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Company of the Month: Menck Windows USA provides German engineering and design to windows & doors

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Menck Windows USA designs, manufactures, and installs custom, finely crafted, energy efficient windows and doors for architects and builders throughout North America. Developed in a partnership with Menck Fenster GmbH, of Hamburg, Germany, the goal is to ensure that Menck Windows are among the very best windows and doors in the world.

In the past few decades, the number of companies importing windows and doors from Europe has steadily grown. There are costs, delays, and uncertainties associated with importing, installing, and servicing these products. Menck Windows approach is to simplify the process, with U.S. manufacturing, installation, and service in a seamless process. Windows and doors can be manufactured and delivered on a timely basis at a competitive cost. The performance attributes of these products have been well established, and now that performance can be sourced easily and directly.

Why now? Nearly 40% of North America's energy usage is due to the heating and cooling of buildings. Over 1/3 of a building's heat loss is typically through the windows and doors. Also, energy costs are rising and are likely to continue to rise. Our carbon consumption must be reduced if we are to mitigate the risks of a warmer, more severe climate. In addition, natural light is an important contributor to both our mental and physical health and thus the sizes and quantity of windows in our buildings is increasing. Biophilic design (building design that creates healthy and productive habitats for humans) is becoming a more popular architectural practice. These elements all drive more creative design and construction methods utilizing some of the best performing building components available.

Why are these windows and doors so desirable? Thermal and acoustical insulation provide more interior living comfort. Tilt & Turn windows (the common function of European windows), provide additional opening and ventilation options. They are also easier to operate and clean than traditional double hung windows. They provide durability with available exterior claddings. With double gaskets and multipoint closure and locking systems, these windows provide superior weather resistance and locking security.

Menck Windows provide a German engineered precision and quality. State-of-the-art CNC technology allows very exact tolerance manufacturing. It allows custom componentry to be built identically each and every time. This very mechanized process with precise controls allow Menck to fabricate windows in large volumes at competitive prices. This process also minimizes waste and conserves both economic and natural resources. Menck Windows produces windows using wood, a renewable resource, and aluminum, a recyclable resource. Also used are water based, low or no VOC finishes to further complement a sustainable manufacturing process.

To provide the most seamless process possible on projects, Menck's project managers work directly

with architects, builders, and building owners on their window and door design including the window and door installation details. This clarifies the window/wall interface question that is often one of the most difficult parts of a project from a waterproofing and thermal and moisture barrier perspective. Menck also assists the architectural and building team with project management, planning and consultation throughout the process. Ongoing maintenance and service planning is also provided in the process.

Menck Window's philosophy is captured in their tagline, "A Better World, Inside and Out." Better buildings helps create a better world. These buildings provide more comfort. These buildings also have reduced operating costs by reducing heat/AC and maintenance costs. More sustainable construction practices and greener building have reduced carbon emission. A healthier environment both inside and out, indeed contributes towards a better world!

Menck Windows is a US incorporated company in Chicopee, formed as a partnership between Liesenfeld International and Menck Fenster, GmbH. Menck Windows' management team has over a century of building product, wood, and window and door experience. Partner Menck- Fenster GmbH is a fourth generation, 140 year old company with experience in Germany, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and the U.S. (with over 25 years of experience providing product to the U.S. market).

Menck's management team is led by: Todd Bachelder as CEO, Alan Wall is the director of sales and marketing, Michael Pusch is the director of technology transfer and R & D, and John Benjamin III, director of manufacturing.

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