

# **Breaking Convention** with Timber Offices

Offering Distinct Alternatives to the Monotony of Our Current Workplace Infrastructure

Presented by WoodWorks for Non-residential Construction



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Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.



## **Course Description**

Great solutions often lie beyond convention. Consider that most offices in the U.S. could be built with a wood structure yet this option goes largely unexplored. Many designers assume they're limited to concrete and steel for workplace environments—because that's the common default—but, in fact, wood construction can accommodate the space and performance needs of office occupancies, while providing advantages such as speed, cost savings, and reduced environmental impact. Focusing on common design considerations (e.g., layout flexibility, land-use constraints, and market classification) this presentation will examine the potential for light-frame and heavy timber structural solutions. Topics will include building code opportunities related to fire and life safety, structural design and layout, and cost.

# Learning Objectives

- 1. Review building code opportunities related to fire and life safety, with emphasis on construction types, fire resistance, and interior/exterior finish requirements.
- 2. Explore a variety of suitable structural layouts for light-frame and heavy timber solutions, demonstrating how to achieve flexibility of both space and function.
- 3. Evaluate the cost and value proposition of a class A heavy timber office solution using successful built examples.
- 4. Assess the cost and value proposition of a class B light-frame office solution using successful built examples.

# OUTLINE

- Design Considerations for Offices
- Review Fire and Life Safety Opportunities/Challenges
- Layout Discussion
- Understanding Cost & Value
  - Class B/C Light Frame Wood Office Solution
  - Class A Mass Timber Office Solution



- "Does the building code even allow offices to be built in wood?"
- "Can wood accommodate the grid spacing needed for adaptable office floor plans?"
- "Is it possible to achieve high performance expectations ...affordably?"



# **Classifications of Office Space**



- Class A
- New / Newly Renovated
- Prime / Central location
- On-site parking
- High Tech Building Systems (HVAC, elevators, utilities)
- High quality upkeep / maintenance
- Significant in size
- Contemporary Design



PROJECT: Federal Center South, Building 1202 – Seattle, WA ARCHITECT: ZGF Architects LLP ENGINEER: KPFF Consulting Engineers PHOTO CREDIT: Benjamin Benschneider

# **Ownership / Intended Tenant**



# Location and Scale



## David and Lucile Packard Foundation

- Location: Los Altos, CA
- 2 story, Type VB
- 49,000 sf
- Custom, Sub-Urban, Low-rise, Irregular Footprint





ARCHITECT: EHDD ENGINEER: Tipping Mar PHOTO CREDIT: Jeremy Bittermann, courtesy EHDD

## **The Radiator**

- Location: Portland, OR
- 5 story, Type IIIB
- 36,000 sf
- Speculative, Urban, Mid-rise, Regular Footprint



FLOORS 2-4 + TENANT IMPROVEMENT



ARCHITECT: PATH Architecture ENGINEER: Munzing Structural Engineering PHOTO CREDIT: Josh Partee & Caitlin Murray



"Does the building code even allow offices to be built in wood?"

# PREFACE: 2015 WoodWorks Market Analysis



# PREFACE: 2015 WoodWorks Market Analysis

Wood is under utilized in office construction:

- Nearly 75% of offices buildings are less than 50k sf in total building area
- More than 85% of office projects are 4 stories or less

Most Office Projects Could Be Wood Construction



# Heights and Areas

## Multi Story Business Occupancy (B)

### Based on IBC 2012 Table 503 w/ allowable increases

IIIB VB IIB **Height and Area** VA (With Allowable Increases) Stories<sup>1</sup> 3 4 4 4 Height<sup>1</sup> (ft) 75 75 70 60 Max Story Area<sup>2</sup>(ft<sup>2</sup>) 69k 57k 54k 27k Total Building Area<sup>3</sup> (ft<sup>2</sup>) 207k 171k 162k 81k



<sup>1</sup> Assumes NFPA 13 sprinklers throughout (IBC 504.2)
 <sup>2</sup> Assumes NFPA 13 sprinklers throughout (IBC 506.3)
 <sup>3</sup> Assumes 3 or more number of stories (IBC 506.4)

\*\*ASCE7 12.2-1 limits wood shear wall seismic systems to 65' in height in SDC D,E,F

# Heights and Areas

## Multi Story Business Occupancy (B)

Based on IBC 2012 Table 503 w/ allowable increases

<b>Construction Type</b>	IIA	IIIA	IV
Stories <sup>1</sup>	6	6	6
Height <sup>1</sup> (ft)	85	85	85
Story Area <sup>2</sup> (ft <sup>2</sup> )	112.5k	85.5k	108k
Total Building Area <sup>3</sup> (ft <sup>2</sup> )	337.5k	256.5k	324k

<sup>1</sup> Assumes NFPA 13 sprinklers throughout (IBC 504.2)
 <sup>2</sup> Assumes NFPA 13 sprinklers throughout (IBC 506.3)
 <sup>3</sup> Assumes 3 or more number of stories (IBC 506.4)



\*\*ASCE7 12.2-1 limits wood shear wall seismic systems to 65' in height in SDC D,E,F

# Type III Construction

- Exterior walls are of noncombustible materials.
- Fire Retardant Treated (FRT) wood is permitted in exterior walls of 2hr fire rating or less.
- Interior building elements are of any material permissible by code.



