

# EQUILIBRIUM

## The Case for Tall Wood Buildings

Baltimore, Washington, Raleigh  
March 2013

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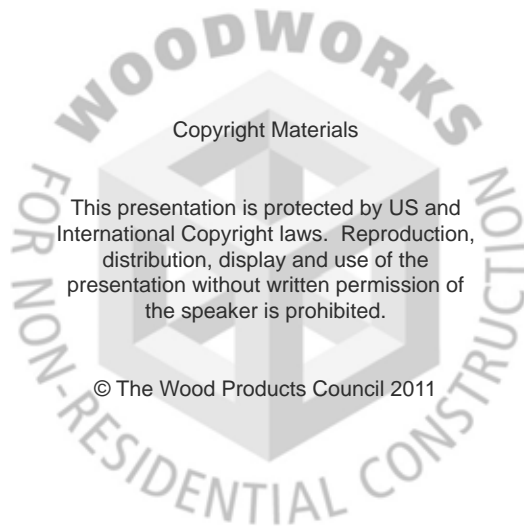
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Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.

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### LEARNING OBJECTIVES: AT THE END OF THIS PROGRAM, PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO

1. Learn how the use of mass timber in tall buildings offers a new cost-effective options to prospective building owners.
2. Describe why the use of wood products reduces a building's overall environmental impact.
3. Evaluate the results of peer review that confirmed the feasibility, fire safety and other life safety aspects of tall wood buildings..
4. The code consultant has confirmed that a high building of residential occupancy can be designed and constructed to meet the functional statement and fundamental safety objectives of the building codes on a performance basis..

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# Why build timber towers?

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## Tangible advantages

- Economically compares well to concrete and steel construction
- Great appearance
- Lighter than concrete
- Energy efficient envelope
- Fast installation
- Appropriate for remote sites
- Reduces M & E and finishes installation time (by ½?)
- Clean, dust free and quiet site
- Accurate

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# The world will be 70% urban by 2050

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# 3 billion new residential units

# Most in the developing world

# Where concrete is the material of choice

## Building industry is resource intensive

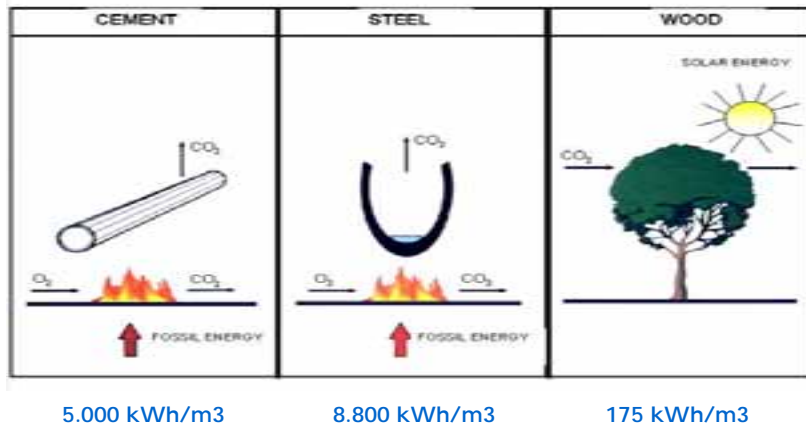
Worldwide, the building industry is responsible for:

- 40% consumption of resources <sup>1)</sup>
- 25% - 40% consumption of energy <sup>1)</sup>
- 30% - 40% emission of greenhouse gas <sup>1)</sup>
- 30% - 40% of solid waste generation <sup>1)</sup>
- 60% of the transports <sup>2)</sup>



