

Subject: BUILDING MATERIALS  
AND PROCESSES – II

Topic: Glass and Glazing

Presented by: Nilofar Saifi

# **Glass & Glazing**

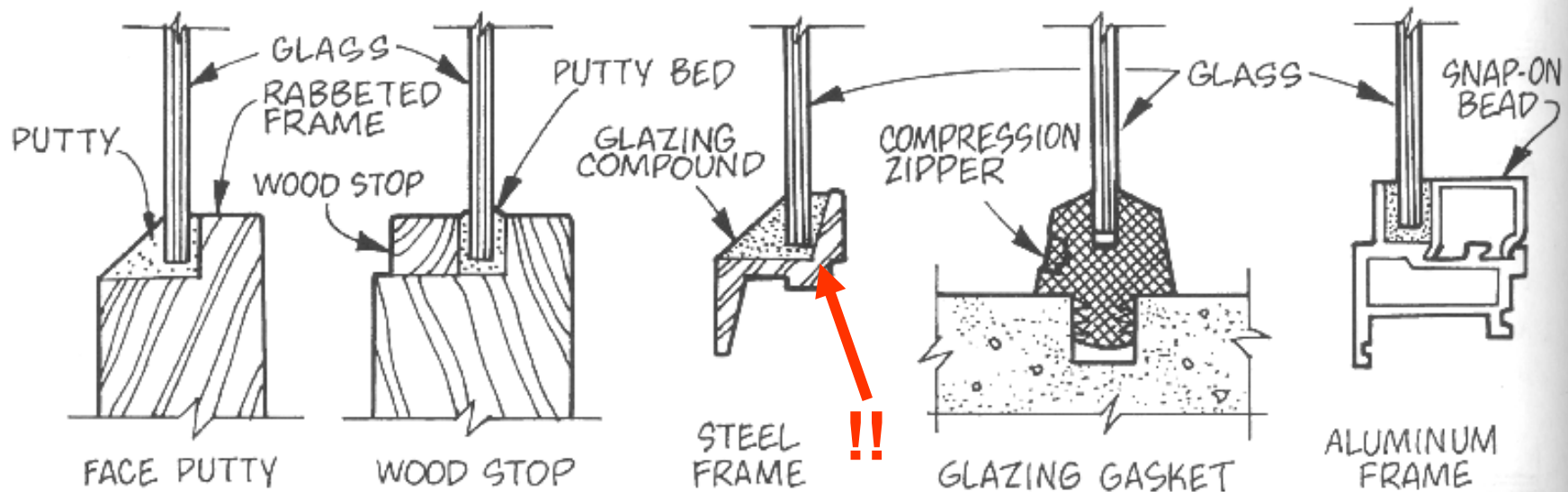
## **part -2**

# Glazing

- Glazing details
- Curtainwalls
- Storefronts
- Structural Glass walls
  - spider fittings
  - rigid supports
  - cable supports
  - structural glass fins

# Glazing

- Glazing is the process of placing glass into profiles designed to receive them, then held in place with glazing clips, blocks and compounds making a **weather tight** joint between the glass and frame.
- Proper glazing keeps the glass from contacting the frame during **thermal expansion** of the glass or the frame and during **loading** due to wind, snow, rain or seismic forces.



## GLAZING DETAILS

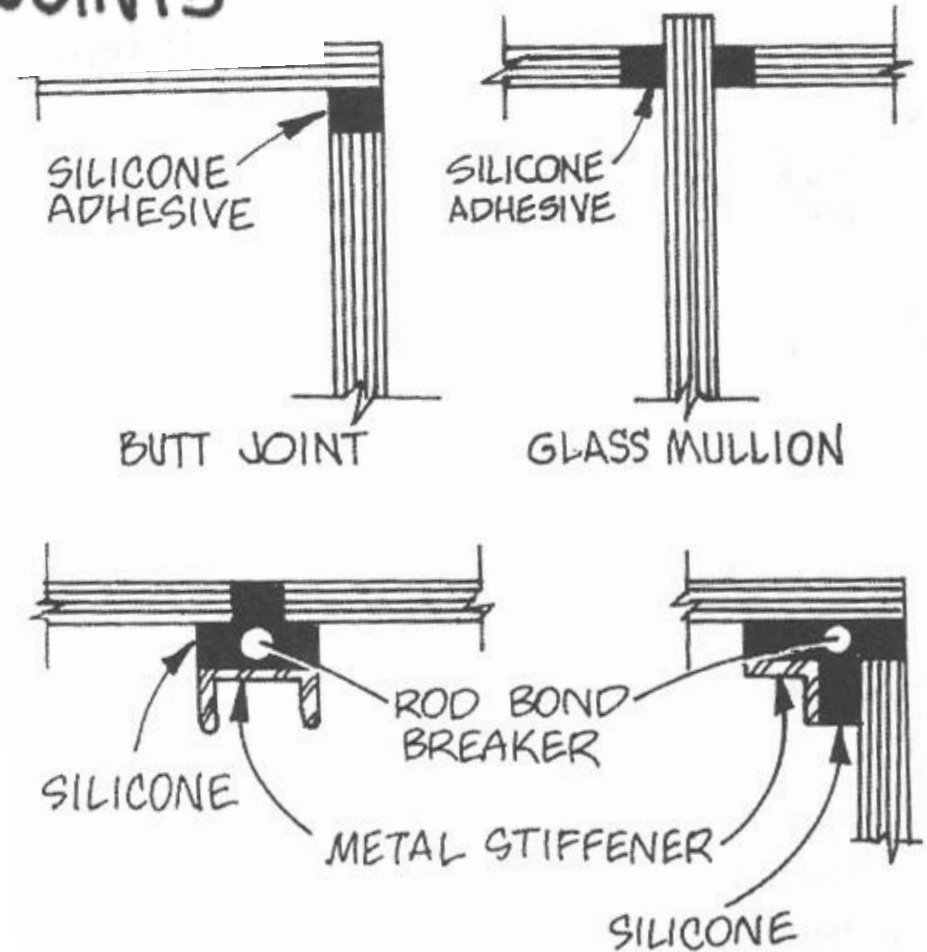
Clearance must always be allowed between glass and frame so that the glass is surrounded by a watertight seal of glazing compound. In addition, glass must never be placed in tension,

