



## Glossary of Terms relating to The Siding and Window Industry

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**Acrylic:**

Thermoplastic glazing material.

**Air-Barrier:**

That part of a wall assembly that restricts passage of air (usually membranes and sealants)

**Air-Sealed:**

The result of applying an air-barrier.

**Air Infiltration:**

Air movement through the building envelope. In the case of windows the CSA A440 standard for windows, the “A” measurement rates air infiltration.

**Aluminum:**

A light weight metal used for building components. (eg: siding, soffit, fascia, capping coil, rain gutter, window profiles)

**Apron:**

Trim moulding fastened below the stool or sill of a window that covers the space between the window sill and the rough sill or window opening sill.

**Arch-Top:**

A term used to describe a window unit with a curved frame. These units, also called curved-tops or round-tops are often placed over another window.

**Argon (also Krypton):**

An inert, non-toxic gas used in insulating glass units to reduce heat transmission.

**Astragal:**

Center post between two swinging doors.

**Awning:**

A canopy fastened to a wall. Often placed over a door, window or patio for protection from sun or rain. Made of a light-weight metal frame with canvas cover either fixed or retractable, or made of aluminum panels and frame.

**Awning Window:**

Window with sash swinging outward from bottom.

**Backer Rod:**

Ropes or Rods made of round flexible and compressible material that can be fit into a gap between two adjacent building components before applying caulking. For best results caulking should not bond with backer rod.

**Balance:**

Mechanical device (normally spring loaded) used in single- and double-hung windows as a means of counterbalancing the weight of the sash during opening and closing.

**Bay Window:**

A combination of window units that project to the exterior. Usually features a large center unit with two flanking units at 30 degree or 45 degree angle to the wall.

**Bearing Wall:**

A wall that carries a load from above.

**Beveled Siding:**

This term describes the shape of traditional wood siding boards (clapboards) that were tapered or beveled and were installed horizontally with the wider edge of each board down.

**Board and Batten Siding:**

Usually rough-sawn boards installed vertically. The space between two adjacent boards is covered with another board of narrower width called a "batten." Pre-finished siding (aluminum and vinyl) is available in vertical panels that simulate a wood board and batten style.

**Bottom Plate:**

The horizontal member of a wood frame wall on which the bottom of the wall studs rest.

**Bow Window:**

A combination window that projects to the exterior. Usually features four or more window units in a radial or bow formation.

**Box Bay:**

A combination of window units that project to the exterior. Usually features a large centre unit with two flanking units at 90 degree angles to the wall.

**Bracket Support for a Bay or Bow Window:**

A rigid support fastened to the wall below a bay or bow window that supports that portion of the weight of the window not supported by the sub-sill.

**Brake:**

A machine for bending sheet metal or vinyl. A portable brake, which is lighter than a shop brake can be transported to a job site to make custom flashings and capping.

**Brick:**

Traditional material for building walls. Made of clay or concrete. Bricks are held together with mortar. In North American homes, bricks are generally used as an exterior wall veneer and not as a structural component.

**Brick mould:**

A type of external casing for windows and doors.

**Build-Out (aka: jamb extension):**

Material (lumber, mdf, plastic) added to the frame of a window to make the depth of the window fit the wall thickness. Build-outs may be added to one or both sides of a window.

**Building Paper:** see sheathing paper

**Butt edge:**

The thicker bottom edge of a piece of beveled siding.

**Cable support:**

A method of support for a bay window. Two steel cables (or rods) fastened at the seat of the window, pass through the space hidden by the mullion covers to a truss or rafter above the window, where they are secured thus carrying the portion of the weight of the window not supported by the sub-sill.

**Capping:**

A thin covering material, of metal or vinyl that is fitted over another building component for weather protection and finished appearance. Also used as a flashing to prevent rain water penetration.

**Capstock:**

A material co-extruded with PVC formulated to offer a specific color, finish and/or function, such as heat resistance.

**Casement:**

Window with sash cranking outward, to the right or left.

**Casing:**

Exposed moulding or profile around a window or door, on either the inside or outside, to cover the space between the window frame or door jamb and the wall.

**Caulking:**

A compound for filling joints and sealing cracks to prevent leakage of water and air.

**Cellular PVC:**

Extruded polyvinyl chloride material used in window and door components and trim. Unlike rigid vinyl, it features a foam or cell-structure inside. It can often be nailed, sawn and fabricated like wood.

