

For Immediate Release

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**Cambridge Architectural Completes Solar Heat Gain Reduction Analysis
of Metal Fabric Shading Systems**

CAMBRIDGE, MD... Cambridge Architectural, America's leading manufacturer of architectural mesh systems, has developed a Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC) report and Department of Energy (DOE) model that gives architects and engineers the ability to determine energy reduction capabilities of Cambridge Exterior tensioned mounted metal fabric Solar systems.

Designed to reduce heat gain and conserve energy, Cambridge Architectural Solar shading systems create a more sophisticated, refined or even edgy look compared to traditional louvers, canopies, tinted glass, fabric curtains or other solar shading products often used as shading devices.

Cambridge's recent solar heat gain reduction analysis tested the solar heating properties on eight different types of Cambridge metal fabric placed over clear glass varying in thickness. The resulting SHGC can now be used to calculate potential temperature reduction in the shaded space or possible energy savings resulting from the installation of a Cambridge product.

The DOE model examined the energy and financial impact from the installation of a Cambridge mesh screen with 50% coverage onto a 30-story commercial office building with clear, double-glazed windows. Results from the study show a considerable decrease in energy costs. Specifically, the study predicts a savings of a whopping \$94,000 annually for the commercial building under analysis, due to the addition of Cambridge metal fabric.

"The reporting is significant in that it provides concrete evidence of the solar shield functionality of Cambridge Solar metal fabric, demonstrating its ability to dramatically reduce building energy costs," says Kevin Mayer, director of business development and marketing for Cambridge Architectural. "In some cases, the study may serve as a guide for an architect considering the use of Cambridge metal fabric; in other instances we can use what we have learned to tailor a study to determine the solar heat gain reduction for the project at hand."

Utilizing the SHGC and DOE results, Cambridge Architectural recently provided architectural firm Perkins & Will with a study that determined energy reduction statistics for a customized Mid-Balance metal fabric pattern created for use on the University of Washington's Medicine Lake Union Building, a sustainable project that will be completed in March 2008.

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Cambridge/Solar Heat Gain Reduction – Plus One – Contact: Lauren Ban 412-571-1600

"When we first began designing the exterior skin of the Medicine Lake Union project, we knew we wanted to implement a shading system to control the amount of solar heat gain entering the building from the western and southern facades," explains Andrew Clinch, University of Washington Medicine Lake Union Building project architect and designer. "After weighing our options, we chose a woven metal fabric due to its texture and transparency. We chose Cambridge Architectural Mid-Balance metal fabric pattern because we were able to customize the exact opacity to meet our 52% energy requirements. The metal fabric design turned out to be exactly what we were looking for – a light weight exterior shading application that allowed natural light to fill in the lab spaces while simultaneously controlling solar heat gain and reducing our energy costs."

The Mid-Balance metal fabric used on the Medicine Lake Union Building was mounted with a modified Cambridge Eclipse attachment method, which uses elegant, custom cut apertures that receive the metal fabric ends in tubing integrated into a bracket and structural support design.

“The Medicine Lake Union Building project is a prime example of Cambridge’s new-found ability to provide customized energy reduction statistics for Cambridge metal fabric systems - which is vital when it comes to sustainable projects,” continues Mayer. “Cambridge Solar systems remain an innovative, effective and now measurable alternative to traditional shading methods.”

Like traditional shading materials, Cambridge Solar systems significantly reduce solar glare, light pollution and solar heat gain; however, unlike conventional shading materials, architectural mesh also promotes airflow and building security, and is designed to meet an array of opacity, shading and heat reduction requirements.

The interaction of the material with light varies, based on the openness of the mesh pattern. As you might expect, closed, tight weaves can block illumination completely, while more open patterns pass varying degrees of light and heat. As a sun-shade system, woven metal fabric can be specified to diminish the light entering a building or it can be used as an alternative to more traditional wall materials to allow natural day lighting.

Cambridge Architectural is the leading American manufacturer of architectural mesh systems. The elements of a Cambridge system include the attachment hardware and the metal fabric. Systems include Facade, Space Sculpting, Corporate Branding, Security and Safety, Solar, Ventilation and Landscape Interiors. For more information about Cambridge Architectural call 1-866-806-2385 or visit www.CambridgeArchitectural.com.

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