# Type IV Construction

- Exterior walls are of noncombustible materials.
- Fire Retardant Treated (FRT) wood is permitted in exterior walls of 2hr fire rating or less.
- Interior building elements are of solid or laminated wood without concealed spaces.
- Interior elements have required minimum sizes.
- Partitions are of solid wood OR of 1hr fire-resistance



# Type IV Construction

Element	Minimum Size/ Description
Roof Decking	<ul> <li>1-1/8" Wood Structural Panel</li> <li>2x thick nominal (solid sawn or glulam planks)</li> <li>15/32" WSP over 3x wide min on edge solid</li> <li>other w/equivalent fire resistance</li> </ul>
Roof Framing	4x6 beam
Floor Decking	<ul> <li>1x T&amp;G flooring or 15/32" WSP over 3x min sawn or glulam planks, splined or tongue and grooved</li> <li>15/32" WSP over min <u>4x wide</u> on edge well spiked w/no continuous joints except at support</li> </ul>
Floor Framing	6x10 beam/ 8x8 timber truss
Column	<ul><li>8x8 supporting floor</li><li>6x8 supporting roof only</li></ul>
Partitions	<ul> <li>(2) Layers of 1" boards</li> <li>4" thick laminated construction</li> <li>1hr rated assembly</li> </ul>
Exterior Members	With 20' min of separation, above sizes apply

# Type IV Construction – Concealed Spaces

PROHIBITED INSTALLATION



PROHIBITED INSTALLATION

CONCEALED SPACE

SUSPENDED CEILING

# **Comparing Other Construction Type Distinctions**

Fire Rating of Structural Elements	IIA	IIB
IBC Table 601		
Exterior bearing walls (hrs)	1	0
Interior bearing walls (hrs)	1	0
All other elements (hrs)	1	0
IBC Table 602		
X < 10 ft	1	1
10 ft ≤ X < 30 ft	1	0
X ≥ 30 ft	0	0
IBC Chapter 7		
Shaft Walls (IBC 713.4) <sup>1</sup>	2 max	2 max
Fire Walls (706.4) – B Occupancy	2	2

<sup>1</sup> Shaft Walls are constructed as Fire Barriers (707.3.1). Shaft Enclosures require a 2hr rating when connecting 4 stories or more (1hr for less than 4 stories).

3hr fire-resistance rating
2hr fire-resistance rating
1hr fire-resistance rating



# Comparing Other Construction Type Distinctions

Fire Rating of Structural Elements	IIIA	IIIB	IV
IBC Table 6	01		
Exterior bearing walls (hrs)	2	2	2
Interior bearing walls (hrs)	1	0	1/HT
All other elements (hrs)	1	0	HT
IBC Table 602 (Exterior No	on-bearing	g walls)	
X < 10 ft	1	1	1
10 ft ≤ X < 30 ft	1	1	1
X ≥ 30 ft	0	0	0
IBC Chapte	r <b>7</b>		
Shaft Walls (IBC 713.4) <sup>1</sup>	2 max	2max	2 max
Fire Walls (706.4) – B Occupancy	3	3	3

<sup>1</sup> Shaft Walls are constructed as Fire Barriers (707.3.1). Shaft Enclosures require a 2hr rating when connecting 4 stories or more (1hr for less than 4 stories).

3hr fire-resistance rating
2hr fire-resistance rating
1hr fire-resistance rating



# Exterior Walls (IBC 705)

### 705.5 Fire Resistance Ratings.

Exterior walls shall be fire-resistance rated in accordance with Tables 601 and 602 and this section. The required fireresistance rating of exterior walls with a fire separation distance of greater than 10 feet (3048 mm) shall be rated for exposure to fire from the inside. <u>The</u> required fire-resistance rating of exterior walls with a fire separation distance of less than or equal to 10 feet (3048 mm) shall be rated for exposure to fire from both sides.

## Example: Type IIIB or Type IV building

- Non-Bearing @ 20 ft
  - > 1hr rated from inside exposure
- Non-Bearing @ 5 ft
  - > 1hr rated from exposure on both sides



# Sprinkler Requirements in Buildings

### Advantages:

- Increased height
  - Additional 20ft
  - Additional Story
- Increased area by up to 4x
  - <u>Additional</u> 2x for multi-story
  - <u>Additional</u> 3x for single story
- If not needed for height and area, can be used as a substitute for 1hr rating of floor/roof (not under 2015 IBC)

	ТУРЕ І		TYPE II		TYPE III		TYPE IV	TYPE V	
BUILDING ELEMENT	A	В	Ad	В	Ad	В	HT	Ad	В
rimary structural frame <sup>g</sup> (see <u>Section</u> 102 )	3ª	2ª	1	0	1	0	нт	1	0
Bearing walls									
Exterior <sup>f, g</sup>	3	2	1	0	2	2	2	1	0
Interior	3ª	2ª	1	0	1	0	1/HT	1	0
Ionbearing walls and partitions Exterior				See Ta	ole 602				
lonbearing walls and partitions Interior <sup>e</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	See Section 602.4.6	0	0
loor construction and associated econdary member (see <u>Section 202</u> )	2	2	1	0	1	0	нт	1	0
toof construction and associated econdary members (see <u>Section 202</u> )	1 <sup>1</sup> /2 <sup>b</sup>	1 <sup>b,c</sup>	1 <sup>b,c</sup>	0c	1 <sup>b,c</sup>	0	нт	1 <sup>b,c</sup>	0

TABLE 601 FIRE-RESISTANCE RATING REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDING ELEMENTS (HOURS)

d. An approved automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 shall be allowed to be substituted for 1-hour fire-resistance-rated construction, provided such system is not otherwise required by other provisions of the code or used for an allowable area increase in accordance with Section 506.3 or an allowable height increase in accordance with Section 504.2. The 1-hour substitution for the fire resistance of exterior walls shall not be permitted.

# Exposing Framing – Heavy/Mass Timber

Fire Rating of Structural Elements	IIB	IIIB	IV
IBC Table 601	L		
Exterior bearing walls (hrs)	0	2	2
Interior bearing walls (hrs)	0	0	1/HT
All other elements (hrs)	0	0	HT
IBC Table 602	2		
X < 10 ft	1	1	1
10 ft ≤ X < 30 ft	0	1	1
X ≥ 30 ft	0	0	0
IBC Chapter 7	7		
Shaft Walls (IBC 713.4) <sup>1</sup>	2 max	2 max	2 max
Fire Walls (706.4) – B Occupancy	2	3	3

<sup>1</sup> Shaft Walls are constructed as Fire Barriers (707.3.1). Shaft Enclosures require a 2hr rating when connecting 4 stories or more (1hr for less than 4 stories).

