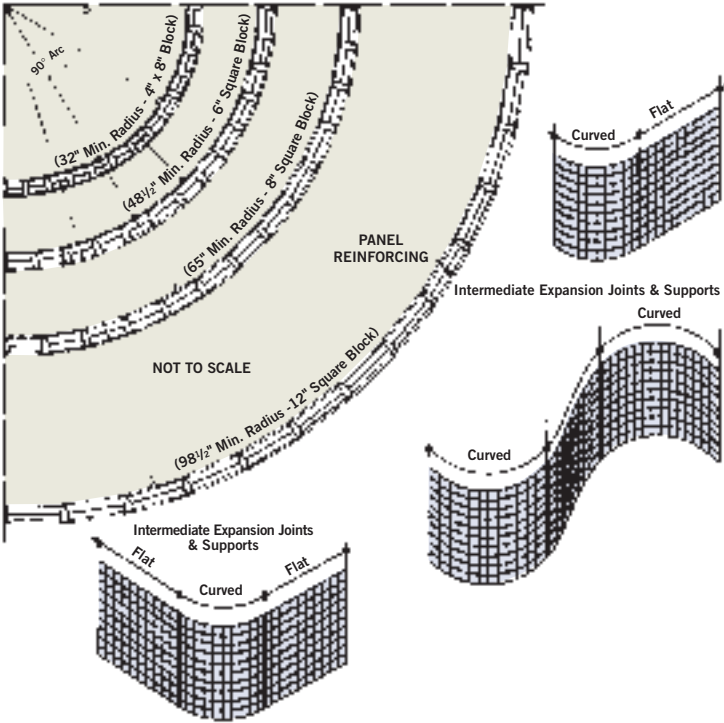
An optimum mortar mix for installing Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block is:

Portland Cement	Lime	Sand
1 Part	$\frac{1}{2}$ Part	3.4 Parts
1.0 cubic foot	0.5 cubic foot	3.4 cubic feet

## NUMBER OF BLOCK FOR 100 SQ. FT. PANEL

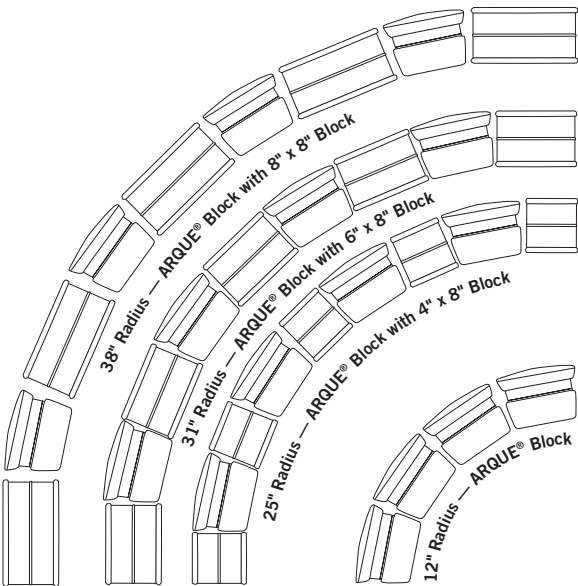
Block Sizes (Nominal)	6"	8"	12"	4" x 8"	6" x 8"
Number of Block	400	225	100	450	300

INSIDE RADIUS MINIMUMS FOR CURVED PANEL CONSTRUCTION



RADIUS MINIMUMS FOR CURVED PANEL CONSTRUCTION				
Block Size	Inside Radius Inches	Number of Blocks in 90° Arc	Vertical Joint Thickness In Inches	
			Inside	Outside
4" x 8"	32	13	1/8	5/8
6" x 6"	48 3/4	13	1/8	5/8
8" x 8"	65	13	1/8	5/8
12" x 12"	98 1/2	13	1/8	5/8

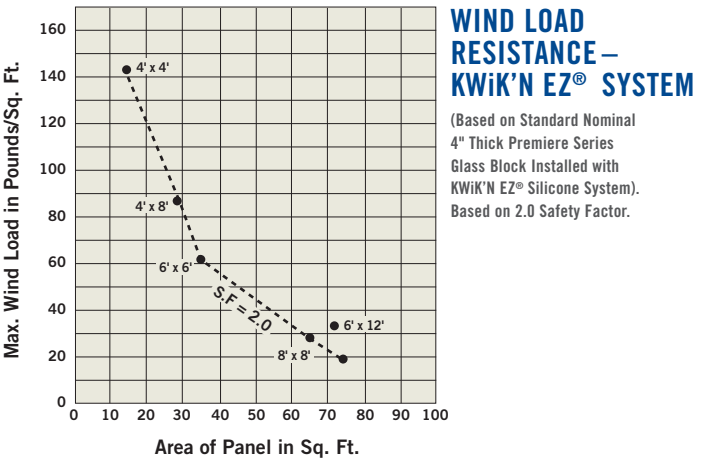
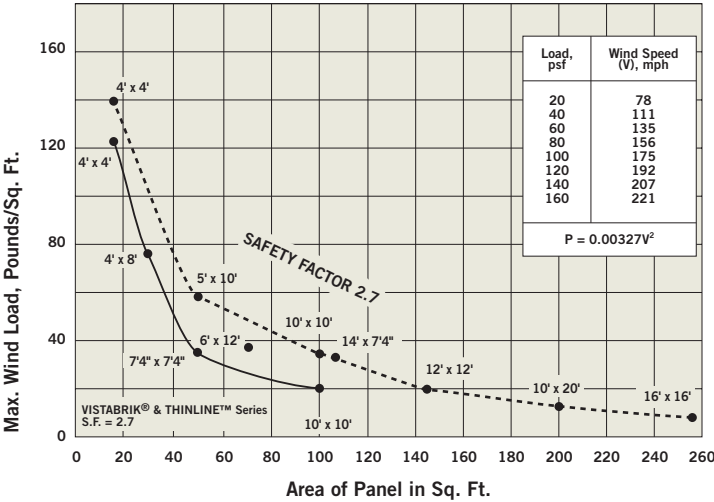
- NOTES:
1. It is suggested that curved areas be separated from flat areas by intermediate expansion joints and supports, as indicated in these drawings.
  2. When straight, ladder-type reinforcing is used on curved walls, the innermost parallel wire may be cut periodically and bent to accommodate the curvature of the wall.



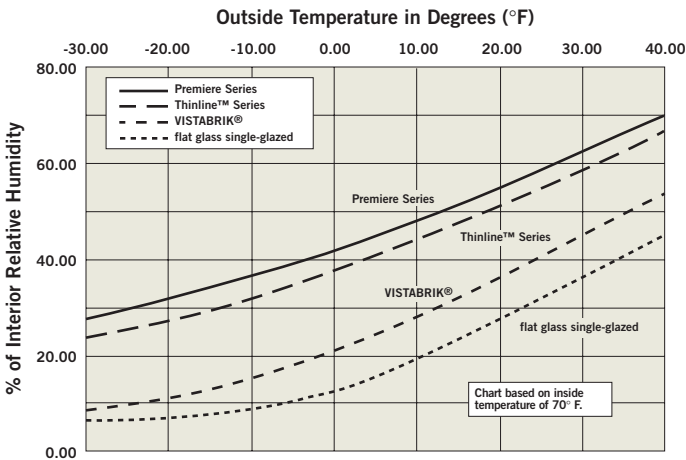
ARQUE® Block used along with other Pittsburgh Corning Block sizes, allows you to form consistent curves of various radii. Radii shown are to inside face of curve.

WIND LOAD RESISTANCE – MORTAR SYSTEM

(Based on Standard Nominal 4" Thick Premiere Series Glass Block. Installed with mortar. Based on 2.7 Safety Factor)



RESISTANCE TO SURFACE CONDENSATION



Example: At a relative humidity of 40%, an outside temperature of approximately -3 °F will cause condensation on Premiere Series Glass Block or approximately 3 °F above zero on Thinline™ Series block. Under the same conditions, condensation will form on a single-glazed flat glass window at 34 °F above zero.



# FIRE RATINGS

## FIRE RATINGS AND CODE INFORMATION

All sizes (exceptions listed below) of Premiere Series and Thinline™ Series glass blocks have at least a 45 minute fire rating when used as a window assembly within a one hour fire-rated wall assembly. All THICKSET® 90 (thick-faced) and solid glass blocks have fire ratings of up to 90 minutes, and the THICKSET® 60 and ESSEX® AA Pattern glass blocks have fire ratings of up to 60 minutes, when used as window assemblies and when permitted by code.

### Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block units that are not fire-rated:

- All 12" x 12" sizes
- All DELPHI®, pattern block
- All HEDRON® Corner block, TRIDRON 45° Block® units, EndBlock®, ENCURVE® and ARQUE® finishing units
- All paver units
- VISTABRIK® Corner Block

### PANEL SIZES AND DIMENSION LIMITATIONS

Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block listed above have been tested and classified by Underwriters Laboratories® (UL®) for use as fire-rated window assemblies to panel sizes and dimension limitations listed below:

- With the exception of all 12" x 12" sizes, finishing blocks, corner blocks and the DELPHI® pattern block, all Premiere Series and Thinline™ Series glass blocks in panels up to 120 square feet in masonry walls or 94 square feet in non-masonry walls are classified by Underwriters Laboratories, for use as 45-minute rated window assemblies.
- The Uniform Building Code (U.B.C.) limits the area of 45-minute rated window assemblies to 84 square feet, with no dimension exceeding 12 feet. These panels are usually acceptable as window assemblies for use in fire separation walls that are rated one hour or less.

- THICKSET® 60 Block are listed for use as 45- or 60-minute fire rated window assemblies in panels up to 100 square feet.
- THICKSET® 90 Block and VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block are all listed for use as 45-, 60- or 90-minute fire rated window assemblies in panels up to 100 square feet.
- Where permitted by building codes, glass block fire-rated window assemblies having a fire resistance rating of not less than 45 minutes may be used as "opening protectives." These assemblies shall not exceed 25% of the wall areas separating a tenancy from a corridor or a corridor from an enclosed vertical opening or one fire-rated area from another fire-rated area.
- **Exception:** Although glass block masonry systems have been tested as window assemblies (not wall assemblies), they may be used as one hour fire partitions as required for corridors in the enclosure of atriums only when sprinkler protection is provided on occupied sides.

### 45- AND 60-MINUTE RATED CONSTRUCTION

- All 45- and 60-minute rated Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block may be used in both masonry and non-masonry (steel or wood stud framing with gypsum board) walls.
- These rated glass block windows may be framed and anchored with either PC® Panel Anchor construction or channel-type restraints.
- The use of a fire retardant type sealant for head and jamb locations is required.
- Specifications and construction details for such panels are as per Pittsburgh Corning Corporation recommendations.
- Non-masonry, fire-rated steel stud with gypsum board wall assemblies must conform to UL® listed wall assembly #U465.

- Framing and support of the rated glass block window assembly shall be provided with double-studding at the jamb locations with height of supporting wall limited to no more than 3 feet.

### 90-MINUTE RATED CONSTRUCTION

- Where permitted by building codes, all 90-minute rated Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block may be used in masonry walls only.
- 90-minute rated glass block window assemblies must be framed and anchored with 1/4" thick steel (not aluminum) channel-type restraints or masonry chases. The use of panel anchor construction is not permitted.
- The use of a fire retardant type sealant for head and jamb locations is required.
- Specifications and construction details of such panels are as per Pittsburgh Corning Corporation recommendations.
- Twice the typical thickness (3/4" total) of expansion material is required at head and jamb locations.

### 45-MINUTE RATED CURVED CONSTRUCTION

- The glass blocks noted under 90-minute rating and those 8" x 8" x 4" sized glass block noted under 45-minute rating are classified for use in masonry walls as curved window assemblies, provided that the radius of the assembly is at least twice the opening width (i.e. chord length).

### CODE COMPLIANCE

All of our fire-rated glass block products are listed in the Underwriters

Laboratories current issue of the Fire Resistance Directory – Volume 3. A listing of our products can also be viewed on the Underwriters Laboratories Website at [www.ul.com](http://www.ul.com).

- U.L. Classification: R2556 (For Glass Block)
- Underwriters Laboratories of Canada Guide Number 23017 (For Glass Block)
- U.L. Classification: R18572 (For Plastic Spacers)
- In accordance with NFPA 80, Chapter 14

### CITY CODE APPROVALS

- New York City Materials and Equipment Acceptance MEA 406- 90-M. Vol.IV
- Los Angeles Research Report RR-24486
- Eugene, OR, "Approved Glass Products, Storm Windows, and Insulated Window Units"
- Dade County Acceptance
- State of Florida Approvals
- Texas Department of Insurance WIN #s 62, 63, and 64

### BUILDING CODE AND NATIONAL STANDARDS REFERENCES:

- The BOCA National Building Code (N.B.C.)
- The Standard Building Code (SBCCI)
- The Uniform Building Code (U.B.C.)
- International Building Code (IBC)
- Canadian Standards Association (CSA) A371-94 "Masonry Construction for Buildings"
- Canadian Standards Association (CSA) S304.1-94 "Masonry Design for Buildings."
- ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402 "Building Code Requirements for Masonry Structures"
- ISO 9001:2000 Certification: Manufacture test and distribution of Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block products.

## FIRE RATINGS — GLASS BLOCK ASSEMBLIES

Premiere Series Glass Blocks, THICKSET® 60 Blocks, THICKSET® 90 Blocks and VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block units have been tested and classified by Underwriters Laboratories (UL®) for use in fire-rated window assemblies to panel sizes and dimension limitations as listed.

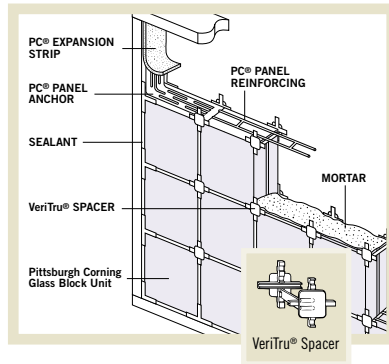
Product	Masonry Wall Construction					Non-Masonry Wall Construction			
	Panel Limitations		Fire Rating			Panel Limitations		Fire Rating	
	Max. Area/Panel	Max Ht. or Width	45 Min.	60 Min	90 Min.	Max. Area/Panel	Max Ht. or Width	45 Min.	60 Min.
Premiere Series	120	12	X			94	10.75	X	
THICKSET® 60 and ESSEX® AA Pattern	100	10	X	X		94	10.75	X	X
THICKSET® 90	100	10	X	X	X*	94	10.75	X	X
VISTABRIK®	100	10	X	X	X*	94	10.75	X	X

\*1/4" steel channel. 3/4" thick expansion material at head and jambs, and fire retardant sealant are required.

## ACCESSORIES

### PANEL CONSTRUCTION USING VeriTru® SPACERS

The one-piece, all plastic VeriTru® Spacer speeds construction, assures uniform placement and helps keep panel flush. Can now be used in fire-rated panels. Special spacers are available for the VISTABRIK® and ARQUE® Block.



### PC® PANEL REINFORCING, PANEL ANCHORS & EXPANSION STRIPS

PC® Panel Reinforcing (top) — in panels — is embedded horizontally in the mortar joints between every other course. PC® Panel Anchors (middle) are

used to tie Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block panels into the surrounding framework when channels are not used. PC® Expansion Strips (bottom), made of white polyethylene, are inserted at the head and jambs. The strips replace mortar at these locations to cushion the glass block and allow the panel to expand and contract freely.

### THE KWIK'N EZ® RIGID TRACK SILICONE SYSTEM

The KWIK'N EZ® Rigid Track spacer design system allows you to easily install glass block in many areas. Precision cut vertical spacers combine with the horizontal spacers to make installing your Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block panel quicker and easier than ever before. Rigid Track spacers are available for use with either Thinline™ Series or Premiere Series Glass Block.



### OTHER ACCESSORIES

Additional materials — such as mortar, channels or framing, packing, sealants and asphalt emulsion are available from other manufacturers.



