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



Course Description

As interest in and use of mass timber in the U.S. has grown, so too has interest in pushing these timber structures to greater heights. Using international examples of successful tall wood buildings as precedent, some designers have proposed tall wood projects in the states using a project-specific performance-based design approach. In order to provide a uniform set of code provisions for these tall wood buildings, the International Code Council established an ad hoc committee on tall wood buildings that proposed a set of code changes allowing up to 18 stories of mass timber construction. Those code changes were announced as approved in January 2019 and will become part of the 2021 International Building Code. Following a brief discussion of history and motivators, this presentation will introduce the new tall wood code provisions and construction types, as well as the technical research and testing that supported their adoption.

Learning Objectives

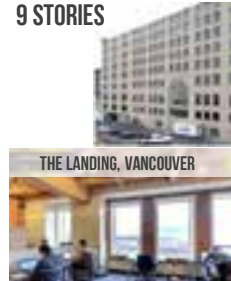
1. Review the global history of tall wood construction and highlight the mass timber products used in these structures.
2. Explore the work and conclusions of the ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Tall Wood Buildings in establishing 14 new code provisions for the 2021 IBC that address tall wood construction.
3. Discuss differences between the new tall wood mass timber construction types and existing construction types.
4. Identify the key passive fire-resistance construction requirements and active systems that enable taller wood buildings to be built safely.

Questions we'll answer:

- What is tall wood?
- How tall is tall?
- What has been done?
- What wood products are used in tall wood?
- What does the code allow now?
- How did we arrive at the proposed tall wood code changes?
- What are the new tall wood code provisions?



TALL WOOD IN NORTH AMERICA CIRCA 1906 9 STORIES



GLOBAL TALL WOOD CIRCA 2015

7-14 STORIES



GLOBAL TALL WOOD CIRCA 2019

18-24 STORIES



TALL WOOD IN THE US CIRCA 2019

8 STORIES



Photos: Baumberger Studio/PATH Architecture/Marcus Kauffman | Architect: PATH Architecture



HEAVY TIMBER

Federal Center South, Seattle, WA
Photo: Benjamin Benschneider



MASS TIMBER

Bullitt Center, Seattle, WA
Photo: John Stamets

GLULAM



CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER (CLT)



NAIL-LAMINATED TIMBER (NLT)



Photo: Think Wood

DOWEL-LAMINATED TIMBER (DLT)



Photo: StructureCraft

MASS PLYWOOD PANELS (MPP)



Photo: StructureCraft

DECKING



Photo: StructureCraft



Photo: Lend Lease



Photo: Lend Lease



Photo: StructureCraft

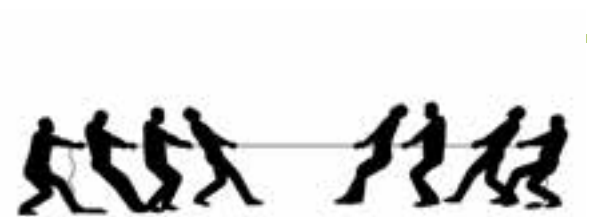
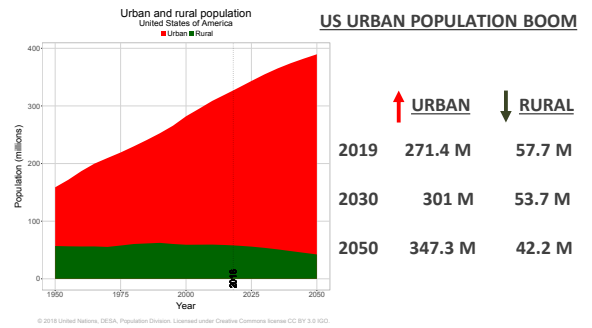


Photo: LEVER architecture



Photo: Bernard André Photography

OFFICES | MULTI-FAMILY | COMMERCIAL | EDUCATIONAL



Construction Traffic & Noise
Material Stockpiles
Labor Costs
Labor Availability
Weather Risks



