

SKYLINE

**2025
COMMITMENT TO
SUSTAINABILITY**



Letter from our CEO

As manufacturers of architectural materials, our focus is on the measurable impact we have, not just the words we use. When it comes to sustainability and responsible practices, we must continually refine our approach.

This document breaks down the details of our domestic manufacturing, local sourcing, and social commitments as we aim to produce glass products that are eco-friendly and of the highest quality.

In 1983 Charlie Rizzo founded Skyline, stepping into Chicago's workhorse culture of creative production. Initially specializing in fiberglass and resin, the company soon shifted exclusively to decorative architectural glass, beginning a longstanding commitment to producing durable, eco-conscious products.

Having worked alongside Charlie for over 30 years, I am proud to continue his pursuit of a sustainable future while honoring the craftsmanship and integrity that have defined Skyline for over four decades.

Skyline is a hometown, world-class production facility based in Chicago city limits since 1983. Thank you for being a part of our community. When you choose Skyline, you are supporting a passionate team that takes pride in every piece of glass we create.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vipul Bhagat'.

Vipul Bhagat
President & CEO



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Glass, Clearly

Our sustainable commitment begins with our core building material, glass.

**Glass is chemically inert.
Glass is a zero-emitter.
Glass is infinitely recyclable.**

98% of all Skyline products are made with domestically manufactured Vitro Starphire glass. Vitro glass is Red List Free and Cradle-to-Cradle Certified.

Supporting **Human Health** through the elimination of hazardous substances.

Glass and resin are common choices for architectural materials. However, there are some real differences in their characteristics and benefits:

Glass

Made to order with no waste

Self-supporting structural material

Extremely durable & scratch-resistant

Easy to clean with standard protocols

Warranty: 5-10 years

Resin

Limited to 4x8 and 5x10 sheets

Lacks structural rigidity, needing special hardware

Easily scuffs

Requires special cleaning products

Limited warranty: 2 years

DID YOU KNOW? In the 1980s Skyline manufactured Lumicast, an architectural resin product. Despite the commercial success of this product, Skyline was concerned about the environmental impact and health hazards associated with resin as a material. Choosing to focus efforts on a greener future, Skyline discontinued Lumicast and shifted its manufacturing entirely to glass.

Supporting Social Health and Equity by enhancing well-being for workers, clients, and communities.

Our workforce reflects the diversity of our local community, and we are dedicated to creating a welcoming environment for all team members.

Employee retention is high, with more than 50% of staff having been with the company for over 5 years.



Jobs for Refugees

We collaborate with RefugeeOne and Heartland Alliance to provide job placement opportunities for refugees fleeing conflict and persecution.

Jobs for Individuals with Disabilities

We work with Association House to offer part-time, flexible work options for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Re-entry Program Support

We support Teamwork Englewood, a re-entry program that provides opportunities for formerly incarcerated individuals, reinforcing our commitment to social equity and inclusivity.

Educational Programs

We partner with the University of Chicago and University of Illinois to bring in groups of students for two annual studies to evaluate our sustainability and manufacturing processes, and employ interns through the Chicago Public Schools program to provide office and manufacturing experience before they enter college.

Space for Local Creatives + Makers

Skyline offers below-market rents to various creators, including ceramists, authors, and photographers, within our historic 150,000 square foot Chicago warehouse.

Supporting **Ecosystem Health** through domestic sourcing and diligent supply chain management.

Glass manufacturing has a relatively short list of materials.

Here's a breakdown of those materials and their sources:

GLASS / Midwest, USA; East Coast, USA

METAL / Midwest, USA

INTERLAYERS / Canada; Israel

INKS / East Coast, USA; Japan; Italy

PAINT / Chicago, IL, USA

ECO-ETCH / Chicago, IL, USA

100% of our glass decoration takes place in our Chicago factory.

Skyline has been manufacturing out of the Humboldt Park neighborhood in Chicago since its inception in 1983, where our local approach minimizes shipping, ensures strict quality control, and fosters design flexibility—all made possible by the skilled labor of our makers.



We focus on minimizing environmental impacts by addressing pollution at its source—the production process.

Emission Controls

We regularly monitor air quality within our facility, using filtration systems to protect our staff and the environment from harmful pollutants.

Water Conservation

We have invested in a state-of-the-art water centrifuge to clean and recycle water from our glass treatment processes and work with local programs to responsibly dispose of any waste.

Water and Energy Efficiency

We have installed water-efficient toilets and faucets and energy-efficient light bulbs throughout our facilities.

Energy-Efficient Equipment

Our continuous investment in high-efficiency machinery reduces energy consumption in production. These machines help minimize emissions by using less electricity and generating lower levels of heat and waste during operation.

Renewable Energy by 2030

We're committed to installing solar power on the rooftops of our Chicago factory by 2030, advancing our sustainability goals.