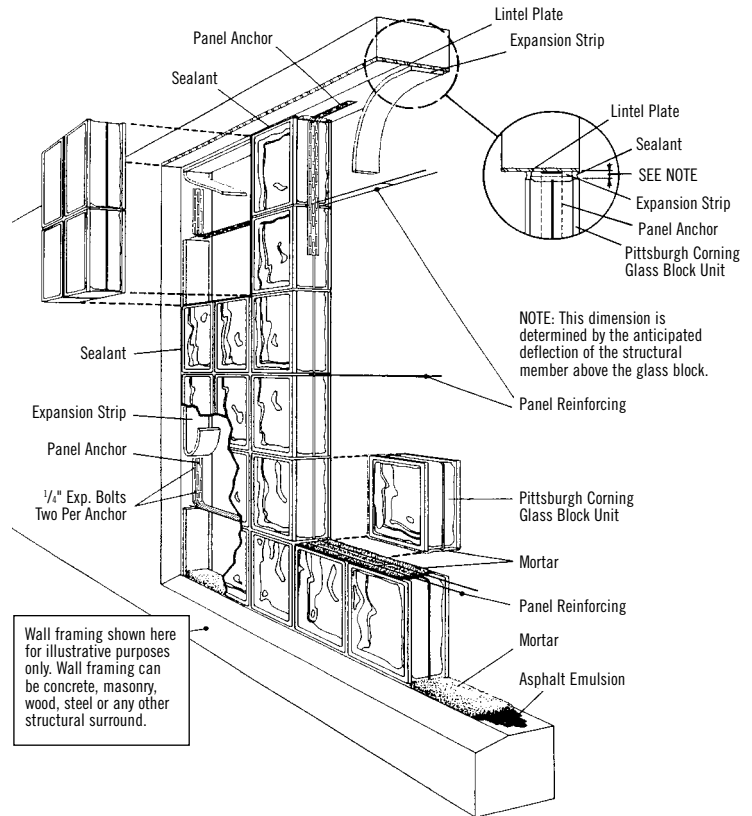
### ProVantage™ INSTALLATION SYSTEM



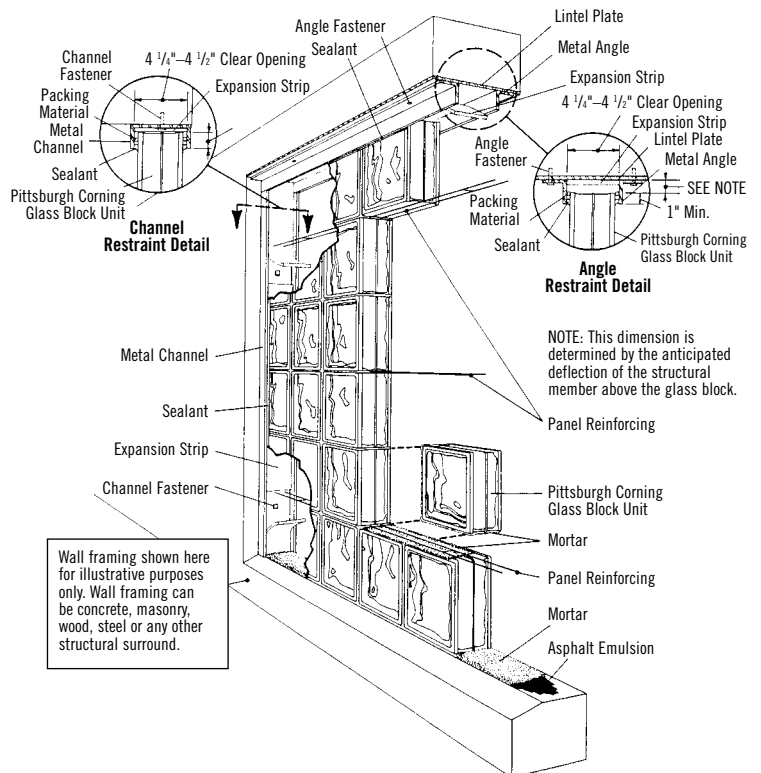
Unlike previous systems using silicone and spacers, the new ProVantage™ Installation System for use with Premiere Series glass blocks, can turn corners, make radius walls, build showers and is suitable for interior or exterior applications. The system utilizes spacers to align and hold the blocks in place for easy assembly, and silicone is used to bond the spacer and blocks together. The consistent, even-spaced joints are then finished with a special tile grout resulting in a clean, smooth professional look. For smaller straight wall panels, with 3-side support, silicone can be used in the joints to provide an all-glass look.

## TYPICAL CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

### PANEL ANCHOR CONSTRUCTION



### CHANNEL-TYPE RESTRAINT CONSTRUCTION





## GLOSSARY OF TERMS (Detail Drawings pages 12-18)

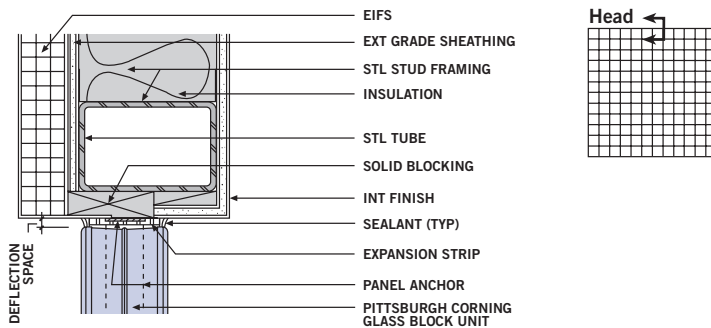
<b>BLOG</b> – Building	<b>CONC</b> – Concrete
<b>CMU</b> – Concrete Masonry Unit (concrete block)	<b>EIFS</b> – Exterior Insulation Finishing System
<b>CONT STL</b> – Continuous Steel (used to reinforce wall)	<b>EXT</b> – Exterior
<b>ELEV</b> – Elevation (side view of building)	<b>HEAD</b> – Top of Panel
<b>GYP BD</b> – Gypsum Board	<b>HORIZ</b> – Horizontal
<b>HM</b> – Hollow Metal (door frame)	<b>JAMB</b> – Side of Panel
<b>INT</b> – Interior	<b>PLAN</b> – View of Building from above, typically the floor
<b>MAX HT</b> – Maximum Height (for Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block panel 20ft./6m)	<b>STL</b> – Steel
<b>SILL</b> – Bottom of Panel	<b>WD</b> – Wood
<b>TYP</b> – Typical (detail)	
<b>CLG</b> – Ceiling	

Materials shown other than glass block are for illustration purposes only as examples of typical construction details.

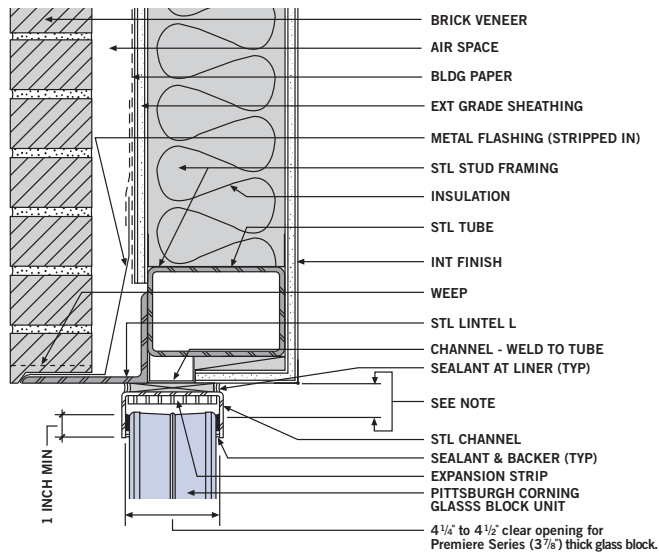
DETAILS CAN BE DOWNLOADED AS .DWG OR .DXF FILES FROM OUR WEBSITE

[www.pittsburghcorning.com/architects/specdetails.asp](http://www.pittsburghcorning.com/architects/specdetails.asp)

## TYPICAL HEAD DETAILS (Exterior Openings)



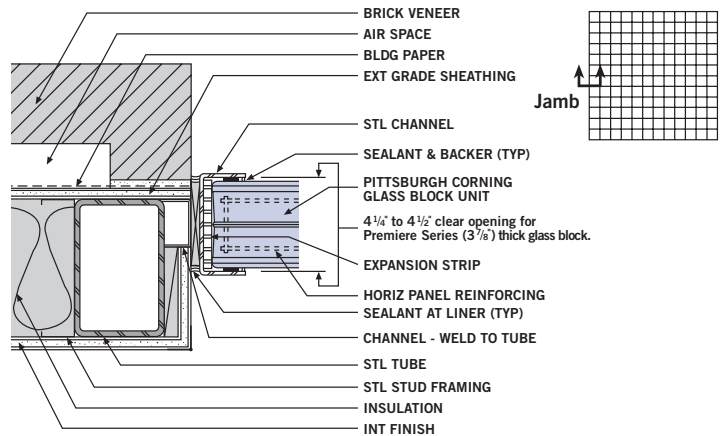
(PCD 031) Head – Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Synthetic Plaster Finish



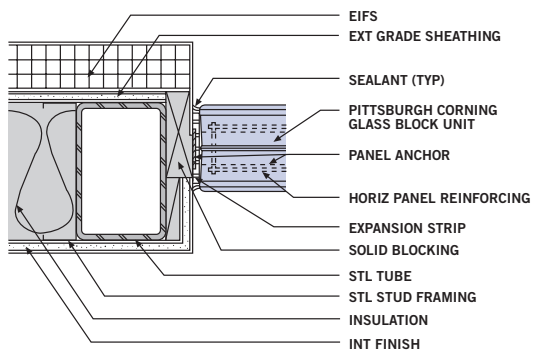
NOTE: This dimension is determined by the anticipated deflection of the structural member above the glass block.

