

# Mass Timber Design



Presented by Bevan Jones, Parisa Nassiri

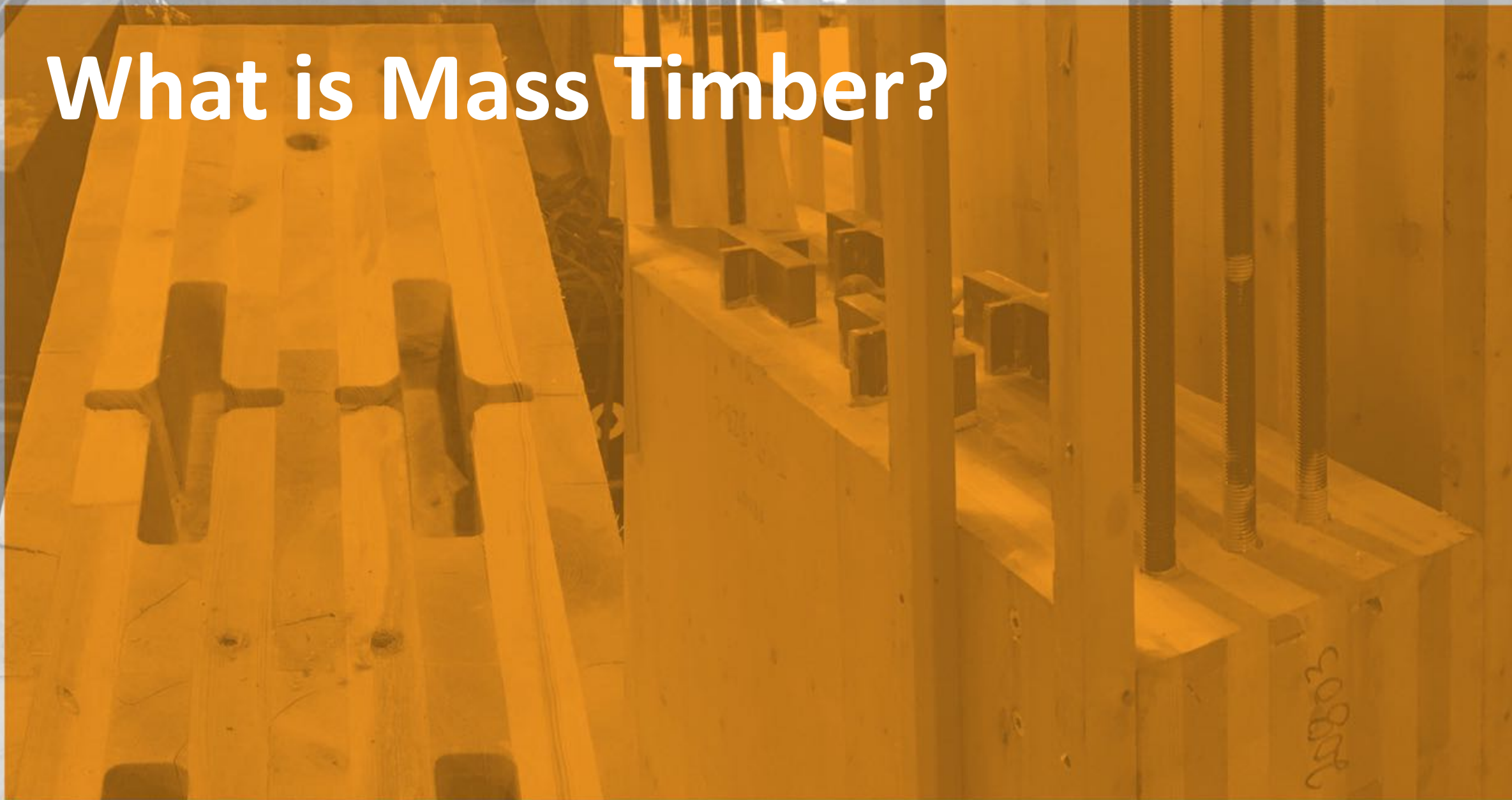
11/04/2021

*Disclaimer: This presentation was developed by a third party and is not funded by Woodworks or the or the Softwood Lumber Board.*

