The Window & Door Dealers Alliance is Working for YOU

The Window & Door Dealers Alliance (WDDA) is the only business organization advancing the vital interests of independent window and door dealers. The primary mission of the WDDA is to represent the interests of retail, wholesale, and dealers of new and replacement windows, doors, skylights, and related building products.

The EPA's lead paint rules went into effect in 2010. While well-intentioned, the rules could have damaging effects on window and door businesses. In addition, the EPA is seeking further lead clearance and testing rules. You can find more information on the lead paint rules under policy on www.wddalliance.org.

Since the rules took effect, the WDDA has been compiling data and presenting it to the media, policymakers, EPA, etc. At issue, pure and simple, is the increased cost of doing business. The WDDA's letter writing campaigns, and meetings with the Office of Management and Budget in Washington, ensured that the federal government was aware of the impact on the window and door industry nationwide.

Respondents to a recent survey conducted by the WDDA reported that the LRRP are already having a significant impact. More than 70% reported that they have lost business since the rule went into effect. Contractors trying to follow the new rules are losing business to competitors who refuse to abide by them.

The EPA is trying to impose an additional lead clearance testing rule. The agency projects the rule will add $250 to renovation costs per room. Firms not following the LRRP rule could face fines up to $37,500 per day, per violation.

Whether pressing for relief at a White House meeting, making waves at the EPA, or contacting Congressmen, the WDDA is becoming the voice of independent window and dealers.

Here's what you can do:

1. Get involved, educated, trained, and certified. Thanks to our work, and that of a coalition of groups who banded together to fight them, the EPA extended their certification requirement deadline to Oct 1.
2. Take the EPA's fines seriously. The feds have assigned enforcement authority to several state EPAs. Last month, a Detroit renovator was fined some $750,000 and a Boston firm $85,000. All because the companies, among other things, did not ensure that their lead hazard flyers were handed out as authorized.
3. Visit the EPA's site for more details on the rules: http://www.epa.gov/lead/.
4. Join the WDDA. For the first time, independent window and door dealers have a voice in Washington. Washington listens to numbers - the stronger we are, the bigger difference we can make.

To learn more, visit www.wddalliance.org or call (703) 422-4890, ext 153.