Resiliency
Sustainability
Fire & Life Safety





Reduced Embodied Carbon

Brock Commons, Vancouver, BC
Photo Credit: UBC



MARKET DRIVERS FOR MASS TIMBER

PRIMARY DRIVERS

- » Construction Efficiency & Speed
- » Construction site constraints – Urban Infill
- » Innovation/Aesthetic

SECONDARY DRIVERS

- » Carbon Reductions
- » Structural Performance – lightweight

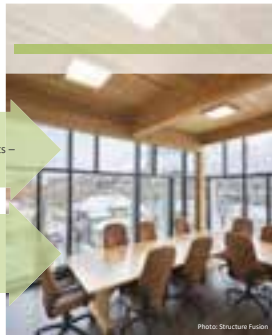


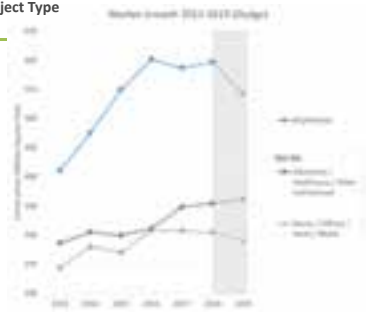
Photo: Structure Fusion

Market Opportunity by Project Type

Forecast: Mass Timber “Type” Projects

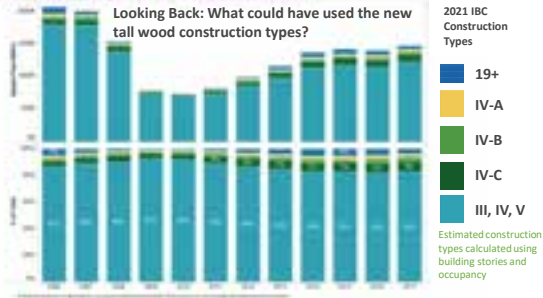
All stories (not just tall wood)

~1 Billion SF per Year



All Multifamily and Non-residential

Looking Back: What could have used the new tall wood construction types?

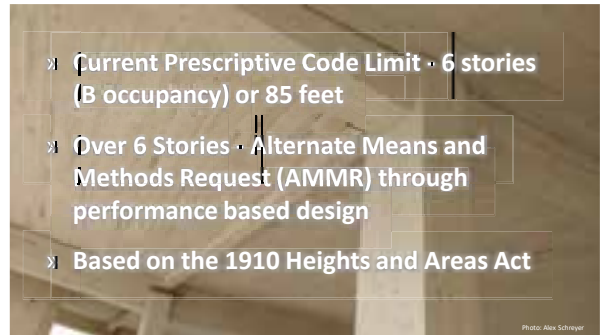


Type IV-A, B, C – MF and Non-residential

Looking Back: Which of the new tall wood construction types is there the largest market for?

Opportunity for Tall Wood (various building types): 200 million sqft per year





TYPE III CONSTRUCTION, RESIDENTIAL OCCUPANCY: 5 STORIES



LIGHT-FRAME WOOD MASS TIMBER



U.S. TALL WOOD DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGES

Seen as the catalyst for the mass timber revolution, CLT first recognized in US codes in the 2015 IBC

[18] CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER. A prefabricated engineered wood product consisting of not less than three layers of solid-sawn lumber or structural composite lumber where the adjacent layers are cross-oriented and bonded with structural adhesive to form a solid wood element.

2303.1.4 Structural glued cross-laminated timber. Cross-laminated timber shall be manufactured and identified in accordance with ANSI/APA PRG 320.



U.S. TALL WOOD DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGES

Interest in tall wood projects in the US was rapidly increasing. Some building officials were reluctant to approved proposed plans, primarily due to lack of code direction and precedent



U.S. TALL WOOD DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGES



In December 2015, the ICC Board established the ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Tall Wood Buildings. Objectives:

1. Explore the building science of tall wood buildings
2. Investigate the feasibility, and
3. Take action on developing code changes for tall wood buildings.

