



**Special-Lite**

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## NEWS RELEASE

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**Subject:** Special-Lite Doors First to Meet New GREENGUARD Product Emission Standard for Children & Schools™



The GREENGUARD Environmental Institute (GEI) has certified that Special-Lite entrance products meet the GREENGUARD™ Product Emission Standard for Children & Schools™, the most rigorous product emissions criteria to date. Special-Lite doors and frames were the first commercial door and frame products to achieve GREENGUARD Certification, and are also the first to meet the stringent new Children & Schools Standard™ that ensures low emission levels for volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

The GEI established the GREENGUARD Product Emission Standard for Children & Schools in late 2005 to address the indoor air quality requirements of children in school and daycare environments. The original GREENGUARD Standard was modeled on the office environment, which is very different from the classroom

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environment, where as many as four times as many occupants and more furnishings can be found in the same amount of floor space. Children have higher respiration rates per pound of body weight than adults, and are also more sensitive to environmental toxins. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that children in the U.S. miss over six million school days per year due to asthma, which as been linked to poor indoor air quality. Additional health problems that may result from poor indoor air quality in schools include headaches, drowsiness, breathing problems, fatigue, coughing, rashes, and eye, nose and throat irritation.

“We are proud that our products meet the GREENGUARD™ Product Emission Standard for Children & Schools,” said Dan Depta, Special-Lite Manager of Marketing. “Our goal has always been to provide the best quality, longest lasting doors for the specific needs of educational environments. We are especially pleased that our unique design also reduces impact on indoor air quality.”

“Although exterior doors may not immediately come to mind when considering indoor air quality, they nonetheless play a role since one side of every exterior door is inside the building. Educational facilities also typically have more exterior entrances than other types of buildings of the same size. The corrosion resistance and durability of our doors with FRP (Fiberglass Reinforced Polyester) skins make them ideal in pool areas, locker rooms, showers, and boiler rooms, which are clearly interior locations. The lifetime finishes on these doors eliminate the need for painting and repainting, which eliminates the particulates and VOC emissions, and of course the maintenance costs, associated with the periodic sanding and repainting required with wood or hollow metal doors.”

All of the doors, framing and panels produced by Special-Lite are included in the certification, with the exception of fire-rated flush doors. Corrosion-resistant materials

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and easy-care finishes make Special-Lite doors easy to clean using non-toxic, water-soluble, biodegradable cleaners. Even tough stains such as graffiti can be removed with readily-available green cleaners. Independent laboratory testing has also confirmed that Special-Lite flush doors provide thermal performance that is typically superior to the corresponding values published by the makers of hollow metal doors.

### **About Special-Lite, Inc.**

Based in Decatur, Michigan, Special-Lite manufactures complete entrance systems consisting of flush, monumental, colonial doors, panels and framing for new construction and replacement installations in educational, commercial, institutional, industrial and municipal applications. The company was founded in 1971 and pioneered the use of fiberglass reinforced polyester (FRP) material for door skins in the early 1980's, and today is the largest volume producer of FRP doors in the U.S. For more information on Special-Lite's doors and entrances, visit [www.special-lite.com](http://www.special-lite.com) or call (800) 821-6531.

### **About the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute**

The GREENGUARD Environmental Institute (GEI) is an independent, non-profit organization that oversees the GREENGUARD Certification Program<sup>SM</sup>. The GEI has certified a wide array of low emitting building materials, from insulation to furniture to furnishings, which can be combined to create ideal indoor environments. As an ANSI Accredited Standards Developer, the GEI establishes acceptable standards for indoor products and testing protocols. The Institute's goal is to improve public health and quality of life by helping manufacturers build better and safer products. The GREENGUARD Certification Program is the only industry independent certification program for low emitting products. Access to the GREENGUARD Product Guide<sup>TM</sup>, at [www.greenguard.org](http://www.greenguard.org), is provided at no charge.

The GREENGUARD INDOOR AIR QUALITY CERTIFIED Mark is a registered certification mark used under license through the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute.

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