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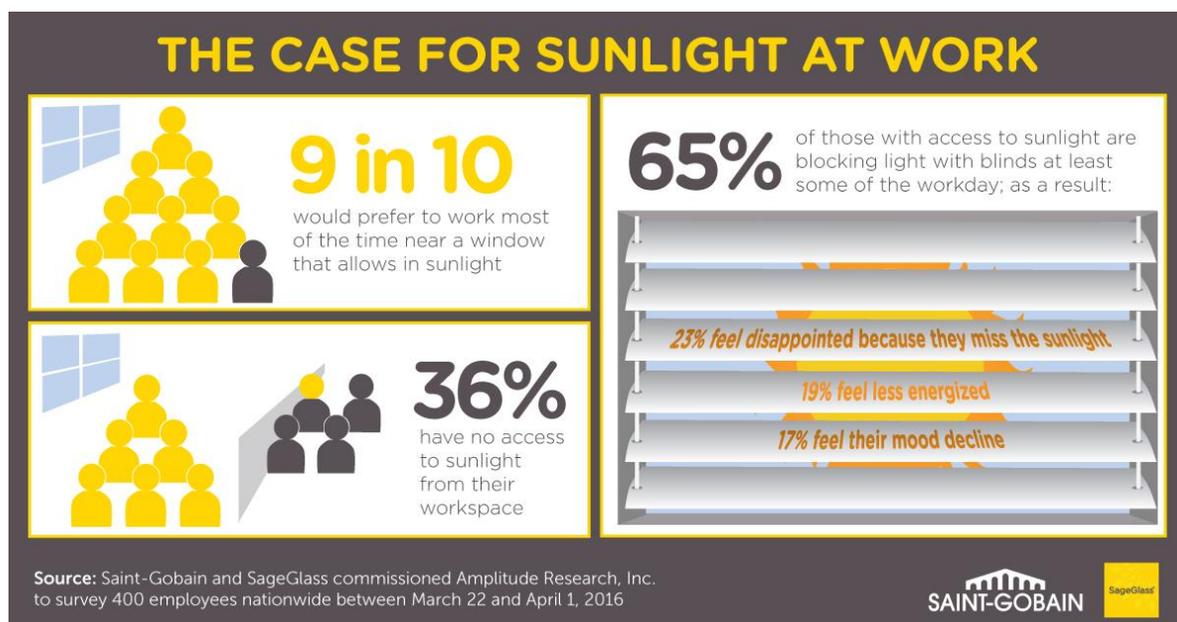
National Survey Reveals Offices Aren't Built to Benefit Employees

Saint-Gobain and SageGlass Work Environment Survey finds insufficient access to daylight, poor air quality and distracting noise at workplaces

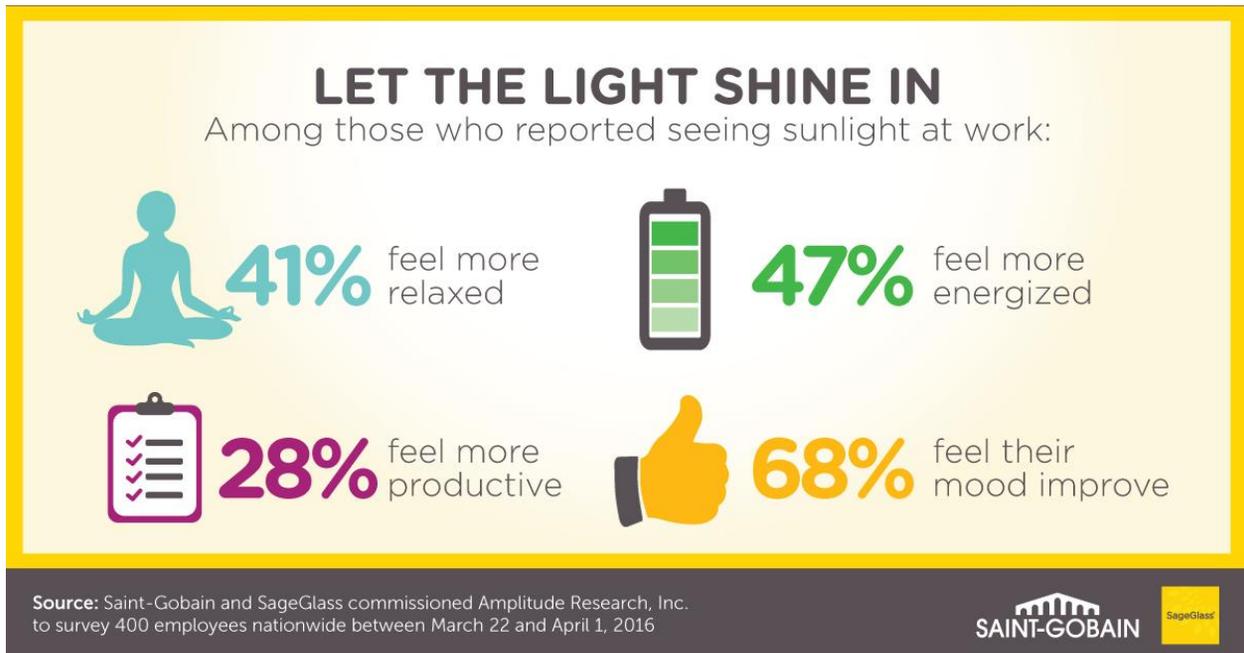
MALVERN, Pa. – May 5, 2016 – Saint-Gobain, one of the world's largest building materials companies, and its subsidiary SageGlass®, the pioneer of the world's smartest electrochromic glass, today announced the results of its 2016 Work Environment Survey. This national survey of 400 office workers revealed many have limited access to daylight, experience poor air quality and uncomfortable temperatures and are distracted by too much noise in their workplace. The findings point to a need to improve the quality of the office environment nationwide by creating spaces that are built to benefit employee well-being, which can have a significant impact on productivity, and ultimately, a company's bottom line.

