

# WARM EDGE

## DIGEST

### Salt Lake City order helps CWD inaugurate IG automation

One of Edgetech's newest customers, CWD Windows of Calgary, Alberta, is the proud supplier of all the windows and patio doors for use in a new three-building apartment complex, two of which will be home to the NBC media contingent during the 2002 Winter Olympics. Called Northgate Village—the Gateway Project and designed by Humphreys & Partners Architects of Dallas, the two seven-story media buildings contain 330 apartments, with 1,004 windows and 173 patio doors.

The sizeable order took on even greater significance at CWD in that it was undertaken

on the company's new semi-automated insulating glass assembly line. The new line was installed early in 2001 as part of CWD's complete switchover in edge-seal and spacer systems to Edgetech's Super Spacer®.

With energy efficiency on consumers' minds again and manpower shortages a new fact of life in Alberta, CWD's switch to



Artist's rendering of Northgate Village—the Gateway Project, designed by Humphreys & Partners Architects of Dallas.

Super Spacer dealt with both issues.

"Not only did we get the most thermally-efficient product on the market," notes Operations VP Mike Gaterell, "but Super Spacer lent itself to automation without a

massive capital investment." CWD's choice was the vertical British-designed system from Willian Design of Stevenage, UK.

Installation and start-up of the sophisticated,

optical-sensor-controlled, servo-track system were undertaken with a minimum of small glitches, reports Gaterell. Even the biggest concern of whether the three-phase glass washer could be adapted to use the Rocky Mountain city's exceptionally hard water did not materialize.

"Its internal recycling design employs very little water, which

meant simple softening equipment would do the job," he notes. "If it hadn't been designed that way, we couldn't have used it as cost effectively."

With some 35% of production dedicated to muntin grids, CWD employs a four-person team, all of whose members report they like working with the equipment. The company operates the system for two, 10-hour shifts per day, and despite the muntin load and a fair amount of triples, still manages over 1,100 sealed units per day.

"We've had a great deal of operating success with our Willian equipment," notes Gaterell. "They've really thought through what it takes to have a successful machine."



CWD is pleased with the success of its new Willian line.



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