U.S. BUILDING CODES DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGES



Timeline:

Submission of code changes for the 2018 Group A Cycle (IBC) in January 2018 – changes for 2021 IBC

U.S. BUILDING CODES DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGES



5 Working Groups Created

- July 2016 – November 2017: 5 in-person meetings, numerous conference calls
- 82 issues addressed, one primary topic was fire performance and life safety



Fire resistance of mass timber for low- to mid-rise structures well understood, codified

Taller wood buildings create new set of challenges to address:

AHC established 6 performance objectives:

1. No collapse under reasonable scenarios of complete burn-out of fuel without automatic sprinkler protection being considered.
2. Highly reliable fire suppression systems to reduce the risk of failure during reasonably expected fire scenarios. The degree of reliability should be proportional to evacuation time (height) and the risk of collapse.



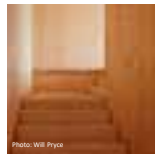
AHC established 6 performance objectives:

3. No unusually high radiation exposure from the subject building to adjoining properties to present a risk of ignition under reasonably severe fire scenarios.
4. No unusual response from typical radiation exposure from adjacent properties to present a risk of ignition of the subject building under reasonably severe fire scenarios.



AHC established 6 performance objectives:

5. No unusual fire department access issues
6. Egress systems designed to protect building occupants during the design escape time, plus a factor of safety.



U.S. BUILDING CODES

Tall Wood Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioned series of 5 full-scale tests on 2-story mass timber structure at ATF lab in MD, May-June 2017



Images: AWC

U.S. BUILDING CODES

Tall Wood Ad Hoc Committee

Tests on exposed mass timber, gypsum-covered mass timber; normal sprinkler protection, delayed sprinkler protection
Majority of flames seen are from contents, not structure



U.S. BUILDING CODES

Tall Wood Ad Hoc Committee

Test	Description	Construction Type
Test 1	All mass timber surfaces protected with 2 layers of 5/8" Type X Gypsum. No Sprinklers.	IV-A
Test 2	30% of CLT ceiling area in living room and bedroom exposed. No Sprinklers.	IV-B
Test 3	Two opposing CLT walls exposed – one in bedroom and one in living room. No Sprinklers.	IV-B
Test 4	All mass timber surfaces fully exposed in bedroom and living room. Sprinklered – normal activation	IV-C
Test 5	All mass timber surfaces fully exposed in bedroom and living room. Sprinklered – 20 minute delayed activation	IV-C

TEST 1



TEST 2



TEST 3



TEST 4

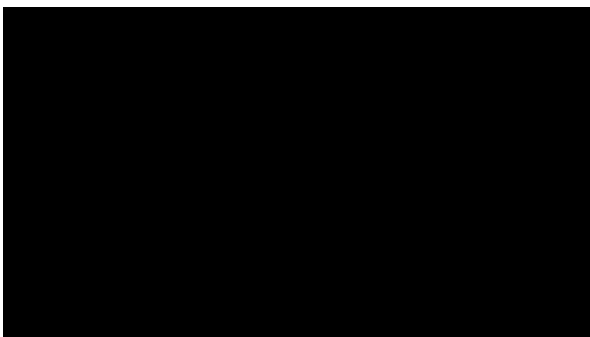


TEST 5

All mass timber surfaces fully exposed in bedroom and living room.

