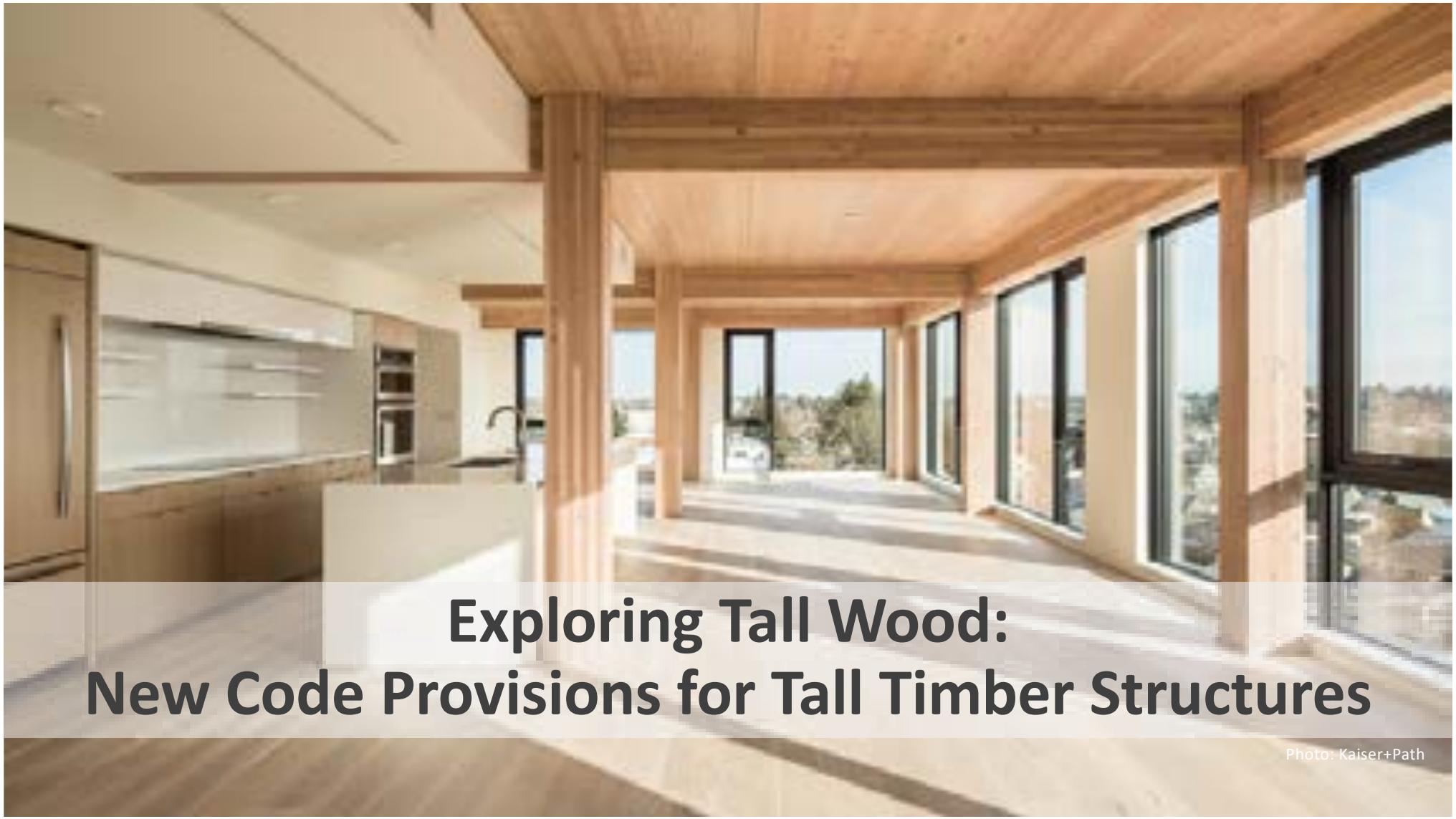


Exploring Tall Wood:
New Code Provisions for Tall Timber Structures

Photo: Kaiser+Path

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?

