

## THE WOODWORK INSTITUTE STORY

The Woodwork Institute was founded in 1951 and is a regional, established, industry-driven, non-profit association of independent and competing producers of millwork and allied products. Its particular purpose is to promote the development and dissemination of information relative to the uses, advantages, and utility of wood and allied products to the architectural design community.

Originally named the Wood Window Institute of Northern California, with the intent of promoting wood windows to the architectural community, who was beginning to favor metal windows. Shortly after its founding, the organization was renamed the Woodwork Institute of California (WIC), and its focus was broadened to include the development of standards for architectural millwork. The founding Board of Directors agreed the organization should support all woodworkers, not just those producing windows.

In 1953, the Institute published its first *Manual of Millwork*, which for 56 years and eleven editions, has stood the test of time as the premier Standards of the Architectural Millwork Industry.

In 1959, the Institute introduced its Certified Compliance Program (CCP), to work in conjunction with its Standards as an additional quality assurance tool. Acceptance of the program has grown into being a requirement in over 1,800 project specifications annually.

In 2001, the Institute introduced the next logical step; its Monitored Compliance Program (MCP), a quality affirmation tool, which also works in conjunction with the *Manual of Millwork*. MCP goes the additional step of monitoring a project's progress throughout its engineering, fabrication, finishing, and installation. MCP has proven itself as the answer to design professionals that want additional control and affirmation of their design and quality vision.

In 2003, the Institute dropped "of California" from its name to reflect its expanding service area.

In 2007, the Institute joined with the Architectural Woodwork Institute (AWI), and Architectural Woodwork Manufacturers Association of Canada (AWMAC), to create a Joint Standards Committee (JSC), tasked with creating a single joint architectural woodwork standard. Based on the Institute's 12th Edition *Manual of Millwork* that was already under development, the new joint *Architectural Woodwork Standards* (AWS), was completed in mid 2009 for an October 1, 2009 adoption date.

The JSC is governed by twelve, member elected directors, who contributed their individual strengths, providing the Institute and the architectural millwork industry with centuries of crucial experience. No company alone has the ability to produce a resource with such extensive knowledge and expertise.

Today, the Woodwork Institute has the same vision it's had since 1950. That vision is "Assurance" as the leading standards certification authority for the architectural millwork industry. The Institute offers design professionals its expertise through the quality assurance services that are listed within the table of contents.

## DISCLAIMER

The Institute does not guarantee nor assure the safety or performance of any manufactured products, components, or installation found to be in compliance with the AWS and/or its quality control programs. Additionally, we do not guarantee or assure the contract performance of any entity being reviewed under the CCP and/or MCP programs.

**This is a supplemental document only, and by no means should be referred to as a full explanation of policies and procedures.** Specific policies and procedures can be found in full, listed within their applicable section, on our website, [www.woodworkinstitute.com](http://www.woodworkinstitute.com), or you may contact the WI Administrative Office at (916) 372-9943.