- 1) Source: UNEP SBCI – United Nations Environment Program
- 2) ton kilometres

## Energy use of major construction materials



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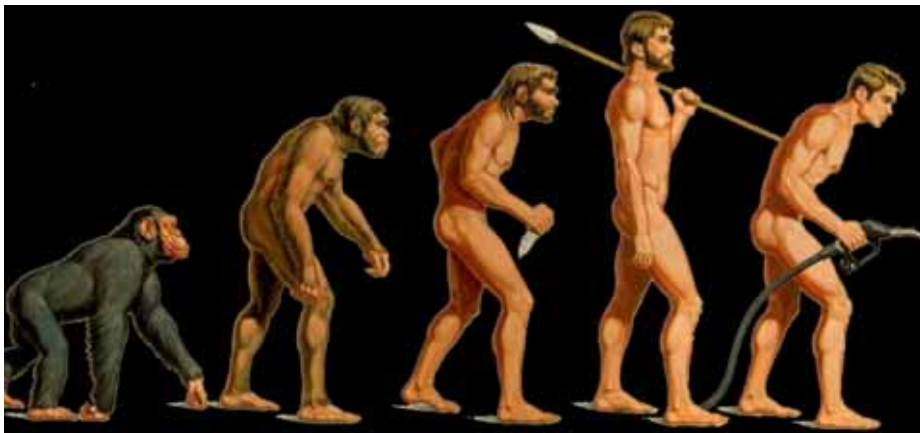
## CARBON EMISSIONS

Airline industry 1% of world carbon emissions  
 Shipping industry 3% of world carbon emissions  
 Concrete industry 5-8% of world carbon emissions

Cement production is the fastest-growing source of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.  
*Recent UN Environment Program Report*



**Timber: Sequesters about 1 ton of carbon per m<sup>3</sup>**



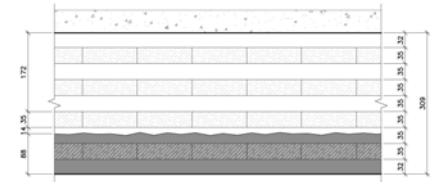
# The Fears

## WOOD BURNS

## Wood does burn ...

- But we know how
- And large timber burns slowly
- And retain structural integrity

**Combustibility and fire resistance  
are not the same thing ...**



DESIGN CHARRING - CLT FLOOR SLAB  
1.5

# The Fears

## WOOD BURNS

## WOOD ROTTS

## Wood does rot ...

Keep it dry

- Build a good envelope and maintain it
- Protect from the sun and direct rain exposure

If you have to expose it:

- Extensive ongoing research on treatments  
(nanotechnology)
- Good detailing (sealed or free draining connections)

# The Fears

WOOD BURNS

WOOD ROTS

WOOD IS UNPREDICTABLE AND WEAK

Wood is unpredictable and weak

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- Engineered wood products are predictable and compare to reinforced concrete in strength
- Ongoing research – new products developed every year

