Nottingham Trams

The Nottingham Tramline was looking for ways to protect not only windows but also the safety of their passengers. The Nottingham tramline was looking for ways to protect the windows of its stock from graffiti and gained the added benefit of improved safety for passengers.

Nottingham opened its first line of the Nottingham Express Transit (NET) tram system in March 2004. NET Line One saw over 500,000 passengers using the line in the first month - putting the system on-target to achieve 8.5m passengers in the first year.

One of the concerns prior to opening was that of graffiti on the windows. Clive Pennington, Engineering Manager NET, says: “We have strict performance criteria covering measures such as time and removal of graffiti. We decided to look at preventative measures - ways to prevent graffiti and ease removal.”

The answer was 3M™ Scotchshield™ Window Film. The film acts as a sacrificial layer as it is frequently cheaper to replace than existing glazing and involves less downtime for the tram. During discussions with 3M, Clive learned of the added benefits of 3M™ Scotchshield™ SCL400 ULTRA High Performance Safety and Security Film.

By investing in this unique laminated film, NET was also able to improve passenger safety on the trams. The film is the same thickness as standard 3M™ Scotchshield™ Window Film but affords extra protection because of its micro-layer construction.

Says Clive: “Sadly the times we live in mean that some people will hurl missiles at a passing tram. We’ve already had two instances of tram windows being broken but the panes have stayed together because of the film. This has meant passengers are safer and experience minimum inconvenience as the tram can continue its journey back to the depot.

It’s early days yet but we’ve already seen the benefits. If the film helps to protect passengers and improves the trams’ performance it has to be a good thing.”

3M Building Safety Solutions Department
3M United Kingdom PLC
3M Centre
Cain Road, Bracknell
Berkshire RG12 8HT
Tel: 01344 858000
Fax: 01344 858306
http://www.3M.com/uk