



STRAIGHT FROM THE SOURCE:

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FILMED FIRE-RATED PRODUCTS
(SuperLite I-W, and PYRAN® Platinum F)

Are filmed products easily scratched?

Safety films are comprised of multiple laminated layers with the outermost layer being a scratch-resistant acrylic. Our safety film suppliers have advised us that this outer layer possesses approximately 75% of the normal scratch resistance of float glass. Typical float and ceramic glass products can also be scratched if improperly cleaned or subjected to vandalism. Over the past ten years, SAFTI *FIRST* has never been asked to replace any of our filmed products due to scratching.

Are filmed products more susceptible to vandalism than non-filmed products?

Vandalism takes many forms in schools and other locations. Unless scratched glass has been an ongoing problem in a particular location, there is no reason to expect filmed fire-rated products to somehow inspire vandals to damage any type of glass. The film is not readily detectable or visible. School vandalism statistics reveal a far greater prevalence of glass breakage, graffiti, and other forms of property damage. The use of safety films on all types of glass actually guards against smash-and-grab break-ins that are often reported in schools and elsewhere.

Can safety film be replaced on fire-rated glazing without having to buy new glass?

Yes. SAFTI *FIRST* is the only fire-rated glass manufacturer offering a Warnock-Hersey/Intertek (WHI) certified film replacement program. The existing film can be removed without having to remove or disturb the existing glass or framing components. The new film can either be furnished and applied by a certified field filming applicator, or the new film can be directly supplied by SAFTI *FIRST* and installed in accordance with our WHI listing requirements.

Are filmed fire-rated glass products more expensive than non-filmed fire-rated products?

No. Actually, laminated-ceramic glass is one of the most expensive types of fire-rated glazing among the many types of safety glazing choices. Laminated-ceramic can be 3 to 4 times the cost of filmed ceramic. With this price difference, combined with the option of field film replacement, SAFTI *FIRST* offers the most cost effective means of having impact resistant fire-rated glazing given any building type. SAFTI *FIRST*'s patented SuperLite I-W was the first wired glass to meet Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) Category II (400 ft/lbs) impact resistance. SuperLite I-W is a far more affordable filmed option than any type of ceramic glass.

Are filmed fire-rated glass products tested to the same standards as their laminated counterparts?

Yes. Filmed ceramics and filmed wired glazing are tested to the same standards and perform at the same levels as laminated ceramics and laminated wired glass. In fact, our SuperLite I-W provides CPSC Category II impact safety, while the competing laminated wired glass product only offers Category I (150 ft/lbs) impact safety. Both types of fire rated glazing are tested to NFPA, ASTM, UL and CPSC standards.

Does SAFTI *FIRST* offer a warranty on filmed fire-rated glass products?

Yes. SAFTI *FIRST* offers a 10-year limited warranty on all of our fire protective products, including filmed products such as SuperLite I-W and PYRAN® Platinum F. As with every manufacturer, the end user is required to follow defined cleaning and maintenance instructions in order meet warranty requirements. This is twice the warranty period currently offered by a laminated-ceramic supplier, at more than half the initial cost. Remember, ceramic glass is far more brittle than typical float glass, making its surface less scratch resistant than annealed or tempered glass.

Are there fire-rated options other than filmed products?

Yes. SAFTI *FIRST* offers fire protective specialty tempered glazing such as SuperLite I, SuperLite I-XL, and fire resistive glazing such as SuperLite II-XL that all meet the highest impact resistance, CPSC Category II, that is required by code. All of these options are produced in the USA, readily available, and are typically less expensive than current imported laminated-ceramic products.

Please visit www.safti.com or call 888.653.3333 to learn more about SuperLite glazing solutions from SAFTI *FIRST*.