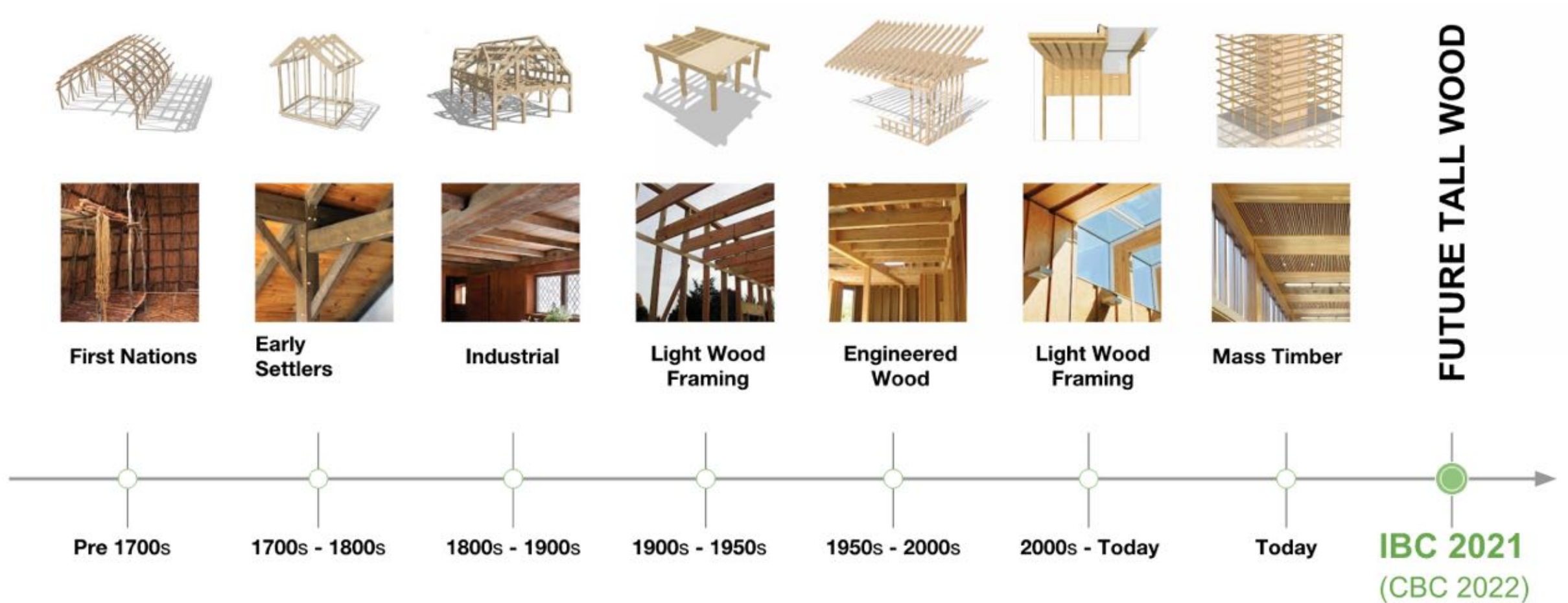
# Agenda

- What is mass timber?
- Construction types
- Mass timber design
- Noncombustible protection
- Testing opportunities
- Typical details
- Performance-based design
- Case studies

