



Notice

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Press release

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Solar Gard Helps UK Firms Cut Office Cooling Costs With Energy-Efficiency Audit Service

CAPSOL Building Simulation Software Helps Businesses Predict Energy-Saving Impact, and Cost Benefits, of Installing Solar Control Window Film

London – November 02, 2009 – Solar Gard is announcing the availability of CAPSOL, an internationally-recognised energy-efficiency audit service that helps businesses measure the impact of solar heat gain on, and the likely cost of cooling, their office buildings. The service can also be used to predict the impact of retro-fitting solar control window film along with an accurate assessment of the resulting reduction in the building's annual cooling costs.

CAPSOL is a complex modeling software tool that works by recreating a building's exact properties. Then, using real local weather and construction material information, CAPSOL provides an accurate reading of future heat absorption by the building, as well as any subsequent energy savings once solar control window film is applied. CAPSOL can also estimate temperatures before and after window film is installed giving customers a deeper understanding of the comfort factors affecting employees.

Other data supplied by CAPSOL analysis includes bespoke advice on heating and cooling times, a precise assessment of CO2 reduction and emissions, and a clear indication of likely peak energy usage.

Peter Reece, managing director of Solar Gard UK, said "The CAPSOL service gives businesses a definitive tool to help accurately calculate the return on investment (ROI) of installing window film, over a given period, against likely cooling costs. Since the most traditional cooling choice is to simply crank up the air conditioning, CAPSOL helps demonstrate how window film can offer businesses an environmentally-friendly alternative that can also save them money."

Saving energy and going green remains high on every UK corporate agenda. However, with UK meteorologists predicting annual temperature increases over the next few decades, the issue of cooling office buildings without increasing air conditioning is becoming an even greater challenge. To compound the issue, impending EU legislation will soon require all businesses to publish details on their organization's carbon footprint.

Reece concludes: "The use of air conditioning by businesses will continue to grow unless more environmentally-friendly options are explored. At present, up to 30 per cent of a company's annual energy bill comes from air conditioning. Businesses need to look at every possible avenue to reduce their carbon footprint. Clearly, assessing the impact of window film on an office building, and evaluating this in terms of ROI, could prove to be a very smart move."

How to get a CAPSOL Audit

Businesses wishing to book a CAPSOL audit for their building can call Solar Gard at 01905 640400. Please allow two weeks for the audit to complete. There is a one-time audit fee of £1,995 which is fully redeemable against a future installation of solar control window film from Solar Gard.

CAPSOL credentials

In addition to being used by the International Energy Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy, CAPSOL is recognised by a number of respected EU and global standards bodies. These include:

- The International Organization for Standardization
- The European Union
- Centre for Window and Cladding Technology, University of Bath, U.K.

About Solar Gard®

Bekaert Specialty Films LLC, www.bekaertfilms.com is a global leader in the development, manufacture and distribution of specialty films for use as solar control and safety window films and for industrial applications. The company delivers solutions for safety, security, glare, energy use and CO₂ emission reduction through a network of independent certified dealers and distributors in more than 60 countries under the Solar Gard®, Panorama®, Quantum® and Solar Gard® Armorcoat® brands. Bekaert Specialty Films also manufactures industrial films for the photovoltaic, electronics, medical, graphic arts and imaging, automotive and aerospace industries. ISO 14001:2004 certified, the company is the first in the industry to certify its carbon footprint, is a Climate Action Leader and is committed to environmental responsibility. Headquartered in San Diego, CA, Bekaert Specialty Films LLC is a subsidiary of the Bekaert group (Euronext Brussels: BEKB) a global company headquartered in Belgium with annual combined sales of €4 billion, more than \$5 billion.

More information on professionally-installed Solar Gard window film is available at www.solargard.co.uk . For media inquiries, samples or photography, contact solargard@touchdownpr.com.

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