

SYNOPSIS

AFG Industries filed suit against Cardinal for patent infringement. The suit involved a patent jointly owned by Asahi and AFG relating to thin film low emissivity coatings typically used in double pane windows. Issued in November 1986, the Oyama Patent taught the use of five thin layers of zinc and silver to control color and reduce reflectance. These coatings reflect heat from the sun while allowing visible light to pass through the window. This new discovery started to appear in the coated glass products of other manufacturers. Cardinal sold the infringing coated glass and insulated glass units from 1991 to 2001 to window manufacturers to construct residential windows.

Z-Axis worked with the law firm of Oblon Spivak, who represented plaintiff AFG and Asahi Glass, to create a series of animated exhibits demonstrating how the patented glass products worked and how the accused products infringed. The key exhibits were a series of interactive check lists that highlighted how each layer of the accused products matched every element of the claim language.

VERDICT

On August 1 2005, the jury returned a verdict of slightly more than \$25 million in favor of AFG.

