

## ALUR FAQs

### Q. What is ALUR?

**A.** Winner of a Best of NeoCon, ALUR represents the next generation of movable walls, combining storefront glass with modular dividing walls. ALUR Glass Wall is a 1/2" butt-glazed system, with frameless glass doors, minimal channels, polycarbonate "dry-joints", and a unique sliding door design. Our innovative nib wall configuration (sidelight in dividing wall) provides an elegant alternative to the unsightly interface of 5" drywall and storefront glass, and helps maximize light transference creating the perception of a more spacious office. ALUR Dividing Wall is a 3 1/2" thick modular dividing wall with exceptional sound attenuation. It is available in both vertical and horizontal applications including off-module furniture hang-on capability with tackboards and markerboards. The Dividing Wall provides greater design appeal, functionality and sound privacy than conventional drywall, and perfectly integrates with our ALUR Glass Wall. The ALUR Dividing Wall also comes with optional modular power/voice/data. And at only 3 1/2" thick, ALUR Dividing Wall will help save floor space.

### Q. Is ALUR demountable?

**A.** ALUR is a demountable wall system. One of the key advantages of the ALUR is that it is a complete system vs an ad hoc set of aluminum extrusions and glazing with silicone "wet" joints. This is a very important distinction from what is typically referred to as *stick built and storefront glass walls*. Demountable walls also qualify for accelerated tax depreciation.

### Q. How does ALUR compare to cost of drywall?

**A.** The initial cost is higher than drywall, but comparable to glass storefront assemblies that include doors and hardware. When comparing costs, it is important to consider all the trades that will be affected by installing completed walls at the same time as the furniture (as opposed to typical construction costs). This includes painters who will have fewer corners and less trim. Also, carpets, floor bases and ceilings will have fewer stops or cuts. Demolition, sanding and other debris producing actions will be reduced. In addition, ALUR is categorized as furniture by the IRS and therefore qualifies for accelerated depreciation in most cases. Check with your accountant for details.

### Q. Why are ALUR Dividing Wall tiles offered in both vertical and horizontal versions?

**A.** The ALUR Dividing Wall was developed for both functional and aesthetic excellence. The "vertical" application is for dividing space only and is not intended to hang components. This eliminates the need for a space between tiles for hanging tracks, resulting in a more unified appearance and tighter fit between tiles to reduce sound transmission. The "horizontal" application has a built-in track that accepts hang-on components and also serves as an architectural reveal (no vertical seams) to separate various functional and decorative tile options. The horizontal tracks also provide additional rigidity when hanging wall-mounted components.

### Q. Why are ALUR Glass Wall polycarbonate joints better than silicone or tape?

**A.** ALUR polycarbonate “dry joints” come in “I” (in-line), “L” (two-way), “T” (three-way), and 135° (two-way) style connectors. Unlike silicone joints, which will yellow and shrink over time, separate from the glass surface and allow sound to leak through, the ALUR polycarbonate joints are almost completely clear and will not shrink. In addition, the joints and the beveled glass edges are specially shaped to create a rigid tongue and groove design to eliminate the bowing prevalent with silicone or taped joints. This proprietary joint design also provides an optimal glass-to-glass seal with no sound leakage and forms a structural connection to minimize glass deflection.

**Q. What type of glass does ALUR offer?**

**A.** ALUR Glass Wall comes standard in 1/2” clear tempered. ALUR is also available in frosted tempered, white laminated annealed glass or low iron tempered glass at an upcharge and extended lead time. Architectural glass including laminated pressed glass and composite resins may be available upon request.

**Q. Why is 1/2” tempered glass better than 3/8” laminated glass?**

**A.** Tempered glass is much stronger than laminated glass. Using an example of a 9’-6” ceiling height, tempered glass will deflect an acceptable 0.84” at 5 psf; laminated glass on the other hand will deflect an astounding 3.5”, which is more than 4 times the deflection of tempered glass. This strength difference is significant when taking into consideration safety concerns (i.e. someone leaning on the glass). Because 1/2” tempered glass is much stronger, ALUR glass butt-glazed panels can be as large as 5’ wide by 10’ tall, whereas 3/8” laminated glass maximum size is 3’ wide by 9’ tall, in most cases. This reduces the number of glass seams for a more streamlined look.