## For up to 4 stories....

Protection not typically required:

- Floors/Ceilings
- Columns
- IIIB Interior Walls

<u>Could be protected by</u> <u>calculated fire resistance:</u>

- Exterior Walls
- Shaft walls

# Exposing Framing – Heavy/Mass Timber

Fire Rating of Structural Elements	IIA	IIIA	IV
IBC Table 601	L		
Exterior bearing walls (hrs)	1	2	2
Interior bearing walls (hrs)	1	1	1/HT
All other elements (hrs)	1	1	HT
IBC Table 602	2		
X < 10 ft	1	1	1
10 ft ≤ X < 30 ft	1	1	1
X ≥ 30 ft	0	0	0
IBC Chapter 7	7		
Shaft Walls (IBC 713.4) <sup>1</sup>	2 max	2 max	2 max
Fire Walls (706.4) – B Occupancy	2	3	3

<sup>1</sup> Shaft Walls are constructed as Fire Barriers (707.3.1). Shaft Enclosures require a 2hr rating when connecting 4 stories or more (1hr for less than 4 stories).

For up to 6 stories....

<u>Could be protected by</u> <u>calculated fire resistance :</u>

- Floors/Ceilings (for IIIA)
- Exterior Walls
- Shaft walls

The difference in allowances for concealed spaces in floor/ceilings commonly has designers classifying as III for offices.

# Exposing Framing – Heavy/Mass Timber

### **IBC 703.3** Alternate Methods for determining fire resistance

- Prescriptive designs per IBC 721.1
- Calculations in accordance with IBC 722
- Fire-resistance designs documented in sources
- Engineering analysis based on a comparison
- Alternate protection methods as allowed by 104.11

#### **IBC 722** Calculated Fire Resistance

"...The calculated *fire resistance* of exposed wood members and wood decking shall be permitted in accordance with Chapter 16 of ANSI/AF&PA National Design Specification for Wood Construction (NDS)."

#### **NDS Chapter 16** Fire Design of Wood Members

Limited to calculating fire resistance up to 2 hours.

Char rate varies based on endurance required, product type and lamination thickness. Equations and tables provided.

TR10 and NDS commentary are helpful in implementing permitted calculations.

# Exposing Framing – 2015 NDS



Source: 2015 NDS Chapter 16

http://awc.org/pdf/codes-standards/publications/nds/AWC-NDS2015-ViewOnly-1411.pdf

http://awc.org/pdf/codes-standards/publications/tr/AWC-TR10-1510.pdf





## **Cobra Campus**

- Location: Spokane, WA
- 1 story, Type V
- 11,500 sf
- Exposed Wood Roof Trusses and Decking

ARCHITECT: Uptic Studios ENGINEER: DCI Engineers PHOTO CREDIT: Oliver Irwin Photography





## **Green Office**

- Location: Berkeley, CA
- 2 story, Type VB
- 15,200 sf
- Exposed Wood Roof Trusses and Decking

ARCHITECT: Marcy Wong Don Logan Architects ENGINEER: Gregory P. Luth Associates PHOTO CREDIT: Billy Hustace Photography

# **Exposing Framing - Interior Finishes**

## Wood Interior Finish (IBC 803.9)

- Building occupancy
- Location of the material in the building
- Sprinklers or no sprinklers

Flame Spread and Smoke-developed index

• ASTM E84 or UL 723 Test Method



PROJECT: TBWA/Chiat/Day Offices – San Francisco, CA ARCHITECT: Marmol Radziner & Associates ENGINEER: Tipping Mar and Associates PHOTO CREDIT: Benny Chan

Class	Flame Spread Index*	Smoke Development Index
А	0 - 25	0 - 450
В	30 - 75	0 - 450
С	80 - 200	0 - 450

\*DCA 1 explains that flame spread values are rounded to the nearest multiple of 5

# **Exposing Framing - Interior Finishes**

AWC's DCA 1 lists Flame Spread and Smoke Developed Indices for a number of softwood lumber species

Species	Flame Spread Index	Smoke Developed Index	Flame Spread Class
Douglas-Fir	70	80	В
Hem-fir species group	60	70	В
Pine, Eastern White	70	110	В
Pine, Southern Yellow	70	165	В
Spruce, Black (4" thick, 3 layers of cross laminations)	35	55	В

http://www.awc.org/pdf/codes-standards/publications/dca/AWC-DCA1-FlameSpreadPerformance-1509.pdf

# **Exposing Framing - Interior Finishes**

INTERIOR WALL AND CEILING FINISH REQIRMENTS FOR B OCCUPANCY (IBC Table 803.11)	FINISH CLASS
SPRINKLERED	
Interior exit stairways, ramps and exit passageways <sup>1</sup>	В
Corridors and enclosure for exit access stairways and ramps	С
Rooms and enclosed spaces	С
NONSPRINKLERED	
Interior exit stairways ramps and exit passageways <sup>1</sup>	А
Corridors and enclosure for exit access stairways and ramps	В
Rooms and enclosed spaces	С

<sup>1</sup> Buildings less than 3 stories above grade, Class B interior finish for nonsprinklered buildings and class C interior finish for sprinklered buildings shall be permitted in interior exit stairways and ramps.



PROJECT: Radiator – Portland, OR ARCHITECT: Path Architecture ENGINEER: Munzing Structural Engineering PHOTO CREDIT: Josh Partee Photography

### Heavy Timber Exemption (803.3) -

Exposed portions of structural members complying with requirements of Type IV shall not be subject to interior finish requirements

# Sprinklers in Floor Cavities – NFPA 13 Standard

- Floor cavities will require sprinklers when:
  - NFPA 13 sprinklers are required for Height & Area increases or as a substitute for fire rating (only under 2012 IBC)
  - Cavity does not contain fire stops partitioning space to a volume of 160 ft3 or less
    - 1" max furred ceiling and batt insulation provided at bottom flange
    - Fire stop is equal to material used in joist web
- Additional Sprinkler heads in floor cavities may increase the cost of NFPA 13 sprinklers system

**8.15.1.2.6** Concealed spaces formed by ceilings attached to composite wood joist construction either directly or onto metal channels not exceeding 1 in. (25 mm) in depth, provided the joist channels are firestopped into volumes each not exceeding 160 ft^3 (4.5 m^3) using materials equivalent to the web construction and at least 3-1/2 in. (90 mm) of batt insulation is installed at the bottom of the joist channels when the ceiling is attached utilizing metal channels, shall not require sprinkler protection.