Photo: Michael Green Architecture

TALL WOOD IN NORTH AMERICA CIRCA 1906

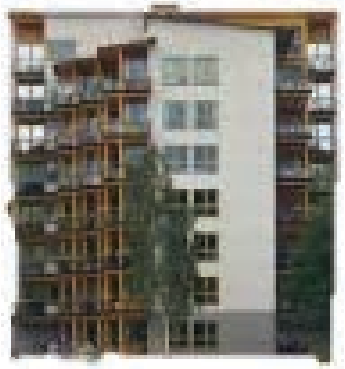
9 STORIES

THE LANDING, VANCOUVER

BUTLER SQUARE, MINNEAPOLIS

GLOBAL TALL WOOD CIRCA 2015

7-14 STORIES





GLOBAL TALL WOOD CIRCA 2019

18-24 STORIES


Photo: Moelven Limtre


Photo: naturally:wood


Photo: Rudiger Lainer + Partner

TALL WOOD IN THE US CIRCA 2019

8 STORIES

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

GLULAM

Photo: StructureCraft

CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER (CLT)

Photo: LendLease

NAIL-LAMINATED TIMBER (NLT)

Photo: Think Wood

Photo: Ema Peter

DOWEL-LAMINATED TIMBER (DLT)

Photo: StructureCraft

Photo: StructureCraft

MASS PLYWOOD PANELS (MPP)

Photo: LEVER Architecture

DECKING

Photo: Bernard André Photography

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Photo: JC Buck


Photo: William Horne


Photo: LEVER Architecture


Photo: David Sundberg and Gray Organschi Architecture


Photo: ©Albert Vecerka/Esto


Photo: Christian Columbres

WHY TALL WOOD?

ESTIMATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF WOOD USE

Volume of wood products used:
2,233 cubic meters of CLT and Glulam

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

Carbon stored in the wood:
1,753 metric tons of CO_2

Avoided greenhouse gas emissions:
679 metric tons of CO_2

Total potential carbon benefit:
2,432 metric tons of CO_2

THE ABOVE GHG EMISSIONS ARE EQUIVALENT

511 cars off the road for a year

Energy to operate a home for 222 years

**Estimated by the Wood Carbon Calculator for Buildings, based on research by Sathre, R. and J. O'Connor, 2010, A Synthesis of Research on Wood Products and Greenhouse Gas Impacts, FPInnovations (this relates to carbon stored and avoided GHG).*