**Cellulosic composite:**

Generally, a material combining an organic material, such as wood fiber, extruded with plastic.

**CCMC (Canadian Construction Materials Centre)** <http://irc.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/ccmc/home>

An office of the National Research Council that evaluates building materials.

**CMHC (Canadian Mortgage and Housing Centre)** [www.cmhc.ca](http://www.cmhc.ca)

Canada's housing agency, mortgage insurance, housing data, housing research

**CSA International** [www.csa-international.org](http://www.csa-international.org)

A standard writing and certification association.

**CRF:**

Condensation Resistance Factor. A rating of window's ability to resist condensation. The higher the CRF, the less likely condensation is to occur.

**Cladding:**

Another term for siding.

A thin material made of vinyl or aluminum, fitted over wood sash and/or frame members of a window for weather protection and finish color.

**Celestory:**

A window in the upper part of a high-ceilinged room that admits light to the center of the room.

**Combination door:**

A screen or storm door used in combination with a primary door. Storm windows also are referred to as combination windows.

**Comfort Temperature:**

A room is considered comfortable for occupants when the sum of ambient room temperature and adjacent wall/window temperature equals 42 degrees Celsius.

*Example: In cold weather conditions, the inside glass temperature in a sunroom may fall well below 21 degrees Celsius. To maintain comfort the air temperature in the room would have to be raised one Celsius degree above 21degrees for every Celsius degree drop in the temperature of the glass.*

**Composite:**

A term used for window or door components that consist of two or more materials, such as glass fibers or wood and plastic. The term also is used for windows and doors that combine two or more materials in the frame or sash construction, such as products with a wood interior and vinyl or aluminum exterior.

**Complete-Tear-Out Window Installation:**

A method of installing a replacement window where the older window is completely removed back to the original window opening (RSO).

**Condensation:**

Water vapor from the air deposited on any cold surface that has temperature below the dew point.

**Conduction:**

The movement of heat from hot to cold through a solid.

**Convection:**

The movement of heat by way of air movement.

**Counter-balance:**

See "balance."

**Crown Moulding:**

A moulding used to finish the uppermost part of a wall or cabinet.

**Curved-Top:**

A term used to describe a window with a curved frame. These units, also called arch-top or round-top are often placed over another window.

**Desiccant:**

A material used to absorb moisture from within the sealed airspace of an insulation glass unit.

**Design pressure (DP):**

A measurement of the structural performance of a window or door. Usually specified as one-and-a-half times greater than necessary based on expected building, wind and weather conditions.

**Divided lites:**

Separately framed pieces or panes of glass. A double-hung window, for instance, often has several lites divided by muntins in each sash. These designs are often referred to as six-over-six, eight-over-one, etc., to indicate the number of lites in each sash. Designs simulating the appearance of separately framed panes of glass are often referred to as SDLs or simulated divided lites. Designs using actual separate pieces of glass are sometimes referred to as TDLs or true divided lites.

**Dormer:**

A structure that protrudes from the roof of a house, consisting of walls and roof, generally featuring one or more windows.

**Door Skin:**

A single sheet of material used as the face of a door.

**Door Slab:**

A complete door panel that has not been assembled into a frame.

**Double Glazing:**

Use of two panes of glass in a window to increase energy efficiency and provide other performance benefits. May or may not refer to an insulating glass unit.

**Double-Hung Window:**

Window featuring two operable sash that move vertically in the frame.

**Drain Hole:**

Located on the lower outside part of the sill of a window. Drain hole(s) provide an escape route for any rain water that may enter a window.

**Drip Cap:**

A flashing of metal or vinyl placed above a wall opening (eg: door or window) designed to shed rain water away from the wall of a building.

**Egress window:**

Window designed to be large enough for a firefighter to climb in or a person to climb out of in an emergency. U.S. building codes require each bedroom of a home to have an emergency exit window, with minimum size specified.

**Emissivity:**

The measure of a surface's ability to emit long-wave infrared radiation.

**Energy Rating (ER):**

A measure of the thermal performance of a window. A window's air infiltration and solar heat gain are used to calculate that window's ER. ER numbers range from 0 to over 40. The higher the ER number the better the energy performance.

**Energy Star for Windows:** [www.energystar.gc.ca](http://www.energystar.gc.ca)

A program sponsored by Natural Resources Canada. Energy Star qualifies windows that meet minimum energy performance criteria.