# What is Mass Timber?



# Mass Timber Evolution in North America



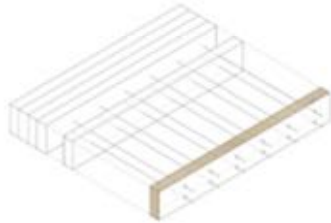


# What is Mass Timber?

CLT



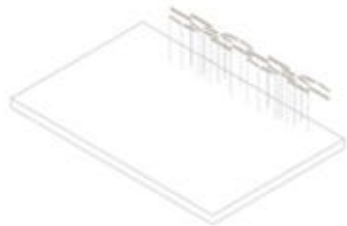
NLT



GLT



LSL



LVL



GLULAM



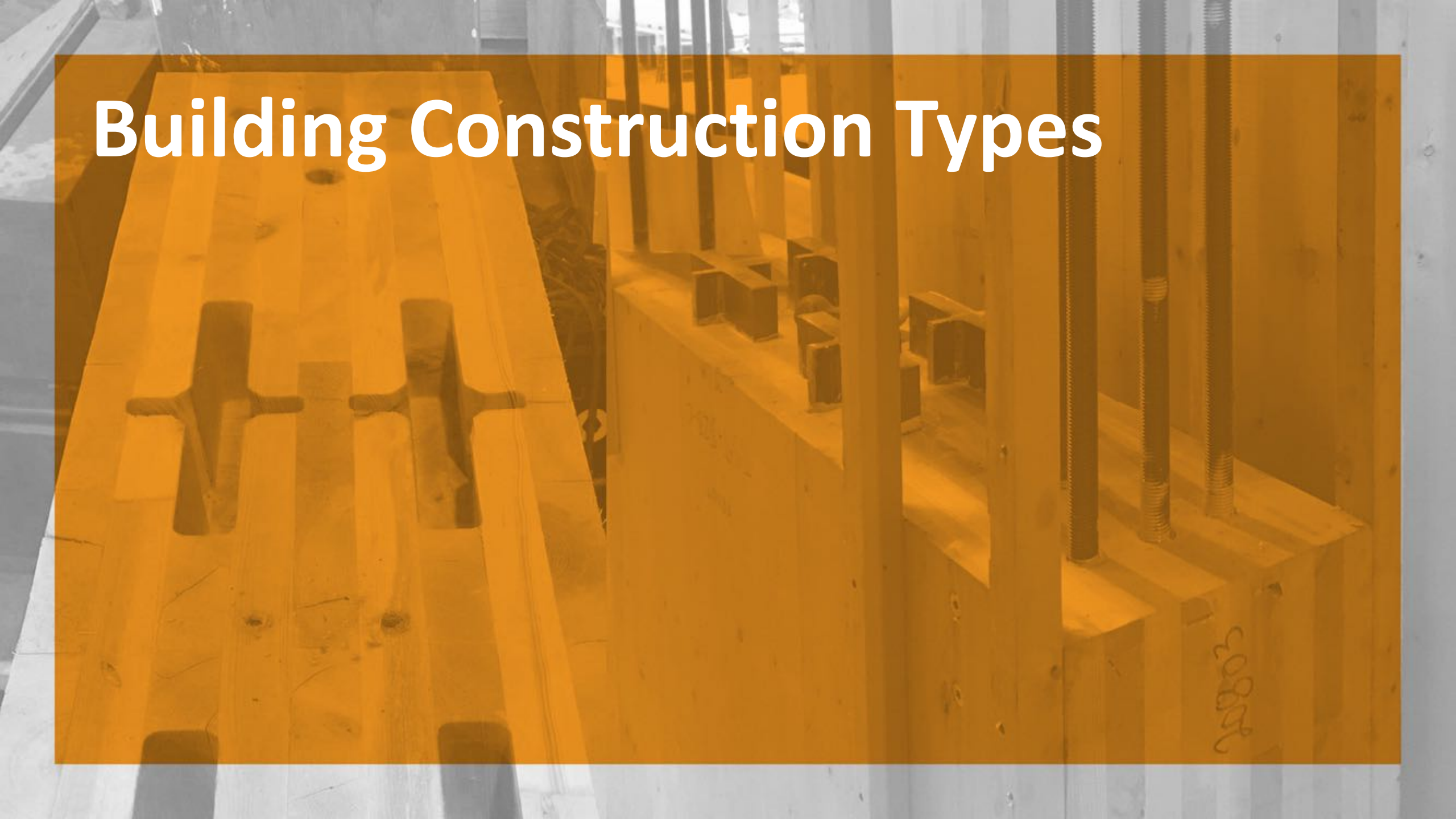
PSL



# Mass Timber



# Building Construction Types



# Height and Story Limitations

Occupancy Group R-2



**V, III & IV-HT**



**IV-C & IV-B**



**IV-A**

Construction Type	Stories	Max Height	Mass Timber	Sprinklers	Primary Frame Fire Rating	Stair Tower	Concealed Spaces	
V-B	4	60'	Exposed	Yes	0 HR	Mass Timber	Yes	
V-A					1 HR			
III-B	4-5	75' - 85'			0 HR		No	
III-A					1 HR			
IV-HT					2 HR	Noncombustible	Yes	
IV-C	7-8	180'	Partially Exposed					
IV-B	11-12		3 HR		Noncombustible	Yes		
IV-A	17-18	270'					Fully Protected	



# Construction Type V (0-1 hr rated)

Type V construction is that type of construction in which the structural elements, exterior walls and interior walls are of any materials permitted by the Code.



BUILDING ELEMENT	TYPE V	
	A	B
Primary structural frame <sup>f</sup> (see Section 202)	1 <sup>b</sup>	0
Bearing walls		
Exterior <sup>e, f</sup>	1	0
Interior	1	0
Nonbearing walls and partitions		
Interior <sup>d</sup>	0	0
Floor construction and associated secondary members (see Section 202)	1	0
Roof construction and associated secondary members (see Section 202)	1 <sup>b, c</sup>	0



# Construction Type III (0-1 hr rated)

Type III construction is that type of construction in which the exterior walls are of noncombustible materials and the interior building elements are of any material permitted by the Code.