(PCD 061) Head – Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Brick Veneer

## TYPICAL JAMB DETAILS (Exterior Openings)

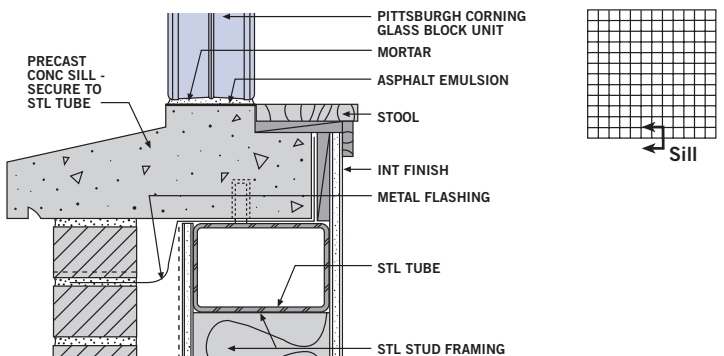


(PCD 062) Jamb – Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Brick Veneer

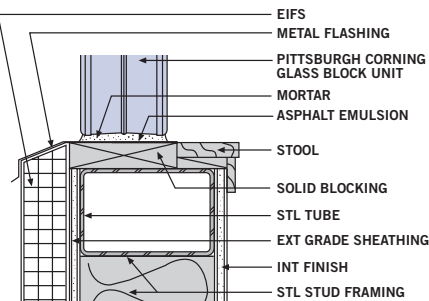


(PCD 032) Jamb – Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Synthetic Plaster Finish

## TYPICAL SILL DETAILS (Exterior Openings)



(PCD 063) Sill – Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Brick Veneer

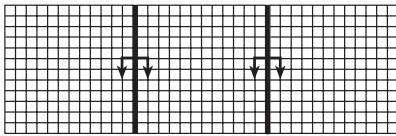


(PCD 033) Sill – Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Synthetic Plaster Finish

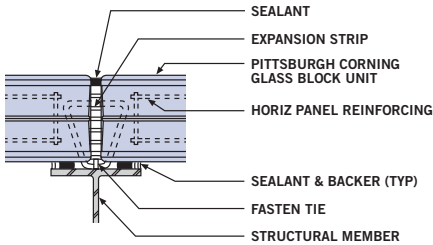
# TYPICAL CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

## TYPICAL STIFFENER DETAILS

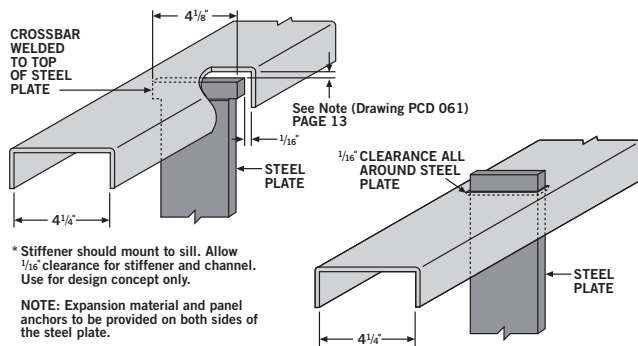
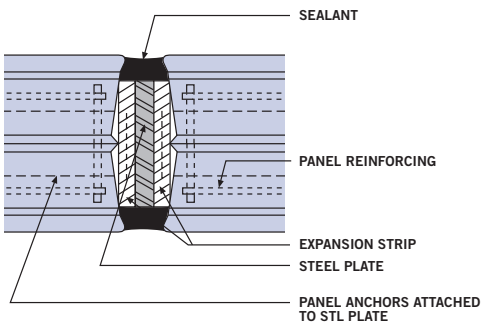
Continuous Panels ≤ 144 Sq. Ft. Each



Vertical Stiffener



(PCD 132A) Intermediate Vertical Support in Multiple Horizontal Panels

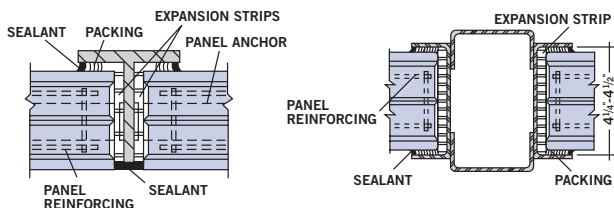


\* Stiffener should mount to sill. Allow 1/16" clearance for stiffener and channel. Use for design concept only.

NOTE: Expansion material and panel anchors to be provided on both sides of the steel plate.

NOTE: Panels with an expansion joint stiffener incorporating a vertical hidden plate should be limited to a maximum 10' in height.

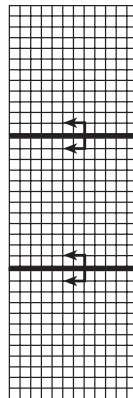
(PCD 132B) Intermediate Support in Multiple Horizontal Panels



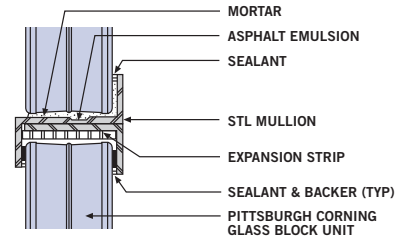
(PCD 132C & D) Intermediate Support in Multiple Horizontal Panels

## TYPICAL SHELF ANGLE DETAILS

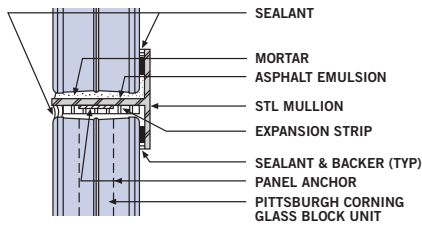
Continuous Panels ≤ 144 Sq. Ft. Each



Horizontal Stiffener

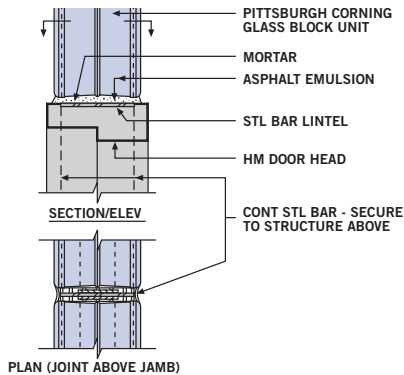


(PCD 128) Intermediate Horizontal Support in Multiple Vertical Panels

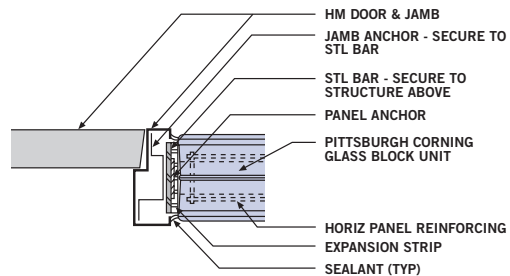


(PCD 129) Intermediate Horizontal Support in Multiple Vertical Panels

## HOLLOW METAL DOOR FRAME DETAILS



(PCD 153) Head – Hollow Metal Door Frame at Glass Block

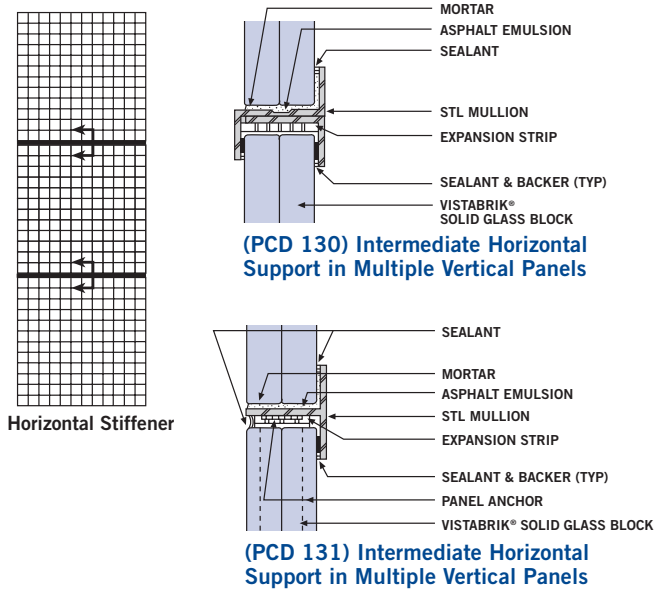


(PCD 154) Jamb – Hollow Metal Door Frame at Glass Block



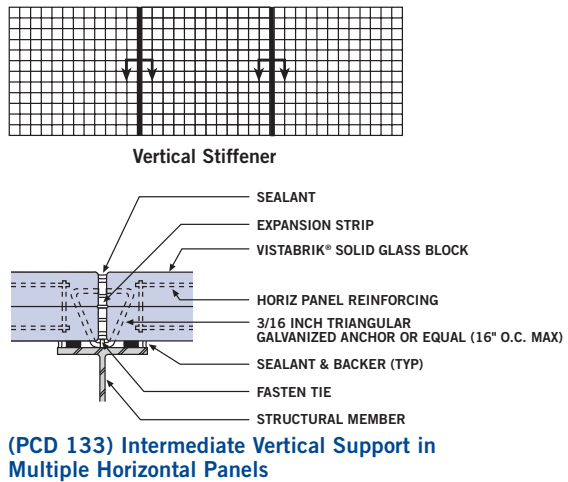
## TYPICAL SHELF ANGLE DETAILS – FOR VISTABRIK® PANELS