**Exterior Insulation and Finish System: (EIFS):**

A synthetic stucco finish for walls, which is applied over panels of polystyrene foam insulation.

**Extrusion:**

The process by which material is forced through a die to produce lineal profile building components. Eg: vinyl siding, window profiles.

**Fascia board:**

Piece of lumber fastened to the ends of roof rafters.

**Fascia capping:**

Pre-finished metal or vinyl material fastened over the fascia board.

**Fenestration:**

Openings in a building envelope, such as, windows, doors and skylights.

**Fibreglass:**

Building material made of glass fibres and resin. Used to make door slabs, door frames and window frames and sash.

**Fixed lite:**

Non-venting or non-operable window.

**Fixed panel:**

Non-operable door usually combined with operable door unit.

**Flashing:**

A strip of metal or synthetic material, that diverts rain water away from a wall or roof assembly.

**Fogging:**

If a sealed glazing unit fails the moisture or the residue from evaporating moisture that collects on the inside surfaces is called “fogging.”

**Frame:**

The main structural element of window composed of two vertical side jambs and two horizontal components called a head and a sill. The window sash fit(s) inside the window frame.

**French door:**

Generally refers to a pair of hinged doors that open from the middle.

**Frieze Board:**

A trim board at the top of an exterior wall.

**Gable Roof:**

A V-shaped peaked roof with rafters of equal length and slope meeting at a ridge

**Gable End:**

The triangular shaped wall section that closes in the end of a gable roof.

**Garden Window:**

A window that projects beyond the outside surface of the adjacent wall. These windows are designed to accommodate the growing of potted plants.

**Gasket:**

A seal made of flexible, rubber-like material that is placed between two joining parts to prevent liquid or gas leakage.

**Glass:**

Clear material made by subjecting silica sand to very high temperatures.

**Glazing:**

Glass (and other material) in a window or door. Also, the act or process of fitting a unit with glass.

**Glazing stop:**

A component of the sash or door panel that holds the glass in place.

**Grille:**

A term referring to window dividers or muntins. It may be a type of assembly fitted to the interior of the window or door unit that can be detached for cleaning. Also can be fitted inside the sealed insulated glass unit, when it also is referred to as a grid.

**Hard-coat glass:**

A glass product that is coated during the manufacturing process at the molten glass stage. Also known as a pyrolytic coating. The other type of glass coating is a sputter-coat which is applied in a secondary process, sometimes referred to as soft-coat.

**Head:**

Main horizontal frame member at the top of a window or door.

**Head Flashing:** see drip cap

**Header:**

Horizontal framing member placed over the rough opening of a window or door to prevent the weight of a wall or roof from resting on the frame. Also known as a lintel.

**Heat Gain:**

The transfer of heat from outside to inside by means of conduction, convection and radiation through all surfaces of a house.



**Heat Loss:**

The transfer of heat from inside to outside by means of conduction, convection and radiation through all surfaces of a house.

**Heel Bead:**

A sealant or gasket placed between the window frame and the inside face of the glazing unit prior to installation of the glazing stop to form an airtight and watertight seal.

**Hopper Window:**

Window with sash that swings inward from the top.

**Horizontal Slider Window:**

A window with a movable sash that slides horizontally.

**Housewrap:**

A sheet of breathable, synthetic material designed to shed rain-water. Usually placed between wall sheathing and exterior cladding.

**Hygrometer:**

A device for measuring the relative humidity of air.

**Insulating Glass (IG): also insulating glazing unit (IGU)**

Two or more lites of glass with a hermetically sealed airspace between the lites. The sealed space may contain air or be filled with an inert gas, such as argon. Often referred to as an "Insul Unit."

**IGMA: (Insulating Glass Manufacturers Association)**

This association of insulating glass manufacturers tests and certifies the quality of glass units produced by the members of the association.

**Jamb:**

Main vertical members forming the sides of a window or door frame.

**Jamb Depth:**

Width of a window or door from the interior to the exterior of the frame.

**Jamb Extension (aka: Build-out):**

Material (lumber, mdf, plastic) added to the jamb of a window (also head and sill) to make the depth of the window fit the wall thickness. Build-outs may be fastened to one or both sides of a window frame.

**J-Channel:**

Trim for siding used primarily at the sides of windows and doors.

**KD (Knocked down):**

Unassembled window or door.

