

FENZI NORTH AMERICA CUSTOMER REMINDER ON PROPER USE OF PIB FOR BETTER ARGON RETENTION

Due to the huge discussions created by the recent CBC report on glass wall building systems Fenzi, as a p.i.b. manufacturer, have thought necessary to issue a disclaimer of liability on p.i.b gas retention when the product is used in conjunction with silicone edge sealants.

It is widely acknowledged of the advantages of using an edge sealant with good gas retention in your insulated glass production - for maintaining argon gas in your IG as well as providing a superior MVTR barrier for performance in the field.

Being a “Business Partner” to all of our customers, we find it necessary to remind all of our customers that the use of Fenzi Butylver PIB along with edge sealants with good gas retention will provide the longevity and performance in your insulated glass in providing thermal insulation for your window.

With such gas loss, your IG’s centre of glass U value may see reductions of upwards of 8% as the argon escapes the airspace - which is not what your customer’s are paying for.

To that end, we find it imperative to remind you, that the use of silicone IG sealant with PIB could potentially compromise the gas content of your IG.

We remind you that PIB cannot be responsible on its own for gas retention in the IG. The system must always have a dual seal approach, with both sealants (the primary seal and the edge seal) having good gas retention properties. This is the case for polysulphide, polyurethane and Hot Melt sealants - but not the case for silicone sealants - whose gas retention is very poor.

Therefore, we as PIB suppliers cannot guarantee gas retention of the IG when backed with silicone edge sealants.

Silicone sealants are more “porous” to argon gas and you as the manufacture should be aware of such deficiencies in the use for your insulated glass. More importantly, your customers should be made aware of these deficiencies in silicone IG sealants compared to the use of other chemical families.