



Entity of Vitro Architectural Glass

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PPG (now Vitro Architectural Glass): 130 Years of Leadership and Innovation

1883

The Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company is founded, establishing the first plate glass plant in the United States.

1920s

PPG (now Vitro Architectural Glass) becomes one of the first companies to successfully mass-produce glass. The patented Pittsburgh process accelerates production and minimizes waves and other imperfections common to plate glass. Perfecting the manufacture of plate glass paved the way for it to be used on North America's landmark skyscrapers.

1934

PPG (now Vitro Architectural Glass) introduces SOLEX® glass, the industry's first "environmental" glass. With its distinctive light-green tint, *So/lex* glass enables architects, for the first time, to design buildings with large expanses of glasses without concentrating the sun's heat indoors. The product, now known as SOLEXIA® glass, remains popular with architects today as part of Vitro's collection of blue and green performance-tinted glasses.

1945

PPG (now Vitro Architectural Glass) unveils TWINDOW®, one of the world's first commercialized double-paned insulating glass units, which foreshadows the green building movement by promising to keep "homes warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer."

1952

SOLEX® glass (now SOLEXIA® glass) is installed on the historic Lever House in New York City, launching the era of the glass-clad modernist building.

1963

PPG (now Vitro Architectural Glass) becomes the first glass manufacturer in the United States to use the float glass process, which remains the predominant method of making glass today.

1964

PPG (now Vitro Architectural Glass) introduces SOLARBAN® glass, one of the first coated glasses engineered expressly to block solar radiation and thereby reduce air-conditioning-related energy consumption. Minoru Yamasaki, who that same year designed the iconic World Trade Center towers in New York, selects *Solarban* glass for the The Mutual of Omaha

Regional Office (now Colonnade Plaza) in Miami, the first major building for which the glass was specified.

1972

PPG (now Vitro Architectural Glass) introduces SOLARCOOL® reflective glasses.

1974

PPG (now Vitro Architectural Glass) glass is installed on Sears Tower (now Willis Tower) in Chicago, the tallest building in the United States.

1989

AZURLITE® glass (now AZURIA® glass), a spectrally selective, blue-green glass, is introduced. The famed Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas becomes one of the first large installations of the product.

1990

STARPHIRE ULTRA-CLEAR™ glass debuts at GlasTec '90 in Dusseldorf, Germany. Because of its exceptional clarity, STARPHIRE® low-iron glass is widely used as display glass, perhaps most famously at the National Archives in Washington D.C., where it protects the original drafts of the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. More than 25 years after its introduction, *Starphire* glass remains the industry's clearest, most transparent float glass.

2000

SOLARBAN® glass, originally launched in 1964, is reintroduced as the brand name for a new category of solar control low-e glass, which continues to set the standard for energy-saving performance in the architectural glass industry.

2005

SOLARBAN® 70XL glass, the industry's first triple-silver-coated, solar control low-e glass, is launched at the GreenBuild International Conference and Expo. With the industry's highest light-to-solar gain (LSG) ratio, *Solarban 70XL* glass features an unprecedented combination of solar control and visible light transmittance.

2010

SOLARBAN® R100 glass is introduced to provide high visible light transmittance with neutral reflectivity.

2015

SOLARBAN® 90 glass, which combines exceptional solar control performance with the aesthetic appeal of clear glass, debuts, enabling architects to design buildings with larger expanses of glass with improved occupant comfort.

2016

PPG's flat glass business unit is acquired by Vitro, a leading glass manufacturer founded in Monterrey, Mexico in 1909. Together, Vitro and PPG possess more than 200 years of glass manufacturing, research and product development expertise, and form one of the largest and most innovative glass companies in the world.