**Krypton (also Argon):**

An inert gas used in insulating glass units to reduce heat transmission. Krypton, which has higher density than argon is used where the space between panes of glass is relatively narrow (1/4 inch).

**Laminated Glass:**

Two or more sheets of glass with an inner layer of transparent plastic to which the glass adheres if broken. used for enhanced safety and security, as well as sound reduction.

**Level:**

When a part of a structure is in a plane that is at right angles to the earth's gravitational force it is said to be level.

**Lintel:**

A structural component or beam above a window or door opening that supports the wall above. Also referred to as a header.

**Lite:**

A pane of glass, in windows and doors refers to separately framed panes of glass (as well as designs simulating the look of separately framed pieces of glass).

**Low-emissivity Glass (Low E):**

A coated glass product that reflects heat.

**Low-E Detector:**

An electronic device that detects the existence of a low-emissivity coating. This device will identify the surface in an insulated glass unit where the Low-e coating exists.

**Masonry:**

Construction materials composed of stone, brick, tile, concrete or similar material.

**MDF:**

Medium-density fiberboard. A wood-fiber composite used in a variety of window, door and millwork applications.

**Mitre Cut:**

An angled cut at the end of a board, moulding or window component.

**Mitre Joint:**

The joint made by fastening two mitre cut pieces.

**Mortise Lock:**

A lock fitting a rectangular-shaped cavity in the edge of a door.

**Mulled Window Assembly:**

An assembly of two or more individual windows that are installed in a single, rough opening joined by coupling adapters.

**Mullion:**

A component used to structurally join two window or door units.

**Multipoint Lock:**

A locking system, operated with one handle that secures a window or door at two or more locking points.

**Muntin:**

Profile or moulding, either vertical or horizontal, used to separate glass in a sash into multiple lites. Generally refers to components used to construct divided lite grids or grilles simulating a divided lite look.

**Nailing Fin:**

A thin leg extending beyond the outside surface of a window frame. A nailing fin covers the space between the window and the window opening in the wall. A nailing fin provides temporary fastening of a window. Permanent fasteners pass through window jambs at shim locations.

**Nailing Hem:**

The edge of a siding panel designed for fastening of the panel to the wall. Usually has nailing slots and is usually covered by the next siding panel to be installed.

**Nailing Slot:**

The punched-out part of a nailing hem (material removed) for the purpose of fastening a siding panel.

**NFRC:**

National Fenestration Rating Council. A body that has established methods for rating and certifying the energy performance of windows, doors, skylights and other fenestration products.

**Perm Rating:**

A measurement of the water vapour permeability (breathability) of a material. A material with a perm rating of less than 1 is considered a vapour barrier.

**Picture Window:**

Large, non-operating window. It is usually longer than it is wide to provide a panoramic view.

**Plumb:**

When a part of a structure is in the same plane as the earth's gravitational force (vertical) it is said to be plumb.

**Polycarbonate:**

A plastic material used for glazing.

**Pre-hanger:**

A company that buys doors, framing, hardware, glass lites and other components and prepares (or pre-hangs) the unit for installation.

**Pressure-treated Wood:**

Applying chemicals to wood under high pressure to achieve greater durability and weatherability.

**Prime window:**

A primary window, as opposed to a storm or combination unit added on.

**Pultrusion:**

The process used to produce fiberglass composite profiles or components for the production of windows and doors.

**PVC (polyvinylchloride):**

A thermoplastic material used for building components. (eg: siding, soffit, fascia, rain gutter, window and door profiles)

**Pyrolytic Glass:** see- hard coat glass

**Radiation:**

The transfer of heat and or light energy through the atmosphere.

**Rail:**

Horizontal member of the frame or sash of a window or door.

**Rain Screen:**

Walls and windows must shed rain water. Rain screen describes a wall or window design that provides two rain water shedding surfaces. The second shedding surface acts as a back-up to the primary shedding surface by draining any water that penetrates the primary surface.

**Reflective glass:**

Window glass coated to reflect visible light and solar radiation striking the surface of the glass.

**Relative Humidity:**

A measurement of the amount of water vapour in air at a certain temperature relative to fully saturated air at the same temperature. Expressed as a percentage.

**Removal tool (zipper tool):**

A piece of spring metal having a wood handle on one end and a small hook on the other end. This tool is used to hook or grab the butt lock on a siding panel. Used when fitting siding around windows or when removing a panel.