Continuous Panels ≤ 100 Sq. Ft. Each

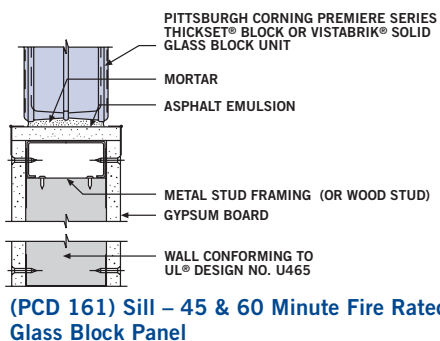
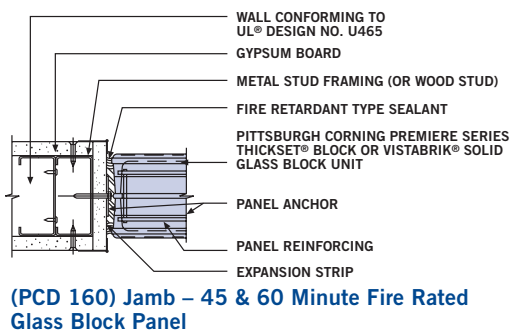
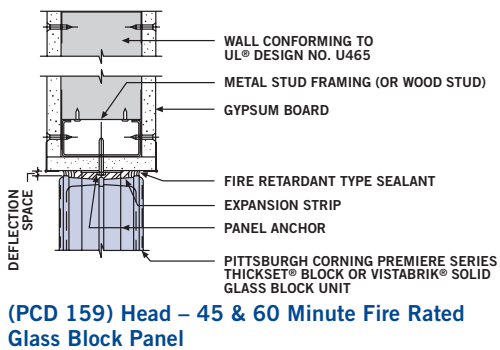
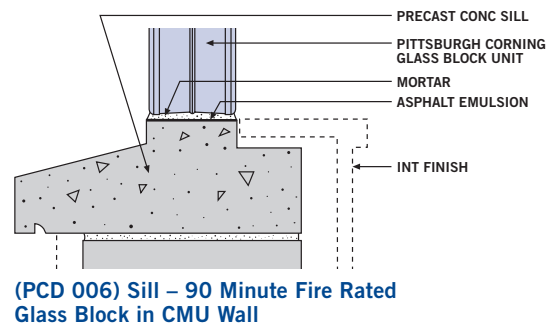
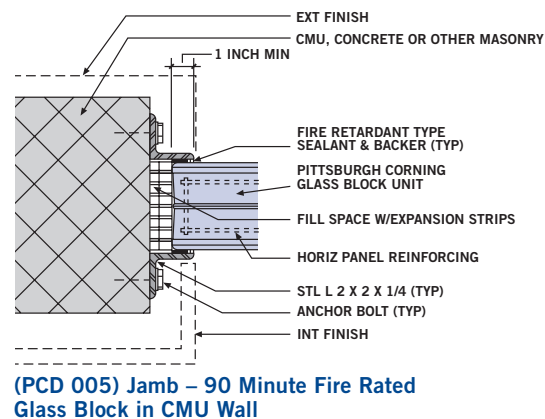
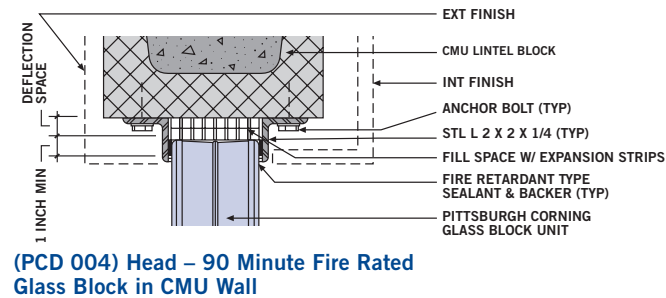


## TYPICAL STIFFENER DETAILS – FOR VISTABRIK® PANELS

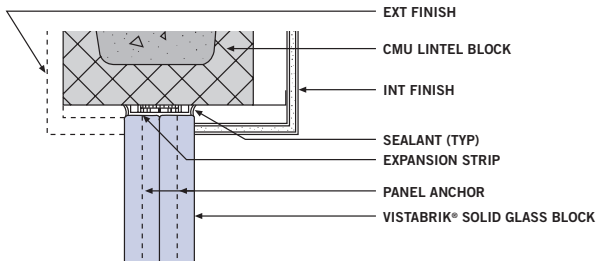
Continuous Panels ≤ 100 Sq. Ft. Each



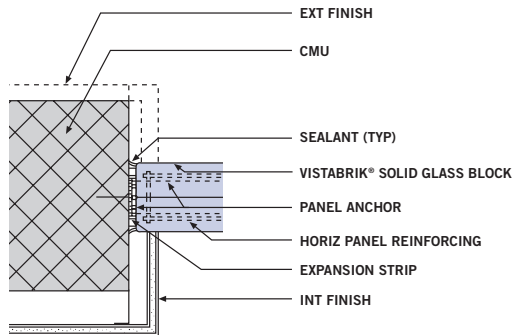
## DETAILS FOR FIRE RATED CONSTRUCTION



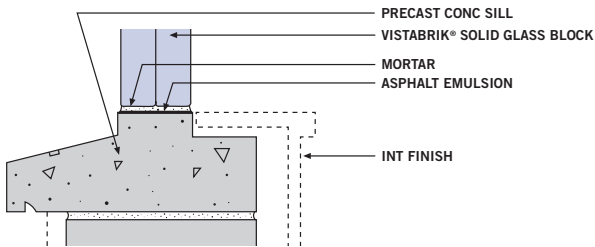
## VISTABRIK® SOLID GLASS BLOCK DETAILS



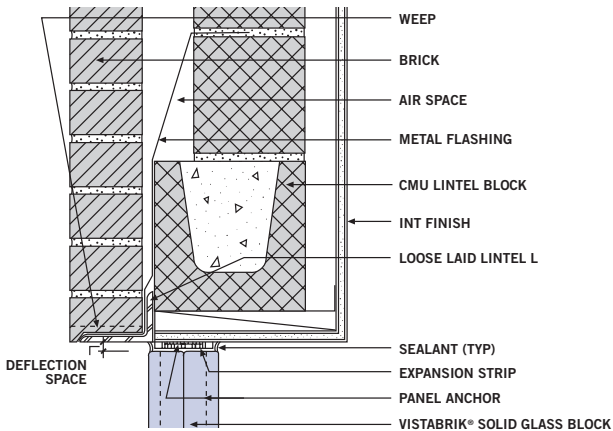
(PCD 037) Head – Solid Glass Block in CMU Wall



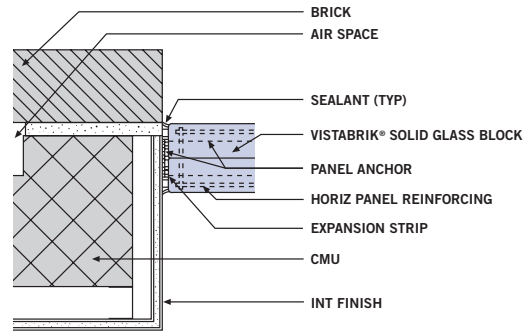
(PCD 038) Jamb – Solid Glass Block in CMU Wall



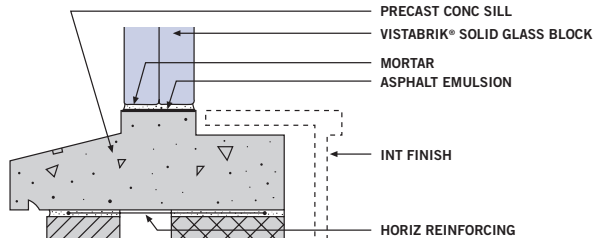
(PCD 039) Sill – Solid Glass Block in CMU Wall



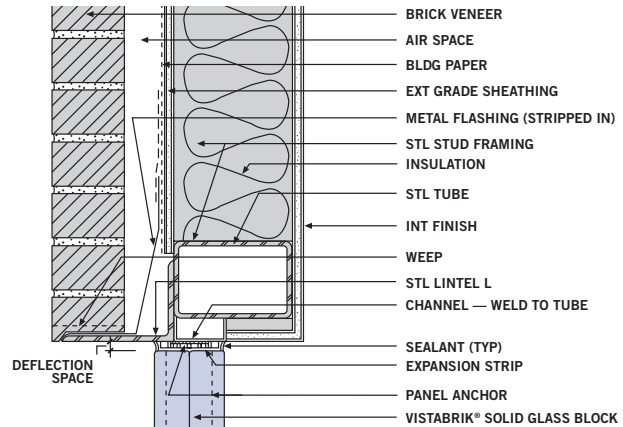
(PCD 040) Head – Solid Glass Block in Brick Masonry Cavity Wall