**CO2 in this case study refers to CO2 equivalent*

Source: Naturally:Wood9

Reduced Embodied Carbon

Brock Commons, Vancouver, BC

Photo Credit: UBC

MARKET DRIVERS FOR MASS TIMBER

PRIMARY DRIVERS

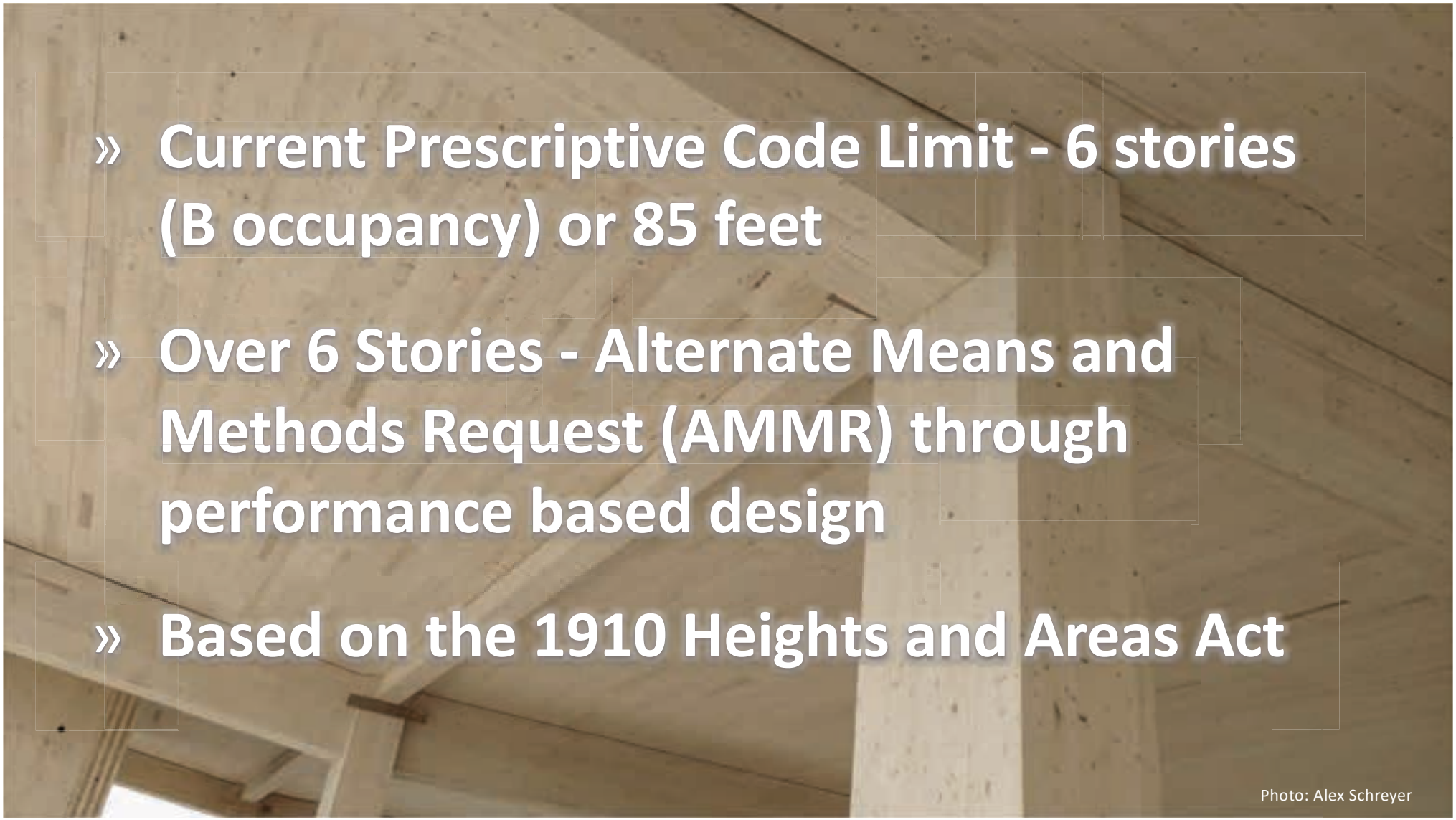
- » Construction Efficiency & Speed
- » Construction site constraints – Urban Infill
- » Innovation/Aesthetic

SECONDARY DRIVERS

- » Carbon Reductions
- » Structural Performance – lightweight

Photo: Structure Fusion

TALL WOOD IN THE U.S.


» Current Prescriptive Code Limit - 6 stories (B occupancy) or 85 feet
» Over 6 Stories - Alternate Means and Methods Request (AMMR) through performance based design
» Based on the 1910 Heights and Areas Act
Photo: Alex Schreyer

U.S. BUILDING CODE STATUS

Photo: Ema Peter

ICC INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL®

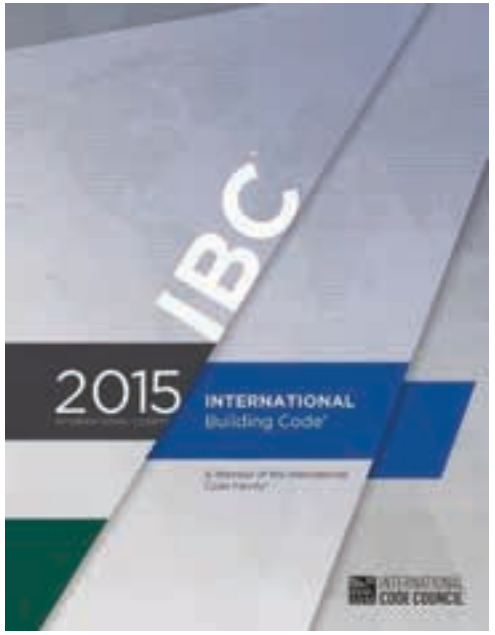
3 YEAR CODE CYCLE

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

[BS] 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 timbers 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