by exposing it to greater forces than it can safely withstand, nor should glazing take place when moisture might be trapped, which could cause the watertight seal to fail.

- Synthetics for installing glazing, **rubber, neoprene & vinyl** are particularly effective in allowing for the thermal expansion and contraction of glass:

# GLASS-TO-GLASS JOINTS

Used when the Architect desires a clean unbroken exterior surface for the glazing uninterrupted by the protrusion of mullions.



Silicone an excellent and frequently used material to secure glass. Proper control and placement is essential to create structural adhesion with **weatherproofing, thermal** and **load resistant** qualities. Silicone joints should be designed to perform on **two** opposing surface planes. This is achieved thru the use of spacers, bond breakers and backer rods.

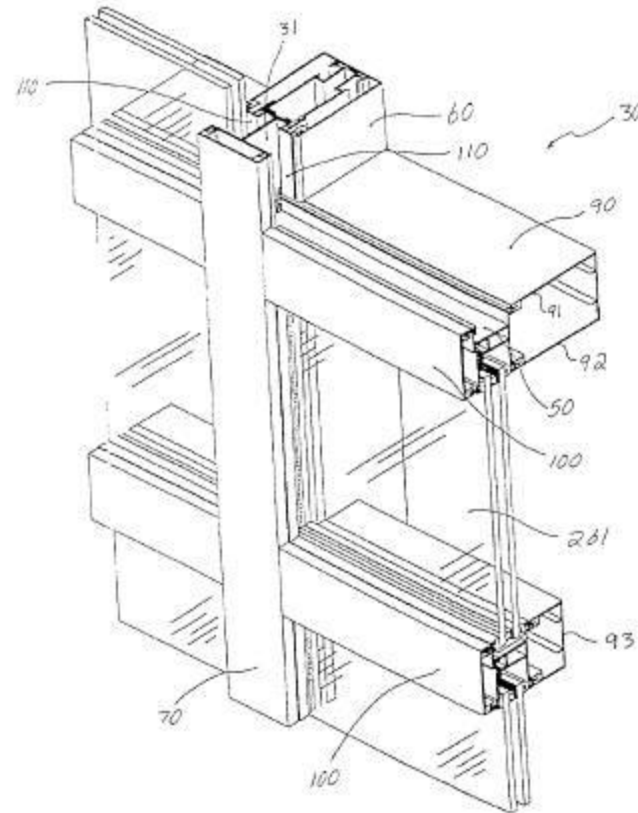
# Curtain Wall

A curtain wall is a building façade that does not carry any **dead load** from the building other than its own dead load. A curtain wall receives and resists **loads** that are incident upon it : wind, rain, snow and seismic forces. These loads are transferred to the main building structure through **connections at floors or columns** of the building. A curtain wall is designed to resist air and water infiltration.

Curtain walls are typically designed with **extruded aluminum** members. (the first curtain walls were made of steel). The aluminum frame is typically infilled with glass, providing vision, daylighting and aesthetic qualities. Thermal comfort and visual comfort are more difficult to control when using highly-glazed curtain walls.

Other common infills include: stone veneer, metal panels, louvers, and operable windows or vents.

- With aluminum and glass curtainwall systems, the vertical mullions are attached to the floors or beams at every floor in order to carry gravity and wind loads



- Attachment devices allow the vertical mullions to be adjusted to provide a perfectly plumb and straight line for the entire height of the building.



## Curtain wall system:

- Non load bearing
- Supported by floor framing
- Multi level spans
- Better thermal properties
- Resists high wind loads
- Higher aesthetic image