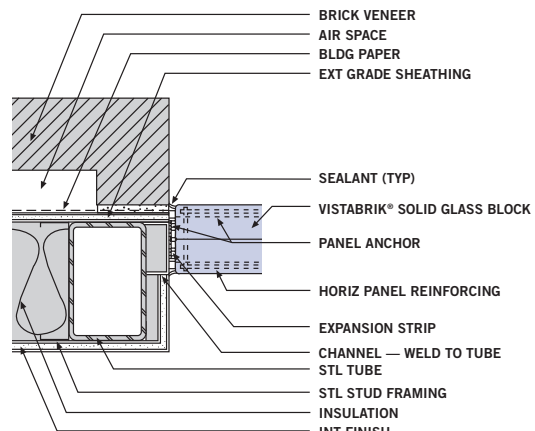
(PCD 041) Jamb – Solid Glass Block in Brick Masonry Cavity Wall



(PCD 042) Sill – Solid Glass Block in Brick Masonry Cavity Wall



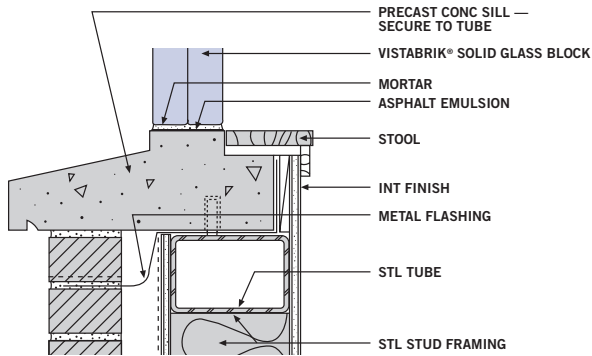
(PCD 043) Head – Solid Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Brick Veneer



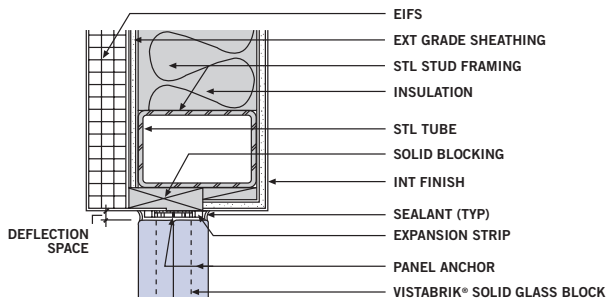
(PCD 044) Jamb – Solid Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Brick Veneer



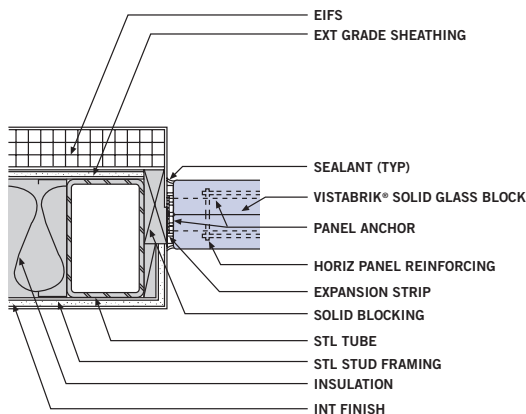
## VISTABRIK® SOLID GLASS BLOCK DETAILS (continued)



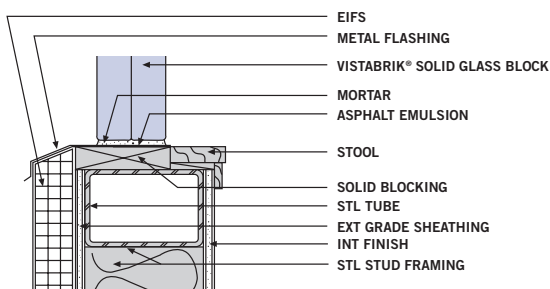
(PCD 045) Sill – Solid Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Brick Veneer



(PCD 049) Head – Solid Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Synthetic Plaster Finish

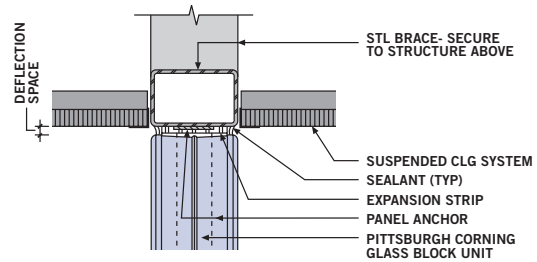


(PCD 050) Jamb – Solid Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Synthetic Plaster Finish

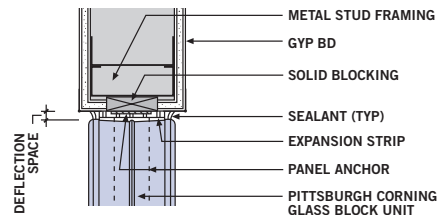


(PCD 051) Sill – Solid Glass Block in Steel Stud Wall with Synthetic Plaster Finish

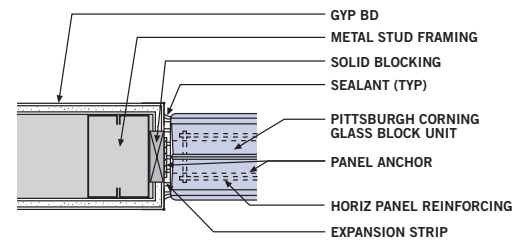
## MISCELLANEOUS INTERIOR DETAILS



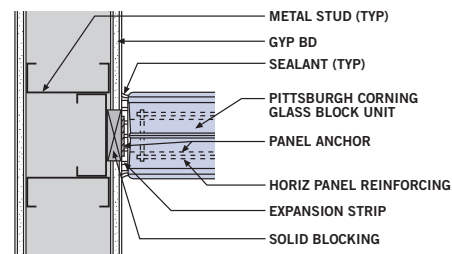
(PCD 148) Head – Glass Block in Suspended Ceiling



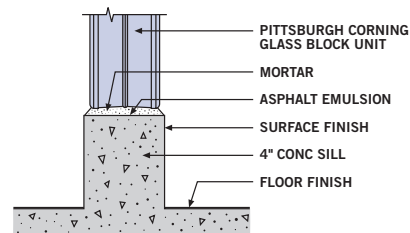
(PCD 149) Head – Glass Block in Partition



(PCD 150) Jamb – Glass Block in Partition

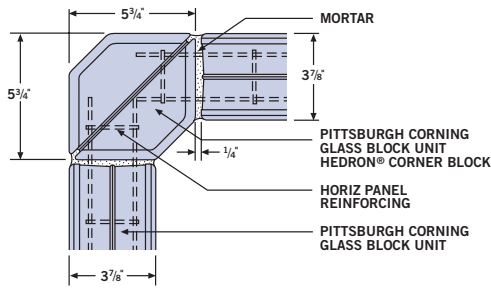


(PCD 151) Jamb – Glass Block Perpendicular to Partition

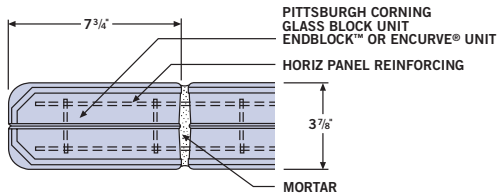


(PCD 241) Sill – Interior Concrete Floor Slab

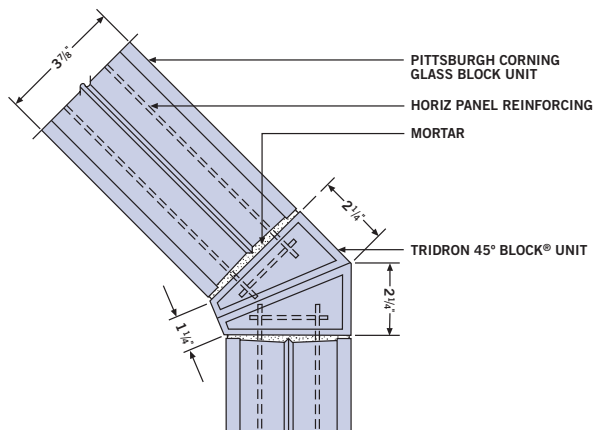
## PREMIERE SERIES FINISHING UNITS DETAILS