**8.15.1.2.8** Concealed spaces within wood joist construction and composite wood joist construction having noncombustible insulation filling the space from the ceiling up to the bottom edge of the joist of the roof or floor deck, provided that in composite wood joist construction the joist channels separated into volumes each not exceeding 160 ft^3 (4.5 m^3) to the full depth of the composite wood joist with material equivalent to the web construction, shall not require sprinkler protection.

# Sprinklers in Floor Cavities – How might this change design?

lers	<b>Construction Type</b>	IIIA	VA	IIIB	IV	VB
rink	Stories	5	3	3	5	2
Sp	Height(ft)	65	50	55	65	40
out	Story Area <sup>2</sup> (ft <sup>2</sup> )	28.5k	18k	19k	36k	9k
Nith	Total Building Area <sup>3</sup> (ft <sup>2</sup> )	85.5k	54k	571k	108k	27k
		CONCEALED SPACES		OPPORTUNITY TO EXPOSE		
		CUNCEAL	ED SPACES	UPPUI		:APUSE
Ś	<b>Construction Type</b>	IIIA	VA	IIIB	IV	VB
klers	<b>Construction Type</b> Stories	IIIA 6	VA 4	IIIB 4	IV 6	VB 3
prinklers	Construction Type Stories Height(ft)	IIIA 6 85	VA 4 70	IIIB 4 75	IV 6 85	VB 3 60
th Sprinklers	Construction Type Stories Height(ft) Story Area <sup>2</sup> (ft <sup>2</sup> )	IIIA 6 85 85.5k	<b>VA</b> 4 70 54k	IIIB       4       75       57k	IV 6 85 108k	VB       3       60       27k

<sup>3</sup> Assumes 3 or more number of stories (IBC 506.4)

# **Exposed Connections**

## **No Protection Required if:**

- Type IIIB, IV, VB based on primary frame\* requirements of Table 601
- Not part of any assembly otherwise required to be fire rated



\*primary frame does not apply to repetitive framing members typical in light frame and only applies to wood construction in post and beam applications
# **Exposed Connections**

#### **Protection required if:**

- Type IIIA, VA based on primary frame requirements of Table 601
- Where connection is part of an assembly required to be fire resistance rated
  - Occupancy separation per 508.4
  - Elements are part of fire barriers, fire walls, fire partitions

#### **Protected Connection Options:**

- Encapsulating connection in gypsum
- Concealing connection in the wood member can protect by calculated fire resistance of exposed wood
- Fire resistant coating or intumescent paint on the steel connector may be accepted by AHJ
- OR... be creative



### **Exposed Connections**

### **Creative Connection:**

- Allows full bearing
- Avoids crushing perpendicular to grain
- Addresses shrinkage
- Aids in constructability



PROJECT: Bullitt Center – Seattle, WA ARCHITECT: Miller Hull Partnership ENGINEER: PAE Consulting Engineers PHOTO CREDIT: John Stamets

# Exposing Framing – Light Frame

Fire Rating of Structural Elements	IIIB	VB		
IBC Table 601				
Exterior bearing walls (hrs)	2	0		
Interior bearing walls (hrs)	0	0		
All other elements (hrs)	0	0		
IBC Table 602				
X < 10 ft	1	1		
10 ft ≤ X < 30 ft	1	0		
X ≥ 30 ft	0	0		
IBC Chapter 7				
Shaft Walls (IBC 713.4) <sup>1</sup>	2 max	2 max		
Fire Walls (706.4) – B Occupancy	3	2		

<sup>1</sup> Shaft Walls are constructed as Fire Barriers (707.3.1). Shaft Enclosures require a 2hr rating when connecting 4 stories or more (1hr for less than 4 stories).

# Protection is not typically required:

- Floors/Ceilings
- Columns
- Interior walls
- VB Exterior Walls

<u>Could be protected by</u> <u>calculated fire resistance :</u>

- IIIB Exterior Walls
- Shaft walls

### Exterior Finishes: IBC 1406

Combustible exterior wall coverings for Type I, II, III and IV construction shall be:

- Shall not exceed 10% of exterior wall surface where fire separation is 5 feet or less
- Shall be limited to 40 feet above grade plane
- If constructed of FRT shall not be limited in surface area where fire separation is 5 feet or less and shall be permitted up to 60 feet above grade

# Wood finishes are not limited in Type V construction.

Note: Exterior weather exposure requires additional specification to address UV and moisture.



PROJECT: GSA Office Building – Albuquerque, NM ARCHITECT: Page Southerland Page, LLP ENGINEER: Walter P. Moore & Associates PHOTO CREDIT: Patrick Coulie Photography

# Exterior Finishes: IBC 1405.5

Wood Veneers on exterior walls of Type I, II, III and IV construction shall be:

- Shall be 1" nominal thick minimum OR .438" exterior hardboard OR .375 wood structural panel
- Shall not exceed 40' in height above grade OR if FRT shall not exceed 60 feet above grade
- Attached to or furred from noncombustible backing (FRT exterior wall framing in Types III and IV construciton may comply with such noncombustible req.)
- Shall not project more than 24" from building

# Wood or Wood-based products are exempt from NFPA 268 testing for ignition resistance.

Note: Exterior weather exposure requires additional specification to address UV and moisture.



