

## US Government Chooses Bekaert / Solar Gard for Security and Safety!

The recent terrorist attacks prompted the United States Government to take stock of security measures in prominent buildings as they work towards ensuring that every precaution possible to protect staff, visitors and pedestrians in and around these highly visible properties has been taken. One of these measures was the installation of Safety and Security window films, which they have installed to prevent the horrific injuries of flying glass shards should an incident occur.

The Safety and Security film they chose was Armorcoat, which is manufactured by Bekaert Specialty Films and marketed by Bekaert in Australia as Armorcoat. The US Government requested that Bekaert install the film on all windows at the US Capitol Building, the three House Office Buildings and the four Library of Congress Buildings - the most prestigious buildings in Washington DC. This resulted in amazing scenes at the Bekaert manufacturing facility in San Diego. Within 8 hours of receiving the order, all lines were converted to the production of the required Safety and Security film. The total order was produced, inspected, slit and shipped to Washington within 72 hours. Immediately a team of over 50 installers was assembled from all over America and the entire job was completed within 4 weeks of the order being received.

Glass is recognized by security experts as the weakest security element in a building but with the installation of Armorcoat on all the windows in these US buildings the dangers of flying glass have been minimized. Should an explosion in or around the Capitol grounds occur the film acts as a shield, holding shattered glass in place.

Together with the FBI headquarters and the Pentagon Building, most major US Government buildings now have Armorcoat film installed as part of the effort to provide a safe environment in these uncertain times.

Bekaert's Safety and Security Films are installed on the inside surface of windows bonding tightly with the window glass to increase shatter resistance. The films have been independently tested in both the USA and in Australia. In Australia, The CSIRO have conducted early fire hazard and radio attenuation tests, James Cook University have carried out cyclone condition testing and the Australian federal police have completed bomb explosion tests. Other equally important testing has included human impact and optical and solar properties.

