

SPECIFICATION GUIDE

Flyway™ Bird-Safe Glass

Five abrasive-blast etch patterns evaluated by the American Bird Conservancy and the Bird-Safe Buildings Alliance. Every pattern in this document carries a Threat Factor™ of 25 or lower, meeting ABC's criterion for bird-friendly material.

Fabricator	River City Creative Glass, Burnsville, Minnesota
Evaluation report	ABC / BSBA, dated 26 August 2026
Contact	Mark Haines 952-224-9030 markh@rivercityglassinc.com

Pattern selection

PATTERN	MARKER	SPACING	THREAT FACTOR™
A	6 mm dots	2" x 2" grid	20
B	6 mm dots	2" x 4" grid	25
C	3 mm vertical lines	2" o.c.	20
D	3 mm vertical lines	4" o.c.	25
E	3 mm horizontal lines	2" o.c.	20

ABC defines a bird-friendly material as one with a Threat Factor of 30 or lower. All five Flyway patterns are below that threshold; patterns A, C and E are at 20. B3 and LEED score the whole building by area-weighted Threat Factor, and B3 bars glazing above Threat Factor 25 in traps (skyways, glass railings, glass corners). Where the building calculation is tight, specify pattern A, C or E.

Material and performance data

Marker application	Surface 1 abrasive-blast etch
Media	Recycled aluminum oxide
Gloss	Less than 6 at 60°
Substrates	Any vision or tinted glass unit; clear, low-iron, tinted, laminated and insulating units
Coatings	All coatings located behind the surface 1 etch
Evaluated sample	12" x 12" monolithic clear glass; the approval extends the patterns beyond that specific makeup

Insulating glass units: we will etch IGCC-certified units furnished by others, or fabricate the unit in-house and etch it. Our in-house IG units are NOT IGCC certified — where the specification requires IGCC certification, the units must be furnished by others for us to etch.

Guide specification

Edit to suit the project and delete the options that do not apply. We will review a draft section at no charge before it goes out to bid — send it to markh@rivercityglassinc.com.

SECTION 08 80 00 - GLAZING

BIRD-FRIENDLY GLAZING

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 SUMMARY

- A. Section includes bird-friendly glazing with permanent visual markers applied to surface 1.

1.2 REFERENCES

- A. American Bird Conservancy (ABC) Bird-Friendly Materials Evaluation Program - Material Threat Factor rating.
- B. ASTM C1036 - Standard Specification for Flat Glass.
- C. ASTM C1048 - Heat-Treated Flat Glass.

1.3 SUBMITTALS

- A. Product Data: Manufacturer's data for each glazing type.
- B. Samples: 12" x 12" sample of each specified pattern on the proposed glass makeup.
- C. Evaluation Report: ABC / Bird-Safe Buildings Alliance evaluation report showing the assigned Threat Factor for each pattern.
- D. Shop Drawings: Elevations showing pattern extents, coverage limits, and treatment of transoms, corners and returns.

1.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Fabricator: Single firm performing glass fabrication and marker application, with not less than 5 years of experience.
- B. Mockup: Provide one full-size unit for review prior to fabrication of remaining units when required by the Architect.

1.5 WARRANTY

- A. Marker Warranty: Markers shall be integral to the glass surface and shall not delaminate, peel or wear off.

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.1 MANUFACTURER

- A. Basis of Design: Flyway Bird-Safe Glass by River City Creative Glass, 3550 W 145th St, Burnsville, MN 55306. Telephone 952-224-9030.

2.2 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Provide bird-friendly glazing with visual markers applied to surface 1 having a material Threat Factor of 25 or lower as assigned by the American Bird Conservancy.
- B. Markers shall be applied to surface 1. Low-E and other coatings shall be located behind the surface 1 marker.

2.3 MATERIALS

- A. Marker Type: Abrasive-blast etch, recycled aluminum oxide media, applied to surface 1.
- B. Gloss: Less than 6 at 60 degrees.

- C. Substrate: Any vision or tinted glass unit. Clear, low-iron, tinted, laminated, and insulating units are acceptable.

2.4 PATTERNS

- A. Pattern: [Select one]
 - 1. Pattern A - 6 mm dots at 2" x 2" grid. Threat Factor 20.
 - 2. Pattern B - 6 mm dots at 2" x 4" grid. Threat Factor 25.
 - 3. Pattern C - 3 mm vertical lines at 2" o.c. TF 20.
 - 4. Pattern D - 3 mm vertical lines at 4" o.c. TF 25.
 - 5. Pattern E - 3 mm horizontal lines at 2" o.c. TF 20.

2.5 INSULATING GLASS UNITS

- A. [Option 1] Insulating glass units shall be IGCC-certified units furnished by others and etched by the bird-friendly glazing fabricator.
- B. [Option 2] Insulating glass units shall be fabricated by the bird-friendly glazing fabricator; IGCC certification is not required for this project.

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.1 EXAMINATION

- A. Verify openings are plumb, square and within tolerance prior to glazing.

3.2 INSTALLATION

- A. Install units with the marked surface oriented outboard (surface 1) in every opening. Units installed with the marker inboard do not provide the specified performance.

3.3 CLEANING AND PROTECTION

- A. Clean with mild detergent and water. Do not use abrasive cleaners, scrapers or blades on the etched surface.

END OF SECTION

Where bird-friendly glazing is required

Minnesota projects encounter bird-safe glazing requirements through three routes. Confirm the current text of each against the governing authority for your project.

STATE BUILDING PROJECTS

B3 Sustainable Building Guidelines, Guideline S.5 (formerly SS.14), addresses bird-safe building design for projects receiving State of Minnesota bond funding.

VOLUNTARY RATING SYSTEMS

LEED Pilot Credit 55, Bird Collision Deterrence, awards credit for reducing the bird collision threat of a facade using rated materials.

LOCAL ORDINANCE

The City of Minneapolis has required bird-safe glazing treatment in skyway construction since 2016.

Code and rating-system requirements change. Verify the current requirement with the Authority Having Jurisdiction before relying on any reference in this document.

For contractors bidding the work

If bird-friendly glazing appears in a specification you are pricing, here is what we will do before bid day — at no cost and with no obligation.

- Spec review. Send us the glazing section and we will confirm in writing whether Flyway meets it as written, and flag anything in the section we cannot meet.
- Substitution package. If the spec names another manufacturer, we supply a substitution request with the ABC evaluation report and a Threat Factor comparison.
- Takeoff from your elevations. Send drawings and we return a pattern recommendation, a layout showing pattern extents, and a price.
- Submittal package. Product data, samples on the actual glass makeup, the evaluation report, and shop drawings — assembled to the submittal requirements in the section.
- Mockup panel. A full-size unit for architect review before we fabricate the balance.
- Single-source responsibility. Glass, etch, insulating unit and installation from one vendor in Burnsville. One number to call if something goes wrong in the field.
- Lead time. The etching is done in our own shop. There is no overseas order and no third-party coater in the schedule.

Questions on a live bid: Mark Haines, 952-224-9030, markh@rivercityglassinc.com.