**Q. What is the ALUR postless option?**

**A.** ALUR comes standard with aluminum posts at doors and walls, which provides greater adjustability in wall-to-wall dimensions and some adjustability with uneven walls. The ALUR postless design utilizes low profile polycarbonate channels at wall connections and polycarbonates strips with brush gaskets at doors for a sleeker more minimalist design. And, with less aluminum, the postless option offers the additional benefit of lower cost. Floor closers are also available for both options.

**Q. Why is ALUR bead-blasted anodized finish better than regular anodized aluminum?**

**A.** Bead blasting is essentially like pressure water that uses glass beads instead of water. Ultrafine glass beads produce a “soft” appearance similar to an Apple MacBook. In addition to the modern aesthetic, the bead-blasted anodized finish is scratch resistant and won’t show fingerprints.

**Q. What types of locks are available for ALUR?**

**A.** ALUR lever locksets are available with Europrofile lock cores, which can be re-keyed by a locksmith. ALUR locksets are also available in the more common Schlage C type keyway on the lever sets for an upcharge and extended lead-time. The locking ladder pulls use the Best-style 7-pin small format interchangeable cores (SFIC). SFIC’s are very common in the U.S. and compatible with many building standards. A locksmith can easily re-key them as well.

**Q. Why does ALUR offer better sound privacy than other modular walls?**

**A.** Most modular walls have numerous gaps and seams, also called flanking paths, where sound can pass through from one side of wall to other. ALUR on the other hand was designed for maximum sound attenuation. The ALUR Glass wall features premium 1/2" tempered glass, offering an exceptional 36 STC rating. ALUR's proprietary tongue and groove polycarbonate "dry" joints provide a perfect glass-to-glass seal, unlike a contractor's silicone "wet" joints that will shrink over time and let sound through. Both top and floor tracks install tight to the ceiling and floor and have dual gaskets to prevent sound loss. Wall channels have compression gaskets that tightly seal the glass inside the frame. In addition, the sliding doors have brush gaskets at the top, bottom and to one side with a pocket on the closing side post to help reduce sound loss at the door opening. The ALUR Dividing wall features a thick 5/8" high-density wood core and 2" Roxul AFB post-consumer insulation, offering an exceptional 42 STC. The vertical panels have very tight seams, and the horizontal panels have sealed overlapping furniture tracks.

**Q. What makes the ALUR glass sliding door exceptional?**

**A.** Sliding doors or barn doors are one of the most desirable features of glass walls, yet they are an afterthought in the design of most systems and very expensive. In contrast, ALUR features a unique design innovation whereby the sliding door is completely concealed on the backside of the top frame and not visible from the front. The ALUR sliding door mechanism is also exceptionally smooth and quiet, requiring less than 5 lbs of lateral pressure on a 10' high door. In addition to the superior features and performance, the ALUR sliding door is available at an affordable price.

**Q. What is the lead-time for ALUR?**

**A.** The lead-time is 5 weeks after verification of field dimensions and approval of shop drawings in regions west of the Mississippi or 6 weeks in the east for standard size orders. You can reduce these times by half with expedited shipping of extrusions only, or by ordering from a limited selection stock program. Unlike modular walls that require verification of site as-built dimensions prior to ordering, ALUR framing is oversized, so the product can be ordered early based on construction drawings. Since both ALUR Glass and Dividing Wall tiles are provided locally the lead-time is effectively reduced to only the time it takes to get them to job site after verification of site dimensions, which in most cases is only two to three weeks.

**Q. Why is ALUR more adaptable to building conditions?**

**A.** Although demountable glass walls are considered furniture, in reality it's more like construction. Unlike our competitors with fixed panel sizes and leveling glides, ALUR is designed to conform to variety of building conditions and more importantly adapt to changes and variables that may arise. ALUR framing is oversized and cut to fit on job site. The glass and solid tiles are then ordered based on the final opening size. This innovative design allows ALUR to better adapt to uneven floors, walls and even ceilings. In addition, this eliminates the need for contentious hold-to dimensions and the added expense of floating the floor.