Empire State Building, New York City, New York, 1931

UBC Brock Commons Student Residence, Vancouver, British Columbia, 2016

U.S. TALL WOOD
DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGES

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

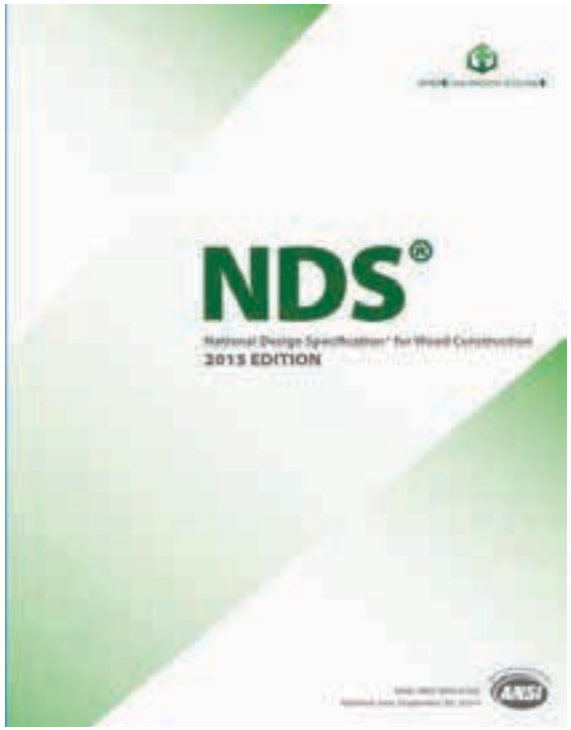
1. Explore the building science of tall wood buildings
2. Investigate the feasibility, and
3. Take action on developing code changes for tall wood buildings.

U.S. BUILDING CODES
DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGES

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**


Photo: FPInnovations




NGC Testing Services

Fire Testing Laboratory

ACCREDITED Testing Laboratory TL-016

TEST REPORT

Page 1 of 53

for

American Wood Council

222 Catoctin Circle SE, Suite 201
Leesburg, VA 20175

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.


Photo: Will Pryce

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

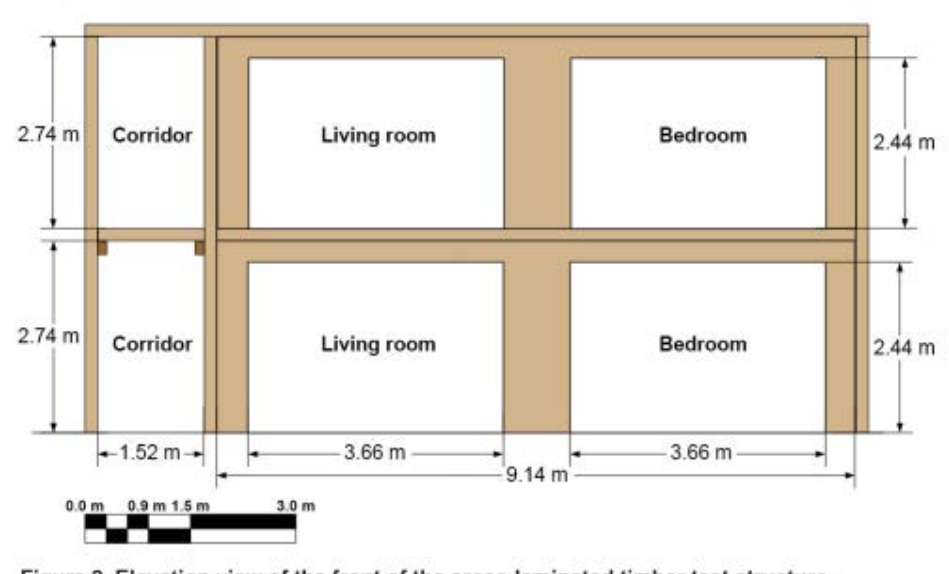


Figure 2. Elevation view of the front of the cross-laminated timber test structure.

