



Special-Lite

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NEWS RELEASE

◆ **Date:** December 2, 2008

◆ **For Immediate Release**

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[ED32]

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Special-Lite Sourcing All Extrusions From 100% Recycled Aluminum

Special-Lite Inc., the nation's leading manufacturer of fiberglass-reinforced polyester (FRP) doors, is now sourcing aluminum extrusions for all of its entrance products from prime-equivalent billet produced from 100 percent reprocessed 6063-T5 alloy recovered from industrial processes. The extrusions produced from this prime-equivalent material are equal in all respects to those made from virgin material, but have a smaller environmental footprint, as aluminum recycling requires only five percent of the energy necessary to produce virgin aluminum.

“Our philosophy has always been that performance and durability were the keys to a sustainable entrance system,” said Special-Lite Manager of Marketing Dan Depta. “So we’ve always sourced our components for quality and functionality, which has until now

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meant virgin material. We're excited that the quality of reprocessed 6063-T5 aluminum has improved to the point where it is the functional equivalent of virgin material."

As the aluminum is reclaimed from industrial processes, it is classified by the building industry as pre-consumer recycled material. This is not to be confused with post-consumer recycled material, which refers to waste generated by end users.

Special-Lite doors can now help earn recycled material credits in the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards. To earn the LEED recycled materials credits, an average of 10% (1 credit) or 20% (2 credits) of each component must be made from post-consumer recycled materials. Pre-consumer recycled materials are worth half the value of post-consumer recycled materials in the LEED calculations, meaning that if a product is 100% pre-consumer recycled material, 50% would count toward the credit.

All Special-Lite flush doors are 33% aluminum by weight, which is now 100% pre-consumer recycled material. All Special-Lite monumental doors and framing products are 100% aluminum by weight, excluding fasteners and seals.

In addition, Depta says the company's flush doors are designed for energy efficiency and indoor air quality. Special-Lite products were the first entrance products to earn GREENGUARD Certification, including the stringent Children & Schools Standard.

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According to Depta, independent laboratory tests have proven Special-Lite® FRP Flush Doors to have superior thermal efficiency compared to the alternative hollow metal doors.

About Special-Lite, Inc.

Based in Decatur, Michigan, Special-Lite manufactures complete entrance systems consisting of flush, monumental, wood grain doors, 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 1980s, and today is the largest volume producer of FRP doors in the U.S. Special-Lite's entrance products were the first to earn GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality Certification, including the stringent Children & Schools Standard.

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