



## **Evolving Products for an Evolving Marketplace**

AMSCO Windows® has been in the window manufacturing industry for more than 50 years, and is quickly becoming a leader in composite window technology. Each window made bears the innovation and design that founded the company. State-of-the-art technology, quality craftsmanship and responsive service are at the core of AMSCO's business philosophy.

As a growing company setting the pace for the emerging composite window industry, homeowners can be assured AMSCO products will add aesthetics and functionality to their most prized possession – their home. Although AMSCO Windows was founded in and is headquartered in Utah, the company is rapidly expanding its distribution network to make the products available in more regions.

## **Giving Back and Looking Forward**

### **ENERGY STAR® Program**

All AMSCO Windows have an ENERGY STAR® rating from the U.S. Department of Energy. ENERGY STAR is an independent program establishing guidelines to recognize the energy efficiency of various products. ENERGY STAR guidelines are available for a variety of building materials, including windows and patio doors. Over the past 10 years, ENERGY STAR has helped double the efficiency of windows they endorse.

### **Habitat for Humanity**

As the company grows, the people at AMSCO feel strongly about giving back to the community. That is why every year AMSCO Windows is involved in Habitat for Humanity projects throughout the western region. This organization helps low income families purchase a home that has been built from contributions and donations of time, supplies and money. AMSCO Windows is proud to be a Habitat for Humanity partner.

### **Recycling Program**

Because AMSCO believes in manufacturing products responsibly, many of the materials used in making the windows and doors are recycled. All scraps generated in the production process are recycled. Vinyl is sent back to the supplier where it is used in other products. Excess glass is returned to a filter manufacturing company and all paper and cardboard is bailed and sent to a paper mill.

## **Renaissance™ Composite Windows Product Information**

Now more than ever, homeowners have options when it comes to replacement windows. AMSCO Windows® developed a window with the revolutionary properties of Arbortech™ resin-based composite technology to create Renaissance™ Series composite windows. These windows have the versatility of wood, and the ease and low maintenance of vinyl. AMSCO Windows stands behind every product manufactured with a lifetime warranty on parts and service.

- Renaissance Windows are constructed of low maintenance wood/resin composite that is designed to stand up to the harshest conditions and will not rot, peel or chip.
- The frame is an alloy of four resins and wood fiber, coated with PVC capstock.
- Renaissance windows are available with a variety of color, muntin and hardware options.
- Low-e glass means increased energy efficiency.
- All AMSCO windows meet AAMA structural and NFRC thermal performance standards.
- Standard sizes are kept in stock to meet immediate needs of homeowners.
- Custom sizes can be produced quickly and are delivered by AMSCO's fleet of delivery trucks.

### **Renaissance Windows are Easy to Maintain**

Caring for Renaissance Composite windows is one of its greatest advantages. Tilt sash windows allow for simple cleaning and maintenance of the glass, and the interior muntin system increases the ease of cleaning. Because the color is mixed with the capstock, routine painting is not required. The color will not chip, peel, or fade like paint. If desired, the exterior can be primed and painted with standard exterior paint, just like wood.

- Windows will not warp, peel, rot or leak.
- Windows are available in two colors; White and Almond. The Renaissance Master Series are available in White, Almond, Taupe, Desert, Bronze, Evergreen and Sierra.
- The exterior color is mixed with PVC capstock, so it will not fade, chip or scratch like paint.
- Windows can be painted to complement any home decor.

## Frequently Asked Questions About AMSCO Windows®

### General Questions

Q: When should I consider replacing my windows?

A: Replace your windows if your windows are not energy efficient. If you are getting excessive amounts of condensation, fading of furniture and draperies, or are just tired of painting and staining, it is time for replacement windows.

Q: What should I look for when selecting a product?

A: Choose a company with a proven track record and good references. Make sure you are getting a high quality product and certified installers.

Q: What is Low-e glass, and why should I consider it?

A: Low-e glass is short for Low-Emissivity glass. It has a very thin coat of material on the glass to make it more efficient, especially in very sunny, hot areas such as the West Coast. It helps to reflect standing heat away from the surface of the glass, keeping unwanted heat out in the summer, and desired heat inside in the winter. Low-e glass is the most cost effective way to increase the efficiency of your windows.

Q: How long can I expect to wait for AMSCO products once I have ordered them?

A: Once ordered from an authorized AMSCO retailer, custom products typically take five to seven working days to complete. Many standard windows can be picked up the same day.

Q: I have odd-sized windows in my home. Can AMSCO custom-build windows to fit my openings?

A: Yes, AMSCO Windows custom-makes windows to the nearest 1/8 inch increment and can produce a variety of shapes and sizes.