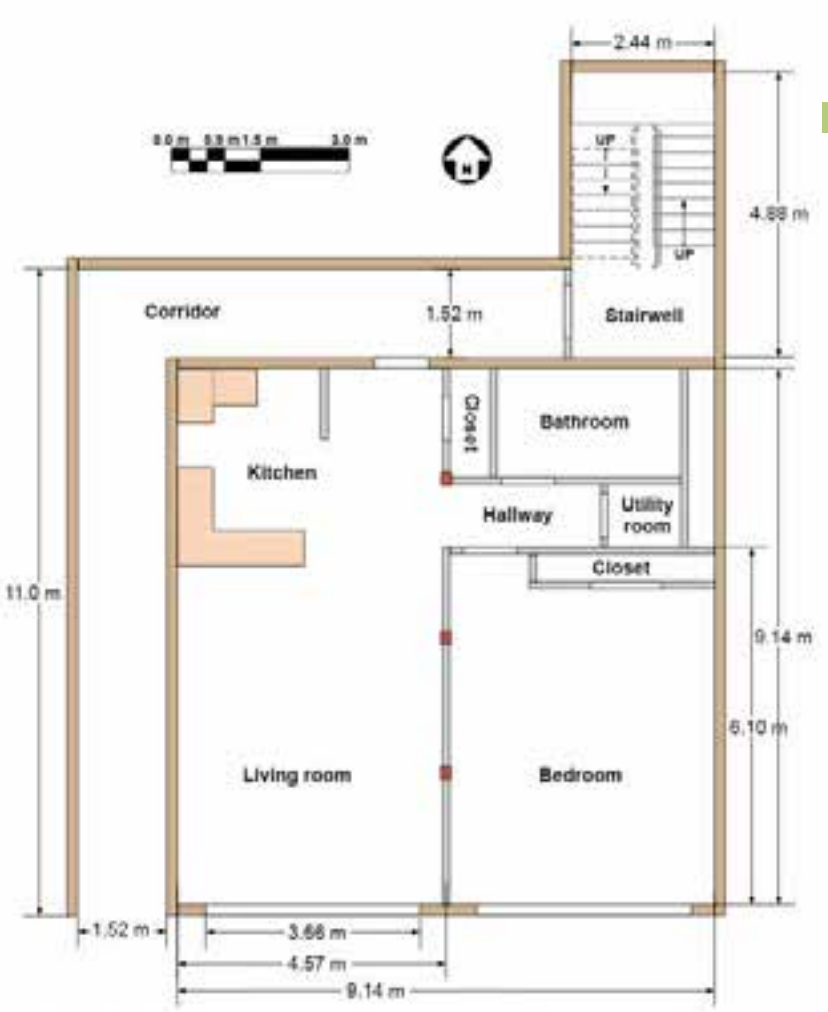


Figure 1. General plan view of cross-laminated timber test structure.

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

Tall Mass Timber Building Code Changes Pass First Hurdle

The highly-anticipated International Code Council (ICC) Tall Mass Timber Building code changes passed a first hurdle in April with approval by the ICC code changes committee responsible for this part of the process. By wide margins a series of 14 proposals was each approved. The Hearings brought together code and fire officials, along with engineers, architects, builders, and other construction professionals as part of the first public step in approving code change proposals for the 2021 set of ICC codes. The proposals submitted by the ICC Ad Hoc Committee on Tall Wood Buildings (TWB), once officially approved by year-end, would allow mass timber buildings to be constructed up to 18 stories in height. AWC had a significant number of staff in attendance at the Hearings who spoke in support of the Ad Hoc Committee proposals. For more information see www.awc.org/tallmasstimber.

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Credit: AWC

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

LEESBURG, VA. – 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 14 tall mass timber code change proposals. The proposals create three new types of construction (Types IV-A, IV-B and IV-C), which set fire 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

SO WHAT'S CHANGED??

Since its debut, IBC has contained 9 construction type options

5 Main Types (I, II, III, IV, V) with all but IV having sub-types A and B

TYPE I		TYPE II		TYPE III		TYPE IV	TYPE V	
A	B	A	B	A	B	HT	A	B

Three Main Categories:

1. Noncombustible (Types I and II)
2. Light-Frame (Types III and V)
3. **Heavy/Mass Timber (Type IV)**

Although use of mass timber products in low- to mid-rise in types III and V is very common