**Retro-Fit Window Installation (insert window)**

A method of installing a replacement window inside the frame of a wood window.

**Renovation:**

The process of re-building or re-placing components of a building, usually with newer materials and designs. Also includes additions to an existing building. Also referred to as “remodelling.”

**Replacement Window:**

Any window custom made to replace an older window.

**Restoration:**

The process of re-building, re-furbishing and re-finishing components of a building so that as much as possible, the original material and style is maintained.

**Roof Rafter:**

A piece of lumber running from roof peak to exterior wall (usually overhanging the wall) that defines the slope of the roof.

**Roof Truss:**

One assembled section of a roof framing system that is normally built off-site.

**Roof Window:**

An operable unit similar to a skylight placed in the sloping surface of a roof.  
See Skylight.

**Rough Opening (RSO):**

Opening in a wall into which a window or door is installed. In wood frame construction this opening is often called the RSO (rough stud opening).

**Round-top Window:**

One of several terms used for a variety of window units with one or more curved frame members, often used over another window or door opening.

**R-value:**

Resistance to thermal transfer or heat flow. Higher R-value numbers indicate greater insulating value. R-value is reciprocal of U-factor (or rate of heat flow).

**Safety glass:**

A strengthened or reinforced glass that is less subject to breakage or splintering and less likely to cause injury if broken.

**Sash:**

An assembly of stiles and rails (vertical and horizontal members) made into a frame for holding glass.

**Sash cord:**

Rope or chain in double-hung windows that attaches the sash to the counter balance.

**Sash lift:**

Protruding or recessed handle on the inside bottom rail of the lower sash on a double- or single-hung window.

**Sash stiffener:**

A reinforcement, usually inserted into a sash profile prior to assembly, designed to increase the strength of the unit.

**Sash weights:**

Concealed cast-iron weights used to counterbalance the sash of older double-hung windows.

**Self-cleaning glass:**

Glass treated with a special coating. Currently, commercially available products feature a coating that uses the sun's UV rays to break down organic dirt through what is called a photocatalytic effect. The coating also provides a hydrophilic effect, which reduces the surface tension of water to cause it to sheet down the surface easily and wash away dirt.

**Sheathing Membrane:** see building paper or house wrap

A sheet of synthetic material or bituminous paper designed to shed rain-water. Usually placed between the wall-sheathing and the exterior cladding.

**Shim(s):**

Structural support for the installation of windows or doors. Tapered cedar shims are used in pairs. Stacking-type plastic shims are also used for this purpose. Proper shimming and fastening is critical for good window and door performance.

**Sidelites:**

Narrow fixed units mullied or joined to operating door units to give a more open appearance.

**Siding:**

Panels fastened to the outside of a wall to provide an attractive weather resistant finish to the wall. Also called "cladding."

**Sill:**

The main horizontal member forming the bottom of the frame of a window or door.

**Sub-sill:**

The frame member at the bottom of a window opening that carries the weight of the window.

**Sill pan:**

A product placed under a window or door during the installation process that is designed for water drainage.

**Simulated divided lites (SDLs):**

A type of grille or grid design that created the appearance of a number of smaller panes of glass separated by muntins, but actually uses larger lites of glass with the muntins placed between and/or on the surfaces of the glass layers.

**Single glazing:**

Use of a single lite of glass in a window. Not as energy efficient as insulating glass or other forms of double glazing.

**Single hung:**

A window resembling a double-hung, or vertically sliding window, with a fixed top sash.

**Sky Light:**

A glazed opening in a roof that provides light to living space below. A traditional skylight has a fixed light of either domed acrylic or flat glass glazing. A roof window is a skylight that can be opened or closed. A tunnel skylight consists of a roof section, a ceiling diffuser and a metal tunnel connecting the other two components.

**Snap-lock Punch:**

A tool used to raise a series of tabs along the cut edge of a panel of siding. These tabs connect with a finish trim to hold the finishing panel of siding in place.

**Soffit:**

Material running from the back of the fascia board to the wall, usually made of plywood, vinyl or aluminum. Soffit is often vented to allow air movement into the space under the roof.

**Solar-control glass:**

Glass produced with a coating or tint that absorbs or reflects solar energy, thereby reducing solar gain.

**Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC):**

A measurement of a window's ability to transmit solar energy. The lower a window's SHGC the less solar energy it transmits.

