



ARCHITECTURAL GLASS & METAL TECHNICIAN (AGMT) CERTIFICATION

Propelling glaziers forward in a competitive world.

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SPOTLIGHT

AGMT Certification

Mission

To provide a means to validate that a glazing technician has the fundamental knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform work in a manner that will minimize defects and failures, and conform to customer requirements.

Accreditation

The AGMT Certification Program has achieved ANSI accreditation to ISO/IEC 17024 standards.



Above: the 75 AGMT Certified glaziers represented by LU 252 and AGI member firms

AGMT CERTIFICATION

The Architectural Glass and Metal Technician (AGMT) Certification program provides an independent, third-party assessment of a glazier's knowledge, skills, and abilities. Candidates undergo comprehensive written and physical testing in seven core competencies: principles of glazing and safety, tools of the trade, construction documents, glass handling, installation, application of sealants and gaskets, and quality controls.

According to the AGMT program's mission, certification provides a means to validate that a glazing technician can perform work in a manner that will minimize defects and failures, and conform to customer requirements. AGMT's periodic recertification process ensures certified technicians pursue continuing education and always remain at the forefront of the industry.

The program was designed for experienced glazing supervisors and technicians. The credential differentiates glaziers and their companies by demonstrating a commitment to quality and service. For more information, visit <https://agmtprogram.com>.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The AGMT program was developed by a multi-disciplinary group of glazing professionals, manufacturers, suppliers, architects, specifications writers, consultants, and general contractors. By gaining input from all members of the industry, the program takes multiple perspectives into consideration, fostering improved buy-in and support. AGMT is managed and administered by AMS, Inc., which also administers the North American Contractor Certification (NACC) Program. Both certification programs work together to provide consistent competency benchmarks across North America.

LOCAL COMMITMENT

Members of AGI have been at the forefront of the AGMT program development, and the Philadelphia region boasts one of the largest concentrations of certified glaziers in the U.S. As of the most recently certified class in May 2019, AGI member contractors and LU 252 have 74 AGMT certified glaziers among their ranks. It's a major accomplishment of which our region and its construction community can be proud.

RAISING THE BAR

District Council 21 Business Manager and former glazier Joe Ashdale and several others were interviewed about the AGMT program during the Architectural Glass and Metal Certification Council annual meeting earlier this year. Their varied perspectives show the value AGMT offers to designers, facade consultants, and construction professionals.

"[AGMT] raises the bar for everybody in the industry so that not only is the project done completely well, but everybody goes home safely," said Ashdale.

Glass Canada magazine Editor Pat Flannery put the certification into perspective, "You're 80 stories up [on] a swing stage, with a thousand pounds of unitized curtain wall on a crane, and this has to be put on the building such that water will not come in anywhere. Obviously the safety and the expertise required to do this is intense. It's not something that just anyone should be able to do. Yet, in many jurisdictions, there are no qualifications whatsoever." AGMT certification puts those credentials into place to ensure safety and quality.

Rodney Harvey, Senior Vice President and Principal of Dallas, Texas-based Curtainwall Design and Consulting believes that "Certified contractors should be specified to increase consistency and reduce risk. That's the greatest reason for specifiers to use these programs is to reduce risk."

President of local AGI member glazing company, National Glass and Metal Co., Joe Clabbers added that the AGMT program's emphasis on continuous improvement can "prevent rework, prevent liability, prevent our people from having to go back and fix things, and certainly for the building owner, it gives that extra reassurance that he is employing a contractor and technicians that have proven that they have met the standards."

WHAT GLAZIERS HAVE TO SAY

As the AGMT program continues to earn recognition, more glaziers will take advantage of the opportunity to differentiate themselves and certifications will appear in specifications. But what prompted the early adopters? Read their own words about the benefits and value:

"As a steward and e-Board member, it is important to me to set an example. In this tight, competitive construction industry, any advantage [we] can have will help us and our employers."

- Brian Ford | Synergy Glass & Door Service

"I want to be the best glazier I can be. I was always taught to get every certification I can, to go above the basics, to make myself as marketable as I can, and don't ever stop learning. It's not just another certification to me, or to most of us taking it. It's a higher standard to work by." - Jerry Kots | GMI Contractors, Inc.

"The glazing industry recognizes a need for proficiency, and via the AGMT certification, provides an avenue to assess such proficiency." - Jim Coppola | Graboyes Commercial Window Co.

"I am very proud to have been part of the AGMT Certified Glaziers program. Times in the building trades are changing constantly: materials, methods, and now the certifications. I wanted to make myself more marketable so I am able to work on such projects, and keep the glazing industry at the top of the field where it belongs." - Joe Valecce | Harmon, Inc.

"I believe having this certification will help us grow as a specific trade with a specific skill set. We do so much in the way of fabricating, installing, sealing, and glazing a system. I think it's imperative that we as glaziers are able to control that production line from start to finish." - Matt Swain | Reilly Glazing, Inc.

"I view the AGMT certification as the mark of a true professional glazier. A comprehensive AGMT test was what I needed to prove my professionalism to myself. An AGMT certification means quality craftsmanship and integrity of work performed."

- Steve Metzger | Finishing Trades Institute

CONGRATULATIONS CERTIFIED GLAZIERS!

James Albright | Neil Amadio | Ryan Beighley | Carlos Belevan

Mike Bell | Bob Bentler | Mike Boone | Matt Bradley

Mike Brougham | Pat Carroll | Mike Colletti | Jim Coppola

Dave Coyle | Rich D'Adamo | John Dailey | Jay Dallegro

Matt Dameika | Bill Darcangelo | Mike Dilks | Kyle Dolbow

Sean Domanick | Matt Dominick | Lenny Dopkin | Dennis

Dougherty | Doug Drysdale | Mike Duer | Erik Everwine

Alex Farmer | Scott Feshuk | Steve Finkbinder | Brian Ford

Matt Fox | Sean Fox | Keith Glenz | Billy Graham | Ted Gutkowski

Nate Hacker | Drew Harrison | Shawn Hays | Billy Irvin, Jr. | Ron Jones

Gene Kennedy | Dan Kidd | Mike Klejna | Mike Koldhoff

Scott Koldhoff | Jerry Kots | Chris Kushner | Mike Maiers

Mark McDonnell | Joe McGee | Mike McGee | Joe McSwiggan

Mike Metz | Steve Metzger | Joe Miller | Paul Nemeth | Jason Park

Solomon Perillo | Suzi Person | John Przepioski | Joe Restuccio

Joe Reynolds | Terry Rooney | John Schneider | Derek Smith

Chris Snyder | Chris Stewart | Matt Swain | Dave Tomczak

Owen Truax | Joe Valecce | Tom Visconto | Eric Weyler