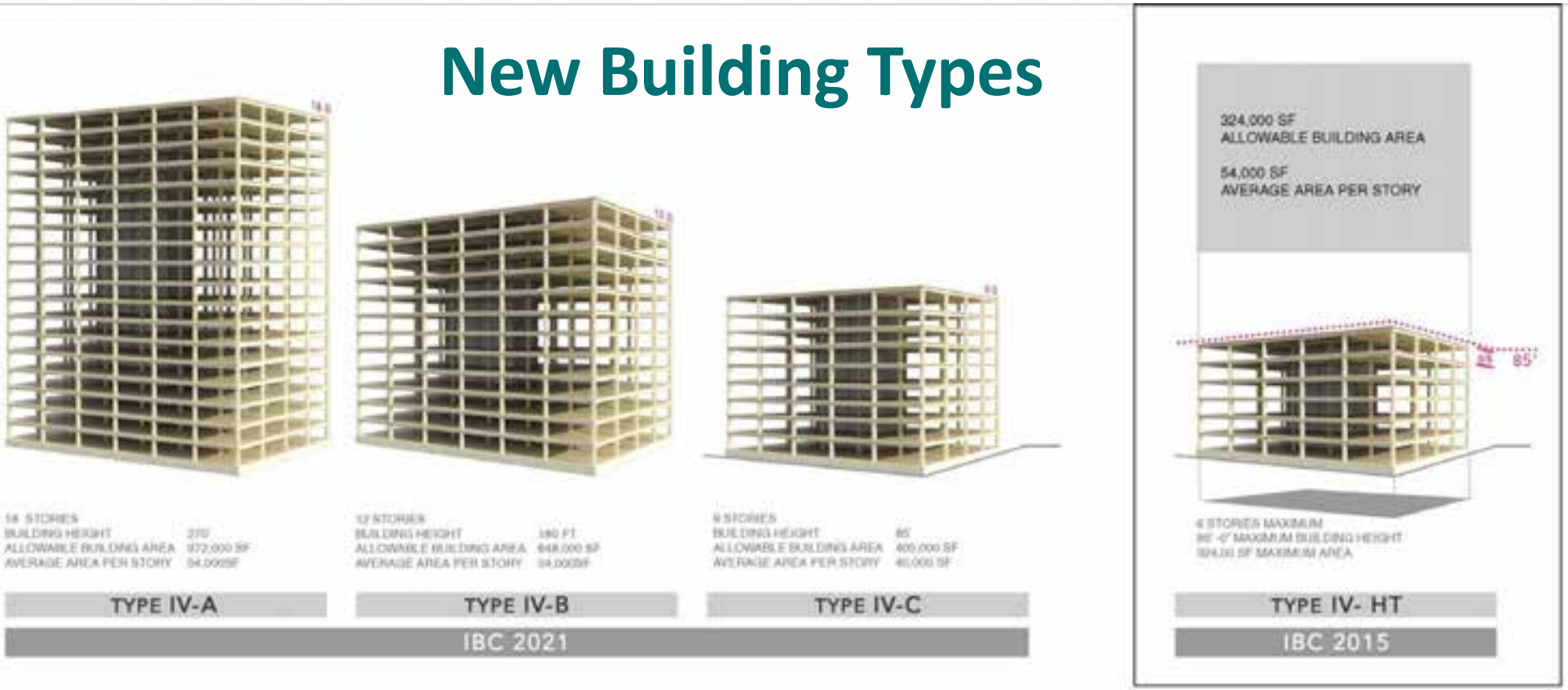
2021 IBC Introduces 3 new tall wood construction types:

IV-A, IV-B, IV-C

Previous type IV renamed type IV-HT

BUILDING ELEMENT	TYPE I		TYPE II		TYPE III		TYPE IV				TYPE V	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	C	HT	A	B

