



QUALITY CONTROL & TEST
AAMA CERTIFICATION
ACCREDITED BY: AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD
VALIDATOR ALI®

The **AAMA Certification Gold Label**

on window and door products is the mark of integrity and "Assurance of Quality" that makes these products stand out among all others.



Who Is AAMA

AAMA is the American Architectural Manufacturers Association. Originally established in 1936, it is a self-regulating organization made up of window and door industry manufacturers, suppliers and independent industry affiliated members.

Since 1962, AAMA's primary purpose has been to write and enforce, through Certification Programs, performance specifications for window and door assemblies, performance verifications for window and door components, plus specifications and/or certification for framing and sash materials used in window and door assemblies.



What Are The AAMA Certification Program Specifications?

The AAMA Certification Program is based on the performance-based specification **ANSI/AAMA/NWDA 101/I.S.2***. This material-neutral specification defines the following basic performance requirements:

- Prescribed minimum levels of air infiltration through **the assembly**.
- No water leakage allowed through **the assembly** at the specified pressure.
- Prescribed levels of structural resistance (from wind and other dynamic pressures).
- Prescribed resistance to forced (unwanted or criminal) entry.
- Component performance and integrity quality verification to AAMA specifications.

*Voluntary Specifications for Aluminum, Vinyl (PVC) and Wood Windows and Sliding Glass Doors

AAMA Certification Program — What Is It?

The AAMA Certification Program was developed in an industry consensus forum as a method of testing window and door performance.

In 1972, AAMA Certification became the first program of its kind to ever be accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and is the most well-established quality assurance program available to window and door manufacturers.



Is There a Difference Between AAMA Certification and Other Testing and Certification Programs?

Yes! The AAMA Certification Program is designed to provide the user of windows and doors with an assurance of quality that is **without bias**. Only the AAMA Gold Label indicates that:

- The product underwent testing based on the stringent requirements of the ANSI/AAMA/NWWDA 101/I.S.2 industry standard.
- These tests were performed at an independent AAMA-accredited testing laboratory.
- An Independent (third-party) Validator through two unannounced plant inspections each year has continuously monitored the product production for compliance.



MEMBER

QUALITY CONTROL & TESTING
AAMA CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
ACCREDITED BY: AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE

VALIDATOR ALI®

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What Does the AAMA Certification “Gold Label” Say?

- 1 Manufacturer’s Code Number
- 2 Specification Identification
- 3 Window type: SH-single hung, DH-double hung, HS-horz. slider, etc.
Product class: R-residential, C-commercial, LC-light commercial, HC-heavy commercial, A-architectural
Performance grade: 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, etc.
Maximum size tested
- 4 Manufacturer’s series number
- 5 Specific code compliance, if necessary.

Related AAMA Certifications

AAMA further addresses the timely issue of energy-efficient performance of windows and doors by offering optional Certification of a product's **thermal performance** and condensation resistance. In addition to "Gold Label" Certification, manufacturers may certify thermal performance to the AAMA thermal performance standard or through AAMA to National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) requirements.

Additionally, AAMA has addressed the issue of quality window and door installations. The AAMA landmark **InstallationMasters™** program is designed to train and certify the competence of residential and light commercial window and exterior glass door installers so that installed products are more likely to actually perform as designed.



What Does “Accredited” Testing Mean?

To qualify as an AAMA “accredited” testing laboratory, the lab:

- Must be AAMA-inspected and accredited to specific ASTM* and/or AAMA test protocols.
- Must be AAMA-licensed.
- Must contract with AAMA that it will properly and responsibly maintain the accreditation.
- Can have no business affiliation with the window and door manufacturer except for the contract for testing services.
- Must allow periodic lab inspections and calibration confirmations of testing apparatus by the Program Validator.

*American Society for Testing and Materials

This product has been rated in accordance with:

2 ANSI/AAMA/NWDA 101/1.S. 2-97

3 HS-R20 120 x 59

4 Series: 2600 P.L.# 056-003

5 CONFORMS TO: CMBSO/CAWM

What Does “Independent (Third Party)” Validator Mean?

The “independent (third-party)” validator:

- Is under contract with AAMA to act **only** as the Program’s Validator.
- Has no other affiliation with AAMA except for assisting in certification interpretations.
- Cannot act as a window and door industry contract test laboratory for any manufacturer.
- Cannot have any business affiliation with an AAMA Certification Program member.

Tools to Verify Certification to Your Customers

In addition to the "Gold Label," the AAMA Certified Products Directory catalogs all current certifying companies and their certified products. The AAMA Web site features a searchable online edition of the directory, which can be accessed from the Home page, or printed copies can be ordered from the AAMA Web site "Publications Store."



AAMA Certification — Of What Value?

Because of the integrity of its foundation and regulations, the AAMA Certification Program and its familiar "Gold Label" are accepted, if not required, by many Federal, State and Municipal Building Codes and Administrators as the foremost window and door Certification Program for providing a "**Seal of Approval**" assurance of product quality to builders, dealers, and building and home owners.

American Architectural Manufacturers Association

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