Q: What causes condensation on windows?

A: Condensation is caused by excess humidity or invisible water vapor present in the air. When this water vapor encounters a surface that is at a cooler temperature, it turns to visible droplets of moisture. To reduce the moisture in your home, use fans in bathrooms, kitchens and laundry rooms to circulate the air. A dehumidifier can be used to remove excess humidity from the air.

Q: What does AAMA and NFRC certified mean to me?

A: The American Architectural Manufacturers Association or AAMA sets all performance standards, product certification and educational programs for the window industry. When a product passes AAMA tests, it means that they have passed stringent

testing to ensure long, reliable service if properly installed and maintained correctly. The National Fenestration Rating Council or NFRC is a non-profit organization created by the window, door, and skylight industry and provides consistent ratings on window, door and skylight products pertaining to the energy performance of that product. A NFRC label is placed on window, door, and skylight products informing of the U-factor of a product (how well it retains heat inside a building), the ability of the product to block warming caused by sunlight, light transmittance, and air leakage by infiltration through cracks in the product assembly.

Q: How do AMSCO Windows compare to other windows in the industry?

A: AMSCO's large product offering spans a range of price points to fit the budget of almost any project. A lifetime warranty is offered on parts and service, while other manufacturers have a limited time warranty. In addition, AMSCO Windows use the highest level of technology available to offer customers a reliable, durable and aesthetically pleasing product.

### **Renaissance™ Series Composite Window Questions**

Q: What makes up composite windows?

A: The frame is an alloy of four resins and wood fiber that will not warp, peel, rot or leak. The exterior color is mixed with PVC capstock, so it will not fade, chip or scratch off like paint.

Q: How do composite windows compare to wood windows?

A: Composite windows are priced approximately 10-15% less than wood windows, and offer a lifetime warranty for parts and service. Most wood windows offer a 10-year warranty on the window, and a 20-year warranty on the glass. The exterior of a wood window will require more maintenance due to fading and peeling of paint. The color of a Renaissance Composite window is mixed with the capstock of the window and is solar reflective, which will virtually eliminate fading and peeling. In short, composite windows offer the benefits of wood, such as strength and beauty, without the maintenance.

Q: How do composite windows compare to vinyl windows?

A: Composite windows are priced approximately 20% higher than vinyl, with both vinyl and composite windows offering a lifetime warranty. Because the frame of Renaissance Composite windows is an alloy of four resins and wood fiber it is a solid piece while vinyl windows are composed of hollow chambers. Because the Renaissance window is solid, it allows for the application of custom hardware that is not available with vinyl windows. In addition, most vinyl lines offer white, almond, and in some cases, taupe as an exterior color, while the composite window is available in seven exterior colors: white, almond, taupe, desert, bronze, evergreen and sierra. In addition, the exterior may be painted if desired. The interior of the Renaissance Master Series comes with an option

of three different wood-grain interior finishes, and can be stained or painted to match the existing interior trim, while the interior of a vinyl window is typically white or almond.

Q: Is it hard to take care of composite windows?

A: Renaissance Composite windows are as easy to care for as the average window. Tilt sash windows allow for easy cleaning and maintenance of the glass, and the interior muntin system increases the ease of cleaning. Because the color in extruded is mixed with the capstock, routine painting is not required for the color will not chip, peel, or fade like paint. If it is desired to change the exterior color of the window, the window can be primed and painted with standard exterior paint.

## **Glossary of Terms Used in the Window Industry**

### **American Architectural Manufacturers Association (AAMA)**

The American Architectural Manufacturers Association or AAMA sets all performance standards, product certification and educational programs for the window industry. When a product passes AAMA tests, it means that they have passed stringent testing to ensure long a reliable service, if installed and maintained correctly.

### **Alloy**

A homogenous mixture or solid solution of two or more substances. AMSCO Renaissance™ Series windows are an alloy of four resins and wood fiber.

### **Aluminum**

A malleable metallic element, bluish silver-white in color, which has good electrical and thermal conductivity, high reflectivity, and resistance to oxidation.

### **Aluminum Clad Windows**

An aluminum material locked to the frame to provide a durable, low-maintenance exterior surface.

### **Argon Gas**

An odorless, colorless, tasteless, non-toxic gas which is six times denser than air. It is used to replace air between the glass panes to reduce temperature transfer.

### **Casement Window**

A window that opens from the side like a door. Historically, casements were the first working windows. They were strategically placed throughout a house to capture breezes and direct them through the rooms. Screens are hung internally to prevent bugs and dirt from entering the house.

