

# New Glass



**Q:** How do you replace an 82 kg panel of specialised double glazed glass 10 floors up?

**A:** Very carefully!

To maintain New Acton South as one of the most desirable residential buildings in Canberra, we sometimes have to replace parts of the curtain wall or façade. In this case, two windows on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> levels were damaged by a piece of flashing which fell from the roof during a storm.

There about six different types of glass on the outside of the building and the original specially-designed and coated double glazed glass is no longer available in Australia.

Our insurers engaged Canberra-based Croker Glass, who found a company in the United States able to make panels to the original specification of the architects who designed the building.



After much measuring, ordering, shipping, customs clearance and organisation, and a day that was not too windy or wet, Croker Glass and Rope Access Engineering installed the new glass. For safety, we needed six people, all in safety harnesses. Special high strength bolts had to be installed inside the building and two men roped down the side of the building, with the other four men roped to strong points inside the building. All up the delicate operation took about half a day.

Now, we're told that the ability to make replacement glass of this exact specification no longer exists, so future glass replacements will need to be made as close as possible to the original.

All up, it was a difficult and expensive operation. Fortunately covered by insurance and fortunately with the reputation of this fine building intact.