PROJECT: One North ARCHITECT: Holst Architecture | ENGINEER: Froelich Engineers



PROJECT: Radiator ARCHITECT: PATH Architecture | ENGINEER: Munzing Structural Engineer PHOTO CREDITS: Josh Partree Phtorapy & Catlin Murray

# Nonbearing Exterior Walls

Curtain walls (ie. Non-Bearing Exterior Walls):

- Act primarily as a building envelope
- Enable an increased amount of glazing (natural light)
- Traditionally of lighter weight materials

The same curtain wall systems used on concrete/steel frames can be used on timber frames







ARCHITECT: Miller Hull Architects Source: Solid Wood, Mayo

# **Curtain Wall Detailing**



Exterior Wall: Metal Cladding Metal Sub-Structure 4in (10.16cm) Mineral Wool Insulation Weather Resistant Barrier and Air Seal 5/8in (15.9mm) Gypsum Sheathing 5.5in (14cm) Metal Stud with Fiberglass Insulation Between Interior Finish



ARCHITECT: Miller Hull Architects Source: Solid Wood, Mayo Detail at Exterior Metal Wall Panel and Floor Interface





# **Promega GMP Facility** – client & staff reception area

- Location: Madison, WI.
- Type IV construction
- 2 stories of heavy timber and CLT
- 52,000 sf. Addition

ARCHITECT: Uihlein-Wilson Architects, EwingCole | ENGINEER: EwingCole PHOTO CREDIT: Aitor Sanchez/Ewing Cole



# Nonbearing Exterior Walls

FRT Wood Curtain walls in Type III and IV construction:

- Reduce the fire rating requirements for exterior walls
- Can enable increased levels of panelization
- May be more cost effective than traditional curtain wall systems



## Nonbearing Exterior Walls & Partitions

#### 603.1 Allowable Materials

Combustible materials shall be permitted in buildings of Type I or II construction in the following applications in accordance with 603.1.1 through 603.1.3.

Fire-retardant-treated wood shall be permitted in:

- 1. <u>Nonbearing partitions where the required fire</u> resistance rating is 2 hrs or less
- 2. <u>Nonbearing exterior walls where fire-resistance</u> <u>rated construction is not required</u>
- 3. Roof construction including girders, trusses, framing and decking. (Exception in IA exceeding 2 stories where roof is not more than 20' from floor below)

Fire Rating of Structural Elements	IA	IB	IIA	IIB
IBC Table 601				
Nonbearing interior walls/partitions	0	0	0	0
IBC Table 602 (Nonbearing Exterior Walls)				
X < 10 ft	1	1	1	1
10 ft ≤ X < 30 ft	1	1	1	0
X ≥ 30 ft	0	0	0	0

### Opportunity for FRT Wood Curtain Walls and Partitions in Types I and II construction



### **Broadstone Skyline (Building 1)**

- Location: Houston, TX
- 5 stories of Type IIIA over 1 story IA podium
- Building 2 will be IIIB over IA podium
- 286K sf

ARCHITECT: EDI Architecture | DEVELOPER: Alliance Residential Group ENGINEER: Sterling Engineering PHOTO CREDIT: WoodWorks





"Can wood accommodate the grid spacing needed for adaptable office floor plans?"

# Offices Need to be Flexible

- Space mobility
  - Change of tenant
  - Expanding/contracting/modifying spaces to meet existing tenant
- Electrical/Mechanical/IT adaptability
  - Power, voice and data
  - Lighting, space conditioning
- Multiplicity of function
  - Various sized groups at different times
  - Range of interactivity



# Achieving Flexibility

- Space mobility
  - Strategic E' Grid Spacing -ments;
  - ....e workstations
- Electric/Mechanical/IT adaptation
- ssible Floor Depth Floor to Floor Depth Floor to Floor • Accessible or
  - Discuputed vertical cores, closets, plenums, outlets/connections
- Multiplicity of function
  - Adaptable furnishings
  - Structure can accommodate changes in loading



### Office Building Layout & Size





## Office Building Layout & Size



#### **Conceptual Office Space "Rules of Thumb"**

Executive Offices	200-400 sf
Manager/ Supervisor Offices	120-200 sf (10'x12' minimum)
Open Office Workstation	40-80 sf
Conference Rooms	120 sf (4 person table) – 600 sf (20 person table)
Ancillary Space	~ 30% (with conference room)

*Source: Architectural Graphic Standards by AIA, NIBS Whole Building Design Guide* 

# Office Building Layout & Size

### Ancillary Office Spaces:

- Reception/Lobby
- Copy Room
- Break Room
- Server & UPS Rooms
- Record Storage



### Open vs. Closed Offices



### **Closed/Private Office Layouts**:

- More typical in narrower building footprint so more offices have windows
- Tenant profile is more "static" => Custom Office Bldg
- Same grid *can* accommodate an open office as well

Source: NIBS Whole Building Design Guide

### **Open Offices**



PHOTO CREDIT: Benny Chan

### Why?

- Creates interactive company culture
- Possibly fit more occupants in the space

#### Benefits:

- Provides for more space mobility
- Allows deeper penetration of daylight



### Typical Lateral Systems:



Light Frame Diaphragms and Shearwalls:

- Typical for 1-5 stories
- Typically assume flexible diaphragm
- Need ample wall at perimeter
- Very compatible with custom/private offices



### Lateral Core Resisting System:

- May be used in buildings over 3 stories
- Commonly used with glazing/curtain walls
- May use rigid or semi-rigid (if used with frames at exterior) analysis
- Very compatible with speculative/open offices

### Interior Shear Walls With Exterior Glazing Wall

### Interior Moment Frame With Exterior Wood Walls

### Exterior Steel Moment Frame With Core Mobility

**Exterior** Reinforc

(Barrier

d Brick Wall

Wall and internal Insulation

## Office Floor Design Considerations

### Fire Resistance

- Type IIIA/VA: 1hr
- Type IIIB/VB: NA
- Type IV requires prescriptive assemblies
- Occupancy Separation: 1hr w/sprinklers, 2hrs w/o sprinklers

### Structural

- Office Floor Live Load: 50 psf
- Partition Live Load: 15 psf
- Cooridor Above 1<sup>st</sup>
  Floor Live Load: 80 psf
- Common Wood
  Frame Floor Dead
  Load: 25-35 psf

### Occupant Comfort

- No IBC Acoustic requirement
- GSA varies acoustic requirements based on class of space and open vs. private (STC 50)
- Reducing vibrations and deflection: L/600

### Example Urban, Regular Footprint, Speculative



• Floor Plate: 25,000 sf



• Centralized core is fixed



- Clear span from exterior to core => maximum flexibility
- Common span for steel grid ~ 40 ft



## Rectangular Grid



#### **Approximate Member Sizes – Office Floor Framing**

Х	Joist Depth	Y	Glulam Girder Size *Assume beams support framing on both sides
40' 38-46" Pinned or Plated Truss	24'	8 ¾"x33" 24F-V4	
	30'	10 ¾"x 39" 24F-V4	

Note: All member sizing needs to be confirmed by a licensed engineer for conditions of your project.

