Estimating software
Programs ensure accuracy and efficiency

Compiled by Jenni Chase

Whether creating a bid for a general contractor, or pricing a new window for a customer, estimating and quoting software provides users a host of tools to ensure accuracy and efficiency. Compiled and researched by the editors of Glass Magazine, the following chart reviews the capabilities, requirements and costs of a variety of estimating programs available to the industry. Future charts will include information on point-of-sale, production and other software. Software providers, to ensure your programs are included, please contact Jenni Chase at jchase@glass.org.

Key

OS: operating system	**RAM:** random-access memory
GHz: gigahertz	**MB:** megabyte
GB: gigabyte	**BIM:** building information modeling

Software provider	Contact information	Software package/program	Hardware requirements	Installation and technical support	Software cost
Ceres Systems Corp.	650/938-1000, www.ceressystems.com	Silica Lite: Glass layout design, ordering and pricing software for customers of fabricators.	PC or Macintosh hardware, high-speed Internet, Microsoft XP or Windows 7, and Apple OS. Java required—available free from Oracle/Sun Microsystems.	Download from the Web site. Java application for Microsoft PC XP and Windows 7, and Apple OS. 30-day free trial. Free support to current customers.	$365 a year to print quotes and invoices. $1,200 for printing layout designs, quotes and invoices. Unlimited prints up to 10 machines per company.
Ceres Systems Corp.	650/938-1000, www.ceressystems.com	Silica: Order management system for quoting, invoicing and purchase orders. Orders or customer contacts are never lost with this program. Improves workflow and employee management.	PC or Macintosh hardware, high-speed Internet, Microsoft XP or Windows 7, and Apple OS. Java required—available free from Oracle/Sun Microsystems.	Java application for Microsoft PC XP and Windows 7, and Apple OS. Runs as a true Internet application.	$65 per month per user. Fixed pricing of $120 per company per month for first year.
DeMichele Group	480/985-4926, www.demichelegroup.com	PartnerPak: Storefront and curtain wall program with easy elevation input via graphics editor. Includes complete pricing, material and labor requirements; cutting instructions; glass sizes; printer drawings; CAD interface; Kawneer catalog.	PC -1 GHz processor; 1 GB RAM; 500 MB hard drive; Windows XP, Vista, or 7; 32-bit or 64-bit	Download or CD installation. Telephone support and online training included in program price. Onsite training available for fee and expenses.	$500 setup: $100 to $300 per month based on function of program chosen.
DeMichele Group	480/985-4926, www.demichelegroup.com	eSolution: Storefront and curtain wall program with easy elevation input via graphics editor. Includes complete pricing, material and labor requirements; cutting instructions; glass sizes; printer drawings; CAD interface; EFCO catalog.	PC -1 GHz processor; 1 GB RAM; 500 MB hard drive; Windows XP, Vista or 7; 32-bit or 64-bit	Download or CD installation. Telephone support and online training included in program price. Onsite training available for fee and expenses.	$500 setup: $100 to $300 per month based on function of program chosen.
DeMichele Group	480/985-4926, www.demichelegroup.com	ePartners: Storefront and curtain wall program with easy elevation input via graphics editor. Includes complete pricing, material and labor requirements; cutting instructions; glass sizes; printer drawings; CAD interface; US Aluminum catalog.	PC -1 GHz processor; 1 GB RAM; 500 MB hard drive; Windows XP, Vista or 7; 32-bit or 64-bit	Download or CD installation. Telephone support and online training included in program price. Onsite training available for fee and expenses.	$500 setup: $100 to $300 per month based on function of program chosen.
DeMichele Group	480/985-4926, www.demichelegroup.com	Tessy 2: Storefront and curtain wall program with easy elevation input via graphics editor. Includes complete pricing, material and labor requirements; cutting instructions; glass sizes; printer drawings; CAD interface; Tubelite catalog	PC -1 GHz processor; 1 GB RAM; 500 MB hard drive; Windows XP, Vista or 7; 32-bit or 64-bit	Download or CD installation. Telephone support and online training included in program price. Onsite training available for fee and expenses.	$500 setup: $100 to $300 per month based on function of program chosen.
