

AutoCAD software drives our innovative online product ordering and collaboration process. We've created customizations that have cut the time it takes to select, configure, and order products significantly.

—Carey Hatcher
CAD Technologies Manager
EFCO Corporation

Opening the window to faster ordering.

EFCO uses an online library of designs to help customers configure orders for windows and more—quickly and easily.

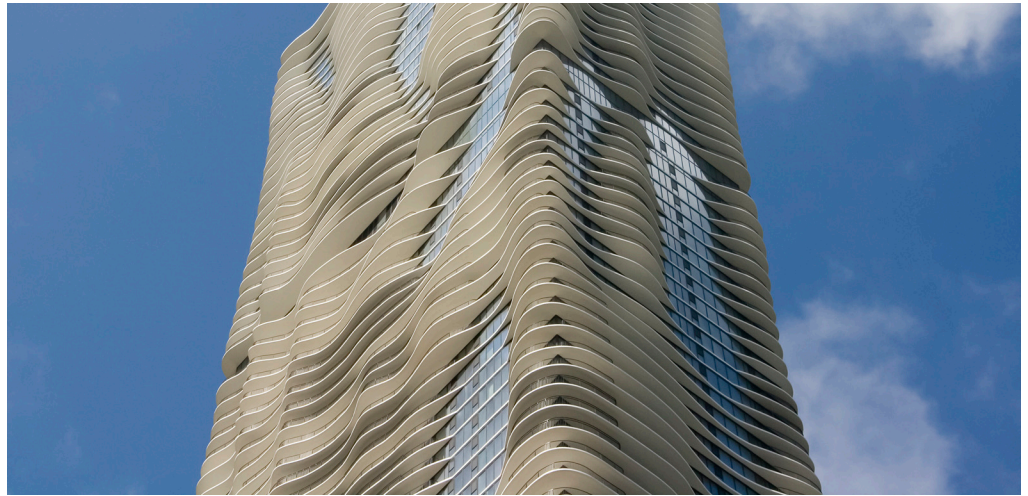


Image courtesy of EFCO Corporation.

Project Summary

EFCO manufactures architectural windows, curtain walls, storefronts, and entrance systems for commercial building projects. Known for its high-quality custom windows, the company manufactures all products to order. To develop new product lines, EFCO uses Autodesk® Inventor® software. Then the company uses AutoCAD® software to make it easier for customers to incorporate EFCO products into building designs and to develop shop drawings more quickly. Thanks to its efficient workflow, no job is too large—or complex—for EFCO. For example, the company recently provided the windows for the 82-story Aqua Building in Chicago. EFCO relied on AutoCAD software to help streamline virtually every aspect of the project, from working with the customer to generating the more than 300 shop drawing sheets needed during manufacturing.

For customers, working with EFCO content begins online. Using an online engineering detail library, customers quickly blend EFCO products into building designs. Because the library is built on familiar AutoCAD software, architects, engineers, and contractors find it easier—and faster—to use. The AutoCAD-based library enables customers to select entire window systems, view them in context and draft modifications. EFCO programmed custom automations into AutoCAD software that automatically generate plan and elevation views as DWG™ drawings. Customers can add details to the drawings within their own AutoCAD software. Dynamic

blocks help customers create accurate drawings faster and more easily. After ordering, customers can engage EFCO to develop shop drawings or customers can continue to leverage AutoCAD software to draft drawings themselves. To streamline the in-house creation of shop drawings, EFCO customized the interface of its drafters' AutoCAD software to accelerate common tasks, such as specifying extrusions. By using AutoCAD in-house and to collaborate with customers, EFCO has been able to:

- Help customers to generate elevations to request quotes up to twice as fast
- Make more than 22,000 customizable section details available to customers
- Accelerate the creation of shop drawings
- Gain competitive advantage by incorporating a widely used CAD tool into the ordering process

About EFCO

The EFCO Corporation, a Pella company, is a leading supplier of custom windows for commercial construction. Founded in 1951 and based in Monett, Missouri, EFCO employs more than 1,600 people. The company's dedication to making it easier for architects and contractors to incorporate high-quality, custom window systems into projects has helped the company to grow and thrive.

Learn More

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