Sprinkler = activation delayed for 20 minutes after smoke detector activation...approximately 23-1/2 minutes from ignition





Although not directly affiliated with the TWB AHC, other mass timber and tall wood testing & research was occurring, the results of which the AHC included in their final decisions

RESEARCH FOUNDATION
Wood Research Foundation

Fire Safety Challenges of Tall Wood Buildings - Phase 2: Scale 1/4 - Experimental Study of Performance of Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) Towers in Fire

WESTERN FIRE CENTER, INC.
WESTERN FIRE CENTER, INC.
10000 1st Ave. S.W., Everett, WA 98203
Phone: 425.336.1111

WFCT

Fire Resistance Testing of CLT Floor/Ceiling Assemblies to Establish Contribution of Gypsum Protection

U.S. BUILDING CODES DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGES

ICC TWB Ad Hoc Committee Group A proposals consisted of the following 14 parts

Requirements for the new Types of Construction:

- ICC Section 602.4 - Type of Construction (602.4.1)
- ICC Section 703.4 - Performance Method for Fire Resistance from Noncombustible Protection (703.4.1)
- ICC Section 703.5 - Prescriptive Fire Resistance from Noncombustible Protection (703.5.1)
- ICC Section 703.6 - Decking at Eaves (703.6.1)
- ICC Section 708.2.1 - Fire and Smoke Protection (708.2.1.1)
- ICC Section 708.2.2 - High-Rise Noncombustible Decking (708.2.2.1)
- ICC Section 701.6 - Element Responsibility (701.6.1)
- ICC Section 708.6 - Fire Safety During Construction (708.6.1)

Allowable building size limits:

- ICC Table 504.2 - Building Height (504.2.1)
- ICC Table 504.4 - Number of Stories (504.4.1)
- ICC Table 506.2 - Allowable Area (506.2.1)

Housekeeping changes:

- ICC Section 2102 - Special Construction (2102.1)
- ICC Appendix D - Fire Detection (5702.1)
- ICC Section 508.4 and 508.5 - Fire Barriers (508.4.1)

U.S. BUILDING CODES DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGES



2018 TIMELINE:

Step 1: January 8 – Final Proposed Language submitted to ICC

Step 2: February 28 – Changes are posted for Public Viewing

Step 3: April 15-25 – Committee Action Public Hearing – Columbus, OH



Photo: Lend Lease



April 6, 2018

Credit: AWC

U.S. BUILDING CODES DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGES



2018 (& BEYOND) TIMELINE:

Step 4: May 30 – Committee Action Hearing results posted

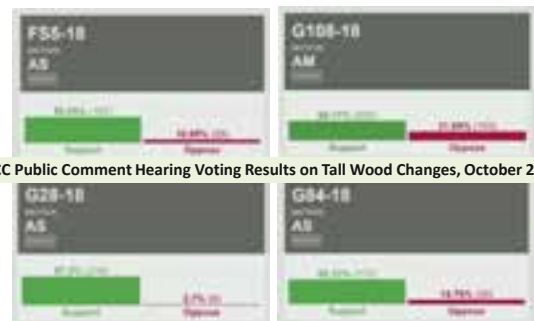
Step 5: June 1 - July 16 – Public Comments Sought on Committee Action Hearing Results

Step 6: August 31 – Public Comments Posted

Step 7: October 24-31 – Public Comment Hearing and Vote

Step 8: November 19 – December 7 Final Online Vote

Step 9: Fall 2020 – New Edition is Published



ICC Public Comment Hearing Voting Results on Tall Wood Changes, October 2018

TALL WOOD APPROVED!

Unofficial results posted Dec 19, 2018

Final votes ratified Jan 31, 2019

AWC: Tall Mass Timber code changes get final approval

Dec 19, 2018

(BIRMINGHAM, Ala.) – The International Code Council (ICC) has released the unofficial voting results on code change proposals considered in 2018, including passage of the entire package of 11 tall mass timber code change proposals. The proposals create three new types of construction (Types IV-A, IV-B and IV-C), which set the safety requirements, and allowable heights, areas and number of stories for tall mass timber buildings. Official results are expected to be announced during the first quarter of 2019. The new provisions will be included in the 2021 International Building Code (IBC).