# The Fears

WOOD BURNS

WOOD ROTS

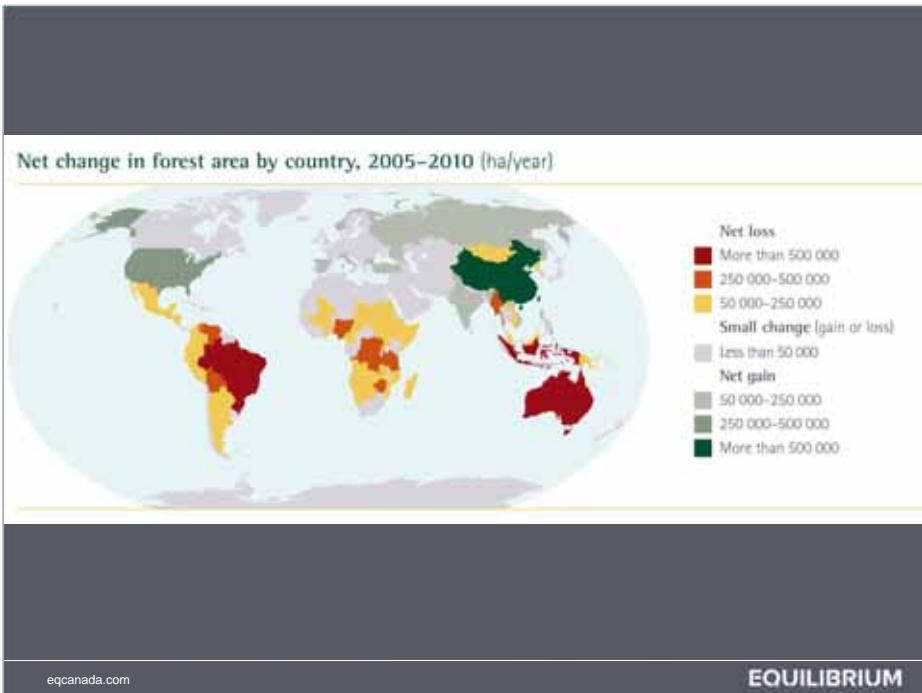
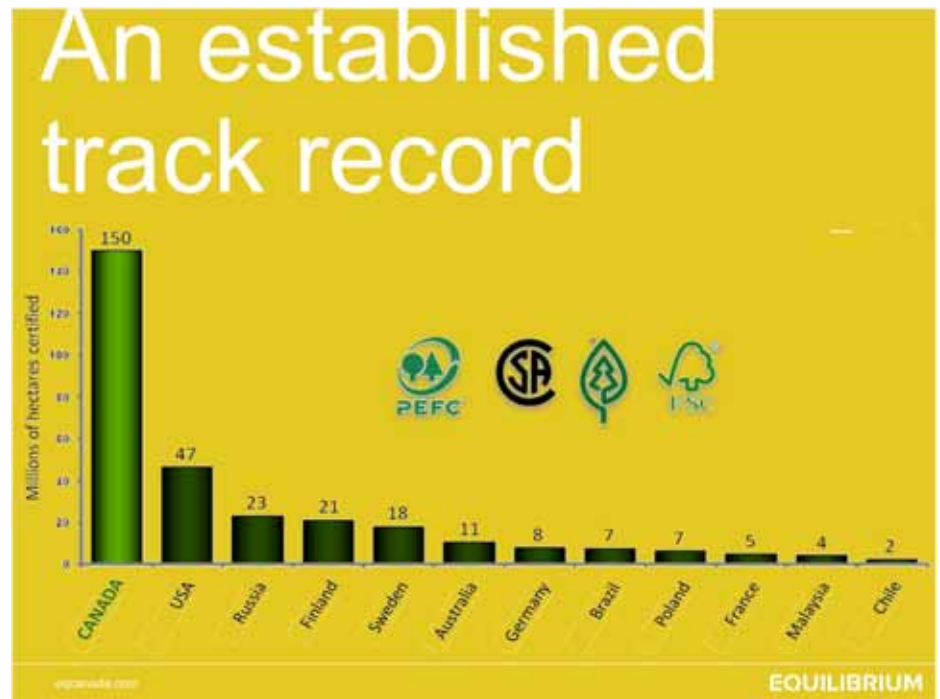
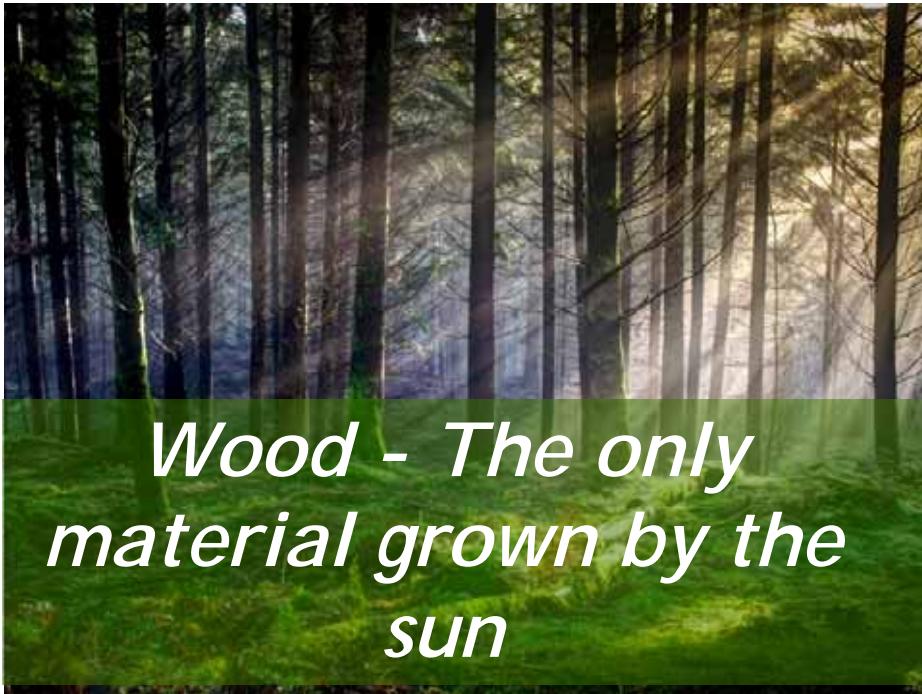
WOOD IS UNPREDICTABLE AND WEAK