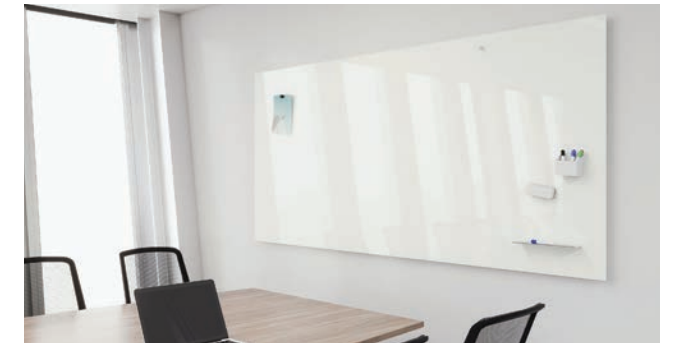
What's in Skyline products?

Here is a snapshot of the materials utilized in our decorative glass products.



Vitracolor Glass

Locally made, water-based, low-VOC paint is applied to the glass with a uniform, opaque finish.



Glassboards & Mobile Boards

Made with Vitracolor back-painting process and applied steel backer, certified Clean Air Gold.



Eco-etch®

Chemical-free process using recycled aluminum oxide to permanently etch intricate patterns into the glass surface for interior and exterior applications.



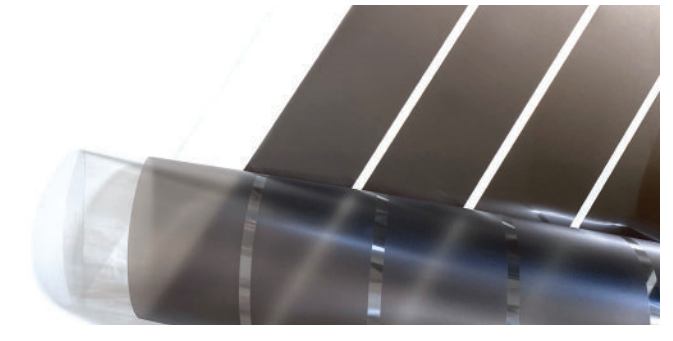
Digital Printing™

Our digital printing techniques use REACH-compliant ceramic frit inks that are free from lead, cadmium, and heavy metals.



Laminated Smart Glass

Our process utilizes EVA interlayers, which allow for lower processing temperatures. This is not only energy efficient but also results in a more durable, long-lasting and optically clear final product.



PVC-Free Film Studio

Made without PVC, or harmful chemicals like cadmium or phthalates, ensuring a safer and more sustainable choice for architectural glass applications.

Certifications

We're proud to align with the following certifications:



LEED Contributions

Energy & Atmosphere, Credit 1

Skyline glass enhances natural lighting, potentially reducing energy consumption by lowering the need for artificial lighting and HVAC usage.

Materials & Resources, Credit 4.1 - 4.2

Skyline glass products are durable and have a long lifecycle, reducing the need for replacement and waste over time.

Materials & Resources, Credit 5.1 - 5.2

Skyline's central location in the Midwest and regionally sourced materials can help projects meet regional material sourcing requirements.

Indoor Environmental Quality, Credit 4.1 - 4.2

Skyline's processes have a Clean Air Gold Certification as low-VOC, contributing to healthier indoor environments.

Indoor Environmental Quality, Credit 8.1

Skyline's glass designs provide natural lighting while maintaining privacy, supporting daylighting and views in regularly occupied spaces.

Innovation & Design Process, Credit 8.1

Skyline's innovative glass designs and processes support sustainable building practices and enhance overall building performance.

Supporting a **Circular Economy** through resiliency of product and options for adaptive reuse.

By prioritizing sustainable materials, and efficient processes, we contribute to a zero-waste goal for construction activities.

Modified Production Processes

We prioritize non-toxic, environmentally friendly materials, such as water-based and low-VOC paints, PVC-free films and interlayers, and a chemical-free glass etching process.

Material Sourcing + Logistics

By sourcing raw materials from regional suppliers, we reduce transportation emissions and the overall carbon footprint of our supply chain.

Reuse of Materials

Excess glass from job production is reused to create samples, while excess metal is repurposed to reinforce our shipping crates.

Smart Packaging Solutions

Custom wood crates are designed to fit each order, supporting a damage rate of <0.1%. This reduces material use and waste, conserving the materials that would be needed for damage replacement and re-shipping.

Packing materials utilize compostable packing peanuts, cardboard inserts, and recycled paper padding.

For the Birds

Surface One Eco-etch: tested to significantly reduce bird strikes.



Kresge College
Studio Gang



Skysafe Bird-Friendly Glass

It's just glass!

