

VANCOUVER CHAPTER E-SPECIFIER

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE



I want to start off by saying thank you to the Calgary Chapter, along with all the phenomenal speakers, and sponsors who were involved in putting on a great conference this year in Calgary. It was great to get back to normal and see so many friends and colleagues a lot of us haven't been able to see since the start of the pandemic. Thank you to our past president Kaz for all our hard work over the past year. It was great having you as our president. Congratulations to our new president David Graham! We look forwards to see what is in store for the next year and the exciting things you are going to be taking on. Congratulations to Tammy for winning the Chapter Award of Merit. Thank you for all that you have done for the chapter over the past few years. Lastly, thank you to all the members from the Vancouver chapter who was able to make the trip and represent our group on a national level. I look forwards to seeing everybody next year in Montreal.

I hope everybody has a fun, safe summer and I look forwards to seeing everybody in the fall for the second half of our education program. We have some exciting topics planning for the remainder of this year. If you ever have any ideas of topics you want to hear, please let one of the executive committee members know.

John Alley
Chapter Chair

john.alley@cbpmail.net

MEET OUR 2023/2024 CSC PRESIDENT



**David Graham, Architect AIBC
MRAIC LEED-AP**

Join us in extending our warmest congratulations to David Graham, Architect AIBC, MIRAIC, LEED-AP, the newly appointed 2023/2024 CSC President.

We at the Vancouver Chapter believe that with your leadership, vision, mission, and values of the CSC community will stay strong as we move forward in the forever-growing construction industry.

Congratulations David!

Article

Low-Iron Acid-Etch Glass and Bird-Friendly Applications

Contributed by: Bryce Given, of Vitro Architectural Glass



Bryce is the National Architectural Manager of Vitro for British Columbia and Alberta in Canada, and for Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho in the United States.

Bryce has more than 16 years of commercial construction experience with expertise in;

- Project management,
- Estimating,
- Design/Build, and
- Local Market strategies

Designing with Low-Iron Acid-Etched Glass

Editor's note: This article contains content originally published by [Walker Glass](#)

Focus is on comfort these days. You can see it on the pages of architectural and décor magazines: natural materials like wood and wool, warm colours, and diffused light. Stainless steel finishes seem to be losing popularity, and no wonder. It's well known that in stressful times people gravitate toward more comfortable environments that foster a sense of well-being. With the economic and political insecurity of the last few years, designing for comfort is trendier than ever. Low-iron acid-etched glass is an ideal fit for this humane aesthetic.

What's so special about low-iron glass? It's an extra clear substrate without the greenish tint inherent to regular "clear" glass, so it delivers a cleaner, purer light. The clarity of the glass becomes even more apparent when you add a full surface acid-etched finish. It's the perfect blank canvas for designers and architects. It's also one of the most impactful ways to improve daylighting, by increasing visible light transmittance (VLT) and reducing glare.

Showing True Colours

Lighting can make or break a space. As interior décor shifts toward warmer palettes, glass must keep up. The aqua tint of "clear" glass can dilute the cozy look of earth tones and warm colours, making the overall effect appear muddy and dull. On the other hand, low-iron glass fits seamlessly into its environment and does not affect the overall palette.

Acid-etched finishes on low-iron glass open up even more possibilities. The etch adds some opacity to the glass and reduces surface reflections that could interfere with the appearance of back painting or coloured laminates. A dash of just the right colour can enliven mirrors, counters, cabinets, accent windows, tabletops, and other focal points, and a neutral base like low-iron acid-etched glass lets these coloured accents stand out.

Whether coloured or not, acid-etched low-iron glass is also an ideal option for classic opaque applications like shower partitions because it provides a neutral look that won't interfere with the room's colour palette.

Giving Buildings their Best Light

Public spaces benefit from great daylighting just as much as private ones. After all, light is a major part of how people feel in a space. That's why it's so important to use high-quality glazing in public and commercial buildings, especially when they're meant to make a good impression. Often, architects will insist on low-iron glass for gathering areas like lobbies and atriums, even if the rest of the building uses standard clear glass. It's also popular in luxury settings like pools, spas, museums, and cultural hubs – in short, anywhere that ambiance makes a difference.

Acid-etched low-iron glass is also popular in schools, hospitals, and other public institutions due to its light-optimizing capabilities. The etched surface eliminates glare while maintaining high visible light transmittance (VLT) levels, which helps structures to meet daylighting requirements for health and educational institutions and contributes to occupants' well-being.