"The office environment is one of the most important elements of any company because it significantly impacts the most valuable asset — employees. With workplace satisfaction and productivity at stake, we believe it's time workplaces reflect their significance," said John Crowe, president and CEO of Saint-Gobain and CertainTeed Corporations. "For this reason, Saint-Gobain recently opened a new 65-acre North American headquarters that is designed to improve the quality of our employees' lives and, in doing so, inspire them to create the next chapter of our 350-year innovation legacy."

One of the most impactful elements on employee well-being is natural light. In fact, nearly 9 in 10 (87%) survey respondents said they would prefer to work near a window most of the time. Despite this overwhelming desire to be exposed to natural light, 36% of office workers do not have a window near their workspace. Of those with access to a window, 65% have blinds or curtains that block sunlight at least some of the day. It's not just sunlight being blocked, but the restorative benefits of the outdoors. In fact, 32% of those with window access rarely or never see pleasant vistas.



According to the Saint-Gobain and SageGlass survey, those with access to daylight and views of the outdoors are experiencing the benefits. Among those who reported seeing sunlight at work, approximately two-thirds (68%) indicated sunlight improves their mood, while nearly half (47%) felt sunlight makes them more energized and around 4 in 10 felt more relaxed (41%) and less stressed (36%). More than a quarter (28%) felt exposure to sunlight at work makes them more productive.



Beyond sunlight, a connection to the natural environment was also found to have a significant impact on well-being, but too few are connecting to the outdoors. Only a quarter of those surveyed can see outdoor scenery and nearly one-third (32%) rarely or never see it. This is especially concerning when you consider the restorative benefits of nature that could be realized if more employees had access to outdoor views. More than half felt looking at natural scenery while at work relaxed them (61%), provided a good way to take a break (60%) and reduced their stress level (53%).

“Daylight and a connection to the outdoors have a powerful impact on employee well-being and it’s concerning that many office workers spend most of their day in an environment with no access to natural light,” said Dr. Alan McLenaghan, CEO of SageGlass. “No matter the size or location of a company, the workplace is at the heart of a strong internal culture and therefore should be a space that is healthy and comfortable. If companies want happier and more productive employees, it’s time to evaluate the workplace they’re providing.”



Additional Survey Highlights



- **The Temperature is Rarely Just Right** - The majority of office workers felt that at least sometimes the temperature at work was too cool (73%) and/or too warm (63%).
- **Many Offices Have Poor Air Quality** - Nearly half of respondents felt that at least sometimes at work they experienced stale air/poor air quality (47%) and/or there was not enough humidity/too dry (46%).
- **Noise is Problematic** - Nearly two-thirds (65%) of office workers found themselves distracted and/or irritated by too much noise at work at least sometimes.
- **Access to Sunlight Impacts Job Satisfaction** - Office workers who rarely or never see sunlight at work were less likely to be satisfied with their job than those who see sunlight at work at least sometimes (57% vs. 75%, respectively).
- **Artificial Lighting and Sunlight Need Better Control** - In regards to lighting from sunlight and artificial lighting, more than one-third of office workers felt the following applied at work at least sometimes: the lighting was too bright (46%), irritating (36%) and/or distracting (36%).

About Saint-Gobain in North America

Saint-Gobain, the world leader in sustainable environments, has designed and manufactured high-performance building materials that improve the lives of people all over the world. From the Hall of Mirrors at the Palace of Versailles and the glass pyramid at the Louvre, to the Statue of Liberty and the World Trade Center, and even components that allow the Mars rover Curiosity to seek out life on another planet, Saint-Gobain has been a part of the fabric of human history, advancement and improvement.

In North America, the company upholds this rich history of innovation by making a material difference in the spaces where people work, live, play, heal and learn. Along with its North American headquarters in Malvern, Pennsylvania, Saint-Gobain has more than 150 locations in North America and approximately 14,000 employees. In the United States and Canada, Saint-Gobain reported sales of approximately \$5.7 billion in 2015. Experience our innovation, wonders and advancements by visiting www.saint-gobain-northamerica.com and connect with Saint-Gobain North America on Facebook and Twitter.

About SageGlass®

SageGlass® is the pioneer of the world's smartest electrochromic glass and is transforming the indoor experience for people by connecting the built and natural environments. Electronically tintable SageGlass, a product of Saint-Gobain, dynamically optimizes daylight and manages temperature – all while maintaining unobstructed views of the outdoors. With SageGlass, building occupants can comfortably experience the biophilic benefits of the outdoors, including stress reduction, enhanced creativity and an improved sense of well-being. Unlike conventional sun controls, such as mechanical window shades or blinds, SageGlass allows architects to elegantly solve solar control challenges without sacrificing aesthetics and design. As a wholly owned subsidiary of Saint-Gobain, SageGlass is backed by 350 years of building science expertise that only the world leader in sustainable environments can provide. Ready to look again? Visit www.SageGlass.com, [@Sage Glass](https://www.facebook.com/SageGlass), or [Facebook.com/SageGlass](https://www.facebook.com/SageGlass).

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