

Images on Glass

DecoTherm®

Digital, Ceramic Frit Glass Decoration

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DecoTherm has the “Wright” Stuff for Airport Glass Decoration

Project Participants

- ⊗ Glazier: Corcoran Glass, Waukesha, WI
- ⊗ Licensed Fabricator: Arch Deco Glass®

Project Overview

The architectural details at Dane County Regional Airport’s new terminal in Madison, Wisconsin echo Frank Lloyd Wright’s prairie wheat style designs. The project designer sought to keep the trend going throughout the terminal with decorative glass on the hand rails located at each gate.

Key Considerations

Only 48 glass panels in 6 different sizes were required for the hand rails. Joel Smith, National Architectural Manager at Arch Deco Glass®, was quick to point out that screen printing would be cost prohibitive for this project. “Even though the design was the same, a separate screen had to be created or masked for each glass size,” he explained. “Each additional setup adds cost to the overall project. For jobs like this, it is difficult to justify the screen costs.” Sandblasting was also considered, however, long-term maintenance was a real concern in this high traffic environment.

The DecoTherm Solution

Joel recommended DecoTherm to the project glazier, Rob Corcoran, owner of Corcoran Glass, because it could be produced faster and more economically than screen printing. Rob was pleased with the submittal samples he received. “Because this was such a large scale project, high quality decoration with low risk was critical,” he said. “Arch made sourcing DecoTherm easy, so I could keep to the project schedule.”

A Competitive Advantage

Produced at high resolution, the geometric lines of the Wright design are crisp and clear, reflecting the interior designer’s vision. DecoTherm delivers options for themed glass decoration that architects and designers would have dismissed in the past due to the limitations of traditional methods.

Rob Corcoran cites an added benefit to glaziers. “DecoTherm glass can be delivered just-in-time. In this case, I ordered decorative glass as each gate was completed, rather than all at once, without having to pay extra. This saved me the hassle of storing the glass, lowered the risk of breakage, and ensured that the project stayed on schedule.”