Additionally, [acid-etched glass can help with privacy and security](#) in these facilities because it can selectively block sightlines into the buildings.



Amazon's Day 1 Tower, Seattle, Washington

Photography provided by Walker Glass

Description: Walker Textures® velour acid-etched laminated glazing with orange and white interlayers. More images can be found at the Project Gallery at vitroglazings.com.

Bird-Friendly Glass

In addition to its visual character and aesthetic value, low-iron acid-etched glass can be used to create bird-friendly glass and glazing solutions.

With countless bird deaths attributed annually to building collisions, choosing the right building materials can make a huge difference. As the problem of bird-to-building collisions becomes more widely known, an increasing number of cities are adopting legislation that recommends, and in some cases, requires, bird-friendly materials be used on new construction and building renovations.

In recent years glass manufacturers have expanded their product lines to include bird-friendly options that satisfy aesthetic, performance and bird safety objectives.

“Through our involvement in the glass industry, we heard about birds colliding into glass and we were curious to see if there was anything we could do to help” said Danik Dancause of Walker Glass, a pioneer of bird-friendly acid-etched glass. “Through testing products, analyzing results and talking to leading experts in architecture and conservation, we came to understand the challenges and opportunities that bird-safe glass offers.”

When it comes to making glass safe for birds, the key phrase both manufacturers and designers must consider is “visual marker.”

“No matter which form you’re using, bird-safe glass will have a pattern covering the entire window or glass surface,” said Dancause. “This is what makes bird-safe glass different from regular clear glass, and while Walker Textures produces acid-etched glass, other types of markers can include UV patterns, ceramic frits – anything that creates a contrast.”

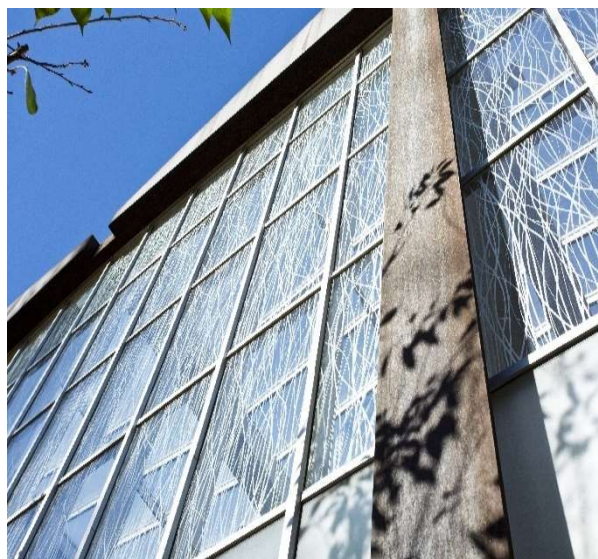
Bird-safe glass should follow the “2 by 4 rule,” an industry standard that dictates that rows of visual elements in a bird-safe glass pattern should not be more than 2 inches or 50mm apart, and columns of visual elements should not be more than 4 inches or 100mm apart. This helps birds “see” the glass as they approach a building.

Following Toronto’s publication in 2007 of the first “Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines,” several North American cities have taken steps to propose mandatory bird safety legislation, including San Francisco in 2011. Other large cities like Oakland, Chicago, and New York have since proposed similar laws. Industry experts expect to see more cities do so in coming years.

In 2019, the Canadian Standards Association published CSA A460:19, titled “Bird-friendly building design,” and the number of cities and jurisdictions suggesting voluntary bird-safe design practices, such as Vancouver, continues to grow. While local legislation as well as involvement from environmental groups are big factors in choosing bird-safe glass, more architects are electing to use bird-safe glass, and some firms are even starting to recommend it on their own.

Every project is unique, and while bird-safe glass has a higher construction cost than clear glass the cost of doing nothing to protect the environment can be damaging.

“A billion birds are injured by glass surfaces every year – that’s a lot of birds,” said Dancause. “It’s affecting our planet and the places we live. There’s a lot of flexibility in bird-safe glass designs that can make them more affordable, including optimizing the glass sheets with low-emissivity coatings to increase performance and save on energy costs.”





The National Aviary, Wetlands, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Photography by Jim Cunningham

Description: Walker Textures® velour acid-etch and AviProtek® organic pattern 214 on Starphire Ultra-clear® glass from Vitro. More images can be found at the Project Gallery at vitroglazings.com.