WE WILL SHAVE THE PLANET CLEAN

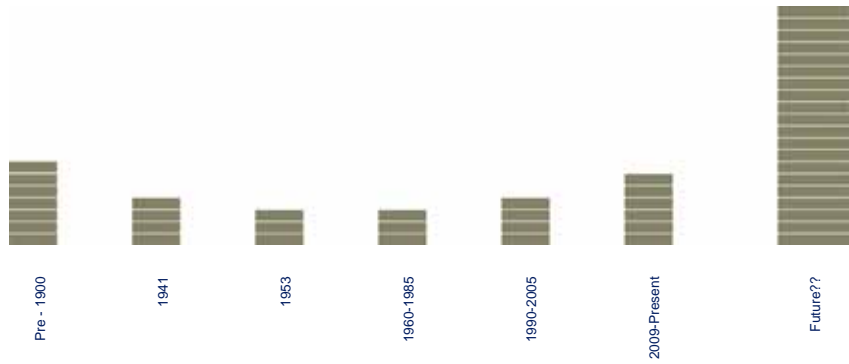
We will shave the planet clean

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- Of course, we can. But we aren't.



# Building Height and the BC Building Code



## Tall Wood Structures Throughout History

Structure Name	Date	Location	Material / Construction
Horyu-ji Temple	603-1603	Nara, Japan	32.5 Meters, Heavy Timber
Stave Church	1130	Norway	Post + Beam
Murray Grove	2008	London, England	KiL CLT
Barenhouse Kirkenes	Unrealized	Norway	
Lifecycle Tower	Unrealized	Austria	Glulam beams, Wood-concrete composite floors

# MURRAY GROVES London, England



By Andrew Waugh of Waugh Tinselton Architects











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**Horyu-ji Temple**  
Nara, Japan

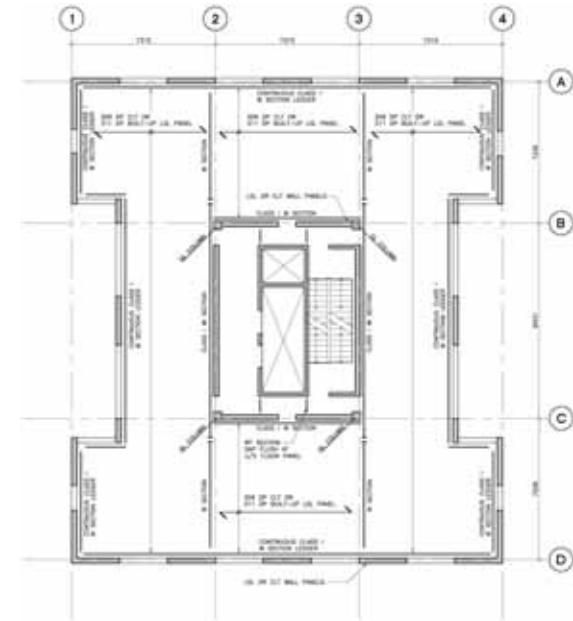
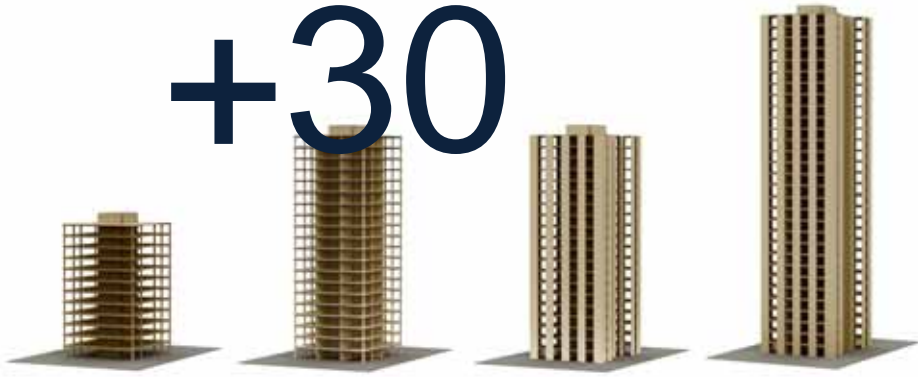
Date: 603 to 1603  
32.5m tall