- Steel Structure Rule of Thumb ~ 1"/depth per 1'/span
- Adapting from a square to rectangular grid, depth of system can be matched

• Likely that there will be some private offices



- Layout will follow structural constraints
- Important that constraints are not overly limiting









- Same concept can be inverted for increased daylight penetration
- Ancillary spaces work well near central core



### Joist and Beam Layout



#### **Approximate Member Sizes – Office Floor Framing** Glulam Girder Size Y Χ Joist Depth \*Assume beams support framing on both sides 3-1/8"x22 ½" 24F-V4 12' or 28-30" I-Joist 5-1/8"x18" 24F-V4 or 30' 24-34" Pinned 8 <sup>3</sup>⁄<sub>4</sub>" x 34 <sup>1</sup>⁄<sub>2</sub>" 24F-V4 or Plated Truss 28' Or 10 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x31 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" 24F-V4

Note: All member sizing needs to be confirmed by a licensed engineer for conditions of your project.

## Office Floor Design Considerations

**Avoiding Bouncy Floors** 

Long spans (25'-40' range)

- Often governed by vibration and/or deflection
- Consider limiting deflection as low as L/600
- However, L/600 limit has potential to increase member size and may be unnecessary in many scenarios

Total Load Deflection Chart: courtesy, Redbuilt


# Office Floor Design Considerations

# Tools available to designers:

### Vibration Analysis: FP Innovations

(Spreadsheet available upon request)



### **Floor manufacturer's Rating Systems**



# Sub-purlin/Pulin/Girder Layout

	Assumptions:	Approximate Member Sizes – Office Floor Framing			
•DL = 30 psf	•DL = 30 psf	Х	<b>2x Sub-Purlin</b> *Assuming Bay Spacing of 8'	Purlin @ 8' oc	Glulam Girder Size *Assume beams support framing on both sides
X		22'	2x8 @ 16"	5-1/8"x18" 24F-V4	6-3/4"x25 ½" 24F-V4
		24'	2x8 @ 16"	5-1/8"x19½" 24F-V4	6-3/4"x28 ½" 24F-V4
		28'	2x8 @ 16"	5-1/8"x22½" 24F-V4	8-3/4"x33" 24F-V4
8'		Note: A for con	All member sizing needs ditions of your project.	to be confirmed by a lic	ensed engineer

# Solid Wood Layout



### **Approximate Member Sizes – Office Floor Framing**

х	Mass Timber Panel	Glulam Purlin	Glulam Girder
20'	2x8 NLT or 7-PLY CLT	None	5-1/8"x24" 24F-V4
25'	2x6 NLT or 5-PLY CLT	5-1/8"x24" @ 12.5' oc	6-3/4"x30" or 8-3/4"x27" 24F-V4
30′	2x6 NLT or 3-PLY CLT	5-1/8"x28-1/2" @ 10' oc	8-3/4"x36" or 10-3/4"x33" 24F-V4

Note: All member sizing needs to be confirmed by a licensed engineer for conditions of your project.











## Joist and Beam Layout



### **Approximate Member Sizes – Office Floor Framing**

Х	Joist Depth	Y	Glulam Girder Size *Assume beams support framing on both sides
22'	16" I-Joist or 18" Plated Truss	30'	6 ¾"x34 ½" or 8 ¾"x31 ½" 24F-V4
30'	28-30" I-Joist or 24-34" Pinned or Plated Truss	22'	6 ¾"x30" or 8 ¾"x27" 24F-V4

Note: All member sizing needs to be confirmed by a licensed engineer for conditions of your project.

# Floor Assembly

### 4' Deep Wood Assembly:

- 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" Gypsum over <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" sheathing
- 24" trusses
- 27" Beam
- 15.75" Drop Ceiling





# Floor to Floor Height

Design Constraints that might limit overall height:

- Zoning height limitations
- Construction Type height limitation
- High-rise limitations
- Cost of exterior curtain wall/façade

If overall height is limited and floor to ceiling height is maximized then depth of floor assembly is important.



Lowest Level of Fire Dept. Vehicle Access

FIGURE 6-6 Determination of high-rise building

# Floor to Floor Height

Electrical/Data can be accommodated by running:

- Through joist cavity
- Below joists in drop ceiling
- Above joists in raised floor

If wood floor assembly is slightly deeper than for Steel/Concrete, options are:

- 1. Raise height of building
- 2. Reduce floor to ceiling height
- 3. Reduce girder spans



"Is it possible to achieve the high performance expectations ... affordably?"



