Wagstaff-Taylor & Associates, Inc.

TURN-KEY
From Specification to Installation

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WAGSTAFF-TAYLOR & ASSOCIATES, INC

Commercial door, frame and hardware specialists

Current Projects

- Sugar Land Rehab Hospital
  Sugar Land, TX
- Guiding Light Church
  Birmingham, AL
- Christway Church
  Gardendale, AL
- Bailey Medical Center
  Owasso, OK

New Projects

- Airbus-Engineering and Design
  Mobile, AL
- Burr Forman/Wachovia Tower
  Birmingham, AL
- Ronald McDonald House
  Birmingham, AL
- Entrepreneurial Center
  Birmingham, AL
- Sierra Providence East Hospital
  El Paso, TX
- Abilene Regional Medical Center
  Abilene, TX

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Danny addresses The Distributor Council in Alaska

Danny Taylor has recently returned from Alaska where, as a member, he addressed The Distributor Council, an elite, National organization of Distributors for products related to the Construction Industry. Danny spoke on Strategic Planning and shared his thoughts and ideas regarding the importance of strategic planning and how to get started in putting together a strategic plan for your

James Bennefield in the Spotlight

In the spotlight for this edition of Turn-Key is James (Jim) Bennefield. Jim received his college training at the University of Alabama, Birmingham, has successfully completed all DHI coursework in basic hardware, electrified hardware and electromechanical access control and has successfully recertified as an Architectural Hardware Consultant.

Jim began his career in 1977 as many of us do working in the warehouse performing duties related to shipping and receiving, keying and general warehouse.

Jim joined Wagstaff-Taylor & Associates in 1986 and celebrates twenty years of continuous employment this November.

"Of all of the people I have ever worked with," states Danny Taylor, President, "Jim is the most consistent and steady. He is truly a gentleman and a pleasure to work with. Jim is always willing to help anyone in our company."

Jim was gifted stock in Wagstaff-Taylor & Associates, Inc. in 2005 becoming one of the owners of the company. "We didn't give Jim stock," states Al Latta, "he earned it. I am blessed to have Jim as a friend and co-worker."

Jim has been married for twenty–eight years to his wife Rose. They have resided in Pleasant Grove for twenty-six years where they are active in their church and community. They have two sons, Sam, 21 years old, and Josh, 19 years old.

When not working, Jim enjoys spending time with his church and family, watching college football (particularly Alabama), hunting and camping.

WTA Dove Hunt Planned

Plans are once again underway for our annual dove hunt. Last year's hunt was a tremendous success. There were so many birds that some of our customers were calling their buddies from the dove field and "rubbing it in."

This year's hunt will be held on opening day, September 16th. More details will follow.

NFPA 80 Requires Inspection of Fire Doors

It's Official! The 2006 NFPA 80, in a report of the Motions Committee, announced that the NFPA 80 Standard for Fire Doors and Fire Windows will be forwarded directly to the Standards Council for issuance at its meeting scheduled for July 28, 2006. This edition of the NFPA 80 contains language put forth by the Door Safety Council requiring an annual inspection of fire doors.

Our industry, through the Door Safety Council (comprised of numerous industry associations), submitted a code change to the NFPA 80 Technical Committee on requiring Annual inspections. The language begins by stating:

5.2* Inspections.

5.2.1* Fire door assemblies shall be inspected and tested not less than annually and a written record of the inspection shall be signed and kept for inspection by the AHJ.

It goes on to describe the process in detail.

The Door and Hardware Institute, in partnership with other industry associations is developing the process for our industry to conduct those inspections. As a matter of fact, at the recent Board of Governors meeting, the DHI Board of Governors approved the very detailed recommendation of the DHI Inspection Process Task Force. The recommendation addresses the following topics:

- Conducting an Inspection
- Certification
- Documentation
- Marketing
- Standards

The bottom line is, with a great effort by our industry, we can create a safer environment by improving the maintenance of fire doors in the field. One of the constant complaints about life safety and fire doors is that they are often not well maintained or they are left open. Through an inspection process, we will both educate and guide building owners on proper maintenance and use of a fire door, and over time we hope to create a safer society. Our industry is poised to move forward in this process and it will be exciting to watch as it develops. Congratulations to the industry and to the Door

VT Industries Recalls 50 Years of Changes in Architectural Wood Door Industry

"In those days we didn't have room in the main shop to begin our production of architectural doors, so we rented a chicken house on the east side of town. I'll never forget we had to pull a press down there from town with a truck. We put planks under the press and slid it on the snow because it was too heavy to lift and we didn't have a forklift, so we slid it down here on planks like a snow sled," said Roger Clausen, Founder of VT Industries.

From its inauspicious beginnings nearly a half-century ago, architectural wood door manufacturing at VT Industries has experienced rapid and constant changes under the leadership of company founder Roger Clausen, and his son, Doug, who is current company president and CEO.

In its early days, VT Industries was an Authorized Door Manufacturer under a program sponsored by Formica Corporation. "Back then, our capacity was about 100 doors a week if we were lucky," Roger recalls. "That was the start of the door business and from there it has grown every year since."

From the early '60s to present day, VT architectural wood doors have evolved to provide a wide range of performance features and aesthetic enhancements. Industry requirements for fire safety, sound dampening, security ratings and environmental considerations led to ongoing improvements in materials and new construction techniques.