"Mass timber has been capturing the imagination of architects and developers, and the ICC result means they can now turn sketches into reality. ICC's rigorous study, testing and voting process now

ICC Online Governmental Consensus Voting Results, Ratified January 2019

Tall Wood Code Changes as submitted by TWB Ad Hoc Committee

Code Change	Effect Action	Date Received	Date Resolved	2018's Quarterly Final Actions										Reopened Requests																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
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Type IV-A



Credit: Susan Jones, atellerjones



Photos: Structuram, naturallywood, Fast + Egg, Urban One

Type IV-A Protection vs. Exposed



Credit: Susan Jones, atellerjones



100% NC protection on all surfaces of Mass Timber

Credit: Acon Ostry Architects, Fast + Egg

Type IV-A Height and Area Limits



Occupancy	# of Stories	Height	Area per Story	Building Area
A-2	18	270 ft	135,000 SF	405,000 SF
B	18	270 ft	324,000 SF	972,000 SF
M	12	270 ft	184,500 SF	553,500 SF
R-2	18	270 ft	184,500 SF	553,500 SF

Areas exclude potential frontage increase

In most cases, Type IV-A height & story allowances = 1.5 * Type I-B height & story allowances

Type IV-A area = 3 * Type IV-HT area

Type IV-B



Credit: Susan Jones, atellerjones



Credit: LEVER Architecture



Type IV-B Protection vs. Exposed



Credit: Susan Jones, atellerjones



Credit: Kaiser+Poth

NC protection on all surfaces of Mass Timber except limited exposed areas

~20% of Ceiling or ~40% of Wall can be exposed, see code for requirements

Type IV-B Height and Area Limits



Credit: Susan Jones, atellerjones

Occupancy	# of Stories	Height	Area per Story	Building Area
A-2	12	180 ft	90,000 SF	270,000 SF
B	12	180 ft	216,000 SF	648,000 SF
M	8	180 ft	123,000 SF	369,000 SF
R-2	12	180 ft	123,000 SF	369,000 SF

Areas exclude potential frontage increase

In most cases, Type IV-B height & story allowances = Type I-B height & story allowances

Type IV-B area = 2 * Type IV-HT area

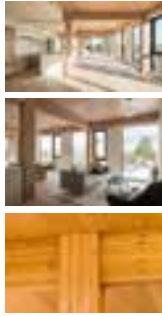
Type IV-C



Credit: Susan Jones, atellerjones



Photos: Baumberger Studio/PATH Architecture/Marcus Kauffman



Type IV-C Protection vs. Exposed



Credit: Susan Jones, atellerjones



Credit: Klaus-Path, Emma Peter

All Mass Timber surfaces may be exposed

Exceptions: Shafts, concealed spaces, outside face of exterior walls

Type IV-C Height and Area Limits



Credit: Susan Jones, atellerjones

Occupancy	# of Stories	Height	Area per Story	Building Area
A-2	6	85 ft	56,250 SF	168,750 SF
B	9	85 ft	135,000 SF	405,000 SF
M	6	85 ft	76,875 SF	230,625 SF
R-2	8	85 ft	76,875 SF	230,625 SF

Areas exclude potential frontage increase

In most cases, Type IV-C height allowances = Type IV-HT height allowances, but add 1 stories permitted due to enhanced FRR
Type IV-C area = 1.25 * Type IV-HT area

Tall Wood Building Size Limits

	Construction Type (All Sprinklered Values)					
	I-A	I-B	IV-A	IV-B	IV-C	IV-HT
Occupancies	Allowable Building Height above Grade Plane, Feet (IBC Table 504.3)					
A, B, R	Unlimited	180	270	180	85	85
Allowable Number of Stories above Grade Plane (IBC Table 505.4)						
A-2, A-3, A-4	Unlimited	12	18	12	6	4
B	Unlimited	12	18	12	2	6
R-2	Unlimited	12	18	12	8	5
Allowable Area Factor (A _f) for SM, Feet ² (IBC Table 506.2)						
A-2, A-3, A-4	Unlimited	Unlimited	135,000	90,000	56,250	45,000
B	Unlimited	Unlimited	324,000	216,000	135,000	108,000
R-2	Unlimited	Unlimited	184,500	123,000	76,875	61,500

