

Viracon Security Offering

ASTM F3561 Standard Test Method

Viracon's security glass portfolio offers a range of laminated glass solutions designed to enhance occupant protection by deterring threats, including forced-entry attacks, as tested under ASTM F3561, the industry-preferred standard for security performance.

ASTM F3561 is ASTM's **Standard Test Method for Forced-Entry Resistance of Fenestration Systems After Simulated Active Shooter Attack**. This test method is designed to assess the ability of glazed fenestration systems to withstand an active shooter scenario that involves both ballistic weakening and forced entry attack methods. It provides an important benchmark for evaluating the security performance of glazing systems in high-risk environments such as retail, schools and educational facilities, hospitals, and government buildings.

SECURITY LEVEL	ASTM F3561 ¹	INTERLAYER OPTIONS	INTERLAYER THICKNESS
LOW	2	PVB	.060"
LOW	2	SentryGlas®	.060"
MEDIUM	3	PVB	.090"
MEDIUM	3	SentryGlas®	.090"
MEDIUM	3	Saflex™ VS ²	.077"
MEDIUM	3	Saflex™ HP	.100"
MEDIUM	4	PVB	.120" ³
HIGH	7	SentryGlas®	.180" ³
HIGH	7	Saflex™ VS ²	.154" ³

¹ Laminated glass performance levels have been tested in accordance to ASTM F3561 Appendix X1, which indicates glass-only performance capability and is not a system rating. To qualify, window and door systems must be tested as a complete assembly of glass and glazing system.

² Saflex™ VS is also referred to as Saflex Storm for the hurricane impact market, Saflex™ VS and Storm relate and refer to the same interlayer.

³ Cumulative interlayer thickness within a glass configuration. Two layers of the base interlayer are used.

ASTM F3561 test method consists of two phases:

- 1. Pre-Weakening Phase (Ballistic Assault):** This phase simulates an active shooter scenario by firing multiple rounds at the glass using a designated firearm. The purpose is not to test ballistic resistance but to weaken the structure, mimicking real-world conditions where an attacker uses gunfire to aid in forced entry.
- 2. Forced-Entry Attack Phase:** Following the ballistic phase, a mechanically driven impactor simulates a forced-entry attack by impacting the glazing with sequential forces at prescribed levels. The goal is to assess the force required for an attacker to create an opening large enough for passage, measuring the system's ability to delay or prevent unauthorized access after sustaining gunfire.

SECURITY LEVELS AND APPLICATIONS

The ASTM F3561 test method reflects real-world scenarios where protection against unauthorized forced-entry access is essential to protecting lives and property. The security levels can be organized into:

- **Low:** Levels 1-2, commonly recommended for retail, mixed-use and office buildings
- **Medium:** Levels 3-5, commonly recommended for education and hospital buildings
- **High:** Levels 6-8, commonly recommended for government and high-level security buildings

Specifying laminated glass with suitable glazing systems that comply with ASTM F3561 is an important step in providing durable, reliable protection for buildings and occupants.



Cancer and Cardiovascular Research Building - University of Minnesota Biomedical Discovery District (BDD)



Federal Judiciary Building (Thurgood Marshall)



Beulah Middle School



Henry L. Mayfield Elementary School

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Learn more about Viracon security glass solutions at viracon.com/security or contact your Viracon sales representative or architectural glass team at viracon.com/contact.



VIRACON®
GLASS IS EVERYTHING®

www.viracon.com

Information provided in this document is for reference only. Viracon reserves the right to change product specifications without notice and without incurring obligation. Consult with a Viracon representative when specifying an order.

Copyright © 2025 Viracon. All Rights Reserved.

Viracon and the Viracon logo are registered trademarks of Viracon.

VB-250318