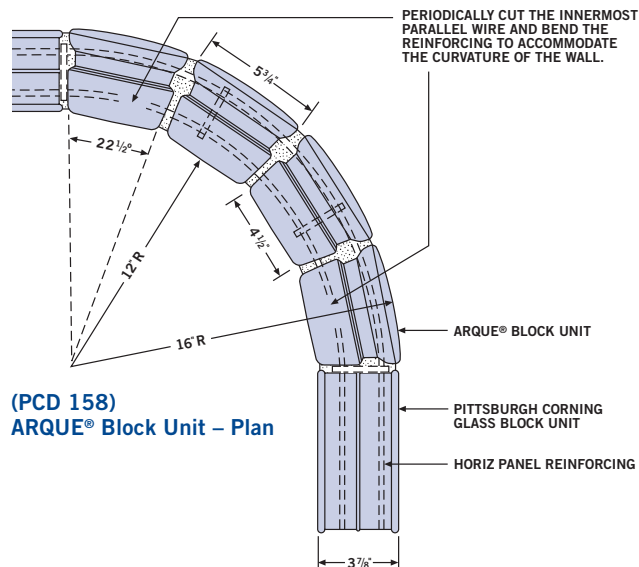
(PCD 155) Glass Block at Corner – Plan



(PCD 156) EndBlock™ or ENCURE® Finishing Block – Plan



(PCD 157) TRIDRON 45° Block® Unit – Plan



(PCD 158) ARQUE® Block Unit – Plan

## DIVISION 4 – MASONRY, SECTION 04270 GLASS UNIT

### MASONRY

#### PART 1 – GENERAL

**1.01 Summary**  
This specification has been prepared by Pittsburgh Corning Corporation using generally accepted and appropriate technical information but is not intended to be solely relied upon for the specification design or technical applications. Having no control over the elements of design, installation, workmanship or site conditions, Pittsburgh Corning assumes that the actual design choices and installation will be made by persons trained and qualified in the appropriate disciplines. Therefore, Pittsburgh Corning disclaims all liability potentially arising from the use or misuse of this specification.

#### 1.02 Section Includes

- A. Glass Block Units, hollow or solid
- B. Integral Joint Reinforcement
- C. Mortar

#### 1.03 Related Sections

- A. Steel Channels
- B. Sills, lintels, jambs
- C. Sealant (caulk)
- D. Packing Material

#### 1.04 References

- A. ASTM A82—Spec. for Cold Drawn Steel Wire
- B. ASTM A153—Class B-2, Spec. Zinc Coating (Hot dip) on iron and steel hardware (Canada same)
- C. ASTM C144, Spec. for Aggregate for Masonry (Canada – A179-94)
- D. ASTM C150, Spec. for Portland Cement (Canada – CAN/CSA-A5-93)
- E. ASTM E163, Fire Test of Window Assemblies (equivalent to UL® 9 and CAN 4-S106-M80)
- F. ASTM C207, Spec. for Hydrated Lime for Masonry Purposes (Canada same)
- G. ASTM C270, Spec. for Mortar for Unit Masonry (Canada – A179-94)
- H. ASTM D1187, Type II—Spec. for Asphalt-Base Emulsions (For Metal Surfaces)
- I. ASTM D1227, Type III—Spec. for Emulsified Asphalt (For Porous Surfaces)

#### 1.05 System Description

Knowledge of the following basic information is essential for proper installation of Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block units:

1. Glass block panels shall not be designed to support structural loads.
2. Maximum deflection of structural members supporting glass block panels shall not exceed L/600
3. Sills of all panels must be painted with a heavy coat of asphalt emulsion and must dry for two hours before first mortar bed is placed.
4. Provision for expansion and movement must be made at jambs and heads of all panels. Mortar must not bridge expansion spaces.

5. Mortar should be mixed and applied in accordance with the recommendations of Pittsburgh Corning Corporation. See Mortar Materials.
6. Design and installation of glass block projects should be done by whole units since cutting glass block is not recommended.

#### 1.06 Submittals

- A. Product Data  
Submit two (2) copies of manufacturer's literature and two (2) copies of manufacturer's installation instructions.
- B. Samples  
1. Submit two (2) glass block units of each type specified, showing size, design and pattern of faces.
- 2. Submit representative samples of (panel reinforcing), (panel anchors), (expansion strips), and (sealant).
- C. Test Reports —  
Fire Tests  
Submit documents verifying glass block units are classified for a 3/4, 1 or 1 1/2-hour fire exposure according to ASTM E163, Underwriters Laboratories of Canada CAN 4-S106-M80 or UL® 9 "Fire Tests of Window Assemblies." All such glass block unit cartons shall carry appropriate UL® labels.
- 1.07 Storage and Protection  
A. Store unopened cartons of glass block in a clean, cool, dry area.
- B. Protect opened cartons of glass block against windblown rain or water run-off with tarpaulins or plastic covering.
- 1.08 Project/Site Conditions  
A. Do not install glass block units when temperature is 40°F (4°C) and falling. Maintain the temperature of glass unit masonry above 40°F (4°C) for the first 48 hours after construction.
- 1.09 Warranty  
A. Pittsburgh Corning Corporation offers a limited 5-year warranty on Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block units.

#### PART 2 – PRODUCTS

##### 2.01 Acceptable Manufacturers

- A. The drawings and specifications are based on catalog data, specifications and products of Pittsburgh Corning Corporation and designate the type and quality of work intended under this section.
- 1. Products of other manufacturers proposed as equivalent quality must be submitted through the bidding contractors for written approval of the architect ten days prior to the bid date.
- 2. Supporting technical data, samples, published specifications and the like must be submitted for comparison.

3. Contractor shall warrant that proposed substitutions, if accepted, will provide performance equivalent to the materials specified herein.

4. These specifications have been developed by Pittsburgh Corning Corporation based on extensive tests of panels composed of Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block masonry units manufactured by Pittsburgh Corning Corporation. These specifications do not apply to panels made from glass block masonry units produced by any other manufacturer.

## 2.02 Glass Block Units

A. Glass block units, nominally \_\_\_\_\_ inch x \_\_\_\_\_ inch x \_\_\_\_\_ inch thick shall be partially evacuated hollow units made of clear, colorless glass with a polyvinyl butyral edge coating. Pattern type:

B. Solid glass units, nominally \_\_\_\_\_ inch x \_\_\_\_\_ inch x \_\_\_\_\_ inch thick made of clear colorless glass with a polyvinyl butyral edge coating. Pattern type: VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block.

NOTE: Pittsburgh Corning Corporation offers a polyvinyl butyral edge coating for better bonding and to provide for an expansion/contraction mechanism for each block.

## 2.03 Accessories

- A. Panel Reinforcing: two parallel 9 gauge wires either 1½ inch or 2 inch on center with electrically butt-welded crosswires spaced at regular intervals, hot dipped galvanized after welding, by Pittsburgh Corning Corporation.
- B. Panel Anchors: 20 gauge perforated steel strips 24 inches long by 1¾ inches wide, hot dipped galvanized after perforation, by Pittsburgh Corning Corporation.
- C. Expansion Strips: made of polyethylene foam with a thickness of ¾ inch, by Pittsburgh Corning Corporation.
- D. Asphalt Emulsion: a water-based asphalt emulsion, by Karnak Chemical Corp. (Karnak 100, 1-800-526-4236), or equal.
- E. Sealant (caulk): non-staining, waterproof mastic, (silicone), (urethane), ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) type.

Below is a list of the toll-free telephone numbers of the Technical Departments of the following sealant manufacturers:

- Dow Corning Corporation, 1-800-248-2481 in Midland, MI
- General Electric, 1-800-255-8886, in Waterford, NY
- Sonneborn Building Products, 1-800-243-6739 in Minn., MN
- Tremco Incorporated, 1-800-321-7906 in Beachwood, OH Below is information on the fire retardant sealant used on glass block fire tests:
- Fyre-Sil Silicone Sealant (for fire-rated construction), by Tremco, Inc. (1-800-321-7906)

F. Packing (Backer Rods): polyethylene foam, neoprene, fibrous glass or equal as approved by sealant manufacturer.

## 2.04 Mortar Materials

Mortar: Type S in accordance with ASTM C270. Mortar shall be 1 part Portland Cement, ½ part lime, and sand equal to 2¼ to 3 times the amount of cementitious material (cement plus lime), all measured by volume. (For exterior glass block panels, an integral type waterproofer should be added to the mortar mix.)

No antifreeze compounds or accelerators allowed.

NOTE: All model building codes also accept the use of Type N mortar.

1. Portland Cement: Type 1 in accordance with ASTM C150. If a waterproof Portland Cement is used, the integral type waterproofer shall be omitted. (Masonry Cement is not recommended.) Color: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Lime: Type S, in accordance with ASTM C207. Shall be a pressure-hydrated dolomitic lime, provided that not less than 92% of all the active ingredients are completely hydrated.
3. Sand: A clean, white quartzite or silica type, essentially free of iron compounds, in accordance with ASTM C144, not less than 100% passing a No. 8 sieve.
4. Integral Type Water-repellent: Stearate type by Sonneborn Building Products (Hydrocide Powder, 1-800-243-6739), or equal. Note: Add hydrocide powder to dry mortar mix. Do not add powder to wet mortar mix.
5. External Type Water proofer: Water based silane sealer type by Sonneborn Building Products (HYDROZO ENVIROSEAL™ 20, 1-800-243-6739). Note: Remove excess sealer from glass surfaces soon after application.