Tall Wood Fire Resistance Ratings (FRR)



Primary Frame or Brng Wall FRR	3 HR (2 HR at Roof)	2 HR (1 HR at Roof)	2 HR (1 HR at Roof)
Floor Construction FRR	2 HR	2 HR	2 HR
Roof Construction FRR	1.5 HR	1 HR	1 HR
Floor Surface Protection	1 inch of NC protection	1 inch of NC protection	No protection req'd
Roof Construction Protection	2 layers 5/8" type X gyp on inside face	2 layers 5/8" type X gyp on inside face	No protection req'd unless concealed space

Tall Wood Materials & Protection



Exterior Walls	Mass Timber, exterior surface protected with 1 layer 5/8" type X gyp		
Structural Materials	Mass Timber or NC		
Concealed Spaces	Permitted, requires NC protection on MT surfaces		
Gypsum Protection	All MT is protected 3 HR: 3 layers 5/8" type X gyp 2 HR or less: 2 layers 5/8" type X gyp	Same as IV-A for protected MT. Limited exposed MT permitted, FRR still applies	All MT permitted may be exposed except as noted



WoodWorks Tall Wood Design Resource

http://www.woodworks.org/wp-content/uploads/wood_solution_paper-TALL-WOOD.pdf



EARLY TALL WOOD CODE ADOPTION



**Statewide Alternate Method
No. EB-01 Tall Wood Buildings - Background**

Statewide Alternate Method (SAM) Number EB-01 provides prescriptive path elements for Tall Wood Buildings of mass timber construction. This alternate path includes scientific conclusions established by the International Code Council's Ad Hoc Committee on Tall Wood Buildings that were incorporated into four-year national proposals and utilized concrete, steel or masonry for the vertical elements of the seismic force-resisting system.

The provisions detailed in the SAM are crafted to coincide with the 2018 Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC) when selected for use.

Three new types of construction are introduced under this method, all three of which are organized under Type IV construction, typically selected to an heavy timber.

The new types of construction are:

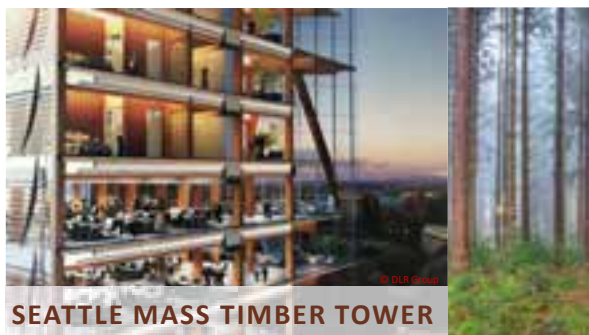
- + Type IV A
- + Type IV B
- + Type IV C

Washington state to allow mid and high-rise mass-timber buildings

State is first in the nation to alter building codes in support of a new generation of engineered wooden building materials with exciting properties of strength, durability and beauty. With mass timber, architects and builders acquire a new material to create urban and rural areas with the prospect of new high-skilled, high-paid jobs.

Source: [Washington Forest Products Association](#)
Published on Dec 08, 2016 10:07 AM

WEDNET Dec. 8, 2016 (Pittsburgh) — The Washington State Building Code Council (WBCC) has approved code changes that will allow for the structural use of mass timber in buildings as tall as 10 stories. This makes Washington the first state in the nation to allow tall mass timber buildings into its building code, without pursuing an alternate method.



SEATTLE MASS TIMBER TOWER

SEATTLE MASS TIMBER TOWER

© DLR Group

- 12 Stories
- 135,000 SF
- Type IV-B Construction – 2 HR FRR (1 HR at Roof)
- 14 ft Floor to Floor
- 12.5 ft x 42 ft Structural Grid
- Retail on 1st level; 5 floors of office; 192-key hotel