### **Casing**

The trim around door and window openings. Interior casings are shaped, and decorative pieces of moulding cover the inside edges of the jambs and the rough opening between the window unit and the wall. Exterior casing is an alternative to brick mould.

### **Composite**

A wood-based compound utilizing wood fibers, reconstituted wood or other wood derivatives mixed with plastic.

### **Condensation**

Condensation occurs when excess humidity in warmer air is released in the form of water droplets onto a colder surface such as a pane of glass.

### **Double Glazing**

Two panes of glass separated by an air space to form insulating glass; double glazing may also be accomplished by adding a storm panel.

### **Double-Hung Window**

A window with two sashes, upper and lower, that slide vertically past each other.

### **ENERGY STAR®**

ENERGY STAR is an independent U.S. government program establishing a standard set of guidelines to recognize the energy efficiency of various products. ENERGY STAR guidelines are used in conjunction with a variety of building materials, including windows and patio doors. Over the past 10 years, ENERGY STAR guidelines have helped double the efficiency of windows they endorse.

### **Exterior Casing**

Trim around the exterior of a window or doorframe that serves as the boundary moulding for the siding material.

### **Extrusion**

A form produced by forcing material through a die.

### **Fenestration**

The placement (or arrangement) and design of the windows and exterior doors of a building. In Greek architecture, windows began as simple openings in temples. These openings began to contain glass in the 13th century, when clear glass was available for buildings such as Westminster Abbey. Another important shift in fenestration occurred in the 20th century when large windows became important components in commercial buildings.

### **Frame**

The assembly of structural members (head, sill, jambs) used to fasten a window sash or a door panel to a structure.

### **Glazing**

The process of mounting glass into windows and doors. Glazing also refers to the lowest quality of plate glass. The purpose of glazing is to retain the glass adequately under the design load, provide an effective weather seal, prevent loads or pressure points on the glass resulting from building movement, prevent glass-to-metal contact, and minimize glass breakage from mechanical or thermal stress. An insulating glass (IG) unit is two glass panes separated by a spacer and sealed. IG glass is offered in clear (no special coating) and high performance, which has a special low-emissivity coating for exceptional energy efficiency.

### **Low-Emissivity (Low-e) Glass**

Low-e glass is manufactured by depositing a microscopically thin, transparent metal or metallic oxide layer on the glass. Low-e coatings reduce radiant heat loss, and can reduce the passage of UV rays. Use of heat-resistant (or absorbing) glass began in the 1950s, as did the use of reflective (or mirror) glass.

### **Muntin**

The individual pieces of a decorative grid that help divide a window opening into smaller sections.

**National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC)**

The NFRC is an independent third-party certification organization with industry-accepted standards for evaluating and certifying energy performance. The NFRC Certificate contains U-factor, SHGC (Solar Heat Gain Coefficient), and VT (Visible Transmittance) values. These values form the basis for the ENERGY STAR® Door and Window Program.

**Pane**

A single section of glass.

**Picture Window**

A fixed window typically of a large size in relation to adjacent windows.

**PVC Capstock**

Poly vinyl coating used to form a protective durable layer on AMSCO composite windows. This capstock helps create the strong construction and means AMSCO windows will not chip, peel or fade.

**Resin**

Any of various synthetic substances similar to natural resins, used in plastics.

**R-Value**

Refers to the resistance a window has to thermal transfer or heat flow. The higher the value, the better the insulation.

**Safety Glass**

Glass that is treated with heat in its manufacturing, creating a product that can withstand abnormal force or pressure on its surface, and which does not break into sharp pieces. Code requires tempered glass in all doors (including patio doors) and in windows that are located near doors, bathtubs or showers. Also called tempered glass.

**Sash**

An assembly of stiles and rails that forms a frame for holding the glass in a window.

**Single-Hung Window**

A window with a fixed upper sash and movable lower sash that slides vertically.

**Slider Window**

A window in which the sashes move horizontally.

**Tempered Glass**

Glass that is treated with heat in its manufacturing, creating a product that can withstand abnormal force or pressure on its surface, and which does not break into sharp pieces. Code requires tempered glass in all doors (including patio doors) and in windows that are located near doors, bathtubs or showers. Also called safety glass.

**Tilt Window**

A double-hung window designed in such a way that the sashes tilt inward for easy cleaning of the outside of the glass.

**U-Factor/U-Value**

U-factor or U-value is a number that represents the rate of heat loss through a window or door. The lower the number, the greater a window resists the transfer of heat. A U-factor of 0.35 or lower represents good insulating value.

**Vinyl**

Any of various typically tough, flexible, shiny plastics.

**Weatherability**

Performance in various climates.

**Wood Veneer**

A thin layer of finely grained wood adhered to the frame of the window.