We protect and beautify the world™

125 Colfax Street

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Interior vs. Exterior Paint Options with Two Piece Extrusions

For over 40 years aluminum extrusions were painted and placed as one unit on the interior and exterior of the building and painted with a PVDF fluoropolymer for the ultimate chalk and color fade resistance. In later years, thermal breaks were introduced by milling out a section of the extrusion and applied between the parts to prevent heat and cold transfer. Over the last five years or more aluminum extruders have begun supplying two piece extrusions and attaching a thermal break between the two parts. With this process change there is now an option to paint the interior and exterior extrusion with different performance level coatings and with color options.

This development allowed for lower cost by applying an AAMA 2603 type acrylic or polyester on the interior and an AAMA 2605 product for chalk and color fade resistance on the exterior. The added benefit with the interior coatings is they are harder and more scratch resistant. Interior locations receive more human traffic and raise the probability of scratches on the surface of the coating.

Where the AAMA 2603 product line was formulated for residential applications it is now an option for interiors. If additional performance is required for shadow boxes or buildings with clear glass that don't block UV light there is an option to upgrade to an AAMA 2604 quality and still realize the cost savings.

In conclusion, the introduction of two piece extrusions has allowed a lower cost opportunity while placing the best solution for performance on the interior and exterior of a building.