AviProtek® E with Solarban® glass is just one example of an advanced architectural glass that unites bird-friendly, acid-etched patterns by Walker Glass with high-performance solar control low-e coatings by Vitro Glass. Walker Glass with AviProtek® patterns can be manufactured with either horizontal, vertical or non-directional visual markers on clear, Acuity™ and Starphire Ultra-Clear® glass substrates by Vitro or with Solarban® 60 or Solarban® 70 glass on the second (interior) surface of an insulating glass unit (IGU) for greater energy efficiency.

The Value of Acid-Etched Low-Iron Glass

Architects and designers use acid-etched low-iron glass in a multitude of ways. However, with all their variety, these contexts speak to a few essential values.

- **Well-being.** Enhance human comfort by delivering the purest daylight possible, without any glare or greenish tinge.
- **Design.** Protect your creative vision by displaying the true hue of back painting, laminates, and interior surfaces.

- **Security.** An acid-etched finish on low-iron glass offers privacy in sensitive settings, without sacrificing VLT.
- **Sustainability.** *Low-iron glass substrates can easily be coupled with energy-efficient enhancements like low-emissivity (low-e) coatings, and acid-etched bird-friendly glass reduces bird collisions to support a safer environment for local wildlife.*

Low-iron acid-etched glass is an added-value product, best suited to projects that prioritize design and human well-being. However, since there is no ASTM specification for low-iron glass, clarity levels can vary widely based on how they are manufactured, and the levels of iron found in their formulae. For this reason, some low-iron glasses may be more appropriate for your project than others.

Tips From the Experts

- Acid-etched finishes are a great choice for back-painted and laminated glass. The etched surface reduces reflections and lets colour stand out.
- Exterior applications are also good candidates for an acid-etched finish. This type of finish is easy to clean and withstands wear better than untreated glass, so you can enjoy the full effect of your low-iron glazing.
- Bird-safe glazing is gaining momentum across North America. However, bird-deterrent product and legislation can vary widely. When planning a bird-safe project, be sure to check what the legislation is in your region. When it comes to choosing materials, look for proven solutions with a history of successful performance in the field.
- If you're working with laminates, choose an ultra-clear product, since regular laminates often come with a yellowish tint.
- For the purest effect, use low-iron glass for all lites in an insulating glass unit.

SUNRUN: AN EVENT TO REMEMBER



Since 1985, the Vancouver Sun Run has been Canada's largest 10K road race.

Through the years the run has inspired people looking to improve their health and well-being. The event has evolved into a phenomenon within Vancouver where thousands celebrate and run through the city.

Daniel and I have come across Architectural and General contracting firms running in groups, and perhaps next year we could encourage our chapter members and guests to join in and make a team for CSC!

We hope to see you in the next race. The next race is scheduled on April 21, 2024.

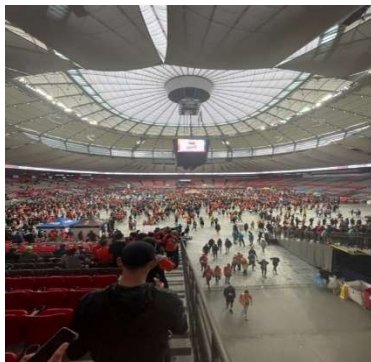
The following is Daniel Wong's observations for this event.

CSC Vancouver ran the Vancouver Sun Run on April 16th and here are a few things we learned:

- 1) Construction and training share similarities. You design a plan that will mitigate your risk of injury. It took us 12 weeks to train to get to 10k and there was a progression that could not be skipped.
- 2) Running is a way to see the city. Although it was pouring rain that day, we found time to admire the buildings of downtown, felt the rolling elevation of the city and took in streets that we might not typically travel.
- 3) We talk a lot about the design of the built environment influencing the health of individuals but what about the health of the individuals entering and using those spaces? We found that as we ran and trained more, our health improved and we were able to take on more than we had before.

We look forward to running it again next year and seeing what new lessons we'll learn.

Daniel Wong
Spec Writer CSP
WordClear Specifications



CSC CALGARY NATIONAL CONFERENCE RECAP



This year's conference was hosted at the Western Calgary Hotel, Calgary, Alberta.

Every year, we are looking for professionals to share and present their knowledge in this ever-evolving industry! Please lookout for a Call for Speakers announcement prior to the next National Conference.

Break-out sessions in about one-hour durations are held throughout the day involving a large variety of topics. If you are interested to be a part of the next conference please contact our CSC national events manager, Clifton Fiola (CAE), clifton@csc-dcc.ca.