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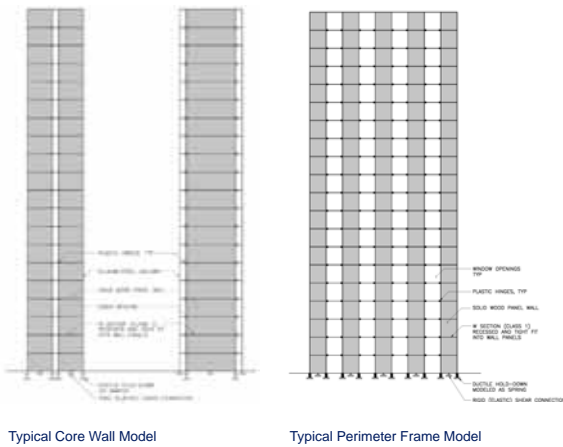
A dark grey rectangular panel containing text and a photograph. The text on the left side reads "Horyu-ji Temple" in bold, "Nara, Japan" below it, and "Date: 603 to 1603" and "32.5m tall" further down. On the right side, there is a photograph of the Horyu-ji Temple pagoda, a traditional Japanese structure with multiple tiers and a dark roof. At the bottom left of the panel is the website "eqcanada.com" and at the bottom right is the word "EQUILIBRIUM".

# +30



## STRUCTURAL CONCEPT

- Lateral system based on universally recognized “strong column – weak beam” concept
- Vertical elements: “Strong” laminated solid wood panel walls and glulam columns
- Horizontal elements: “Weak” and ductile steel beams designed to hinge (using RBS)
- Ductile connections at base and between panels



## 3D VIEWS

- Steel beams tight-fit into the wall panels to develop bearing and simplify connections
- They act as ledgers as well as ductile links