- TYPE III-A: Protected Combustible
- TYPE III-B: Unprotected Combustible

BUILDING ELEMENT	TYPE III	
	A	B
Primary structural frame <sup>f</sup> (see Section 202)	1 <sup>b</sup>	0
Bearing walls		
Exterior <sup>e,f</sup>	2	2
Interior	1	0
Nonbearing walls and partitions		
Interior <sup>d</sup>	0	0
Floor construction and associated secondary members (see Section 202)	1	0
Roof construction and associated secondary members (see Section 202)	1 <sup>b,c</sup>	0





# Construction Type IV (2-3 hr rated)

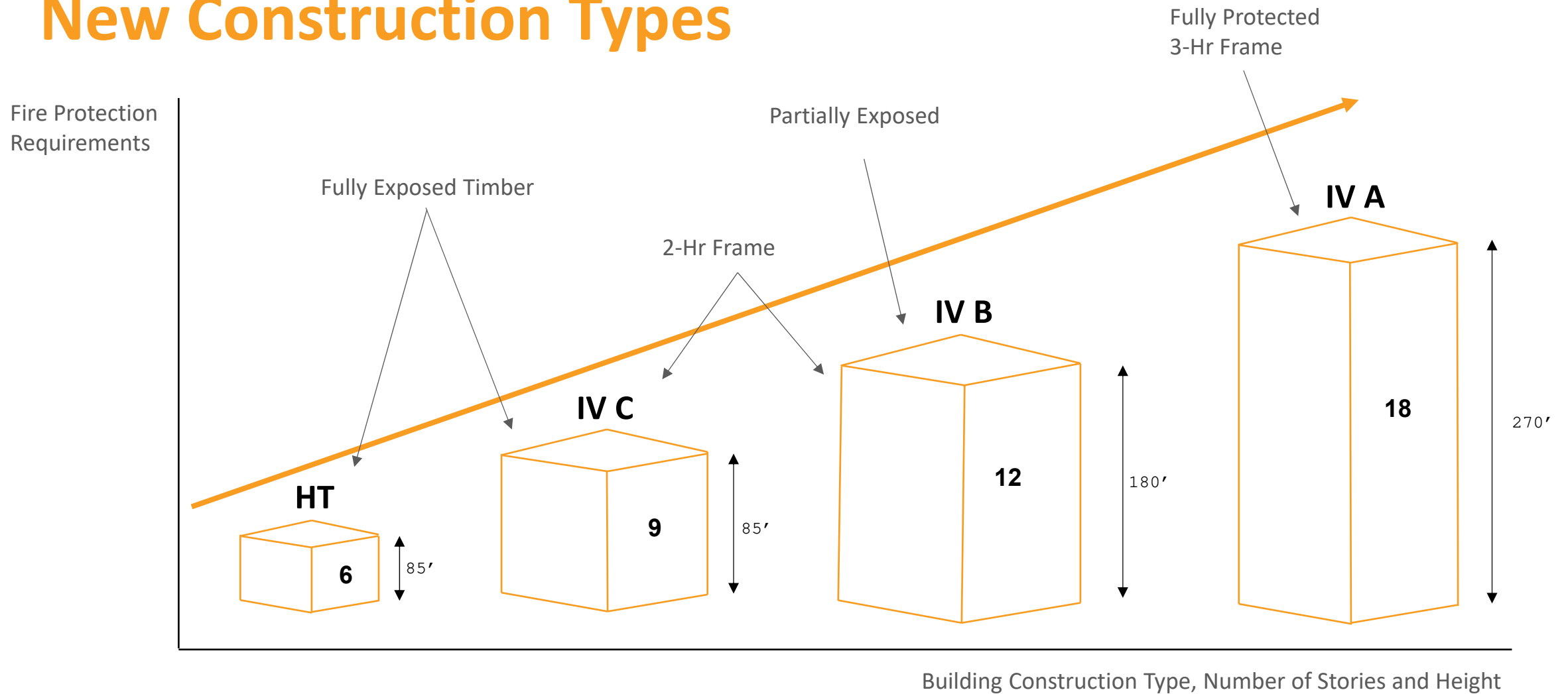
Type IV construction is that type of construction in which the building elements are mass timber or noncombustible materials

