

## **Norman Nitschke**

### **Norman Nitschke Co-Founder & Executive Vice President (Retired) Glasstech, Inc.**



Norman Nitschke is a pioneer of the Safety Glass Industry. Norm attended the Business School at the University of Toledo, and then graduated with degrees in Electrical Engineering and Engineering Physics from the University of Michigan. He has received honorary degrees from the University of Toledo and Defiance College.

After several years with Sun Oil Company and LOF Glass, in 1951 Norm joined safety glass startup Permaglass, Inc. as Vice-President of Engineering. Permaglass produced tempered safety glass in television implosion plates, and introduced tempered safety glass to the automobile industry with the 1957 Chrysler Imperial, followed by curved sidelites in Ford, American Motors and Studebaker products. Today 100% of U.S. and foreign cars use tempered safety glass in side and rear windows.

Norm helped form the Consumer Product Safety Commission and drafted the ANSI Standard for Architectural Safety Glass. He served as the first president of the Safety Glazing Certification Council. He is a past president of the Glass Tempering Association. Norm is a co-inventor of the Permaglass Air Float process for automotive sideglass production, which was licensed to glassmakers in the US, Europe and Japan. Norm co-founded Glasstech, Inc. in 1971. As Vice President of Engineering, then Executive Vice President, he helped develop Glasstech's line of Roller Hearth tempering furnace systems. He has traveled the world, negotiating contracts with every major glassmaker. He is the inventor or co-inventor on over 40 U.S. patents and numerous additional foreign counterparts.

Since his retirement in 1989 he has been active with alternative energy projects and community organizations including; Toledo Museum of Art, The Toledo Symphony, Bowling Green State University Musical Arts and Photochemical Center, usually as a Board member.