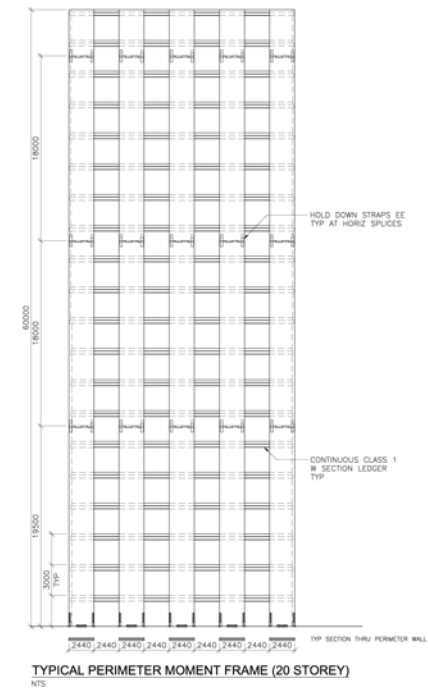
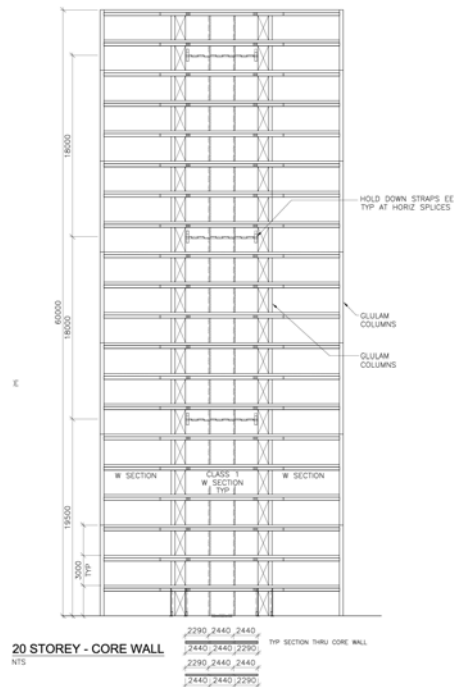
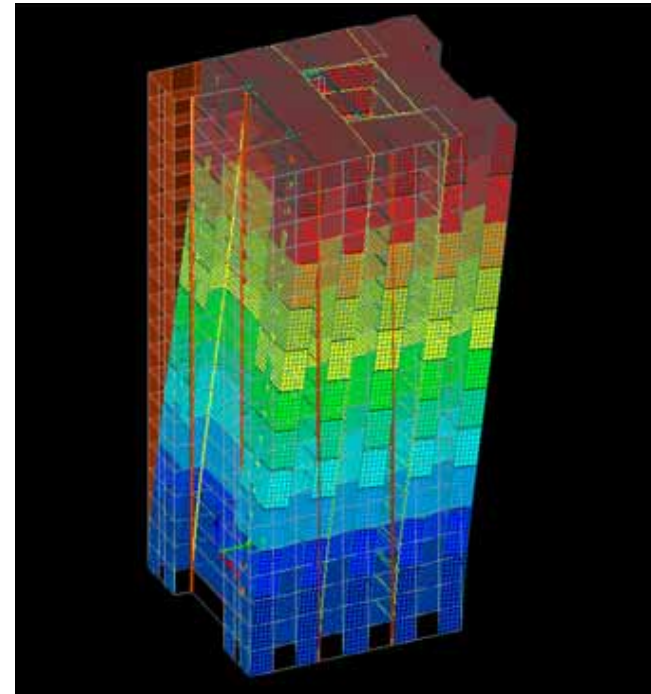


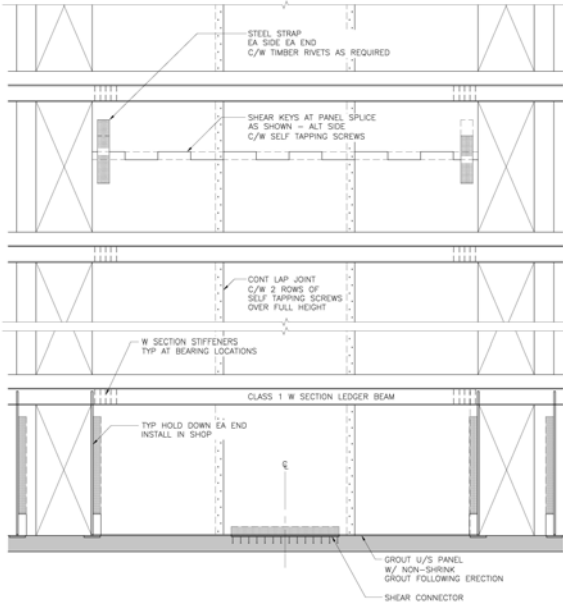
## DUCTILITY RATIO

- Based on FP Innovation recommendations:  
 $R_d = 2.0$   $R_o = 1.5$
- This is conservative as the steel ledger act more like ductile link beams or moment frames
- Equivalent to  $R = 3.75$  and  $\Omega = 2.0$
- But the US CLT handbook specifies  $R = 2.0$  and  $\Omega = ???$ , which is even more conservative.

