



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Atrium Companies Offers Comprehensive Line of Impact-Resistant Products

*SafeHarbor® windows and doors provide a peace of mind during 2008 hurricane season.*

DALLAS – To aid builders and homeowners in their preparations heading into the 2008 hurricane season, Atrium offers SafeHarbor®, a full line of impact-resistant vinyl and aluminum windows and patio doors, as well as a complete line of hurricane shutters—comprehensive solutions for new construction and replacement applications.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center has announced that projected climate conditions point to a near normal or above normal hurricane season, which runs June 1 through Nov. 30. NOAA scientists predict 12 to 16 named storms, with six to nine becoming hurricanes, of which two to five could become major hurricanes of Category Three strength or higher, according to NOAA officials. In the face of such predictions, planning and preparation is the key to storm survival.

"The SafeHarbor product line is specifically designed to give our customers confidence that their homes can survive dangerous weather events like hurricanes," said Chris Reilly, director of marketing communications and replacement programs for Atrium Companies. "With vinyl and aluminum options available, it's one of the most complete impact families in the industry, providing choices for professionals and homeowners' new construction and replacement needs."

A broken window provides a point of entry for wind that enters the house, increases pressure, and seeks another way out. When a building envelope is breached, the difference in air pressures inside and out will cause a building to lose a roof or a wall; as a result, buildings and homes are demolished. "Keeping the wind out is the best way to protect your home from damage," says Reilly. "By installing impact-resistant windows and doors, the wind is redirected; instead of going through it, it goes around it."

### *Quality construction for long-lasting performance*

- Laminated glass system with .090" interlayer provides impact resistance and outdoor sound suppression
- Block and tackle balance system allow for easy movement of single- and double-hung models
- Insulated glass panels ranging from ¾" to 1" with warm edge spacer system provide energy-saving thermal performance
- Double, reinforced interlocks resist weather infiltration
- Multi-chambered frame assembly improves thermal performance and helps enhance sound absorbency
- Hardware components feature aesthetic appearance while meeting stringent impact-test protocols

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SafeHarbor impact windows and doors are available in a full range of styles and sizes to complement a variety of home designs. Optional tinted glass and energy-efficient, Low-E glass are popular choices. Impact-resistant steel and aluminum shutters complete the product line, in fixed, accordion, rolling and Bahama styles. In addition to their safeguarding features, SafeHarbor products also provide numerous additional benefits, such as protection against intrusion, UV blocking, sound-deadening and enhanced energy efficiency.

### *Able to withstand the worst conditions*

- Certified Design Pressure (DP) ratings up to 55 for windows and 60 for sliding glass doors
- DP ratings meet coastal wind and hurricane debris code requirements
- Products meet American Architectural Manufacturers Association (AAMA) hurricane debris protocols
- Approved for hurricane impact zones along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts

### *Energy-efficient, tough-as-nails glass*

SafeHarbor windows feature laminated safety glass combined within a thermally efficient 3/4", 7/8" or 1" insulating glass system depending on the series. The exterior lite consists of a 3/32" thick glass pane. The interior lite is constructed of two 1/8" thick glass panes laminated with an interlayer membrane that becomes transparent during the laminating process and forms a 5/16" thick panel.

### *Passes grueling impact-performance tests*

In independent lab testing, SafeHarbor windows withstood the impact of a 9-pound 2-by-4 piece of lumber traveling at 50 feet per second—equivalent to 34 mph. After impact, the windows were buffeted by combined positive and negative pressure to simulate hurricane-force winds. During the five-hour testing period, the impact-resistant glass shattered but remained in the window frame. The window continued to function operationally after the testing was complete.

### **About Atrium Companies, Inc.**

For more than 50 years, Atrium Companies, Inc. ([atrium.com](http://atrium.com)) has offered the highest quality window and door products to meet the demands of builders, contractors and distributors in the residential construction industry. Dedicated to meeting the needs of its customers, the Atrium family of brands provides a versatile range of window and patio door products, including vinyl and aluminum models, as well as replacement and new construction product lines. A variety of window styles is also available through the Atrium family including single- and double-hung, horizontal slider, casement, tilt-and-turn and architectural shapes. Specialty products range from hurricane impact solutions with Atrium's SafeHarbor® impact-resistant windows, patio doors and hurricane window shutters, to innovative soundproofing Silent Guard™ Sound Suppression Windows. The company's portfolio of brands includes its flagship Atrium Windows and Doors brand, Superior Windows, Thermal Industries, Danvid Door and Window, HR Windows, Champion Window, North Star Windows and Doors and Darby Door.