## Storefront system:

- Gravity loads to foundation
- Ingress / egress
- Visual connection with street



## Storefront:

- Head
- Jamb
- Mullion
- Sill

Storefront system sits  
at edge of interior floor  
slab and exterior walk



## Framing:

- Extruded aluminum

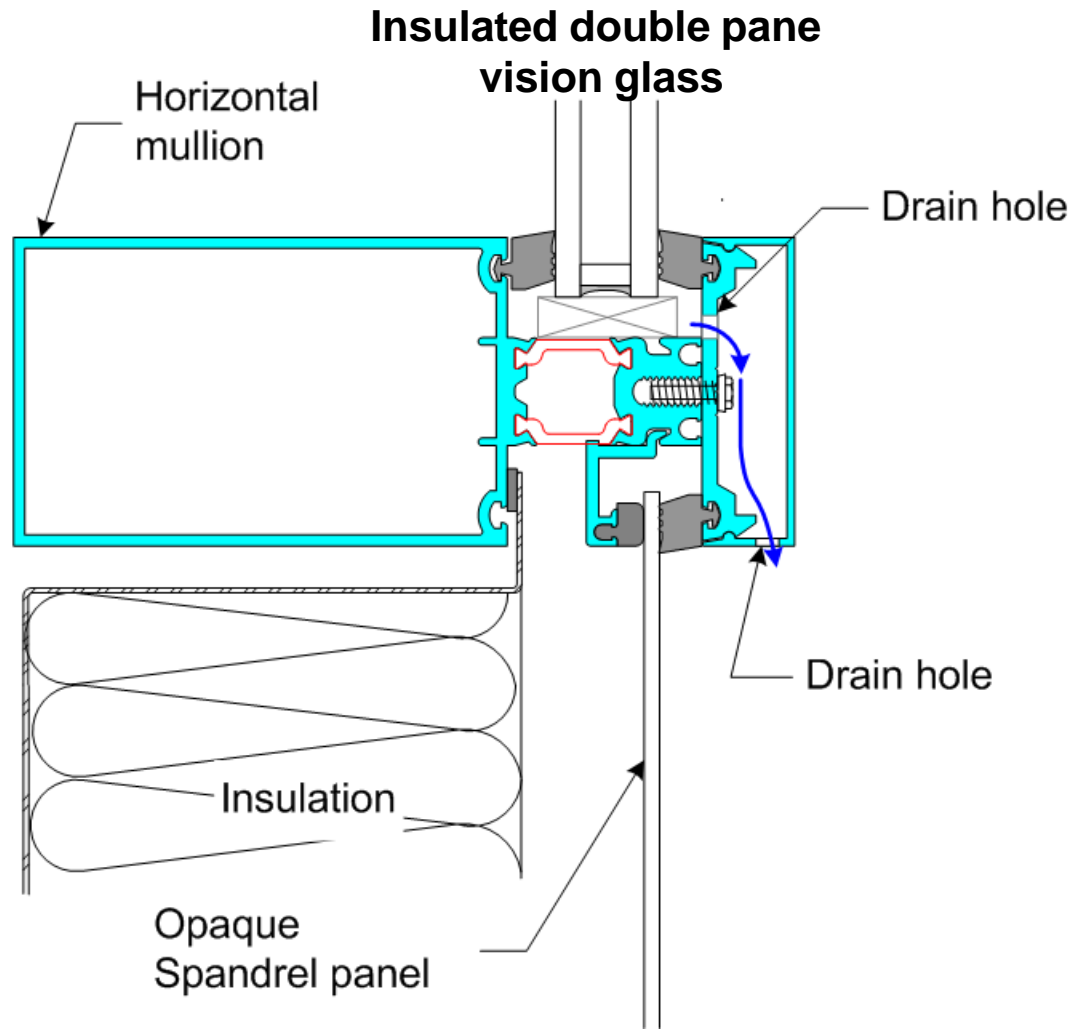
## Glazing:

- Spandrel glass
- Tinted glass
- Tempered glass

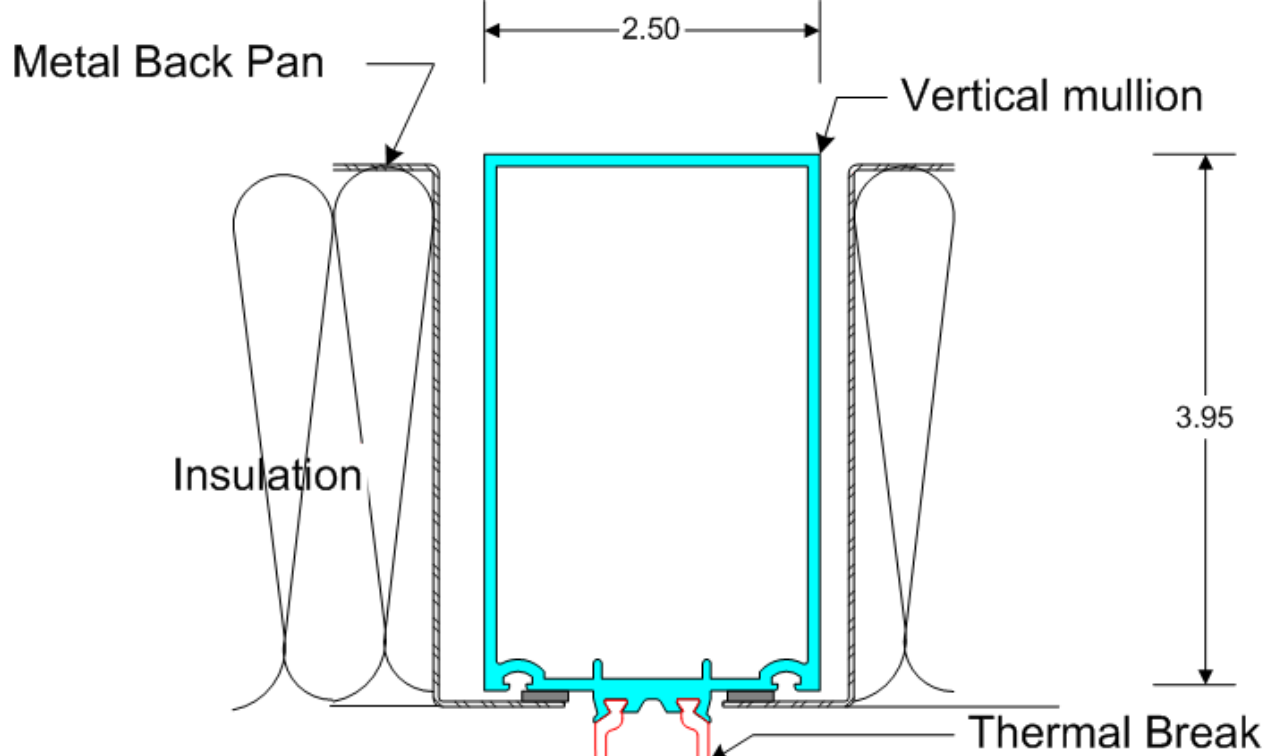




sample of aluminum curtainwall profiles



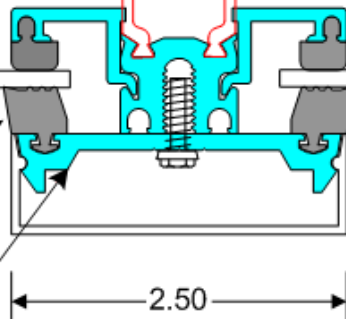
**Vertical Section**



**Recessed Opaque Spandrel panel**

Neoprene Gasket

Pressure Plate

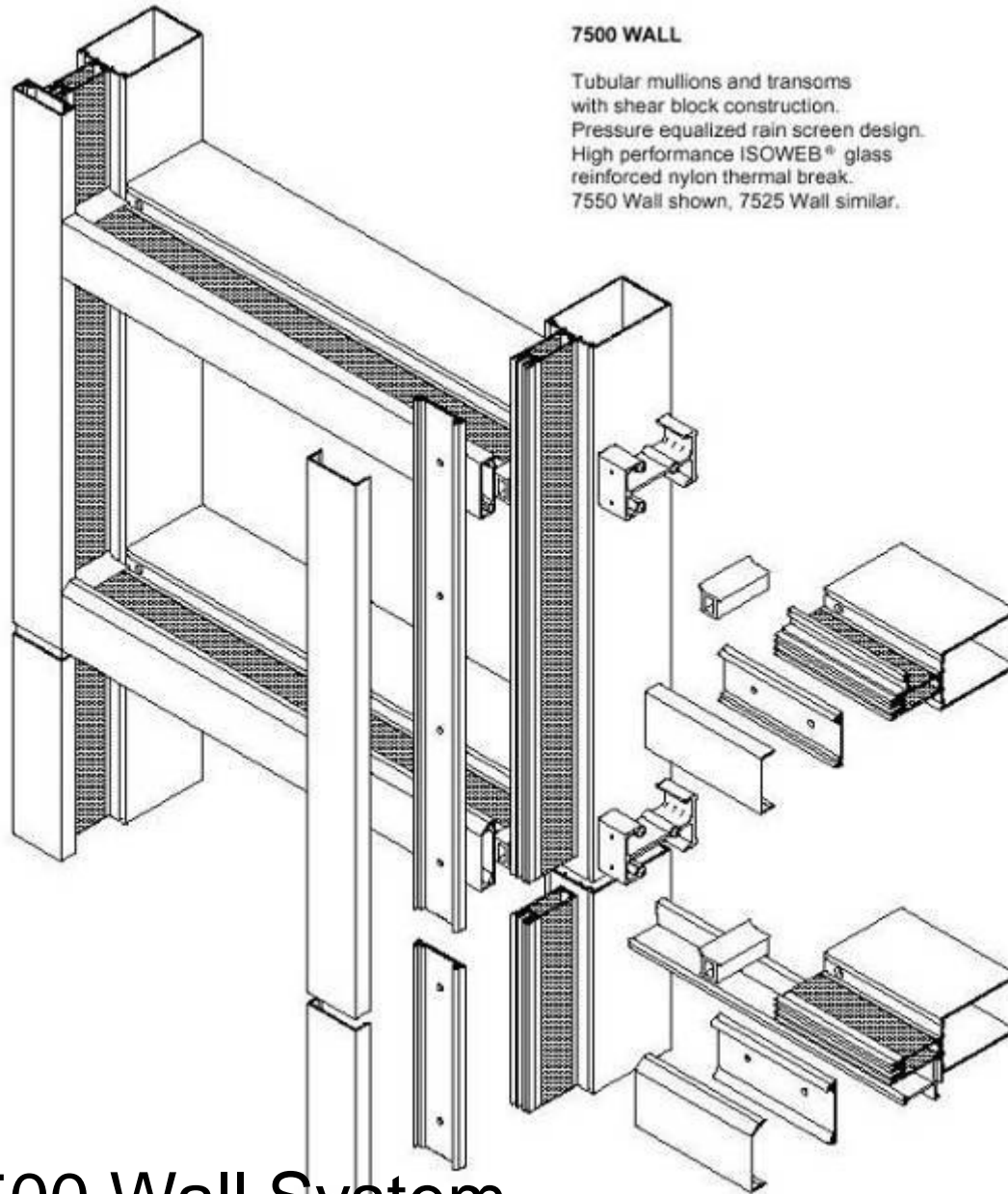


**Flush Opaque Spandrel panel**

**Horizontal Section below vision glass thru Spandrel panel**

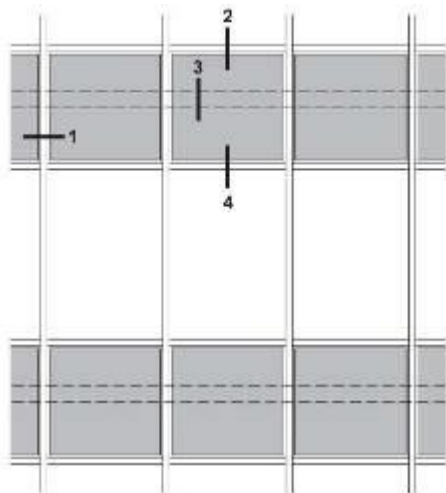
## 7500 WALL

Tubular mullions and transoms  
with shear block construction.  
Pressure equalized rain screen design.  
High performance ISOWEB® glass  
reinforced nylon thermal break.  
7550 Wall shown, 7525 Wall similar.

