

Architectural Woodwork Standards

1st Edition

A Specification of Qualities, Methods, and Workmanship
Requisite to the Production and Installation of Architectural Millwork

Adopted and Published Jointly, Effective October 1, 2009,
As the Successor, Replacement, and Latest Edition of:
AWI/AWMAC's Quality Standards Illustrated (QSI), and
WI's Manual of Millwork (MM)

By:



Architectural Woodwork Institute (AWI)
46179 Westlake Drive, Suite 120, Potomac Falls, VA 20165
Phone: 571-323-3636 / Fax: 571-323-3630
www.awinet.org

**Architectural Woodwork Manufacturers
Association of Canada (AWMAC)**
516 - 4 Street West, High River, Alberta, T1V 1B6, Canada
Phone: 403-652-7685 / Fax: 403-652-7384
www.awmac.com



Woodwork Institute (WI)
P. O. Box 980247, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0247
Phone: 916-372-9943 / Fax: 916-372-9950
www.woodworkinstitute.com

Joint Standards Committee Members:

Dan Wendell - Chair • Myron Jonzon - Vice Chair • Randy Estabrook - Secretary

AWI

Michael Bell - Kentucky
Randy Jensen - Alabama
Dan Wendell - Kansas
William Munyan - North Carolina - Alt.

WI

Bill Fenstermacher - California
Mike Hansen - California
Dick McClure - California
Bruce Humphrey - California - Alt.

AWMAC

Myron Jonzon - Alberta
Al Sparling - Ontario
Jim Taylor - British Columbia
Vince Parolin - Ontario - Alt.

Executive Editor:

Stanley R. (Rob) Gustafson, CAE, CSI, AIA (*associate*)
CEO - Woodwork Institute

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INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Like all architectural components of the construction process, woodwork design and configuration possibilities are limited only by the creativity of the design professional. We have included architectural wood products which through evolution have become fixtures of our daily lives and have developed a measurable guideline to ensure these products meet these standards.

It is the intent of these standards to assist the design professional to specify a variety of millwork products which meet the functional and esthetic requirements of their clients. Encompassing all products in these standards is not possible; but by understanding and applying these standards and implementing the services provided by the signatory associations, the design professional will best serve their client needs and can be confident their quality criteria will be achieved.

When design professionals reference the Architectural Woodwork Standards for their projects, they also assume the obligation that the quality standards are met.

Disclaimers

The Associations shall not be responsible to anyone for the use of or reliance upon these standards. The Associations shall not incur any obligation nor liability for damages, including consequential damages, arising out of or in connection with the use, interpretation of, or reliance upon these standards.

These Architectural Woodwork Standards provide the minimum criteria for the concept, design, fabrication, finishing, and installation of architectural woodwork. Provisions for mechanical and electrical safety have not been included. References to life-safety requirements are included for information only. Governmental agencies or other national standards-setting organizations provide the standards for life-safety requirements.

Illustrations are intended to assist in understanding the standards and may not include all requirements for a specific product or unit, nor do they show the only method of fabrication. Such partial drawings shall not be used to justify improper or incomplete design and/or construction.

Unless otherwise referenced, Appendixes A and B are not considered an integral part of these standards. The appendixes are provided as an additional resource to the manufacturer, design professional, educators, user, or certifying organization and shall not be interpreted as legal advice or code-compliance language.

If a conflict is found in these standards, the least restrictive requirement shall prevail until addressed by errata.



Architectural Woodwork Institute
(AWI)

The Architectural Woodwork Institute, a not-for-profit trade association of architectural woodwork manufacturers, industry suppliers, and design professionals, was established in 1953 as an expansion of the Millwork Cost Bureau and is dedicated to the goals of:

- Improving architectural woodwork standards
- Providing technical education for members and the design community
- Researching innovative materials and methods of engineering, fabrication, finishing, and installation

The bedrock of the association is its nationwide network of over twenty-five chapters, built on the principle of sharing knowledge, education, and networking that includes:

- Seminars and workshops for AWI members, construction professionals, and design professionals by award of AIA Continuing Education System (CES) credits
- Publications, including:
 - o Design Solutions magazine
 - o AWI Cost Book
 - o Architectural Woodwork Quality Standards Illustrated, Editions 1-8
 - o A wide range of member-centric industry information and resources

In 1995, AWI established its Quality Certification Program (QCP) to give the assurance and the expectation to millwork customers that fine woodwork, specified as QCP in construction documents, will comply with the quality grades in these standards. The QCP has been officially adopted by the General Services Administration (GSA) for its woodwork specifications and is endorsed by the American Subcontractors Association (ASA).

