

[D W M] DOOR AND WINDOW MARKET [D W M] VOLUME 22 • ISSUE 1 • JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2021 TM

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In a Year Like No Other, the Race Was Neck and Neck

From doors and windows to sealants and glass, each year [DWM]'s staff works to research and gather the industry's best products to keep our pages—and our readers—refreshed. Come December, we compile products from every issue, packaging them into a survey to discover which our readers found most significant throughout the year. In 2020, with trade shows falling by the wayside, [DWM]'s editors aimed to make its survey more than just a questionnaire. With full-sized photos and product descriptions, the latest installment proved to be a showcase for the industry's best, doubling as a “shopping” experience, while asking readers to weigh in.

In a year that's destined for the history books, the race was tight—often separated by just a few votes. For machinery, not surprisingly, it was all about automation—designs and features that allow door and window makers to do more with fewer hands (while socially distanced). Meanwhile, wins for high-performance products and those with unique, thermal breaks point to renewed interests in energy efficiency. Lastly, the industry proved that it's ready to focus on the days ahead, with innovations like door and window automations and doors that levitate along their tracks.

Without further ado, following are the top ranked products from 2020:



Doors – Slide/Fold Sunview Leggera Glass Wall System



This year's survey showed that Sunview's Leggera Glass Wall System was a clear choice from 2020. According to readers, among the product's most eye-catching features was the use of magnetic levitation for a rollerless, sliding (or gliding) design. Key benefits include no size limitations for panels, no rollers or sills and ADA compliance. “Using a magnetic operating system is very unique to the fenestration industry,” one reader commented.

► www.sunviewdoors.com



Doors and Windows – New Designs/Features Veka AluConnect

Amid this year's online shows, Veka previewed AluConnect—a complete reimagining of the aluminum window that officials say will first be available in Europe. With profiles that are produced to order, including powder coating and pre-installed gaskets, [DWM]'s readers valued the ability to assemble high-quality



aluminum windows nearly as fast as PVC-U. Most fittings and connecting profiles used for PVC products can be used for AluConnect.

► www.veka.com



Hardware
Roto North America X-Drive Evolve
OP08 Operators



This year’s survey proved to be a tight race in numerous categories, leaving [DWM]’s editors to explore every possible vote. Every reader could be a tie breaker and that was the case for Roto, as the company won hardware by a single vote. Ultimately it was the split-arm option for egress that readers said made the difference for this product. X-Drive Evolve OP08 Operators give window company’s a new option to offer for egress, while the increased length of its connect arm provides a better mechanical advantage for easier operation.

➤ www.rotonorthamerica.com



Hardware – Automated
Caldwell Enginuity



A win for Caldwell’s Enginuity technology proved that the industry is ready to do more than just lock and unlock doors via automation; it’s also time to get them moving. A “no-touch COVID solution should be a hit,” one reader commented, while another said, “The voice command option is wonderful.”

Company officials say that by tying into home automation systems, the possibilities are endless for single-panel patio sliders and slider or hung windows. The system is also an effective solution for meeting ADA requirements.

➤ www.caldwellmfgco.com



Hardware - Components for Big Doors & Windows
AmesburyTruth Heavy Duty Hinge
and Heavy Duty Encore Operator



Every year, doors and windows grow larger. The year 2020 was no different, and that must have been the edge for Amesbury-Truth’s Heavy Duty Hinge and Heavy Duty Encore Operator. The company’s Max Casement system is engineered for weight-carrying capabilities—including support and operation for sashes of up to 140 lbs.

➤ www.amesburytruth.com



Hardware – Finishes
Nostalgic Warehouse Brass Doorknobs
and Hardware



Who’d have thought that in the year of COVID-19, an age-old material would offer up a solution? But that’s exactly the angle that worked for Nostalgic Warehouse in 2020, leaving readers to cite “the ability to neutralize certain viruses” as a key factor.

According to the company, copper and copper alloys were recently registered as the first solid, antimicrobial material, while brass and bronze pose a natural ability to kill certain viruses on contact.

➤ www.nostalgicwarehouse.com



Impact/Coastal
Hope’s Jamestown175 Series

Hope’s enticed readers’ votes in 2020 by announcing that its Jamestown175 Series pivot doors were certified for use within hurricane and impact zones. Doors adhere to Miami-Dade County, Florida Building Code (FBC) and High Velocity Hurricane Zone (HVHZ) standards, including 6-foot by 11-foot single panels.

➤ www.hopeswindows.com