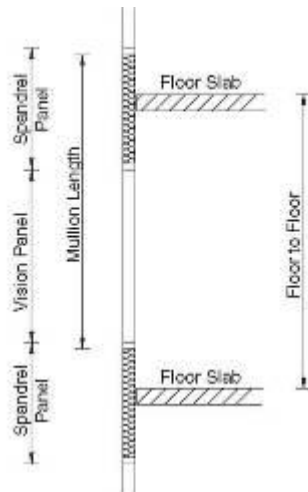


# Kawner 7500 Wall System

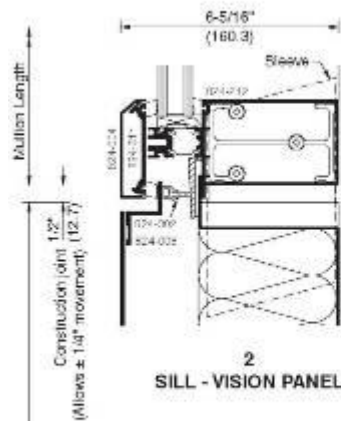
[http://www.kawneer.com/kawneer/north\\_america/catalog/pdf/7500\\_Wall\\_E--A.pdf](http://www.kawneer.com/kawneer/north_america/catalog/pdf/7500_Wall_E--A.pdf)



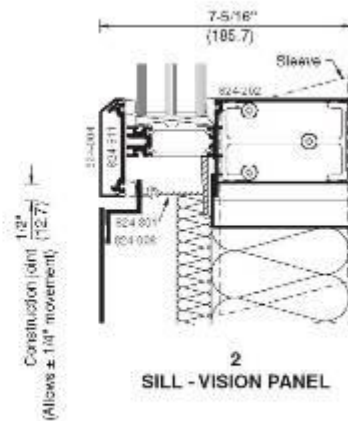
ELEVATION IS NUMBER KEYED TO DETAILS



7525 - 25mm DOUBLE GLAZED

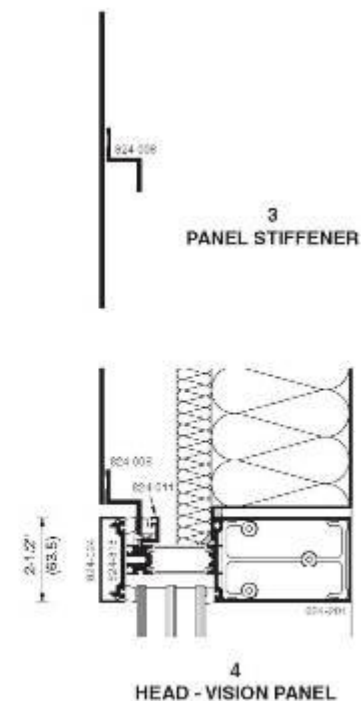
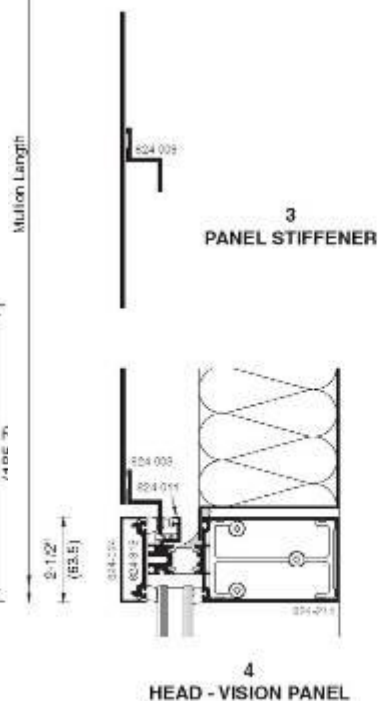
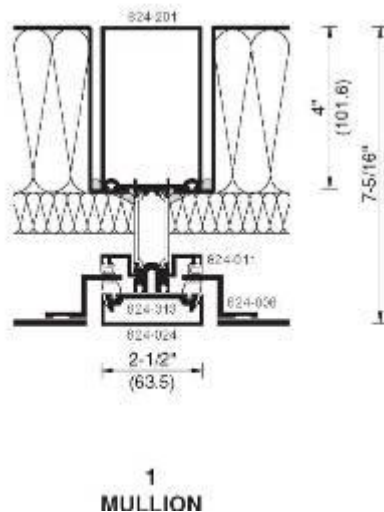
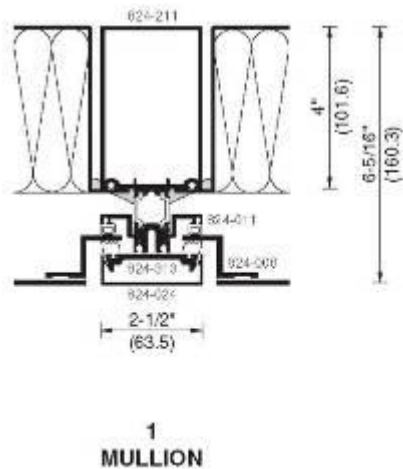