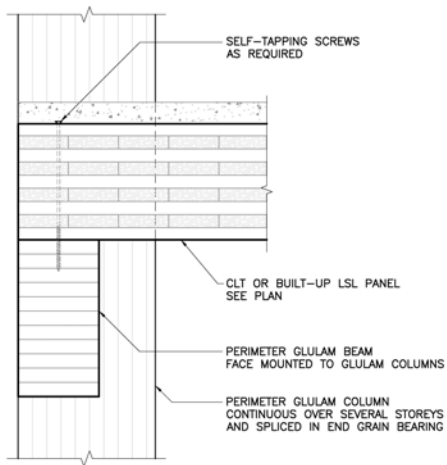


CLT Shear wall Test - FP Innovations

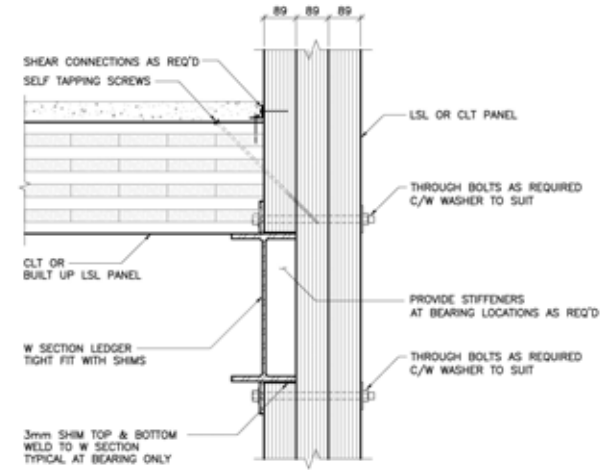




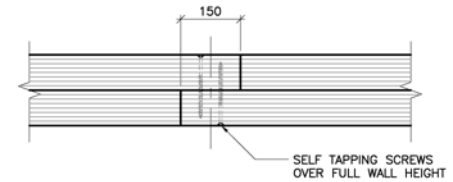
CONCEPTUAL PANEL CONNECTION DETAILS  
NTS



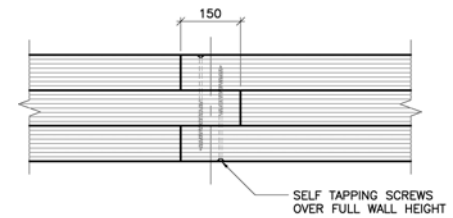
SECTION DETAIL - TYPICAL PERIMETER AT POST AND BEAM  
NTS (OPTIONS A & B)



SECTION DETAIL - LEDGER CONNECTION TO  
TRIPLE LSL (267) PANEL OR 274 CLT  
NTS TYPICAL AT CORE OR AT MOMENT FRAMES

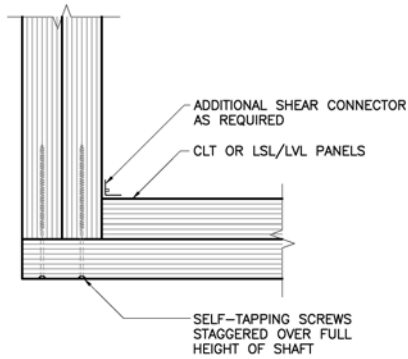


PLAN DETAIL - TYPICAL VERTICAL JOINT  
DOUBLE PANEL (178 mm)  
NTS



PLAN DETAIL - TYPICAL VERTICAL JOINT  
TRIPLE PANEL (267 mm)  
NTS

FULL-SCALE SHAKING TABLE TESTS ON 7-STORY CLT BUILDING  
E-DEFENSE, MIKI, JAPAN



PLAN DETAIL - TYPICAL WALL INTERSECTION  
NTS



Char depth + heat zone

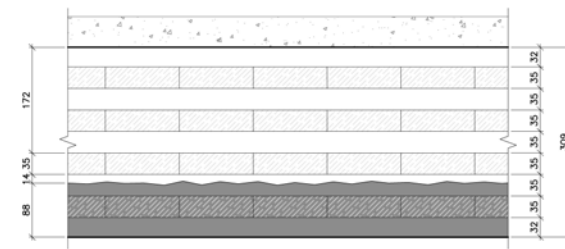
	$d_{heat}$ mm	$t$ min	$\beta$ mm/min	$d_{char}$ mm	total mm
CLT Floor Panel <sup>[1]</sup>	10	120	0.65	78	88
CLT Wall Panel <sup>[1]</sup>	16	120	0.65	78	94