46179 Westlake Drive, Suite 120, Potomac Falls, VA 20165 Ph: 571-323-3636 Fax: 571-323-3630 www.awinet.org



Architectural Woodwork Manufacturers Association of Canada (AWMAC)

The Architectural Woodwork Manufacturers Association of Canada (AWMAC)/Association des Manufacturiers de la Menuiserie Architecturale du Canada has its roots in the 1920s millwork industry in Vancouver, Canada. Evolving from regional associations, it has become a nonprofit national registered association. AWMAC's strength is the linkage between the national association, the regional AWMAC Chapters, and the manufacturer, supplier, educational, associate, and design professional members. Today, AWMAC is the national voice of the Canadian architectural woodwork industry and is committed to:

- Partnering with other associations to define and improve architectural woodwork standards
- Collaborating with educational institutions to enhance the apprentice and technical programs and to ensure a quality human resource for the architectural woodwork industry
- Communicating the traditional, new, and innovative architectural woodwork assembly methods and materials to governments, industry, design professionals, and their associations
- Publishing *The Sounding Board*, a newsletter, and the Salary/Business Conditions Survey

In conjunction with AWMAC, AWMAC Chapters provide:

- Seminars from raw "green" products to installed architectural woodwork for architects, designers, and members
- Annual Awards that celebrate the best in quality, service, and design for manufacturers, associates, and design professionals
- Administration of the Guarantee and Inspection Service (GIS); initiated in 1990, the GIS Program (when specified by the design professional) monitors and guarantees projects that specify AWMAC standards

For further information and correct GIS specification wording, contact your local AWMAC Chapter or AWMAC.
516-4 St. West, High River, Alberta, T1V 1B6, Canada Ph: 403-652-7685 Fax: 403-652-7384 www.awmac.com



Woodwork Institute
(WI)



The Woodwork Institute, a regional, not-for-profit trade association of architectural woodwork manufacturers and industry suppliers, was established in 1951 and is dedicated to the goals of:

- Promoting information relative to the uses, advantages, and utility of architectural millwork products
- Providing the leading architectural woodwork standards
- Providing unbiased industry consultation and quality assurance programs

The basic principals of WI are its dedication to standards setting, quality assurance, recognition, workforce education, and networking that includes:

- Industry-based seminars, offering AIA Continuing Education System (CES) credits
- CE Bernhauer Scholarship Foundation grants
- Bernie B. Barber Awards of Excellence and the Ralph B. McClure Craftsmanship Awards
- Publications, including:
 - o *Details* Newsletter
 - o *Archetype* magazine
 - o *Manual of Millwork*, Editions 1-11
 - o A wide range of member-centric industry information and resources

In 1953, WI published its first *Manual of Millwork*, followed in 1959 by the establishment of its Certified Compliance Program (CCP) to give the assurance to millwork customers that the fine woodwork specified in their construction documents will comply with the quality grades in these standards. In 2001, WI expanded its quality assurance options with the establishment of its Monitored Compliance Program (MCP).

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THE FOLLOWING ASSOCIATIONS ARE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED:

American Institute of Architects (AIA)
American Institute of Architectural Students (AIAS)
American National Standards Institute (ANSI)
American Society of Interior Designers (ASID)
American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)
American Subcontractors Association (ASA)
Association for Retail Environments (ARE)
Builders Hardware Manufacturers Association (BHMA)
Canadian Kitchen Cabinet Association (CKCA)
Canadian Window and Door Manufacturers Association (CWDMA)
Composite Panel Association (CPA)
Construction Specifications Canada (CSC)
Construction Specifications Institute (CSI)
The Engineered Wood Association (APA)
Hardwood Plywood & Veneer Association (HPVA)
Interior Design of Canada (IDC)
International Interior Design Association (IIDA)
International Solid Surface Fabricators Association (ISSFA)
International Wood Products Association (IWPA)
Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association (KCMA)
Laminating Materials Association (LMA)
National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)
National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
National Hardwood Lumber Association (NHLA)
National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS)
National Research Council Canada (NRC-CNRC)
Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIG)
Scientific Equipment & Furniture Association (SEFA)
Stair Manufacturer Association (SMA)
Temperate Forest Foundation (TeFF)
Tropical Forest Foundation (TFF)
Western Wood Products Association (WWPA)
Window and Door Manufacturers Association (WDMA)
Wood Moulding and Millwork Producers (WMMPA)