DeMichele Group	480/985-4926, www.demichelegroup.com	ePartners Multi-Vendor: Storefront and curtain wall program with easy elevation input via graphics editor. Includes complete pricing, material and labor requirements; cutting instructions; glass sizes; printer drawings; CAD interface; multiple catalogs.	PC -1 GHz processor; 1 GB RAM; 500 MB hard drive; Windows XP, Vista or 7; 32-bit or 64-bit	Download or CD installation. Telephone support and online training included in program price. Onsite training available for fee and expenses.	$500 setup: $100 to $300 per month based on function of program chosen
FeneTech	330/995-2830, www.fenetech.com	FeneVision Web Center: An integrated application that allows user-friendly Web quoting and order entry for dealers and customers. Also provides order status and order history information, and can be accessed from a link on an existing Web site with user log-in and password protection.	Microsoft Windows Server 2003 SP2, 2008 SP1*; Microsoft Internet Information Server; optional: 128-bit SSL encryption (Verisign or equivalent); Microsoft .NET Framework 3.5 SP1; XEON 3.X GHz (dual core); 4 GB RAM; RAID Adapter; - 2 - 36 GB Drives - RAID 1 Array (OS + Application Files, minimum 10K RPM); DVD ROM drive; 2 - 100 /1000 Mbps network interface cards (1 - Internet**, 1 - SQL server); tape backup system; redundant power supplies; UPS	Installation services and worldwide 24/7 technical support.	$70,000 -$120,000
GDS Storefront Estimating	858/538-4375, www.winbidpro.com	WinBidPro v15: Complete estimating package for storefront and curtain wall systems. Includes optimization, shop drawing and CAD capabilities.	Windows XP or newer machine with Pentium 4 processor or faster, 2 GB of RAM, 17-inch or larger monitor	Free 30-day trial downloadable from www.winbidpro.com. Phone and e-mail support included.	Software is subscription based. Initial cost for one license is $499. Yearly renewal is $299. There are discounted prices for additional licenses.
GTS Services, LLC	800/209-2369, www.gtsservices.com	GlasPacLX Retail Flat and Glazier editions	None. Internet access only.	Dedicated implementation consultants guide you through implementation and setup. Objective-based training is available onsite, online and at GTS University. Customer support is available 24/7/365.	Free
Nirvana Technologies Private Ltd.	91/22 21661600, www.nirvanatec.com	Plus Glass Quote: Simple quotation software for glass retailers and processors that provides material/cost estimates for glass sheets, fittings and other hardware used in a project.	Pentium 4, 512 MB RAM, with Windows XP or later	Installation: CD-ROM or Web downloadable; Support: via Internet, e-mail, online meetings, etc.	Euro 250 (approximately $338)
Safertek Software, LLC	972/331-2984, www.safertek.com	Ufactory: Business management software for mill product companies that includes a comprehensive suite of software modules for estimating, ordering, inventory, manufacturing, financials and time clock management.	Windows XP, Vista, 7; Windows 2008 server; terminal services; and SQL Server 2008	One-time installation and implementation fee depending on business needs. Technical support included in software cost.	Monthly subscription fee of $150 per user. Minimum of five-user subscription is required.
Soft Tech Group	954/568-3198 x 109, www.softtechnz.com	V6: Curtain wall, window and door BIM software for estimating through installation. 3D models, shop drawings, part fabrication drawings, BOMs, take-offs.	Pentium 4; 1 GB RAM; 1 GB free hard drive space; 1024 x 768 resolution video; 100 MB/s LAN card; Windows 2000, XP, Vista or 7	Included in annual maintenance and support. North American support staff located in the United States. Global resources available as appropriate.	Call for pricing.
Windowmaker Software Ltd.	416/762-5299, www.windowmaker.com	Windowseller: A complete software package designed to help resellers and installers produce professional quotations. Photorealistic Quotes allow superb computer-generated images to be applied on the quote.	PC-based, Windows 7 or earlier OS; Microsoft SQL Server 2008	Installation is included. Support available by remote connection, email, telephone or fax.	$1,800 per seat. Volume discounts apply.
WTS Paradigm	608/664-9292, www.wtsparadigm.com	CenterPoint: Unparalleled configuration, quoting and order entry software for the fenestration industry. Central data repository for manufacturer reporting	Pentium 4 1 GHz or faster; Microsoft 7, Vista, Windows XP supported. 30+ GB of hard drive space; .NET 3.5 Framework; 32- or 64-bit machines supported	Smart Client infrastructure used for unlimited distribution throughout the entire sales channel. Via Internet and disconnected onsite use included standard. 24/7 technical support.	Scalable license structure. Call for a quote.