## PART 3 – EXECUTION

### 3.01 Preparation

- A. Verify that (channels), (panel anchors) have been provided at head and jambs for the purpose of providing panel support within the opening.
- B. Mix all mortar components to a consistency that is drier than mortar for ordinary masonry. Retempering the mortar after it has taken its initial set shall not be permitted. Do not use antifreeze compounds or accelerators.
- C. *Freshly mixed mortar may create skin irritation. Avoid direct contact where possible and wash exposed skin areas promptly with water. If any mortar gets into the eyes, rinse immediately with water and get prompt medical attention.*

### 3.02 Installation

- A. Cover sill area with a heavy coat of asphalt emulsion. Allow emulsion to dry at least 2 hours before placing mortar.
- B. Where panel anchors are used at jambs and heads in lieu of channel or chase surrounds, install panel anchors in the same joints (16 inches o.c. maximum) where panel reinforcing will be laid. Panel anchors are to be embedded a minimum of 12" into the mortar joints.
- C. Place or adhere expansion strips to jambs and head. Make certain expansion strip extends to sill and covers leg of panel anchor which is attached to jambs and head.
- D. Set a full mortar bed joint, applied to sill.
- E. Set lower course of block. Maintain a uniform joint width of ¼ to ¾ inch plus or minus ⅛ inch. All mortar joints must be full and not furrowed. Steel tools must not be used to tap blocks into position. (Place a rubber crutch tip on end of trowel to tap block into position.) Do not realign, tap or otherwise move block after initial placement. For VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block units, typical mortar joint is ¾ inch. Special VISTABRIK® spacers that provide a ¾ inch thick mortar joint are available.
- F. Install panel reinforcing every 16 inches o.c. maximum in the horizontal mortar joints and in joints immediately above and below all openings within panels. Run reinforcing continuously from end to end of panels. Lap reinforcing not less than 6 inches whenever it is necessary to use more than one length. NOTE: In corrosive atmospheres, (i.e. saline air, chlorine air, etc.), the use of stainless steel channels, reinforcing and panel anchors should be considered. For VISTABRIK® Solid Glass Block, use 1½ inch wide reinforcing (same as Thinline™ Series glass block). Do not bridge expansion joints with reinforcing. Install reinforcing as follows:
- Place lower half of mortar in bed joint. Do not furrow.
  - Press panel reinforcing into place.
  - Cover panel reinforcing with upper half of mortar bed and trowel smooth. Do not furrow.
- G. Place full mortar bed for joints not requiring panel reinforcing – do not furrow. Maintain uniform joint width.
- H. Set succeeding courses of block. Spaces at head of panel and jambs must remain free of mortar for caulking with sealant.
- I. Use only wooden or rubber tipped tools when tapping glass blocks into place.

- J. Strike joints smooth while mortar is still plastic and before final set. Remove surplus mortar from faces of glass blocks and wipe dry. (See Section 3.03). Tool joints smooth and concave before mortar takes final set. At this time, remove and clean out all excess mortar from jambs, head and other locations.
- K. After final mortar set (approximately 24 hours), install packing tightly between glass block panel and jamb and head locations. Leave space for sealant.
- L. Apply sealant evenly to the full depth of recesses as indicated on the drawings and in accordance with the manufacturers' application manual and instructions.
- M. *All exterior glass block panels shall be well sealed to prevent water entry.*

### 3.03 Cleaning

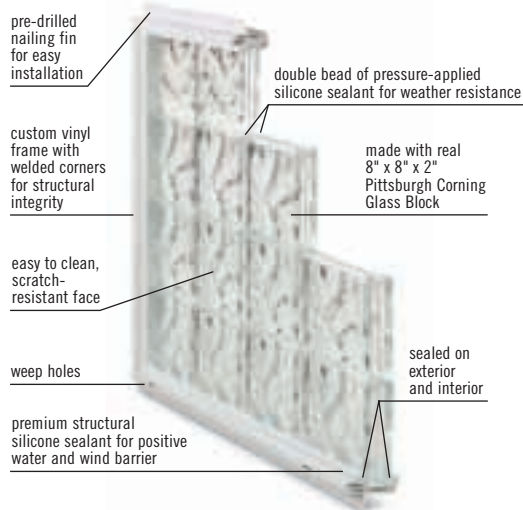
- A. Remove surplus mortar from the faces of the glass block at the time joints are struck or tooled. **Mortar should be removed while it is still plastic** using a clean, wet sponge or an ordinary household scrub brush with stiff bristles.
- B. **Do not use harsh cleaners, acids (of any strength), abrasives or alkaline materials while cleaning glass block. Never use a wire brush to remove mortar from glass block surfaces.**
- C. Final mortar removal is accomplished with a clean, wet sponge or cloth. Rinse sponge or cloth frequently in clean water to remove abrasive particles **that could scratch glass surfaces**. Allow any remaining film on the block to dry to a powder.
- D. After all sealants, caulking, etc., have been applied, remove excess caulking materials with commercial solvents such as xylene, toluene, mineral spirits or naphtha and follow with normal wash and rinse. Be careful not to damage caulking by overgenerous application of strong solvents. Comply with solvent manufacturers' directions on label for toxicity and flammability warnings.
- E. Final cleaning of glass block panels is accomplished after they are completely installed. Wait until panels are not exposed to direct sunlight. Start at the top of the panel and wash with generous amounts of clean water. Dry all water from the glass block surface. Change cloth frequently to eliminate dried mortar particles or aggregate **that could scratch the glass surface**. To remove the dry powder from the glass surfaces, use a clean, dry, soft cloth. For stubborn or hard to remove powder or stains, the use of an "extra fine" steel wool (grades 000 or 0000) is suggested. Try this first in an unobtrusive area.



## RESIDENTIAL PRODUCTS



LightWise® Windows give you the beauty and durability of real glass block and less installation. LightWise® Windows make installing glass block windows easier than ever before.



This new, lighter weight design (2" thick glass block), means LightWise® Windows are even easier to install: just place in the opening and fasten along the built-in nailing fins.

## PITTSBURGH CORNING GLASS BLOCK SHOWER SYSTEMS

New, easy-to-install Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block Shower Systems are available with all of the major components needed to build one of these bright beautiful showers.

### Features/Benefits

All Pittsburgh Corning Shower Systems are pre-designed to include:

- Premiere Series Glass Block
- Customized Acrylic Base
- Doors
- Detailed Installation Instructions and Bill of Materials to Simplify Ordering and Installation

### Single Source of Supply

All components are available through local distributors and select home centers (through special order). Individual components are also sold separately.



THE WALK-IN



THE CLASSIC



THE NEO ANGLE



## PITTSBURGH CORNING PROJECT DESIGN ASSISTANCE

### Unmatched Service

When specifying Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block, you receive a level of technical support and guidance unavailable from any other glass block producer.

### Pittsburgh Corning Representative and Distributor Assistance

Services are available through your local Pittsburgh Corning Representative and Distributor. They will arrange for drawing review and technical guidance, full sample selection, professional installation, on-site assistance, and provide technical support after the job is completed, if needed.

### Technical Service Department

Our Technical Service Department, located in Pittsburgh, is available for technical advice, project design assistance, and plan review. Please call the Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block Resource Center, 1-800-624-2120.

### Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block Resource Center

From your first inquiry, information is readily available to you, toll-free from anywhere in the continental United States and Canada. Our Resource Center, 1-800-624-2120, is your initial channel for literature requests and answers to technical questions.

To further our dedication to the architectural community, Pittsburgh Corning is teaming up with the AIA to bring you innovative ways to earn continuing education credits, including a great slide presentation that we can set up in your offices. This program provides HSW Learning Units. For more information, visit our website at [www.pittsburghcorning.com](http://www.pittsburghcorning.com).



## PITTSBURGH CORNING GLASS BLOCK WEBSITE

[www.pittsburghcorning.com](http://www.pittsburghcorning.com)

features application photos, product information, specifications, installation details, literature, continuing education, case histories, and much more information on how to design with Pittsburgh Corning Glass Block products.

The information contained herein is accurate and reliable to the best of our knowledge. But, because Pittsburgh Corning Corporation has no control over installation workmanship, accessory materials, or conditions of application, NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, INCLUDING THOSE OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, IS MADE as to the performance of an installation containing Pittsburgh Corning products. In no event shall Pittsburgh Corning be liable for any damages arising because of product failure, whether incidental, special, consequential or punitive, regardless of the theory of liability upon which any such damages are claimed. Pittsburgh Corning Corporation provides written warranties for many of its products, and such warranties take precedence over the statements contained herein.



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