New Building Types



Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones

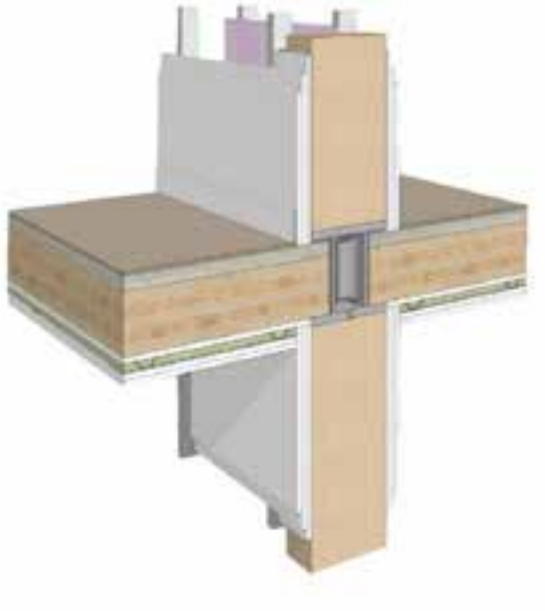
Type IV-A

Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones

Photos: Structurlam, naturally:wood, Fast + Epp, Urban One

Type IV-A Protection vs. Exposed

Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones



Credit: Acton Ostry Architects, Fast + Epp

100% NC protection on all surfaces of Mass Timber

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, atelierjones

Credit: LEVER Architecture

Type IV-B Protection vs. Exposed

Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones

Credit: Kaiser+Path

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, atelierjones

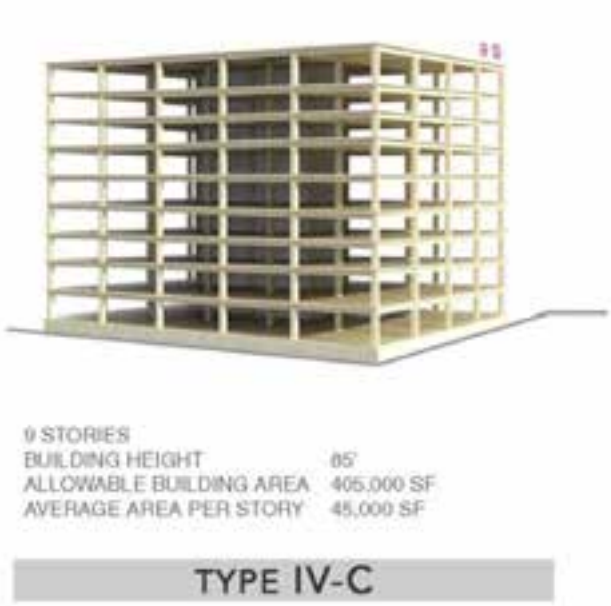
Occupancy	# of Stories	Height	Area per Story	Building Area
A-2	12	180 ft	90,000 SF	270,000 SF
B	12	180 ft	216,000 SF	648,000 SF
M	8	180 ft	123,000 SF	369,000 SF
R-2	12	180 ft	123,000 SF	369,000 SF

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

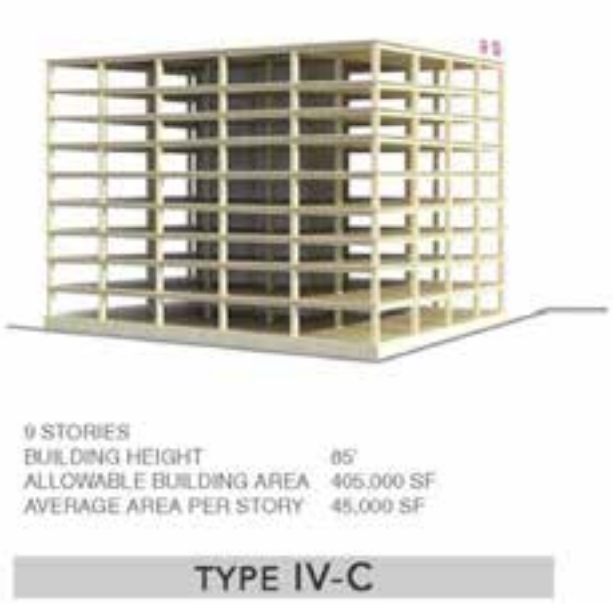
Type IV-C



Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones

Photos: Baumberger Studio/PATH Architecture/Marcus Kauffman

Type IV-C Protection vs. Exposed



Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones

Credit: Kaiser+Path, Ema Peter

All Mass Timber surfaces may be exposed

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

Type IV-C Height and Area Limits

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'l stories permitted due to enhanced FRR

Type IV-C area = 1.25 * Type IV-HT area

Credit: Susan Jones, atelierjones

Tall Wood Materials & Protection

	IV-A	IV-B	IV-C
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
WOOD PRODUCTS COUNCIL

Tall Wood Buildings in the 2021 IBC
Up to 18 Stories of Mass Timber

In January 2019, the International Code Council (ICC) approved a set of proposals to allow tall wood buildings as part of the 2021 International Building Code (IBC). Based on these proposals, the 2021 IBC will include three new construction types—Type IV-A, IV-B and IV-C—allowing the use of mass timber or noncombustible materials. These new types are based on the previous Heavy Timber construction type renamed Type IV-HT but with additional fire-resistance ratings and levels of required noncombustible protection. The code will include provisions for up to 18 stories of Type IV-A construction for Business and Residential Occupancies.

Based on information first published in the Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAOC) 2018 Conference Proceedings, this paper summarizes the background to these proposals, technical research that supported their adoption, and resulting changes to the IBC and product-specific standards.

Background: ICC Tall Wood Building Ad Hoc Committee

Over the past 10 years, there has been a growing interest in tall buildings constructed from mass timber materials (Breneman 2013, Timmers 2015). Around the world there

Via Cenni	Milan, Italy	9	2013

WoodWorks Tall Wood Design Resource

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