# 2016 Office Construction Outlook – AGC of America

### Key points in Office Construction:

- Employment sets records each month but office space per employee keeps shrinking
- Growth is mainly in cities and renovations, not suburban office parks
- Largely privately funded



Source: AGC of America, Constriction Spending, Labor & Materials Outlook, Jan. 2016, Census Bureau construction spending reports

# Office Construction Costs – ICC Building Valuation



(B) Business Occupancy

"...where wood frame construction is allowed, depending on location and occupancy, this would help to keep costs lower. In areas that are restricted to nonflammable construction, price per square foot will go up." -EV Studio Article (full service Design firm)

#### Source: ICC Building Valuation Data, Aug 2015

http://evstudio.com/construction-cost-per-square-foot-for-office-buildings/construction-cost-office-building-2-to-4-stories-2/

# 1-4 Story Office Construction Costs – Built National Average

### **1-4 Story Offices in US:**

- wood offices are 20-30% less expensive per square foot than non-wood office
- average square foot per project for a wood office was 18-80% smaller than a non-wood office



# 2-4 Story RSMeans Cost Estimates – Estimated National Average

### OFFICE & WAREHOUSE SQUARE FOOT COST ESTIMATES

The following estimate assumes face brick with concrete block back-up / wood joists, using 2013 RSMeans data.

National Cost Estimate (Union Labor)	% of Total	Cost Per SF
Construction Total		\$\$134.78
Contractor Fees (GC, Overhead, Profit)	25%	\$\$33.69
Architectural Fees	6%	\$\$8.09
Total Building Cost	\$\$176.56	

### OFFICE, 2-4 STORY SQUARE FOOT COST ASSUMING BRICK VENEER / WOOD FRAME

Cost Estimate (Union Labor)	% of Total	Cost Per SF
Total		\$\$119.40
Contractor Fees (GC, Overhead, Profit)	25%	\$\$29.85
Architectural Fees	7%	\$\$10.45
Total Building Cost		<b>\$\$</b> 159.70

#### Source: RS Means Cost per Square Foot Models

# 5-10 Story Office Construction Costs – Built National Average

- RSMeans data suggests ~4% (\$6-10/sf) savings by increasing stories\*
- Based on Dodge Data, perhaps economies of scale do not always exist
- Wood is not an architype for offices of this height so cost data is not available

\* Source: 2012 Reed Construction Data Graph Data Source: Dodge Analytics Data



### Regional Variation of Construction Cost– Built Projects 2013-2015



Data source: Dodge Analytics Data

# Heavy/Mass Timber provides great solutions for: DMarket Distinction DLarger Scale Dopen Layout

Marcus Kauffman, ODF

and l



ARCHITECT: Miller Hull Partnership ENGINEER: PAE Consulting Engineers PHOTO CREDIT: John Stamets, Nic Lehoux



### **Bullitt Center**

- Location: Seattle, WA.
- Type IV construction
- 4 stories of wood over a 2 story concrete podium
- 52,000 sf



### **Bullitt Center (Cont.)**

- Construction cost \$18.5 M, \$355/sf
- Net Zero Building
- Goal-250 year life expectancy
- First Living Building Challenge Certified Office Building
- 80% Energy reductions
- PV array provides energy for building





Volume of wood used: 24,526 cubic feet



U.S. and Canadian forests grow this much wood in: 2 minutes



Carbon stored in the wood: 545 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



Avoided greenhouse gas emissions: 1,158 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



TOTAL POTENTIAL CARBON BENEFIT: 1,703 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>

### EQUIVALENT TO:



### 325 cars off the road for a year



### Energy to operate a home for 145 years

Estimated by the Wood Carbon Calculator for Buildings, based on research by Sarthre, R. and J. O'Connor, 2010, A Synthesis of Research on Wood Products and Greenhouse Gas Impacts, FPInnovations. Note: CO<sub>2</sub> on this chart refers to CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.



### **Hudson Building**

- Location: Vancouver, WA.
- 3 stories, Type VB, 45,000 sf
- Cost more than steel and approx. the same as PT Concrete
- Gets \$7/sf more in rent than similar (non-wood) office building next door





### Hudson Building (Cont.)

- ~25'x25' Grid
- 15'-18' floor to floor heights
- Composite floor: 2x4 and 2x6 NLT floor panels with 3 ½" reinforced concrete topping

**Reinforced Brick** 

Hall Way

Spray Foam

metal

mineral

Light gauge

furring with

wool batts

- All MEP exposed
- Reinforced Brick as exterior bearing shearwall system

ARCHITECT: Mackenzie ENGINEER: Mackenzie DEVELOPER: Killian Pacific and Mackenzie PHOTO CREDIT: WoodWorks



### **Clay Creative**

- Location: Portland, OR
- 5 stories of Type IIIA over 1 story of Type IA, 72,000 sf
- Deck on upper level
- Under Construction (Complete May 16, 2016)
- Net cost: ~\$300-\$350/sf of rentable space
- Received a \$300K transit oriented development grant
- ~12 month construction duration



### **Clay Creative (Cont.)**

- ~8' finished floor to bottom of beam
- 25'x30' at perimeter
- 30'x30' bays at center
- 1.5" gypsum o/ WSP o/ 2x6 NLT floor panels stitched together with 12" screws
- Raised floor system for mechanical, data and acoustics
- Exterior steel moment frame keeps core area more versatile





"This is a terrific building that echoes the historic character of the workspaces in the Central Eastside, but takes it a step further with this incredible wood construction."

> -Portland Metro Councilor Bob Stacey

DEVELOPER: Killian Pacific and Mackenzie PHOTO CREDIT: WoodWorks



### **Albina Yard**

- Location: Portland, OR
- 4 stories, Type VA/IIIB, 16,000 sf
- Green Roof
- Under Construction (Dec 2015)



ARCHITECT: Lever Architecture IMAGE CREDIT: Lever Architecture

### Albina Yard (Cont.)

- ~20'x20' Grid
- CLT floor panels with electrical conduit poured into light weigh gypsum topping
- Wood shearwall core with open front design for glazing wall



ARCHITECT: Lever Architecture IMAGE CREDIT: WoodWorks



II II

II II

# Exploring Costs For Heavy Timber Office





### Timber Fabricator Assumptions:

- Aspen, CO\*
- 30'x40' Grid
- 3 stories
- 70K sf
- 14' Floor to floor height

\*Labor for 3 local workers and 4 from Fabricator HQ. Includes costs for accommodation and per diem expenses in CO.

