

## Spandrel Cautions

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Trulite Glass & Aluminum Solutions supplies glass spandrels and wall cladding products for general construction applications. The process creates opaque glazing material of glass coated with fired ceramic frits; cold cured silicone elastomer or applied scrim films. The intended application utilizes the opacity to hide construction components from view. Such areas usually include columns, floor lines in curtain walls, knee walls, ceiling lines etc. Other applications may be purely decorative such as wall claddings, or non-vision panels with contrasting or complimentary colors. The designer should consider the various production methods, potential variances in production processes and potential tradeoffs in desired applications. Trulite Glass & Aluminum Solutions recommends the use of full scale mock ups in addition to architectural color samples. Designs which incorporate viewing from both exterior and interior or have other unusual aspects should be reviewed with the producing Trulite Branch prior to specification or order.

### Spandrel Coatings

Spandrel coatings are intended to render glass opaque in reflected light from the exterior as installed. The product is NOT intended for use in vision or light transmitting areas. Viewing installed spandrel panels from the interior, in transmitted light may reveal spray or roll pattern and pin holes. This is normal and is usually noted during the construction phase prior to the placement of insulation or other finishing surfaces. At this phase of construction wide variations in coating consistencies or density is apparent from the interior. The coating application methods will produce different patterns and may show heavy to light areas as the production run reduces thickness to achieve opacity with minimum required material usage. The glazing contractor or designer should be advised that this as a normal condition with ceramic frit or silicone coatings and referred to the proper method of inspection if questioned.

### Surfaces

Design professionals and specifiers should be aware that the coated surface of spandrel products is not considered a finished surface for weathering or viewing. Normally the coating is specified to the #2 or number four #4 surface of an insulating glass unit. If applied to the #3 surface an orange peel texture, process blemishes, smudges, fingerprints, brush lines or other inherent characteristics may be visible. In addition, silicone coatings applied to #3 surface may out gas and deposits could condense on the #2 surface changing the aesthetics. If the coating applied to the #1 surface the coating may degrade when exposed to weathering or not maintain a consistent appearance over time. For these reasons, coatings applied to the #1 or #3 surface are NOT recommended.

### Cleaning

Once installed spandrel products may be cleaned as any other glass product. Refer to Trulite Technical Bulletin GG 004 or GANA Glass Informational Bulletin 01-300 for recommended cleaning instructions. Initial cleaning after glazing may require the removal of sealant smudges or light overspray from silicone coatings. No cleaning is recommended for exposed coated surfaces (i.e. #4 surface).

### Storage

Spandrel should be ordered in a manner that will reduce prolonged storage on site. In any event spandrel products should be stored indoors, avoiding high humidity areas. As with any glass product packaging material is intended for transport and short term storage. Crated material

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should be opened and installed as soon as possible to avoid damage. Protect stored and installed material from adjacent trades.

### Compatibility

Ceramic frit spandrels are fused, pigmented glass fines which become a part of the glass substrate during the heat treating process. Users should follow the normal precautions of any glazing for compatibility paying particular attention to the placement of insulation as described.

Opaci-Coat 300 Spandrels require the use of silicone setting blocks and gasket. Only use approved neutral cure silicones and insulation. Opaci-Coat 300 coatings should only be used in conjunction with approved sealants, gasket and insulation products. Chemical compatibility should be verified prior to installation. Failure to do so may result in coating discoloration or failure.

### Insulation

Do NOT place any insulation or construction material in direct contact with the spandrel surface. **Maintain a minimum of one inch clearance between glass and insulation.** Properly secure insulation to avoid sagging and possible contact with the spandrel surface. Failure to do so may result in read through, staining or thermal breakage.