

For Immediate Release
June 20, 2008

Contact: Brian Pitman
Director, Marketing & Communication
brian@glazingcodes.org
(785) 271-0208

GICC Creates New Membership Level, Opportunity for Glazing Industry

(TOPEKA) - The Glazing Industry Code Committee (GICC), an advocate of the glass and glazing industry in the code arena, for the first time in its history created a new level of membership for industry leaders looking to stay aware of the landscape in the increasingly tumultuous building and energy code arenas. The new Supporting Membership level was created for glazing contractors, architectural and consulting firms, test laboratories and suppliers to glazing fabricators, manufacturers and contractors, as well as trade press and marketing firms. Annual dues for the new category are \$1,500 as opposed to the \$5,200 annual dues for Foundational Members (comprised of manufacturers, fabricators and trade associations.)

“This membership category was created for the responsible company who wants to get a better understanding of the process and the real issues facing the glazing industry in the codes,” explained Julie Schimmelpenningh of Solutia Inc., the current Chair of GICC. “Both the building and energy codes are very fluid right now. Many companies are experiencing project shut downs on a daily basis due to a lack of understanding the exact codes requirements. At GICC meetings, industry changing requirements being proposed in code language today are deeply discussed and debated at these meetings. The development of alternate or new code language that balances public safety and industry capability is a key function of this organization.”

While Supporting Members won't have a vote on the Board of Directors, their input will be encouraged throughout the process and in all open meetings of the organization.

“These new members can have an immediate impact and will help guide the discussion during our meetings,” said Schimmelpenningh. “They can bring an entirely different perspective to the discussion, and may be able to explain the effects of proposed code changes on their segment of the industry. This will help draw attention to the issues we normally may not recognize in our evaluations of those proposed changes.”

Besides the benefit of the education and awareness of potential future limiting regulations, an additional benefit of becoming a Supporting Member of GICC would be the ability to market industry leadership to current and future customers.

“Supporting Members will be able to tout that they care enough about being on top of industry changes to be a member,” explained Schimmelpenningh. “These companies will be insuring that the industry is fully represented during the code process, enabling the industry to get it right the first time and not have to wait until a future code-cycle to try and fix issues that weren't discovered or addressed previously. Customers are quickly

becoming more aware of who is meaningfully involved and who will be behind the eight ball when drastic changes may come.”

Any Company interested in joining GICC as either a Foundational or Supporting Member is encouraged to visit the GICC website at www.glazingcodes.org. Application for membership is available online.

#