Trade shows and speed networking sessions

This was the time to expand your network in person! One of the highlights of the CSC conference were the 30-minute networking sessions where participants are given the opportunity to expand their network and meet a number of professionals in the industry including fellow delegates, speakers, and sponsors!



The Vancouver Chapter had great representation at the National Conference in Calgary. There were 30 attendees from the Vancouver Chapter.

CSC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, AND COMPANIONS PROGRAM...



Each year during the conference, each chapter is welcome to contribute to the association.

We are pleased to announce that director, Todd Gerrard, CTR and the Vancouver chapter have contributed funding to be used for various programs at the discretion of our association.



The Companions Program was a success with this year's schedule including a European bocce ball tournament, and a brief gourmet class to cook and taste your own creations!



FUN NIGHT...

This year's fun night was held off-site at the famous Girletz Rodeo Ranch!
A perfect time to enjoy genuine western hospitality with our western gear.

GIRLETZ RANCH



The cowboys and cowgirls members were learning and enjoying the line dancing!



AWARDS NIGHT...



Congratulations to our very own, John Alley and Tammy Diniz, CTR for receiving this year's Chapter Award of Merits!

Thank you, Kaz Kanani, for your time and dedication as our 2023 president!

Welcome, and congratulations to David Graham, our new 2024 CSC president!



Big thanks to this years sponsors! A list of sponsorship levels and benefits is provided, please check it out! Contact our CSC national events manager, Clifton Fiola, to be apart of next years sponsorship for the Montreal National Conference.

Next year, the National Conference will be held in Montreal, we hope to see you there. Stay tuned as we get closer to the date!

NEW MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the Vancouver Chapter!

Name

Rich Gibson
Manufacturer Representative

Daniel Palmer
Associate Manager

Eric Seger
Specifications Assistant

Reem Marie
Intern Architect

Geoff Shellard
Architectural Design Manager

Alvin Bali
Architectural Specifications Representative

Joseph Hui
Technical Sales Representative

Kevin Luck
BC Regional Sales Manager

Firm

Bibby Ste-Croix

Arcadis/IBI Group

Construction Specfix

RWA

Guardian Glass

PPG Architectural Coatings

Sika Canada

Titan Sport Systems

NEW CERTIFIED MEMBERS

Name

Abdulrauf Adediran
Sammy Kwan

Designation

CCCA
CCCA

Congratulations To New Members and Designations!



**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR:**

IN-PERSON CHAPTER LUNCH MEETINGS:

Next Schedule Date: To Be Announced, November

UPCOMING EVENTS:



Photography by Delta Golf & Country Club <https://www.deltagolfcourse.com/>

CSC Golf Tournament
(More Details to Follow)

When: To Be Announced, September
Where: Delta Golf & Country Club,
11550 Ladner Trunk Rd., Delta, BC



CSC OKTOBERFEST Trade Fair 2023
(More Details to Follow)

When: October 19, 2023
Where: Italian Cultural Centre,
3075 Slocan St., Vancouver, BC

CSC EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



CSC Workshops are announced periodically each year and usually available Virtual and Online.

If you need to find out more about any of the courses or have other inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the following.

Glenn Chatten, CSP
glenn@wordclearspec.com
1st Education Officer
WordClear Specifications
Tel: 778-838-1540

Or

Clifton A. Fiola, CAE
clifton@csc-dcc.ca
Programs & Events Manager
Construction Specification Canada
Tel: 416-777-2198

Courses Descriptions

Principles of Construction Documentation (PCD) (Pre-requisite course)

The PCD is an introductory course that will enable the student to have a better understanding of construction documentation (specifications, drawing and schedules), products, bidding procedures and contracts. It is also a prerequisite to all the other CSC education courses.

Having the experience and knowledge will give you leverage in the fast-paced construction industry.

The course will also provide a solid base for future skills acquisition, job efficiency, position advancement, and pay increases in a convenient and easy to follow format.

Course Outline:

- Construction Process
- Production of Construction Documents
- Forms of Contract
- Codes and Standards
- Risk Management Issues
- Legal Issues
- Building Science
- Contract Administration
- Communications
- Trends in the Construction Industry

Specifier (SP)

The CSC Specifier course is a comprehensive overview of the construction specification profession in Canada. At the completion of the course, students will have a solid grasp of a specifier's role, legal issues including contracts, bidding and disputes, writing style used in the profession and how to close out a project. A wide range of professional scenarios are explained, often using real-life examples.

