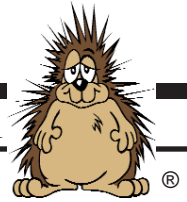




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Florida Church Tackles Curtain Wall Codes & Wins With VBUCK®

Florida codes are some of the most difficult to negotiate for manufacturers of building products. The testing process is both expensive and ever changing. With the credibility of the builder and the safety of the end user in mind, VTI continues to work with engineers and testing facilities to make sure proper installation of window and door block-outs meet the specifications needed for code compliance (FL 5428).

One such building is the Saint Paul Catholic Church in Pensacola, Florida. Members of the VTI team were on site to make sure the installation of VBUCK® was done correctly, especially when installing custom gothic arches and to monitor the engineering needed for the installation of curtain wall or store front type windows.

The massive gothic windows which will eventually depict the twelve stations of the cross in stained glass are approximately six feet wide and eighteen feet high. They are installed in sections with each section fastened to a clip that is fastened into and through the VBUCK® block-out loaded with CPVC with a concrete anchor.

Kawneer Windows were specified for the job and Wolters Engineering engineered the details for the window installation. Kawneer needed assurances that VBUCK® would be able to handle such a large opening, the reinforcement necessary for code and to warrant that installation.

“We often get questions about the installation of curtain wall or storefront windows,” states Bruce Anderson of VTI. “We have had hundreds of successful installations. This is another one.”

Yet, in Florida it has been difficult to pass

inspections. No doubt, the engineering would be similar if installed into wood, but

ple. “When making gothic shapes, having the actual drawings and specifications from the window manufacturer is paramount,” notes Thayne Anderson who does the more difficult bending tasks at the Logan facility.

On this particular project there were seventeen gothic shaped windows and one full round.

A & S ICF Wall Systems of Freeport, Florida, a VBUCK® and Nudura distributor knew the capabilities of the VBUCK® system and the capabilities of the VTI team especially when it came to making the shapes.

Stacking the walls and placing the windows was far easier with the combined systems of VBUCK® and Nudura.



VBUCK® was used in these six by eighteen foot curtain wall windows.

with VBUCK® the contractor does not have to take the time to shape and form the openings. Given the correct dimensions and drawings from window manufacturers, VTI can shape VBUCK® so that creating the opening is quite sim-



Each section of the curtain wall is attached to clips which are fastened through the VBUCK®, cellular PVC then into the concrete.

Use Plastic Re-bar Chairs for Windows, Doors & ICF Flooring Systems

When installing VBUCK® in any opening, according to code, the builder must surround the block-out with two #4 pieces of re-bar.

An easier and more cost effective way to ensure proper reinforcement on door and window lintels is to place one rebar chair every five feet or at each end of the lintel with smaller openings. Simply

snap re-bar into place remembering always follow specified engineering. The rebar on the other two or three sides of the open-



ing should be wired as required.

Insulating Concrete Flooring systems call for at least 1” clearance between the foam and the rebar. With snap-in rebar chairs, there is no worry about that clearance and inspectors will be satisfied prior to placement of concrete.

Call the VTI office for pricing and check www.vbuck.com for more info.

Pineapple & VBUCK® Different Colors: Taste & Perform the Same

When living on the island of Maui and working for Maui Land and Pineapple, I was given a tour of the pineapple processing plant. The most important thing I came away with besides the sealed empty juice can which I later used as a bank, was that Americans like things to look the same.

In fact, if a consumer opened a can of pineapple rings and there was a color variation, say light to dark to light in that single can, the average American would think something was wrong with the fruit. They may even think it inedible and return it.

At the Maui Land and Pineapple plant there are several workers per shift whose only job is to sort the pineapple by color. It didn't really matter what color — light or dark — just that the pineapple was all the same color in a single can.

Since VTI began manufacturing in the Logan, Utah facility VBUCK® has been made from post-industrial waste. This

waste comes from various sources, mainly vinyl windows. This regrind is certified to meet all specifications for impact, flash



One VBUCK® crate may include several colors.

ignition, rate of burn, pull-out strength: all the ASTM and TAS testing previously completed.

Just like the pure white VBUCK®, this regrind contains no carbon black which would make the product absorb heat when exposed to the sun.

However, the 100% post-industrial waste VBUCK® does vary in color and sometimes it may have a few spots on it. In fact, there is a beautiful denim colored piece on display in our main office.

We could hire a few extra workers to come in and sort each crate by color, but we prefer to pass that savings on to our dedicated distributors and builders.

Mauve, beige, grey, tie-dye streaked, these color variations are proof that no virgin vinyl is used and that a whole bunch of

vinyl window parts are not going to a land fill.

— AEA

2009 LEED NC Draft In Review/Response Process

LEED has taken the middle road again on vinyl which is great news for VBUCK® users who want to achieve LEED status.

VBUCK® and all its parts will still count as a portion of the credits for MR 2.1 and 2.2 for less waste in the land fill. The very little waste in VBUCK® can be regrind for re-use and all other parts recycled.

When LEED for new construction debuted in 1999 it began the process of helping improve the quality of buildings and their impact on the environment (LEED NC, 2005).

LEED certification helps builders

become recognized for their commitment to environmental issues in their community, and industry.

LEED initially came out fervently against Vinyl, knocking points off projects if PVC was used. The 2005 press release from the USGBC Technical and Scientific Advisory Committee did not support the conclusion that PVC is consistently worse than alternative materials on a life-cycle environmental and health basis.

Now, using vinyl neither helps or hurts in the LEED point structure. The 2009 version takes the same stand neither for or

against the use of vinyl in new construction.

Even though many organizations still have vinyl in thier sights as bad for the environment, Patrick Moore, co-founder of Greenpeace and founder of Greenspirit states, "PVC is one of the most thoroughly tested plastics available. There is no evidence that vinyl damages human health or the environment Vinyl is slow to ignite, needed for insulating cables, energy efficient, versatile, affordable and extremely durable. Building with PVC saves on energy and material costs" (Moore, 2007).



Counterfeit VBUCK®: There has been some counterfeit VBUCK® for sale on E-Bay and other sites. We have researched this "VBUCK®" and have found it to be another product made from highly flammable styrene from a now defunct company. Please don't let your potential customers be taken in by the low price and not get the original. Let us know if you see ads on-line 888-578-2825 or info@vbuick.com.

Training: If you are sponsoring training events, remember to include an invitation for a VBUCK® expert to attend. Call: 1-888-578-2825 for more information.

Commercial Brochure: VTI now has a commercial brochure available for shows, displays, and showrooms.

Newsletter: Our newsletter is printed and mailed to each distributor/dealer and is also sent out with each order of corner connectors. Back issues are available on our website under the "News" button in pdf format.

Re-Grind: We encourage all builders and distributors to save VBUCK® that is too small to piece together for re-grinding. If you need help finding a re-grind facility in your area, we will do the research to help you find a place. If you are close to our plant we would love to take it off your hands and grind it for re-use.