Courtesy of Arch Nexus

# Cost Estimate – Heavy Timber Specialist

**Assumed Materials for Design:** 

- 1. Bearing Shearwalls: 5 ply CLT at all levels
- 2. Floor Girders: 10 ½"x43 ½"
- 3. Floor Beams: 10 ½"x31 ½" (interior bays)
- 4. Floor Beams: 10 ½"x40 ½" (exterior bays)
- 5. Columns: 8 ½"x9" 10 ½"x 10 ½"
- 6. Floor Deck: 7 ply CLT
- 7. Roof Beams: 8 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"x27" GLB
- 8. Roof Deck: 5 ply CLT



# Steel and Concrete - RSMeans Square Foot Cost Models

### RS Means Square Foot Cost Model Assumptions:

- Los Angeles, CA
- 8 Story Office
- 80K sf
- 25'x25' bays
- 12' floor to floor height
- 2016 Q2 Cost Data
- 3 reinforced concrete frame solutions
- 3 steel frame solutions



# Exploring Structural System Cost Comparison

Structural System	Class A Heavy Timber Frame (Western Wood Structures)	<b>Typical</b> <b>Steel Frame</b> (RSMeans 5-10 Story Office Square Foot Module)	<b>Typical</b> <b>Reinforced Concrete Frame</b> (RSMeans 5-10 Story Office Square Foot Module)
	Up to \$55/sf	Up to \$48/sf	Up to \$60/sf
Includes	<ul> <li>30'x40' Grid</li> <li>Materials</li> <li>Labor</li> <li>Equipment</li> <li>Connections</li> <li>Delivery</li> <li>No wall Insulation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>25'x25' Grid</li> <li>Materials</li> <li>Labor</li> <li>Equipment</li> <li>Connections</li> <li>Delivery</li> <li>Insulation on wall</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>25'x25' Grid</li> <li>Materials</li> <li>Labor</li> <li>Equipment</li> <li>Connections</li> <li>Delivery</li> <li>Insulation on wall</li> </ul>
Does not include	<ul> <li>Infill and partition walls</li> <li>Foundation or site work</li> <li>Design fees</li> <li>Roof and wall Insulation</li> <li>Building envelope</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Infill and partition walls</li> <li>Foundation or site work</li> <li>Design fees</li> <li>Roof Insulation</li> <li>Building Envelope</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Infill and partition walls</li> <li>Foundation or site work</li> <li>Design fees</li> <li>Roof Insulation</li> <li>Building Envelope</li> </ul>

# Additional Value of a Heavy Timber Structure

O LOT	Potential Tangible Value:	Intangible Value:
VALUE	Reduced foundation size due to structure weight	Lower involuntary stress environment (Bio-philia)
	Improved construction schedule	Unique Aesthetic
	Less on-site labor	Reduced Carbon Footprint
	Fewer finishes leading to reduction in cost, schedule and environmental impact	Lower Environmental Impacts

# When asked what the value is in building a timber office, developers say.....

- "Creates market distinction"
- "Offers a warm rustic aesthetic young firms are looking for"
- "It's the new class A office"



# Light frame wood provides great solutions for: Low-rise (1-4 stories) Custom Irregular in footprint

### **Bonner General Health**

- Location: Sandpoint, ID
- Complete: 2015
- 3 stories, 50,000 sf
- 32' floor spans
- 28" deep I-joists w/ topping
- Originally to be steel
- Poor soils needed lighter structure
- Wood framing brought project in budget







ARCHITECT: John Eixenberger PHOTO CREDIT: RedBuilt


"Not only did wood give us a more economical structure, but we could more easily source our labor needs with wood framing, too."

> -Construction Manager Jim Williamson

PROJECT: Bonner General Health Office ARCHITECT: John Eixenberger PHOTO CREDIT: RedBuilt







## **575 Stonecutters Way Office Building**

- Location: Montpelier, VT
- Completed: Fall 2012
- 2 stories, Type VB, 20,000 sf
- Prefabricated walls
- High R-value walls and roof

ARCHITECT: Connor Contracting PHOTO CREDIT: Connor Contracting



# **Detailing Options for Wood Framed Office**

Typical Roof Truss Span: 24'-0"



Roof Construction:

- Roofing Membrane
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>" Protection Board
- Continuous Insulation
- 5/8" Roof Sheathing
- 20" Deep Pre-fab Wood Trusses @ 24" o.c.

Sloping internal roof support beams created low-slope, internally drained roof

## William Clyburn Center for Primary Care

- Location: Aiken, SC
- Completed: Nov, 2014
- 2 stories, Type VB, 26,600 sf
- Wood bearing walls with I-joists
- Total Construction Cost: \$4M
- Approx. \$150/sf

ARCHITECT: Hughes, Beattie, O'Neal, Law & Associates ENGINEER: J.E. Stewart Engineering, Inc. PHOTO CREDIT: Hughes, Beattie, O'Neal, Law & Associates ADULT

DENTA

MEDICINE



- Location: Basalt, CO
- Type VB, 2 stories
- 15,600 sf
- Goal-100 year design life



ARCHITECT: ZGF Architects ENGINEER: KPFF Consulting Engineers PHOTO CREDIT: Tim Griffith

## Rocky Mountain Institute Innovation Center (Cont.)

- SIP panel exterior walls and roof
- Targeting net zero energy
- Cross-laminated timber used for floor structure utilizes beetle-kill lumber from British Columbia.
- Use of CLT allowed structure depth to be minimized, allowing natural daylight to penetrate further into building











#### WOOD BUILDING ROOF FRAMING PLAN





SCALE: = 1'-0"

## Cost Comparison: 22'x30' Grid



# Cost Comparison: 22'x30' Grid

## **Cost Savings by System:**

- Average overall savings of 40% on structure
- Structure makes up 15-30% of overall building cost
- Largest Cost Savings in the Roof
- Included were all secondary assembly items that differed between a steel and roof structural system



# Architects largely agree that timber construction offers:

- Cost Effectiveness
- Large Labor Pool
- Readily Available Material
- Speed of Erection
- Low Carbon Footprint

But what is often missed is..... It can be done more often than you thought!