Skills acquired in this course include:

- Understanding legal contracts
- Understanding the function of the project manual and associated drawings.
- Developing the basis for good specifications
- Improved writing skills
- Understanding the process of researching and selecting products

The CSC Specifier course continues from where the PCD course ends and is a more in-depth education on the special techniques and skills required to write the procurement and contractual requirements of: Division 00; the administrative, procedural and temporary requirements of Division 01; and the technical specifications of Division 02-49.

Completion of this course is mandatory in the process of becoming a Certified Specification Practitioner (CSP), or a Registered Specification Writer (RSW).

Course Outline:

- Introduction
- General Review
- Types of Construction Contracts and Project Delivery Methods
- Procurement and Contracting Requirements
- Lien Legislation, Bonds, Insurance and Dispute Mechanisms
- Specification Writing Basics: Grammar, Spelling and Conventions
- Specification Writing – Getting Started
- Writing From a Master Specification
- Writing Original Specification Sections
- Product Selection, Research and Assessment
- Codes and Standards
- Division 01 – Administrative and Procedural Requirements
- Division 01 – Temporary Facilities and Controls
- Division 01 – Performance Requirements and Life Cycle Activities
- Relationships and Coordination – Divisions 00, 01 and Technical Sections
- Specifying Quality and Performance Requirements
- Specifying For Special Requirements

Students Should have:

- Experience reading construction drawings;
- Experience reading construction specifications;
- Experiences researching construction materials;
- Experience researching construction reference standards
- Or, Construction related Certification from a Technical College or University

Technical Representative (TR)

The TR course will provide a better understanding of contract documents and bidding procedures, product representation, professionalism, and ethics, and will provide a new depth of understanding and explanation of concepts beyond what was previously introduced in the PCD course. The course is designed for the individual involved in the supply section of the construction industry such as manufacturer representatives, agents, or distributors of products. The student will have successfully completed the PCD course.

This course is a requirement for the Certified Technical Representative (CTR) designation.

Course Outline:

- The Project Manual and Drawings
- The Technical Representative and Consultants
- Construction Product Selection Process
- Materials Selection and Substitutions
- Construction Product Representation
- Effective Technical Assistance
- Information Management and Product Literature
- Product Presentation Techniques
- Contract Liability and Warranties
- Bonds and Insurance
- Material and Product Standards
- Workmanship, Quality, Codes and Standards
- Liens and Liens Legislation
- Contract Administration and Field Services

Construction Contract Administrator (CCA)

The course is designed for those individuals involved in construction administration, including Contract Administrators, Property Managers, Architects, Engineers, Interior Designers, Specification Consultants, Building Authorities, and Bonding and Insurance Agencies.

This course is a requirement for the Certified Construction Contract Administrator (CCCA) designation.

Course Outline:

- Construction Industry participants
- Bidding Requirements and Process
- Alternatives and Substitutions
- Standards and Regulatory Influences
- Site Activities
- Execution of the Work
- Certification of Payment
- Changes in the Work
- Dispute Resolution
- Construction Insurance
- Construction Surety Bonds
- Guaranties and Warranties
- Project Submittal
- Field Services and Quality Control
- Clerk of the Works
- Contract Close-Out
- Commissioning
- Definitions and Resources

CSC ANNOUNCEMENT

NOW is the time to book your space in the CSC 2023/2024 Directory of Members and get noticed 365 days a year.

Space is on a first come first served basis, so book today!

Advertising in the CSC 2023/2024 Directory of Members gives your company national exposure to AEC professionals representing all segments of the construction industry year round.

The directory offers immediate access to CSC members' contact information in this user-friendly digest-size publication and also includes upcoming CSC events such as the annual conference.

There has never been a better cost-effective opportunity to reach construction experts from coast-to-coast than with an advertisement in the CSC 2023/2024 Directory of Members.

To book your advertisement today go to [www.CSC MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY](http://www.CSCMEMBERSHIPDIRECTORY)

A NEW LOOK

Let us know what you think!

We are trying out a new format for the Vancouver Chapter E-Specifier, but it is a work in progress.

If you have comments or suggestions, or would like more information about the newsletter, please reach out to Johnson Teodocio, CTR at johnson.teodocio@tormax.ca

WE ARE CSC !!



PROGRAM COMMITTEE

DO YOU HAVE A PRESENTATION IDEA?

Please feel free to reach out to me

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Program Officer

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