Unicel Launches Vision Control® Educational Facility Safety (VC-EFS) Window and Door Solution for Optimized School Security

VC-EFS uses integrated aluminum louvers and high-impact glazing or polycarbonates for a privacy and shading solution that is resistant to bullets and forced entry

MONTREAL, CANADA – September 25, 2018 – Unicel Architectural, manufacturer of vision and daylight control solutions, today introduced its Vision Control® Educational Facility Safety (VC-EFS) solution to meet a growing demand for building products that enhance the safety of students and personnel in schools and other educational facilities. VC-EFS is a patented, hermetically sealed glass unit combining louvers within high impact glazing or polycarbonates that can be customized to virtually any shape for interior and exterior glazing applications. Its advanced louvered glazing technology eliminates strings and cords, ensures alignment and requires no maintenance.

“Educational architects and facility managers are increasingly reaching out to us to help them better secure the physical aspects of their schools,” said Jean-Pierre Rose, Unicel’s General Manager. “We therefore developed VC-EFS to incorporate all the key elements of optimally safe privacy and shading solutions for windows, doors, transoms, and sidelites in educational environments. Interior and exterior openings, such as viewing windows and door lite inserts, are a major consideration toward protective design that ensures high levels of safety - especially against vandalism or during lockdown situations - while still providing adjustable visibility for monitoring.”

VC-EFS features include:

• High-impact glazing and polycarbonates for bullet, impact and shatter-resistant protection. This also eliminates the risk of dangerous glass shards while maintaining the louvers protected in a hermetically sealed airspace.

• Hollow extruded aluminum louvers with an interlocking profile of up to a 1/2 inch (13mm) thickness. The unique hollow-chambered louvers provide maximum strength to the spacer and maintain the parallel alignment of the blades for complete vision blocking and protection. This is important as the louvers efficiently block visibility in closed position, as compared to blinds that leave gaps allowing intruders to obtain partial visibility.

• Corrosion-resistant aluminum pivots, pinions and racks made of UV stabilized material to ensure stability, durability and protection.

• Removable operators such as keys or crank handles for enhanced facilities control.

• Electrical control mechanisms that permit the opening and closing of integrated louvers from a remote location.

• Sound dampening 2” and 2.5” (51mm and 64mm) airspaces, coupled with two glass lites of varying thicknesses, provide sound wave barriers with an STC rating on par with concrete walls.
Evidence indicates that shooters do not aim at what they cannot see. While visibility is important in schools for both interior and exterior windows, these windowed portals must be adjustable - permitting both open and fully blocked views - and strong enough to withstand violent impacts. Where blinds can often fail by getting tangled and misaligned, VC-EFS louvers are designed to ensure fast and reliable function at any time. Privacy solutions should also be remote controllable and significantly reduce noise for safer, calmer environments. VC-EFS competently addresses all these school safety design requirements.

For more information, visit: http://unicelarchitectural.com/en/resources/product-brochures.html

About Unicel Architectural
For over 50 years, Unicel Architectural has built a reputation for the most advanced aluminum and glass solutions. These solutions encompass louvered glazing, skylights and more, to enhance major global construction initiatives with utmost quality and reliability. With its proprietary technology, Unicel’s Vision Control® delivers unprecedented comfort and control of vision, light, temperature and sound with a patented combination of louvers between glass that are hermetically sealed and cordless. Unicel’s solutions are guaranteed for longevity, optimized for energy efficiency, and customizable to any design, environmental or cultural requirements. Unicel combines its market leading know-how with great design to ensure optimal aesthetics and sustainable performance. For more information, visit: www.unicelarchitectural.com

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