

SEAMLESS ACRYLIC SHIELDING



The system that makes a difference

At Athletica Sport Systems, we continue to be driven by innovation.

Today, as a growing number of arenas move away from seamless tempered glass shielding, we are pleased to introduce our revolutionary new Seamless Acrylic Shielding System (Canadian and US patents pending).

Available exclusively on our CrystaPlex® and Pro Series™ dasherboards, our industry-first seamless acrylic design features CrystaPlex® 590 Plus acrylic shielding panels supported within aluminum U-channels at the top of the dasher panels. The thickness of CrystaPlex® 590 Plus acrylic is guaranteed always to be between 0.585 inches and 0.620 inches.

The edges of adjacent acrylic panels are specially cut and rounded for increased durability and resistance to breakage, and they're retained and separated by our unique polycarbonate HDM Divider Sleeves™ which extend from the top of the dasher boards to the top of the panels.

The HDM Divider Sleeves™

The unique H-profile HDM Divider Sleeves™ flex with the acrylic upon impact, allowing the acrylic to attenuate the shock where the players make impact, while restricting the acrylic from deflecting dangerously into the spectator seats.

HDM Divider Sleeves™ present an ice side surface that is thinner and less obtrusive than any available shielding supports, reducing the likelihood of bad puck bounces.

Player safety, easier facility conversions, super sightlines: A true 3-way win

With the introduction of our new Seamless Acrylic Shielding System, we have created a true 3-way win: for players, we provide the safest, most forgiving shielding system available today; for arena operations crews, we offer lightweight, durable CrystaPlex® 590 Plus acrylic for ease of conversions; and for the fans, we ensure the great sightlines of seamless shielding.



What is CrystaPlex® 590 Plus acrylic?

Not all acrylic shielding is created equal. In some cases, what is referred to as "half-inch" thickness may in fact be as thin as .472" thick.

At Athletica Sport Systems, we take the science of sport seriously: we know that as technology has made hockey sticks lighter and slapshots faster and harder than ever, flimsy shielding doesn't cut it. That's why we only use CrystaPlex® 590 Plus acrylic in our seamless acrylic shielding systems.

The CrystaPlex® 590 Plus acrylic is guaranteed always to be between 0.585 inches and 0.620 inches thick.

You get all the advantages of lightweight acrylic with lasting durability you need in your dasherboard shielding.

NHL mandates replacing seamless tempered glass with acrylic

When the National Hockey League gave notice to league facility operators that they must convert tempered glass shielding in the ends and corners of their rinks to NHL-approved acrylic shielding systems, Athletica Sport Systems stepped up.

As the only dasher board manufacturer recognized as A Preferred Rink Equipment Supplier to the NHL, and as the league leader in design and innovation, our new Seamless Acrylic Shielding System is not only a first in the arena facilities industry, but it was at the top of the list of approved acrylic shielding systems, issued in the Spring of 2011 by the league.

The Seamless Acrylic Shielding System by Athletica Sport Systems, is the only system of its kind to have been independently tested by Martin/Martin Consulting Engineers in accordance with standards for such systems established by the NHL.

GlassFlex® For the ultimate in shock-absorbing shielding

A key component to our Seamless Acrylic Shielding System is the use of our GlassFlex® buffers, which serve to allow the aluminum U-channels at the top of the dasher panels to slide back upon significant impact, and return to their forward position after.

The movement of the channel, along with the inherent flexibility of the acrylic, and the incredible flex in the HDM Divider Sleeve™ add up to provide the most forgiving, player friendly dasherboard shielding system in the world.

Testing by Martin/Martin Consulting Engineers

"From a player perspective, the [Athletica] seamless acrylic system tested exceeds the minimum flexibility requirements defined by the National Hockey League, with results indicating flexibility between 33% and 61% above the current NHL benchmark."

"From a spectator perspective, the deflection of the [Athletica] seamless acrylic system towards spectators is approximately 8% - 33% less than existing acrylic system[s] with polycarbonate posts."

"...the [Athletica] seamless acrylic system has polycarbonate sleeves between adjacent panels which are less harsh on players, when impacted, as compared to the aluminum stanchions currently used in some NHL arenas."

"...the [CrystaPlex® 590 Plus] acrylic panels used with the [Athletica] seamless acrylic system are approximately 0.1 inches thicker than other acrylic panels currently used in NHL arena hockey enclosure systems. This additional thickness as well as the care taken in rounding the edges of the panels and sleeves is significant in reducing the potential for breakage."

Report by Martin/Martin Consulting Engineers, June 6th 2011



Patented GlassFlex® buffers allow movement in U-channel.