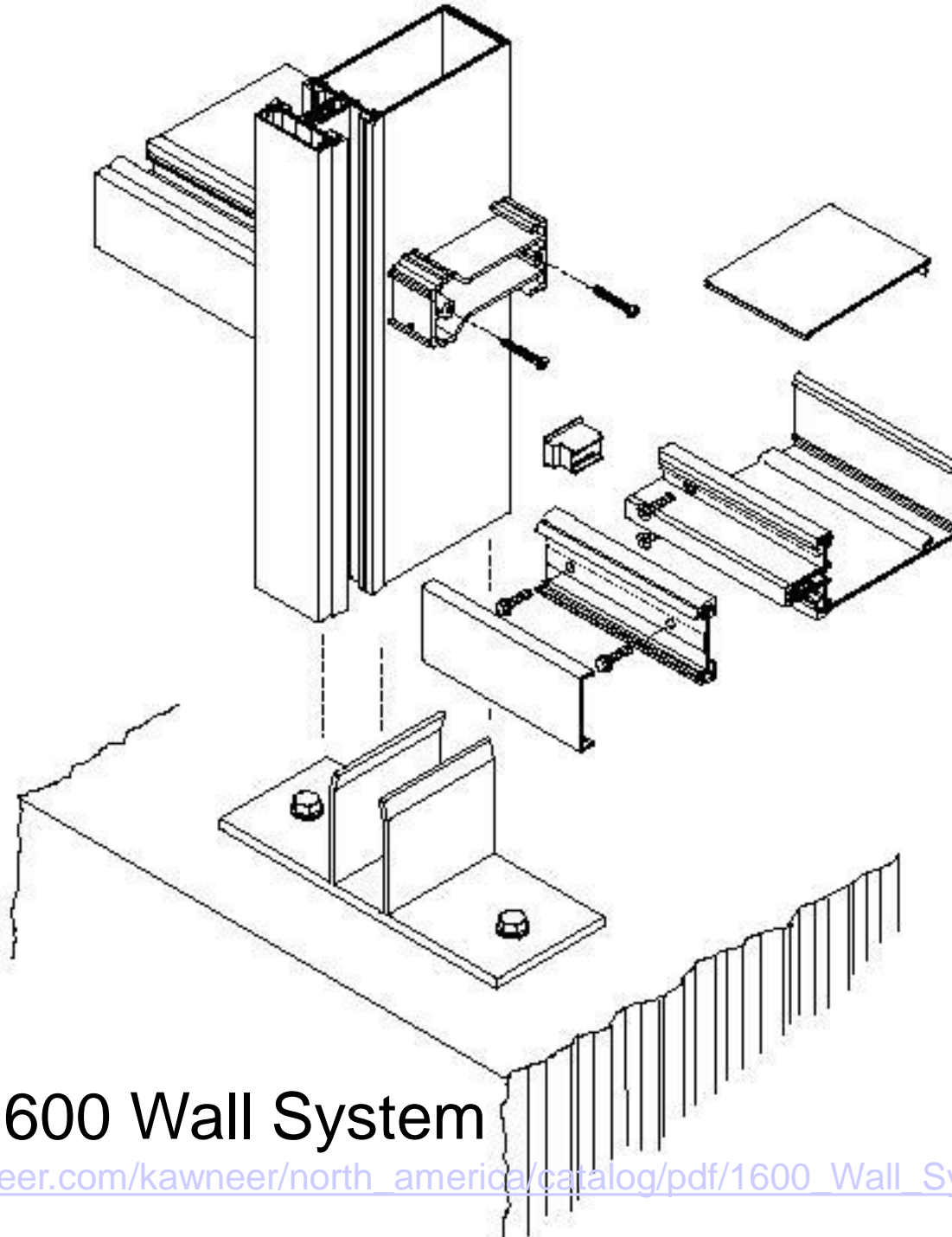
7550 - 50mm TRIPLE GLAZED



25mm DOUBLE GLAZED

7550 - 50mm TRIPLE GLAZED

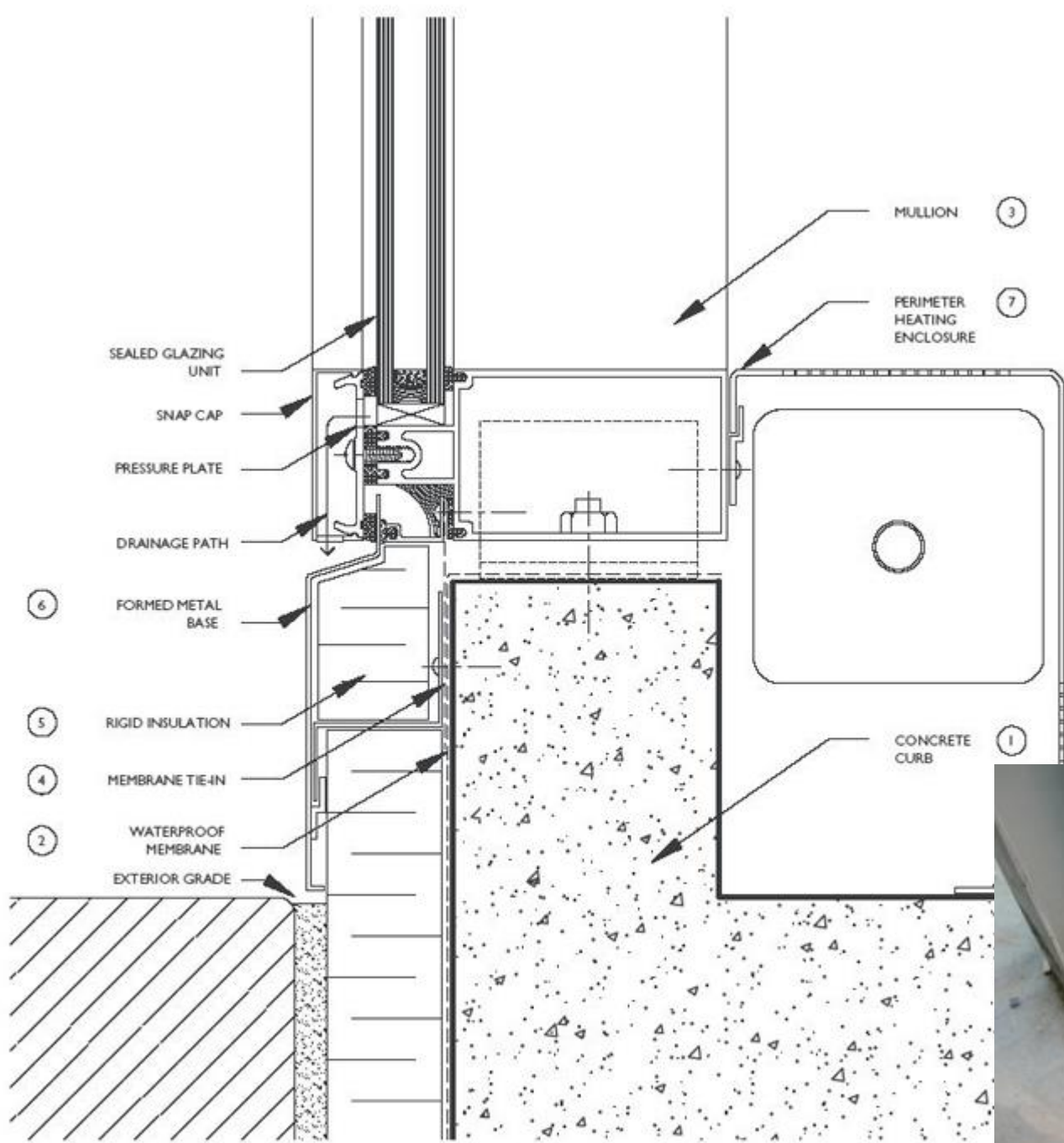




# Kawner 1600 Wall System

[http://www.kawneer.com/kawneer/north\\_america/catalog/pdf/1600\\_Wall\\_Sys1\\_E--A.pdf](http://www.kawneer.com/kawneer/north_america/catalog/pdf/1600_Wall_Sys1_E--A.pdf)

