



Customer Service Update

MAY 16, 2002

#CS102F

Revision 01

Applies to Flush doors

WHAT IS A PREMIUM GRADE ARCHITECTURAL FLUSH WOOD DOOR?

AWI and WDMA premium grade architectural flush wood doors vary depending on the quality standards. The following chart shows the major differences between the two standards in regard to the above question.

1. VENEER GRADES:

	AWI Premium Grade	WDMA Premium Grade
HPVA Veneer Grade	AA	A
Veneer Face Assembly	Balanced, unless otherwise specified Running & Center match available	Center, Balanced or Running
Nominal Minimum Width Of Face Components	Plain Sliced = 6" Quarter Sliced = 3" Rotary Cut = 6"	Plain Sliced = 4" Quarter Sliced = 3" Rotary Cut = 4"
(WDMA offers Grade AA as an option.)		

2. RAILS:

AWI continues to state that rails on premium grade doors must be mill option hardwood. Custom grade doors may now use either mill option hardwood or SCL (structural composite lumber (i.e. Timberstrand™)). WDMA promotes SCL as premium, taking into consideration superior performance benefits and environmental responsibility.

WDMA premium grade sets the standard for architectural wood doors. AWI states that premium is "usually reserved for special projects, or feature areas within a project" and that custom grade is "specified for most conventional architectural woodwork". The environmental concerns of meeting AWI premium grade for wood doors is also of significant concern. VT has worked diligently to incorporate environmentally responsible products and procedures into our manufacturing process which is recognized by the WDMA Quality Standards.

Unfortunately, the differences between AWI and WDMA will create confusion among specifiers, general contractors and building owners. In order to alleviate as much confusion as possible, VT will clarify all quotations and continue our educational efforts throughout the construction trades industry with the assistance of our distributors and field sales force. VT will continue to meet or exceed WDMA Premium Grade as standard. Grade AA veneers are available upon request for an appropriate upcharge.