

Press Release

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Wausau's Custom Curtainwall Wraps Syracuse University's Students in First Amendment

Wausau, Wis. -- Students of Syracuse University's School of Public Communications literally will be wrapped in the First Amendment as it is inscribed on the glass exterior of the newest campus building, Newhouse III. Wausau Window and Wall Systems provided the curtainwall that serves as bold reminder of these freedoms and of the school's commitment to pursuing its meaning in today's digital and interactive media age.

Designed by Polshek Partnership Architects of New York, the project includes the construction of the 74,000-square-foot, \$30-million Newhouse III as well as upgrades to the existing facility, Newhouse I and II. A groundbreaking ceremony occurred in November 2005. The entire revitalization is expected to be mostly complete during the 2007-08 school year.

Wausau worked closely with the architectural firm and Ajay Glass Company of Rochester to provide 16,800-square-foot of curtainwall and aluminum framing for the impressive façade. "The massive amount of glass, combined with the building's serpentine shape, make this a unique project," says Wausau sales representative, John Kimball of Kimball Architectural Sales. "Polshek always has distinctive design ideas, and nothing on this project was ordinary."

Newhouse III's expansive glass exterior uses Wausau's 7250 Series unitized curtainwall. The four-sided factory-glazed units are tall and narrow with 30-inch mullion spacing and range in height from 140 inches to 238 inches. Thirty-two zero-sightline mechanically operated vents also are incorporated within the unitized curtainwall.

Viracon provided ceramic frit glass for the majority of the project. Arch Deco Glass of Columbus supplied additional glass and silk-screened the words of the First Amendment into glass panels that are scrolled across the building's side. Complementing the glass, Linetec finished the aluminum framing members with an anodize finish on the interior and a three-coat, 70% Kynar custom metallic paint finish on the exterior.

"To alleviate some of the headaches associated with customized, complex systems and time-critical projects, our unitized systems streamline this process by pre-fabricating the various components into large, pre-assembled units that can be crane-lifted from the truck and quickly installed on the building," says Kevin Robbins, Wausau's regional sales and marketing manager.

Along with crane-lifting the tall, narrow curtainwall units into their place, Ajay also installed 28 sections of aluminum sun shades. Wausau engineered these as an integral component of the system. A total of 140-feet in length, each section was five feet by five feet deep to accommodate the building's daylighting and performance needs.

The functional and striking aesthetic design of Newhouse III also includes a matching, glass-enclosed sky bridge linking its new facility to the existing Newhouse I and II. This raised walkway also relied on Wausau's unitized curtainwall system for a smooth, quick installation by Ajay.

Three decades after the dedication of Syracuse University's School of Public Communications second building, Newhouse III continues to earn a reputation as one of the country's premier academic institutions for communications. The expansion not only eliminates currently crowded workspaces, it provides modern communications technologies, a 350-seat auditorium and 1,200-square-foot public events room, enhanced learning opportunities, and a welcoming atmosphere to engage media scholars, professionals and alumni.

When finished, Newhouse III's very presence will boldly proclaim to all who visit:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Nationally recognized for its innovative expertise, Wausau Window and Wall Systems is an industry leader in engineering window and curtainwall systems for commercial and institutional construction applications. For 50 years, Wausau has worked closely with architects, building owners and contractors to realize their vision for aesthetic beauty and lasting value, while striving to maintain the highest level of customer service, communication and overall satisfaction.

Wausau is a part of Apogee Enterprises, Inc., a publicly held, U.S. corporation. For more information on Wausau Window and Wall Systems, please call 877-678-2983, or visit <http://www.WausauWindow.com>.

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