

PRESS RELEASE

A window of opportunity

The future of wooden windows and doors is here – with the launch of Swartland's innovative Ready-2-Fit range.

21 February 2013, Johannesburg: Top quality timber architectural accents, such as beautifully crafted wooden windows and doors, can add an organically attractive and timelessly elegant aesthetic to any building they grace. Over and above the beauty of these features, wood is also a wonderfully environmentally friendly choice of building material, as it is renewable, an excellent insulator, and, if properly maintained, it is exceptionally durable and long lasting.

However, traditionally, wooden windows and doors came with their own set of problems. First off, installation methods were often not able to guarantee perfect results due to inconsistent levels of workmanship. Also, any raw timber products left outdoors are at the mercy of the elements until they were installed, glazed and sealed. Exposing raw timber to damp or wet conditions for example, can lead to serious damage down the line. Since you need to install, then treat and seal the wood, and then install the glazing – installation can be very time consuming and costly. Lastly, in the past, properly maintaining wooden windows and doors could be an arduous and laborious job.

Swartland's Ready-2-Fit range is the answer

With the launch of Swartland's Ready-2-Fit range however, all the aforementioned problems are a thing of the past! Cobus Lourens, National Sales Manager for Swartland, explains: "The Ready-2-Fit range of wooden windows and doors are professionally sealed and glazed before they leave the Swartland factory, so that when they arrive on the building site, they are ready to be installed with no further labour required to seal or glaze them.

"This not only saves the builder and homeowner time and money on installation costs, but it also ensures that the windows and doors are adequately protected against exposure to the elements. It also vastly increases the overall build quality – ensuring that the windows and doors are finished to Swartland's exacting standards and therefore, ensuring that any warranties are upheld," he explains.

Cobus notes that there are a number of benefits to the Ready-2-Fit range, including:

- **The benefits of being pre-sealed:** All the Ready-2-Fit windows and doors are pre-sealed with Swartland's new German-manufactured Maxicare water-based sealant before they leave the factory to ensure unbeatable protection against the elements. Maxicare water-based sealant boasts a number of benefits, including the fact that it is an environmentally-friendly sealant, with low VOC emissions, it is UV- and water-resistant, non-flammable, lead-free, and it contains anti-fungal

properties to protect the timber from fungus, such as dry rot for example. It will also offer years of protection from the damaging effects of extreme temperatures, humidity, cold, rain and sunlight. To cater for darker colours, such as Teak and Imbuia for example, the Maxicare water-based sealant contains heat-reflective pigments that lower the surface temperature of the wood to reduce natural movement.

- **No more sanding required:** What really makes the Maxicare water-based sealant a real winner is the fact that it makes wooden windows and doors a synch to maintain in the long-term. Gone are the days when you had to laboriously sand wooden windows and doors before re-sealing them – now you can simply wash and wipe them down using the specially formulated Maxicare Wash'n Wipe Wood Maintenance and Touch-Up Kit to restore them to their original beauty. The kit comes complete with a Cleaning Agent, Protective Emulsion, Protective Glaze and a sponge, and it is readily available from leading building merchants nationwide.
- **All glazing is taken care of:** All Ready-2-Fit windows and applicable doors come pre-glazed with standard 4mm glass or 6,38mm safety glass, in accordance with the National Building Regulations. Double-glazing and Low-E glass is also available on request, depending on the application and level of thermal and acoustic insulation required.
- **Compliance with the National Building Regulations and Consumer Protection Act:** Swartland continuously tests its products to ensure that they are compliant with the National Building Regulations. In order to ensure that its windows are compliant with the SANS 613 and 204 (Fenestration Products) Mechanical Performance Criteria, the Ready-2-Fit range of windows are tested for deflection, structural strength, water-resistance, air-tightness, operating forces, and the best possible energy efficiency. As a result, all Swartland's Ready-2-Fit windows have unique mechanical property values, from A1 to A4, assigned to them.
- **Swartland's sub-frame system:** Swartland has launched an innovative sub-frame system – made from PVC-U, these cavity closers will ensure simple and accurate fitting of all its windows and doors, especially when installed by Swartland-accredited installers. The PVC-U cavity closers are the simplest, and most effective way to seal window and door cavities, while also creating a rigid template for the surrounding bricks. The tight fit ensures the best thermal performance, and it forms a barrier against condensation and mould growth. These cavity closers also mean added savings in the building costs – every metre of cavity closer installed should save approximately 10 bricks. The sub-frame system offers architects and builders a fast, hassle-free installation method that will guarantee superior build quality, and ensure that all guarantees are maintained.

Swartland's pre-sealed and pre-glazed Ready-2-Fit range of wooden windows and doors are available for all its Cape Culture and Winsters products. They can

be ordered through all leading building merchants nationwide. When ordering, be sure to specify one of the Maxicare colours (Imbuia, Light Oak, Mahogany, Teak, White), as well as your choice of glazing.

Cobus concludes: "The Ready-2-Fit range of wooden windows and doors from Swartland is a testament to the company's dedication to providing innovative solutions to the construction and design industries, as well as entrenching its position as an industry leader in providing quality, eco-friendly solutions. With all the benefits inherent in the new Ready-2-Fit range – it really should be the only choice for superlative buildings and homes alike."

Visit www.swartland.co.za for more information, or call Swartland's customer service department on 086 10 2425 or email them at customerservice@swatland.co.za.

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Benefits of Swartland's Ready-2-Fit range at a glance:

- No more sanding - easy wash 'n wipe maintenance.
- Excellent durability ensured with Maxicare water-based sealant.
- Trouble-free installation saves time, bricks and significantly reduces costs.
- Improves build quality at no extra cost.
- Validates the Swartland guarantee.
- It is an eco-friendly and energy-efficient solution.
- Constant testing ensures compliance with the National Building Regulation and Consumer Protection Act.
- Offers good thermal and sound insulation, depending on the glass chosen.

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Released on behalf of Swartland (www.swartland.co.za) by The Line Communications (www.theline.co.za, ant@theline.co.za).