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High Performance Building  
Solutions



Weathersealants and Durability:  
The Silicone Advantage



## Why Specify Silicone Weatherproofing Sealants?

The successful performance of a building facade is not only defined by its ability to permit and accommodate differential thermal and structural movement in a building; there are other important performance criteria that should be expected from weatherproofing sealants:

- Prevention of water and air intrusion
- Maintenance and/or enhancement of aesthetics
- Enable design versatility
- Long-term movement capabilities and long life expectancy
- Superior durability in outdoor UV exposure
- Provide sound insulation
- Maintain the overall performance of a building and protect the building occupants

For new construction or building renovation, silicone sealants from Dow Corning are unrivaled because they:

- Protect buildings typically three times longer than organic materials in the same applications, thus avoiding premature and costly renovations
- Have proven performance with successful track records in a range of diverse applications
- Provide outstanding life-cycle value
- Ensure all-weather application and performance, are more durable than organic-based materials, and are virtually unaffected by ultraviolet (UV) light
- Stay flexible and maintain adhesion, even while being stretched or compressed
- Resist cracking, splits or tears and don't harden or fade
- Can be applied easily over a wide temperature range

## Silicones Versus Polyurethanes – Visible Differences



Polyurethane sealant cracking



Polyurethane sealant alligating



Dow Corning® silicone sealant (left) and a leading polyurethane sealant after 2,500 hours of humidity and UV exposure in extended weathering, heat and stability tests

Silicone and organic materials are as different chemically as night and day. Organics typically have less resistance to UV exposure, ozone, rain, snow and extreme temperatures. They can harden over time and crack, chalk, “alligator” and lose adhesion, often leading to water leakage. Chemical reversion is another phenomenon in which organic polyurethane loses its cured properties and reverts to a substance with the softness of chewing gum. The differences between silicones and organics are the difference between long-term value and premature failure. Silicones prevail.

*For application versatility, durability, aesthetics and value, silicones outperform organics.*

## Don’t Compromise on Performance

Buildings have a life of their own. They strain against winds, fend off rain and snow, and expand and contract with daily temperature changes and seasonal heat and cold. Building envelopes are the “skins” that must endure constant assault and the cumulative result of even gentle conditions. Silicone weathersealing materials from Dow Corning minimize nature’s toll on building envelopes.

## Dow Corning Silicone Weatherproofing Sealant Range

### **Dow Corning® 756 SMS Building Sealant**

A one-part, surface-modified silicone sealant designed for weatherproofing sensitive porous stone, curtainwalling and metal panels and for the weatherseal joints in structurally glazed facades. It significantly reduces dirt pick-up, fluid migration and fluid streaking, which can be major contributors to surface deterioration.



### **Dow Corning® 791 Silicone Weatherproofing Sealant**

### **Dow Corning® 797 Weatherproofing Sealant**

Specified, premium-performance weatherproofing sealants, designed for the weathersealing of structurally glazed facades, planar systems, general glazing, curtainwalling, and building facades constructed of brick and traditional building products.



### **Dow Corning® 813C Construction and Concrete Silicone Sealant ▲**

A one-part, low-modulus silicone sealant suitable for sealing a range of porous and nonporous surfaces, including concrete, masonry, brick, PVC-U, aluminum, wood, glass and glazed surfaces. It also is suitable for expansion joints.

### **Dow Corning® Firestop Sealant 700**

A one-part, low-modulus silicone sealant designed for weathersealing of curtainwalling, building facades and expansion joints where a fire rating is required. It also is suitable for use in penetration sealing systems where pipes and cables pass through fire-rated structures.

While all products listed are Dow Corning® brand, the product marked with a “▲” is sold via the XIAMETER® Web-enabled business model from Dow Corning, which offers high-quality, reliable standard silicone products online, at market-based prices. Visit [www.xiameter.com](http://www.xiameter.com) to order this product or to learn more.