

HINTS FOR HOMEOWNERS

When It Comes To Energy Savings, Don't Overlook Your Windows

(NAPSA)—When most people consider energy savings, they think about things such as lowering thermostats, turning off lights and perhaps setting the washing machine to cold water. What many don't realize is that they may be overlooking an important area. Windows let in natural light, but they can also let in unwanted heat and damaging UV rays that take their toll on furnishings and energy costs. Sun-control window films can be an easy, cost-effective way to block heat and UV rays, helping to reduce energy costs and protecting furnishings from fading.

Until recently, most heat-rejecting window films were tinted dark, used metal or were highly reflective, giving off a mirrorlike appearance. Certain films, such as the Prestige Series from 3M, are clear, nonmetallic films that block up to 66 percent of heat penetrating windows, which can result in less stress on air-conditioning systems and can help lower overall energy costs in summer months. Because they are metal free, the films are not susceptible to corrosion and don't interfere with wireless signals.

Underscoring the effectiveness of window films, select manufacturers recently joined the Clinton Climate Initiative's landmark global procurement agreement to help reduce carbon dioxide emissions by making energy-savings technologies affordable and accessible to cities around the world. Under the agreement, the companies will sell energy-saving window films to 40 of the world's



Homeowners open to the opportunity to save money and energy are looking into sun-control window films.

largest cities at greater volumes and reduced cost.

In addition to energy savings, window films offer myriad benefits, including increased security. By helping to hold shards of glass in place, safety and security window films can provide an extra layer of protection against severe weather and would-be intruders. Pairing window films with an attachment system, such as 3M Impact Protection Adhesive, actually bonds the filmed glass and frame of a window to enhance window strength.

Further, while many people don't think about protecting their skin from the sun when indoors, skin is vulnerable to sun exposure inside as well as out. In fact, the Skin Cancer Foundation recommends many window films as effective UV protection.

A window film dealer can help determine which film is right for your needs. For more information, visit www.3m.com/prestige or call (866) 499-8857.