



Contact: **Marc Harlow**
Rohatynski-Harlow Public Relations
Marc@HarlowPR.com
(517) 579-0789

LAMINATED SIDE WINDOWS REDUCE IN-VEHICLE NOISE

DETROIT, June 21, 2004 — Testing supported by the Enhanced Protective Glass Automotive Association (EPGAA) and conducted by an independent lab has confirmed that enhanced protective glass (EPG) reduces automotive engine, road, wind and traffic noise levels in the vehicle cabin.

As compared to conventional tempered glass, EPG improves sound transmission loss by a noticeable four decibels in the 2,000 – 6,000 hertz frequency range – the range vital for human conversation. This reduction most significantly affects factors essential for many new in-vehicle technologies, including speech recognition and clarity.

“EPG offers the automotive industry a proven solution to meet consumer demands for a quieter, more comfortable driving experience,” said Michael L. Sanders, director for DuPont Automotive Safety Systems and EPGAA president. “This is especially important as telematics and wireless communications are growing in popularity.”

EPG utilizes a plastic interlayer or film composite that is factory laminated to multiple glass layers. In addition to acoustic improvement, EPG offers a weight savings of 12 percent over conventional tempered glass vehicle windows. Other benefits of EPG include enhanced security, safety and solar protection. This application also meets all regulatory and industry standards for performance of glazing materials.

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The Enhanced Protective Glass Automotive Association (EPGAA) is composed of laminate and glass providers to share information and provide overall education on the development of laminated glass for added vehicle security, occupant comfort and safety. Currently, DuPont Automotive, Glasstech, Inc., Guardian Industries Corp., PPG Industries, Inc., Saint-Gobain Sekurit, Sekisui America Corporation, Solutia Automotive, Southwall Technologies, Tamglass and Visteon are members of EPGAA. For more information on the EPGAA, visit www.epgaa.com.

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Editor's Note: To request a sound testing graph, please contact Erin Hurst at 248.641.1446 or ehurst@eisbrenner.com.