- Type IV-A: Fully protected mass timber
- Type IV-B: Partially exposed mass timber
  - **20% of the ceiling exposed; OR**
  - **40% of the walls exposed**
- Type IV-C: Fully exposed mass timber
- Type IV-HT: Exposed heavy timber, non combustible exterior walls

Building Element	Type IV			
	A	B	C	HT
Primary Structural Frame:	3-hour	2-hour	2-hour	HT
Exterior Bearing Walls:	3-hour	2-hour	2-hour	2-hour
Interior Bearing Walls:	3-hour	2-hour	2-hour	HT
Exterior Non-Bearing Walls:	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Interior Non-Bearing Walls:	0-hour	0-hour	0-hour	Per CBC 2304.11.2
Floor:	2-hour	2-hour	2-hour	HT
Roof:	1-1/2 hour	1-hour	1-hour	HT



# New Construction Types





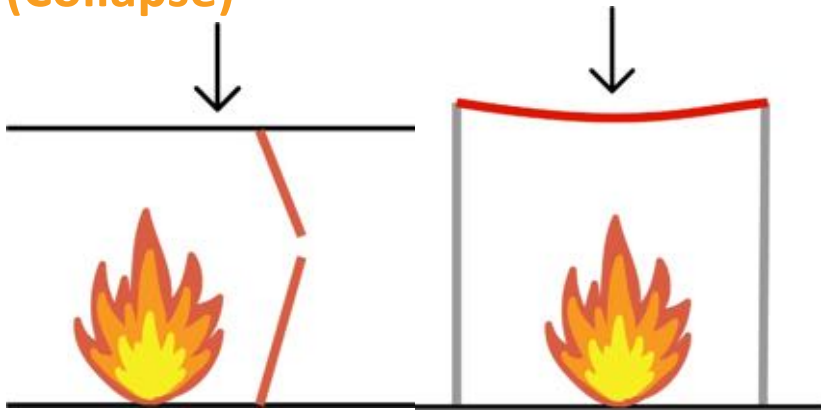
# Mass Timber Design



# Fire Resistance

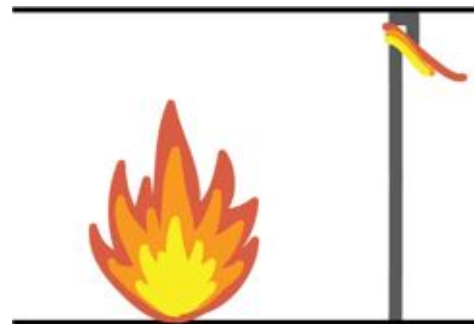
- Building's ability to withstand exposure to fire in resistance of:

## Structural Stability (Collapse)



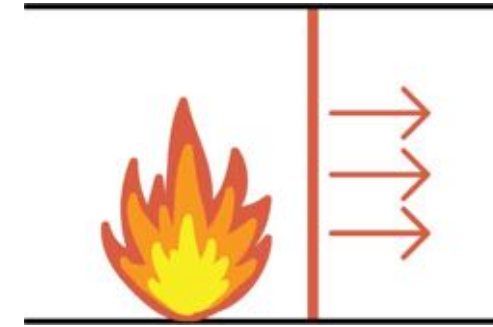
No collapse or excessive deflection

## Integrity (Fire Penetration)



No gaps

## Insulation (Transfer of excessive heat)



No excessive heat transfer

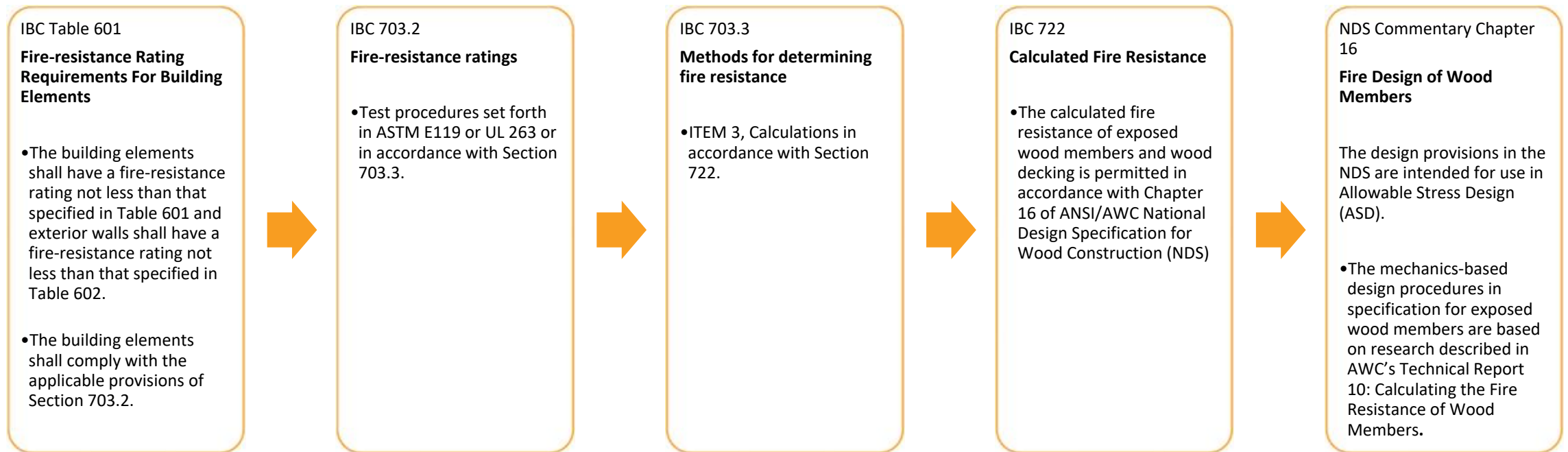
# When mass timber needs a fire rating

- Generally, no FRR required for Type IV-HT, III-B and V-B construction
- 1-HR FRR:
  - **Type III-A and V-A construction (Table 601)**
  - **Fire barriers (and supporting construction), e.g.: occupancy separations, shaft enclosures, exit passageways, atrium separation, incidental uses, fire areas, etc (Section 707)**
- 2-HR FRR:
  - **Fire barriers, and supporting construction (Section 707)**
  - **2-HR exterior wall using FRTW lumber, or CLT (Section 602)**
- Other instances exist in the code, or possibly could be in support of an equivalency to Type I construction to achieve larger and/or higher mass timber higher buildings
- New IBC 2021 provisions will generally require HT elements to achieve 2-HR, or 3-HR fire-ratings (when exceeding 6 stories)



# Determination of Fire-Resistance Rating

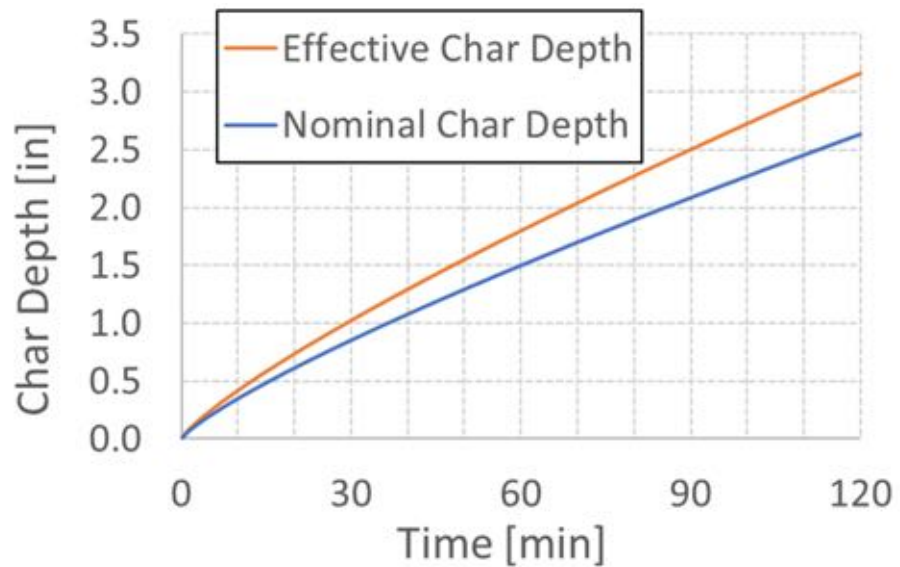
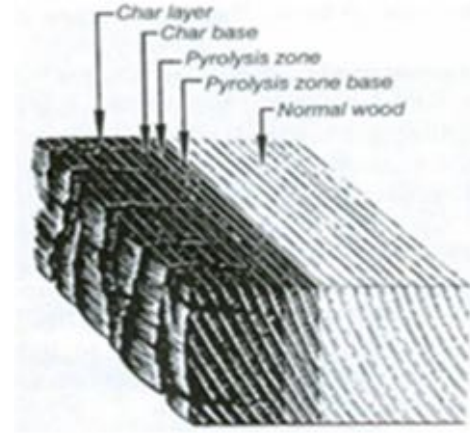
## For Mass Timber Construction