**Soft-coat glass:**

A glass product that is coated in a secondary process known as sputter-coating, usually to offer low-emissivity or solar-control benefits. Hard-coat or pyrolytic glass is coated during the manufacturing process at the molten glass stage.

**Sound transmission class (STC):**

A rating measuring a window's acoustic properties or its ability to reduce sound transmission. An STC rating is determined by measuring the sound transmission over a selected range of sound frequencies. The higher the number, the less sound transmitted.

**Square:**

When two parts of a structure are situated at right angles (90 degrees) to one another they are said to be square.

**Starter Strip:**

A strip of material (usually metal or vinyl) fastened at the lowest point on an exterior wall to which the first panel of horizontal siding is locked.

**Stile:**

The main vertical frame members of a sash or door.

**Stool:**

Interior trim piece sometimes used to extend a window sill and act as a narrow shelf.

**Stop:**

A moulding used to hold, position or separate window or door parts. Also, the moulding or component on the inside of a window frame against which the window sash rests or closes. Also called a bead, side stop, window stop and parting stop.

**Storm Window:**

A secondary window placed inside or outside a prime window to provide insulation and weather protection.

**Strapping:**

Wood lumber (usually 1 x 3) fastened to a wall (usually vertically at 16 inch centres) that provides an air space between siding and underlying wall and provides a means of fastening siding panels.

**Stucco:**

A masonry surface applied to the exterior of a wall.

**Stud:**

A vertical framing member in a wood wall.



**Tempered glass:**

Glass heat-treated to withstand greater than normal forces on its surface. When it breaks, it shatters into small pieces to reduce hazard.

**Thermal break:**

A thermally insulating or low-conductance material used between interior and exterior aluminum (or other conductive material) window and door components.

**Tilt Window:**

A single- or double- hung window whose operable sash can be tilted into a room to allow cleaning of the exterior surface on the inside.

**Tilt 'n Turn Window:**

A window that may either be turned in like a door or tilted in at the top like a hopper window. This style of window is common in Europe.

**Tansom:**

Window used over the top of a door or window, primarily for additional light and aesthetic value.

**Triple glazing:**

Use of three panes of glass or plastic with two airspaces between. Generally refers to a sealed insulating unit.

**True divided lites (TDLs):**

Traditional window construction incorporating smaller panes of glass actually separated by muntins, rather than simulating such an appearance with larger lites of glass and a muntin grid or grille placed between or on the surfaces of the glass layers.

**Tunnel Skylight (aka: Sun Tunnel): See Skylight.****U-factor or U-value:**

Rate of heat flow-value through a building component. U-factor is the reciprocal of R-value.

**Ultraviolet Light (UV):**

Invisible rays of solar radiation at the short-wavelength end of the spectrum. Ultraviolet rays can cause fading of paint finishes, carpets and fabrics, as well as deterioration of some materials.

**Vapour Barrier:**

An air-barrier that also restricts water vapour transmission. Six mil (.006inch) polyethylene sheet is typically used in frame walls as a vapour barrier. Most rigid plastic foam insulations (styrene, urethane, isocyanurate) are vapour barriers. Any material with a Perm Rating of less than 1 is considered a vapour barrier.

**Vinyl:**

Generic term for polyvinylchloride or PVC. (see PVC)

**Vinyl Council of Canada:**

A division of the Canadian Plastics Institute Association focused on issues relating to PVC.

**Vinyl Finish Trim (VFT):**

A trim piece used at wall openings and at the top of the wall when installing vinyl siding.

**Vinyl Siding Institute (VSI):**

An association of vinyl siding manufacturers.

**VSI Vinyl Siding Installation Certification:**

A training program for vinyl siding installers.

**Warm-edge:**

A type of insulating glass construction using an airspace offering lower thermal conductance than traditional aluminum spacer. Warm-edge IG units typically offer higher resistance to condensation and an incremental improvement in window energy performance.

**Weatherstripping:**

A material or device used to seal the openings, gaps or cracks of venting window and door units to prevent water and air infiltration.

**Weep hole (drain hole):**

A small opening in a window sill that allows water drainage. A small opening placed every few inches along the butt edge of a siding panel through which water may drain to the exterior.

**Wind load:**

Force exerted on surface by moving air.

**Window Wise:** [www.windowwise.com](http://www.windowwise.com)

A quality assurance and installation certification program for replacement windows administered by SAWDAC.