



RE: GREEN/LEED Information

Gerkin Windows and Doors, located at 5000 Rhino Road in South Sioux City, NE 68776 has been active in designing and producing windows and doors with optimum energy efficiency all while participating in environmentally sound practices. Our dedication to the use of sustainable materials and long lasting product performance with energy efficiency are key components to qualifying for LEED points.

Due to Gerkin's high performance ratings and dedication to environmental concerns, our Rhino windows have been used in the first "Net Zero" housing development in the United States! Gerkin can be an instrumental tool in helping to qualify your project for the optimum number of points for LEED Certification.

Gerkin offers several ways to help projects earn LEED Certification points. Listed below are the areas that Gerkin can help earn LEED points.

Energy & Atmosphere

EA Prerequisite 2 – Minimum Energy Performance

Intent: To establish the minimum level of energy efficiency for the proposed building and systems to reduce environmental and economic impacts associated with excessive energy use.

EA Credit 1 - Optimize Energy Performance

Point Level: 1-19 Points

Intent: To achieve increasing levels of energy performance beyond the prerequisite standard to reduce environmental and economic impacts associated with excessive energy use.

All Rhino and Comfort Series products exceed current ASHRAE 90.1 – 2007 provisions which help projects in achieving energy performance criteria.

Energy & Atmosphere (continued)

Gerkin Windows and Doors ensure a high level of energy efficient windows by certifying our products through all of the following organizations: AAMA, NFRC and Energy Star. Gerkin Rhino and Comfort Series products are designed to be among the most energy efficient and air tight windows and doors available. With the use of Low E Cubed insulated glass with argon gas and warm edge spacers, our Comfort Series vinyl windows and doors meet the 2009 Energy Star ratings in all areas of the country while our Rhino thermally broken commercial windows offer Energy Star compliance in many areas of the central and southern U.S.

- **NFRC certified** – All Rhino and Comfort Series windows and Doors are NFRC certified. All U-Values and Solar Heat Gain Coefficient values meet or exceed ASHRAE 90.1 -2007 requirements. *With this certification, all COMchecks can be performed with actual U-values and SHGC numbers rather than default values. Default values are considerably higher than Gerkin's actual values.**
- **AAMA certified** – All Gerkin windows and doors are tested for air infiltration, water and structural performance. ASHRAE 90.1 – 2007 requires .30 air infiltration or better. Gerkin's air infiltration numbers are well over 300% better than this minimum performance standard.

*The Rhino model 5800 double hung has not yet been tested with NFRC but has been tested with AAMA.

Materials & Resources

MR Credit 2: Construction Waste Management (1-2 Points)

Intent: To divert construction and demolition debris from disposal in landfills and incineration facilities. Redirect recyclable recovered resources back to the manufacturing process and reusable materials to appropriate sites.

- Gerkin delivers all windows and doors on reusable wood pallets which can also be recycled. Windows and doors are also packaged with wood blocking and cardboard which can be stored in an onsite storage area for recycling.

Materials & Resources (continued)

MR Credit 4: Recycled Content (1-2 Points)

Intent: To increase demand for building products that incorporate recycled content materials, thereby reducing impacts resulting from extraction and processing of virgin materials.

Gerkin Windows & Doors is a strong advocate for recycling all possible waste materials as well as incorporating recycled materials within our products produced. All waste in aluminum, glass, vinyl and wood are stored in containers, which are returned to our suppliers for recycling or are sold to others for the purpose of recycling.

Gerkin Windows & Doors Recycle Contents:

- *Cardinal Glass – 1500 Industrial Dr. – Northfield, MN 55057* Gerkins waste factor is 15% of glass purchased. All glass waste is sent back to Cardinal for recycling, where the recycle rate is 100%. Cardinal uses 24% of recycled glass in their batch to make float glass products. This recycled glass is from their float glass, coated glass, tempered glass and insulating glass plants.
- *Bonnell Aluminum – 508 Wilson St. – Kentland, IN 47951* Gerkins waste factor is 8% of all aluminum purchased. All aluminum waste is sent back to Bonnell for recycling, where the recycle rate is 100%. The aluminum extrusions Gerkin receives from Bonnell has a minimum recycle content of 40%. Bonnell is now anodizing with process called Acid Etch Anodizing. This anodizing is more environmentally friendly and greener than a conventional caustic etch process. The acid etch process requires less etching time, which significantly reduces the amount of waste sludge disposal by as much as 90%. In addition, the process enables the use of a higher percent of recycled content in extrusion billet while still maintaining high uniformity of finish.
- *Dominion Plastics, Inc. – 30 Royal Group Cres. – Woodbridge, Ontario L4H 1X9* Gerkins waste factor is 12% of all vinyl purchased. All waste is sent back to Dominion for recycling, where the recycle rate is 100%.

Materials & Resources (continued)

MR Credit 5: Regional Materials (1-2 Points)

Intent: To increase demand for building materials and products that are extracted and manufactured within a region, thereby supporting the use of indigenous resources and reducing the environmental impacts resulting from transportation.

Requirement: Use building materials or products that have been extracted, harvested or recovered, as well as manufactured within 500 miles of the project site.

Gerkin Windows & Doors is located in South Sioux City, Nebraska. Within a 500 mile radius of our plant are the cities of Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Denver, Oklahoma City, Kansas City and St. Louis.

The following major suppliers are within a 500 mile circle of our manufacturing facilities:

- *Cardinal Glass – 1500 Industrial Dr. – Northfield, MN 55057* – All glass used for Gerkin products come from this location
- *Bonnell Aluminum – 508 Wilson St. – Kentland, IN 4795* – All aluminum extrusions for Rhino thermally broken windows come from this location.
- *Truth Hardware – Owatonna, MN* – Hardware for Rhino aluminum windows and Comfort Series vinyl windows come from this location

Indoor Environmental Quality

IEQ Credit 2: Increased Ventilation (1 Point)

Intent: To provide additional outdoor air ventilation to improve indoor air quality and promote occupant comfort, well-being and productivity.

- Gerkin offers numerous window options to help accommodate ventilation

All product performance tests are listed on our website at www.gerkin.com, Sweets and on our literature. Contact Gerkin Windows & Doors for more information at 800-475-5061.

Resources from U.S. Green Building Council (www.usgbc.org)