



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

## **Automotive Glass Group Informs Consumers Of Skin Protection Benefits During Healthy Skin Awareness Month** *Study Shows Laminated Glass Protects Against UV Rays*

**DETROIT, November 6, 2006** – Comprehensive testing conducted by the Enhanced Protective Glass Automotive Association (EPGAA) demonstrates that cars equipped with laminated glass can protect passengers from harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays, which have been associated with skin cancer. The testing has found that laminated glass screens up to 98 percent of damaging UV rays, providing UV protection equivalent to 50+ SPF sunscreen, compared to tempered glass which only blocks up to 66 percent.

“An often overlooked aspect of skin health is protecting yourself from harmful UV rays while driving and riding in cars,” said Pete Dishart, EPGAA president and global product manager for PPG Industries, Inc. “It is important to remember that vehicle occupants are subject to UV ray exposure; it’s timely for the EPGAA to educate consumers and the automotive industry on the important ultraviolet energy protection laminated glass provides vehicle occupants.”

In addition to protecting skin, the blocking of UV light by laminated glass provides protection to the interior of vehicles. Laminated glass minimizes the affects of UV rays in causing interior vehicle fabric colors to fade and degrade, leather to age, and plastic and wood to crack. Additional benefits of laminated glass include:

### **Security:**

With a tough plastic interlayer between two glass panes, laminated glass significantly increases resistance to vehicle intrusion. Compared to tempered glass, which can be shattered in about one-tenth of a second, laminated glass can protect the vehicle and the objects within for about 30 seconds - enough time to deter most would-be thieves.

### **Sound Reduction:**

Laminated glass reduces the transmission of outside wind and road noises, keeping the car interior quieter and more comfortable. Acoustic studies note that laminated glass reduces interior noise by three to four decibels, allowing for better conversation and use of entertainment equipment. This benefit allows automakers to offer consumers a vehicle with additional value without significantly increasing the cost of the vehicle.

### **Safety:**

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), when used in a system that includes side curtain air bags, laminated glass could help save up to 1,300 lives annually and reduce occupant ejection in accidents involving vehicle rollovers.

## **Laminated Glass Solar Benefits – 2**

### **Thermal Benefits:**

Vehicles equipped with laminated glass can easily add infrared (IR) coatings to block IR heat energy. Testing has shown when vehicles equipped with these coatings are parked in the sun with the windows closed, the laminated glass reduces the effects of solar heat on the vehicle. Test results prove the interior of the vehicle can be up to 18°F cooler than if the side windows were equipped with untreated tempered glass.

### **About Laminated Glass**

Laminated glass is a high-impact resistant glass technology, consisting of two or more panes of glass bonded together by a plastic interlayer or film composite. In addition to windshield applications where it has been used in vehicles for more than 70 years, laminated glass is being developed specifically for use in side and rear window, and roof applications. Over the past 10 years, laminated side window glass has become a mainstream technology in the automotive industry, appearing on approximately 1.3 million vehicles produced annually, representing eight percent of total vehicles sold in North America. Laminated glass is lighter weight than tempered glass of equal thickness, which makes for lighter vehicle weight, therefore contributing to greater fuel efficiency with increased performance.

### **About the EPGAA**

The Enhanced Protective Glass Automotive Association (EPGAA) is composed of interlayer and glass providers whose purpose is to provide information and 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 and Solutia Automotive are members of the EPGAA. For more information on the EPGAA, visit [www.epgaa.com](http://www.epgaa.com).

###