# Achieving Fire-Resistance for Timber

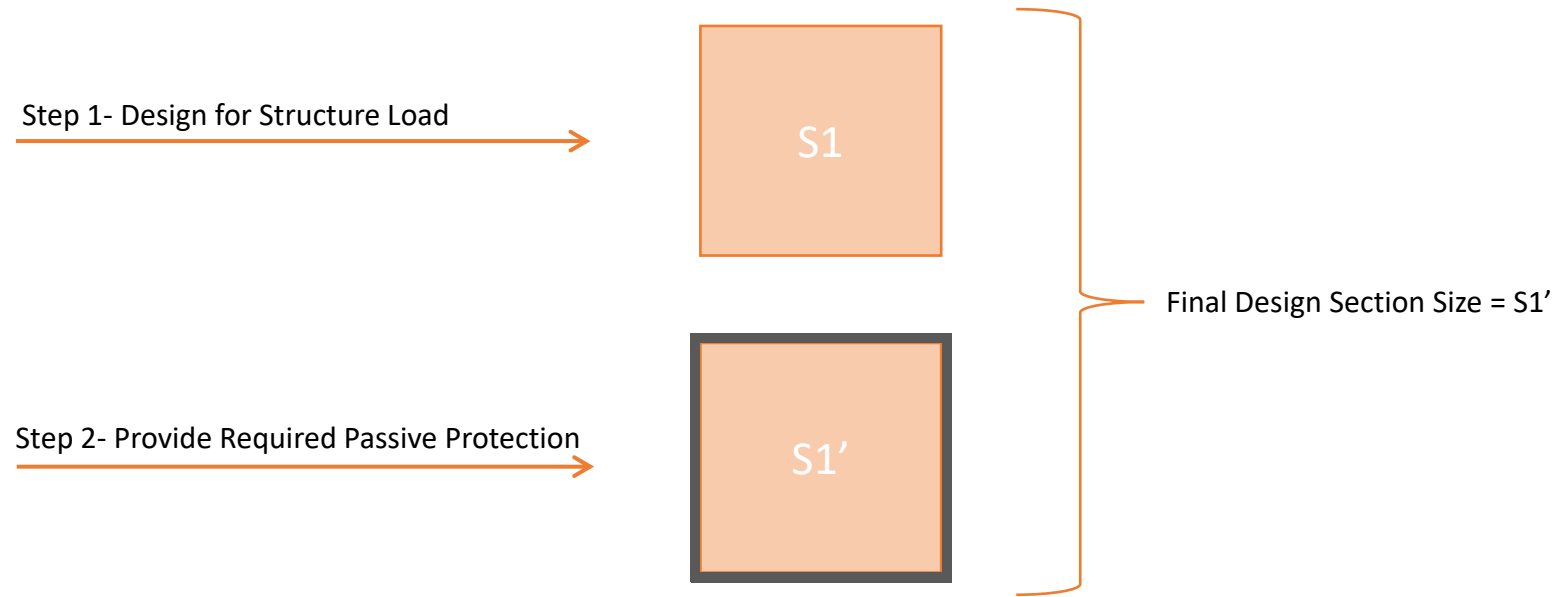
- Non-combustible protection (gypsum board)
- Sacrificial char layer (calculated)
- Alternative methods



Noncombustible protection	Protection Contribution
½-inch Type X Gypsum Board	25 min
5/8-inch Type X Gypsum Board	40 min