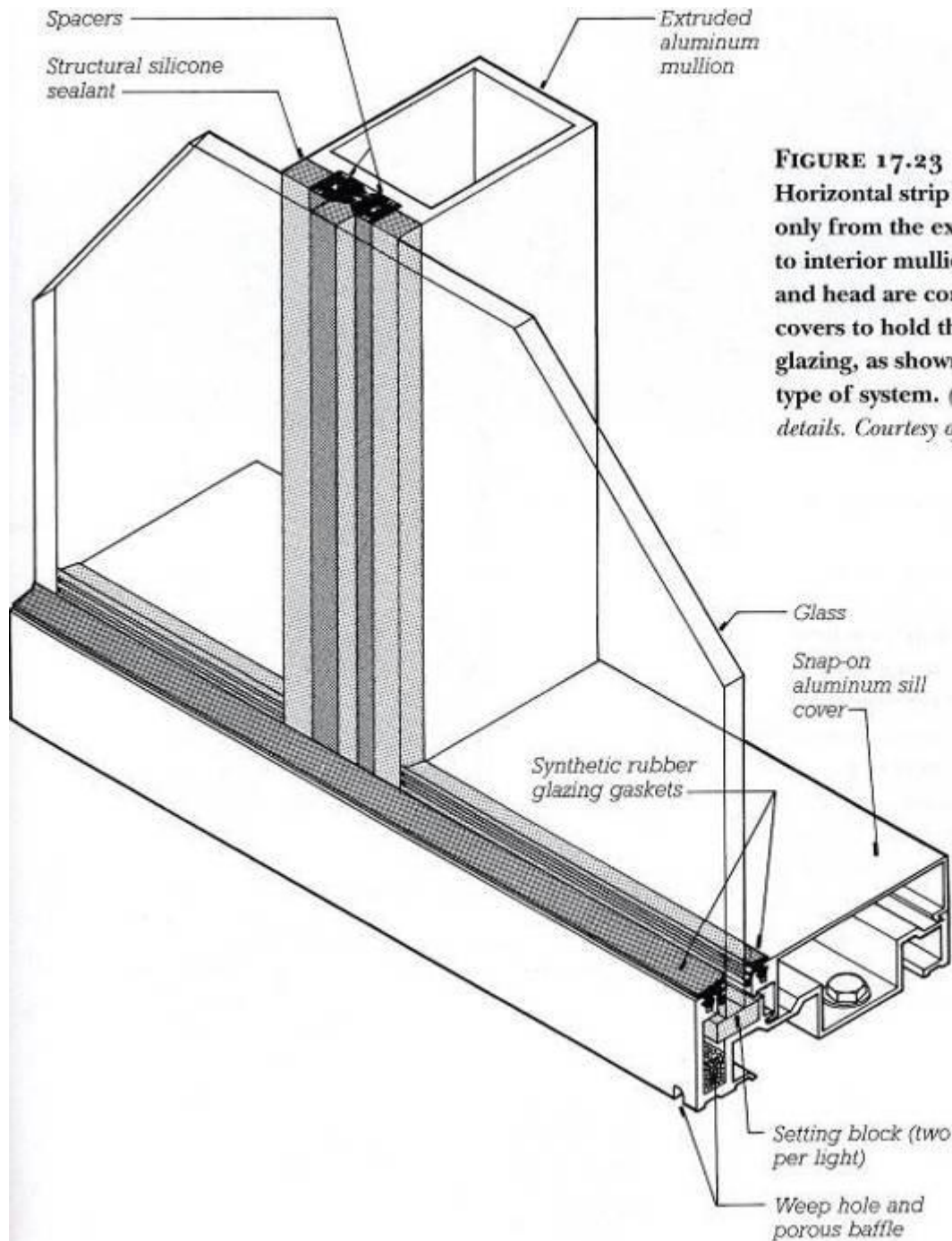




TERMINATION AT GRADE

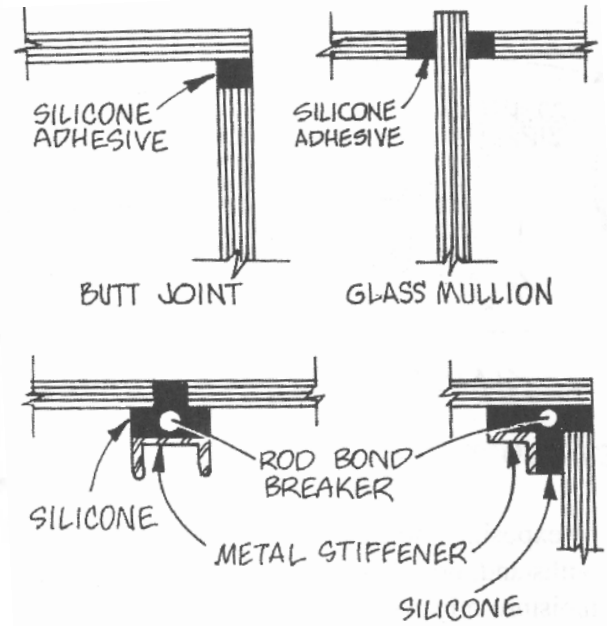






**FIGURE 17.23**

Horizontal strip windows that need to appear mullionless only from the exterior can be created by adhering the glass to interior mullions with structural silicone sealant. The sill and head are conventionally glazed, using snap-on aluminum covers to hold the interior glazing gaskets. Either single glazing, as shown, or double glazing can be used with this type of system. (Copied by permission from PPG EFG System 401 details. Courtesy of PPG Industries)



**GLASS-TO-GLASS JOINTS**



**Williams Tower** ( Formerly Transco Tower) Architect Philip Johnson





# Structural Glass Walls

A **structural glass wall** is made up of tempered glass sheets suspended from special clamps, or spider fittings. These fittings are stabilized against wind pressure by perpendicular stiffeners and/or cables and carry the glass loads







**structural glass wall using spider fittings**



**structural glass wall using spider fittings**








A close-up, low-angle view of a modern architectural structure featuring a glass roof. The image shows several parallel metal beams supporting large, clear glass panels. The glass panels are held in place by spider fittings, which are metal components that connect the glass to the beams. These fittings are secured with bolts and nuts. Additionally, there are cable supports visible, which are thin metal cables that run across the structure, likely providing additional structural support or tensioning for the glass panels. The background is a clear, bright blue sky, which is reflected on the surface of the glass panels. The overall appearance is clean, industrial, and modern.

**Structural Glass Roof Panels**  
spider fittings and cable supports

# Glass Fin System



Glass fins used as structural elements to carry glass gravity loads and wind loads.

A photograph of a modern building with a curved glass facade. The building features a prominent curved glass section with a spiral staircase visible inside. The glass is held in place by a grid of metal frames, with vertical glass fins acting as structural elements. The building is surrounded by a clear blue sky and a paved area with a car and some construction barriers in the foreground. The text "TRACTIN" is visible on a blue and white barrier on the left side of the image.

Glass fins used as structural elements to carry glass gravity loads and wind loads.















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# Questions- Glass & Glazing

- What is glass made of?
- What is laminated glass made of?
- What was the predominate glass type used before 1959?
- What was the predominate glass type used after 1959?
- What is annealed glass?
- What is the strength difference between annealed, tempered and heat strengthened?
- What is wire glass?
- What is fire-rated glass?
- What type of glass would be used on skylights?
- What is fritted glass?
- How are frits applied?
- What is spandrel glass?
- What is insulating glass?
- What are three qualities of insulating glass?
- What does the acronym "SHGC" stand for?
- What does "low e" stand for?
- What does "low-e" do?
- What is the glass surface order?
- What is the difference between a curtainwall and a storefront ?
- What is a structural glass wall?
- What is a spider fitting?
- What are three ways to support a spider fitting?
- What is a thermal break in a curtainwall system?
- What are typical glazing materials to secure the glass in the frame?
- What are characteristics of a properly designed silicone joint?
- What are the coatings on mirrors?