Skysafe bird-friendly glass is produced through Skyline's Eco-etch process, which gently etches patterning into the glass surface. This technique ensures the glass remains fully recyclable, free from chemicals, and cradle-to-cradle certified.

Threat Factor Testing

Skyline patterns have been tested at a threat factor as low as 15. American Bird Conservancy defines materials as "bird-friendly" if they have a threat factor of 30 or lower.



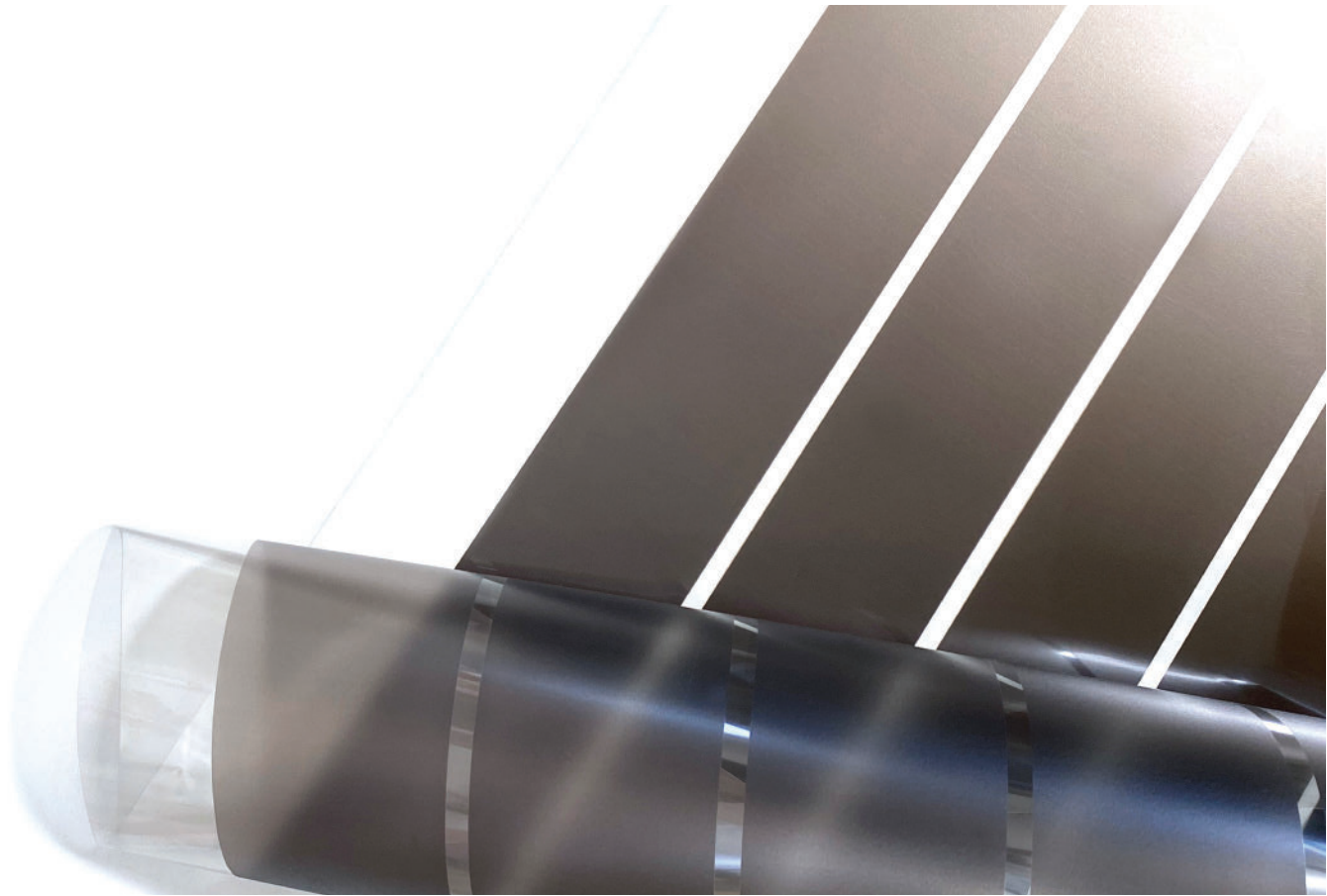
skyline.glass

Retrofit Ready

Decorative films with no PVC, cadmium, or phthalates.



Westbridge Capital
Gensler



Film Studio



A Safer Solution

Film Studio's PVC-free polyester film is the environmentally friendly alternative to vinyl films made of PVC, a Red List chemical which often contains other Red List ingredients such as cadmium, lead, and phthalates.

Versatile Applications

Film Studio integrates seamlessly with existing glass, supporting evolving architectural needs.

Decorative Films

Manufactured and distributed exclusively by Decorative Films, our domestic partner who shares our sustainability ethos.



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