In spite of all the changes that have occurred in recent years, VT Industries continues to operate under the same business fundamentals established in 1956 by Roger Clausen and echoed by Doug Clausen today: "First, the key to our continued growth is to listen to our customers and provide them with the products and services they need to be successful with their customers. The continued focus of our company for the foreseeable future is what we can do to provide better service for the customer."

"Second, you have to have a competitively priced, higher quality product than you've ever had before and provide it in a shorter amount of time."

"Finally, we encourage an attitude of continuous improvement from every individual in our company. We always work with this attitude so we can stay ahead of the changes occurring within our industry."

"I believe that the reason we "partner" so well with VT Industries is because we share identical business fundamentals," states Danny Taylor, who is President of Wagstaff-Taylor & Associates, Inc. "It is a pleasure doing business with VT Industries

Light and Oxidation Effects on Wood

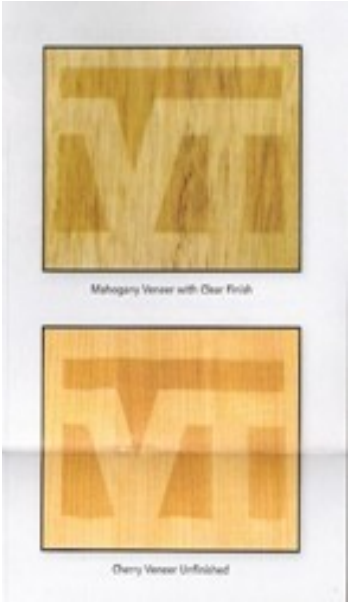
For total appreciation of wood, it is important to keep in mind that no two pieces are identical. Wood varies in color and grain from tree to tree and between pieces within a tree. These characteristics enhance the beauty and interest of wood.

Due to a natural photosynthesis process caused by light (natural and artificial) and oxidation, all wood will change in color over a period of time. Some species are more light sensitive than others, such as cherry, mahogany, walnut and teak. These species will readily mellow and darken when subjected to light.

Because of this fact, it is recommended by the wood door industry that during the storage and jobsite staging process the entire door surface be covered and protected from light sources to avoid discoloration that occurs when doors are left unprotected. This effect is sometimes referred to as a sunburn effect caused by exposure to natural sunlight, however, it can also occur with exposure to artificial light.

No finish system can totally suppress these color changes caused by light exposure.

The photo (on top) shows mahogany veneer with a clear finish while the other image (at right) is a cherry veneer that is unfinished. Both have been exposed to intense artificial light for only 8 hours.



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Escalating Material Prices

Unprecedented increases in the price of raw material are driving prices for hardware "out the roof ." "We had price increases in January and May and have been informed that prices will increase again before October," states Sandy Sanders, Vice President of WTA. "Stainless steel prices in particular are out of control."

Here is a tip for partially protecting yourself from these skyrocketing prices.

1. Make submittals as quickly as possible after being awarded the project and insist on fast turn around for approvals.
2. Order material and bill it as stored material.

Glass in Fire Doors

For decades, traditional wired glass was the de facto choice for glazing in fire-rated doors. You couldn't walk into a school or other public building without seeing the small vision kits in doors that had the familiar criss-cross pattern of wired glass. Choosing a fire-rated glass was simple, because there was only one option.

Although it has a proven track record in providing fire protection, traditional wired glass is unable to resist much in the way of impact. Wired glass can be as easy to break as float glass and is likely to give way if anyone bigger than a small child runs into it. Once broken, the wires form dangerous snags that can cause serious injuries.

That sounds like it should have been an open and shut case for not using wired glass. The problem was that when fire codes were first introduced, there wasn't any other type of glass that could offer a degree of fire protection the way wired glass could.

So the need for a product such as wired glass was very real. As a result, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) decided in the 1970s to grant a special exemption to wired glass. It was not required to meet their impact safety standards so that it could be allowed in fire-rated openings where vision was critical. The exemption was intended to be short-lived, but it ended up staying in place for 30 years.

Technology did not stand still, though. During the time the exemption was in place, manufacturers developed a number of new products that could significantly outperform wired glass in both fire and impact safety.

There are now numerous alternatives to wired glass that far surpass it in appearance and performance. For example, transparent ceramics (such as the FireLite® family of products) have proven to be an excellent upgrade from traditional wired glass.

Products classified as "glass fire walls" offer another option to traditional wired glass. Built more like bullet-resistant glass, these products sandwich interlayers or a thick gel between multiple layers of glass to achieve high levels of fire and impact safety. What's more, their thickness and composition enables them to block heat in addition to flames and smoke. Surprisingly, one of the newest alternatives to wired glass is...wired glass. Manufacturers realized that there will always be a need for an economical material that the industry is comfortable with. So they have been rethinking the 100 year old product to make it suitable for this new safety-conscious era.

Two variations have emerged. One takes standard wire glass and adds a special surface applied film. While this enables the glass to resist greater impact, it also introduces the concerns that go along with filmed products—scratching, peeling and maintenance.

A second variation is composed of wired glass laminated to float glass. It satisfies the 2003 IBC impact requirements and still gives the benefits of being easy to cut, permanently labeled and relatively affordable.

The bottom line? Revisions to the codes should give no cause for concern. There are many options on the market that represent a significant improvement over traditional wired glass. Change, it turns out, can be a very good