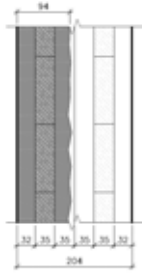
	$k_0$	$d_0$ mm	$t$ min	$\beta_n$ mm/min	$d_{char,n}$ mm	$d_{ef}$ mm
Glulam Element <sup>[2]</sup>	1.0	7	120	0.635	76	83

<sup>[1]</sup> Based on FPInnovations CLT Handbook 2011, Chapter 8 – Fire

<sup>[2]</sup> Based on Eurocode 5 - EN1995-2-1, Design of Timber Structures, General Rules - Structural Fire Design

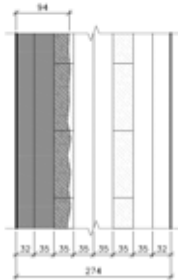


DESIGN CHARRING - CLT FLOOR SLAB  
1:5



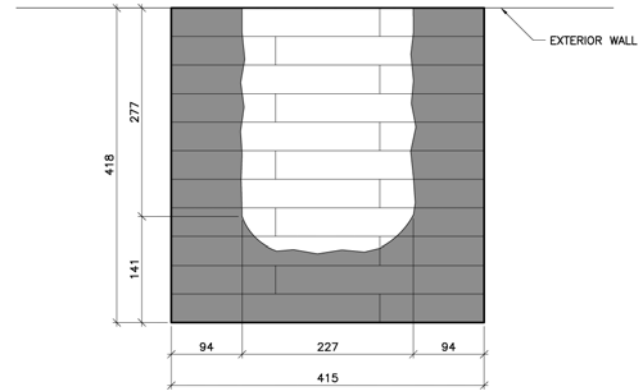
**DESIGN CHARRING - 204mm SHEAR WALL**

1:5



**DESIGN CHARRING - 274mm SHEAR WALL**

1:5



**DESIGN CHARRING - GLULAM COLUMN EXPOSED ON 3 SIDES**

1:5

Region	12 Storey Concrete Frame	12 Storey FFT Charring Method	12 Storey FFT Encapsulation Method	20 Storey Concrete Frame	20 Storey FFT Charring Method	20 Storey FFT Encapsulation Method
Vancouver	\$ 17,550,800	\$ 17,518,000	\$ 17,856,200	\$ 30,097,900	\$ 30,297,100	\$ 30,989,900
\$ / sf	\$283	\$283	\$288	\$292	\$294	\$300
Northern BC	\$ 19,832,404	\$ 19,269,800	\$ 19,641,820	\$ 34,010,627	\$ 33,326,810	\$ 34,088,890
\$ / sf	\$320	\$311	\$317	\$330	\$323	\$330
Interior BC	\$ 18,779,356	\$ 18,393,900	\$ 18,749,010	\$ 32,204,753	\$ 31,811,955	\$ 32,539,395
\$ / sf	\$303	\$297	\$303	\$312	\$308	\$315
Fraser	\$ 17,550,800	\$ 17,518,000	\$ 17,856,200	\$ 30,097,900	\$ 30,297,100	\$ 30,989,900
\$ / sf	\$283	\$283	\$288	\$292	\$294	\$300
Vancouver Island	\$ 18,691,602	\$ 18,393,900	\$ 18,749,010	\$ 32,054,264	\$ 31,811,955	\$ 32,539,395
\$ / sf	\$302	\$297	\$303	\$311	\$308	\$315

**Note:** The 20 storey FFT option indicated is based on the Option 2 design. The prices shown increases by \$2 /SF for the Option 3 structural approach.

Cost the system  
Not the structure



# Compare value Not just cost

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Life Cycle Tower One  
Bregenz, Austria



By CREE

Forte Tower  
Melbourne, Australia



By Inhabitat





## Next Steps

- Static non-linear and dynamic non-linear time history analysis
- Finite element analysis of critical connections
- Wind vibration analysis
- Testing
- Look at damper, base isolation and self-centering systems
- Liaison with code authorities



## QUESTIONS?

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This concludes The American Institute of Architects  
Continuing Education Systems Course

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