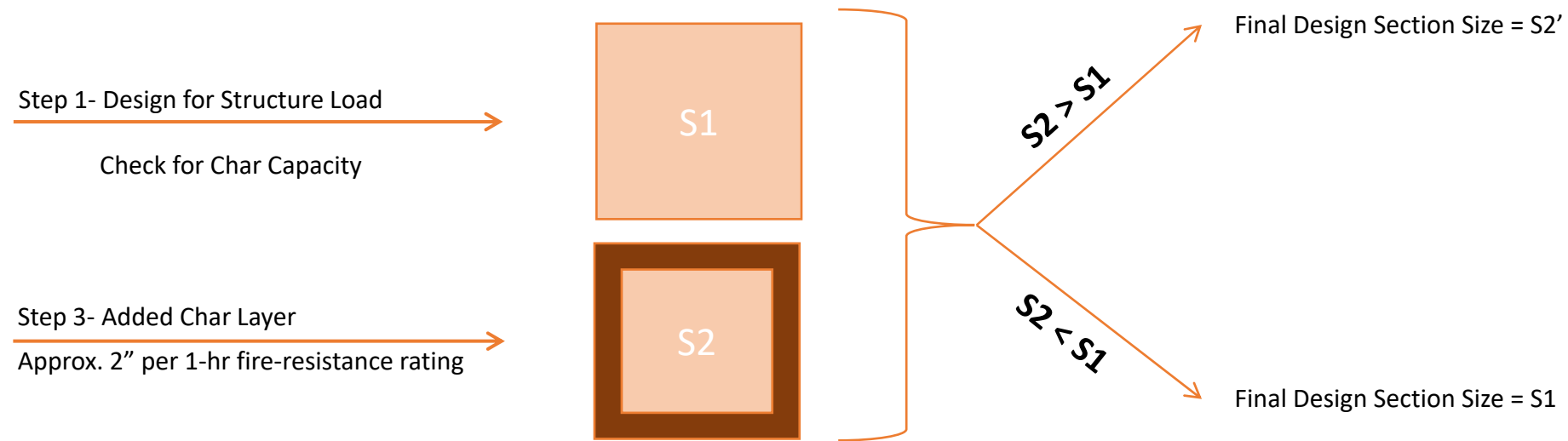
# Protected Mass Timber Design

## Columns



# Exposed Mass Timber Design

## Columns



# Noncombustible Protection



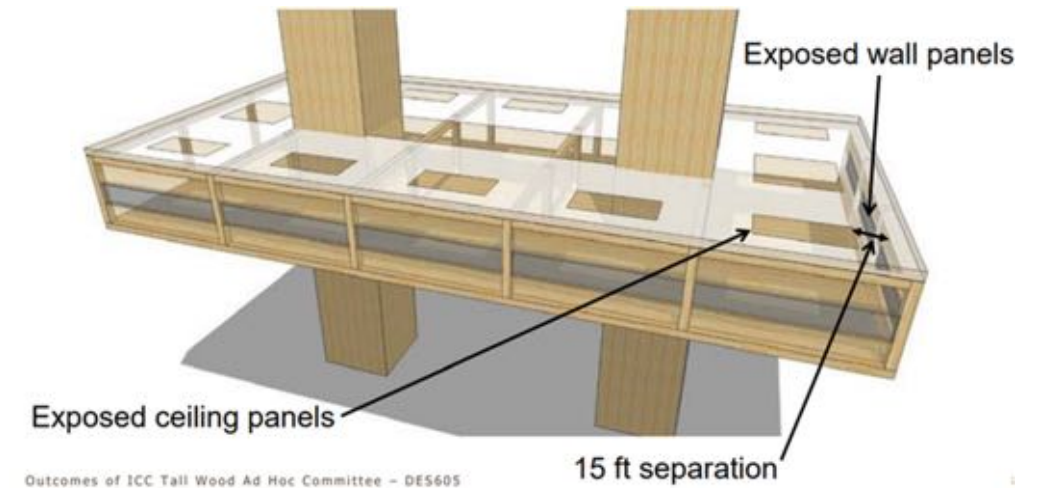


# Mass Timber Construction Types, Fire Ratings (Code)

Construction Type	# Stories	Max Height	Mass Timber	Primary Frame Fire Rating
IV-A	18	250 - 270'	<p><b>Fully Protected</b></p>	3 hour
IV-B	12	180'	<p><b>Partially Exposed</b> (20% of ceilings allowed to remain exposed)</p>	2 hour
IV-C	9	85'	<p><b>Fully Exposed</b> (Except outside of external walls, shafts and concealed spaces)</p>	2 hour

# Exposed Mass Timber

- Partially exposed:
  - Ceiling: 20% of floor area of dwelling unit, or fire area (integral beams included)
  - Wall: 40% of floor area of dwelling unit, or fire area (integral columns included)
  - Wall + Ceiling: ratio  $< 1.0$
  - Unprotected areas separated  $> 15'$
- Rib-decks and similar system have increased surface area → reduced exposed ceiling area
- Directly attached to mass timber (furred construction?)
- AMM for increased exposed mass timber:
  - Testing of Gen. 2.0 panels (PRG320-2018)
  - Fire modelling
  - Improved fire protection (passive + active)



## Type IV-C Construction

**Ceiling :**

**Exposed** - but potentially partially covered  
partially with acoustical panels

**Interior surface of building elements  
(ceilings, walls, beams, columns):**

**Exposed**

**Exterior surface of building elements :**

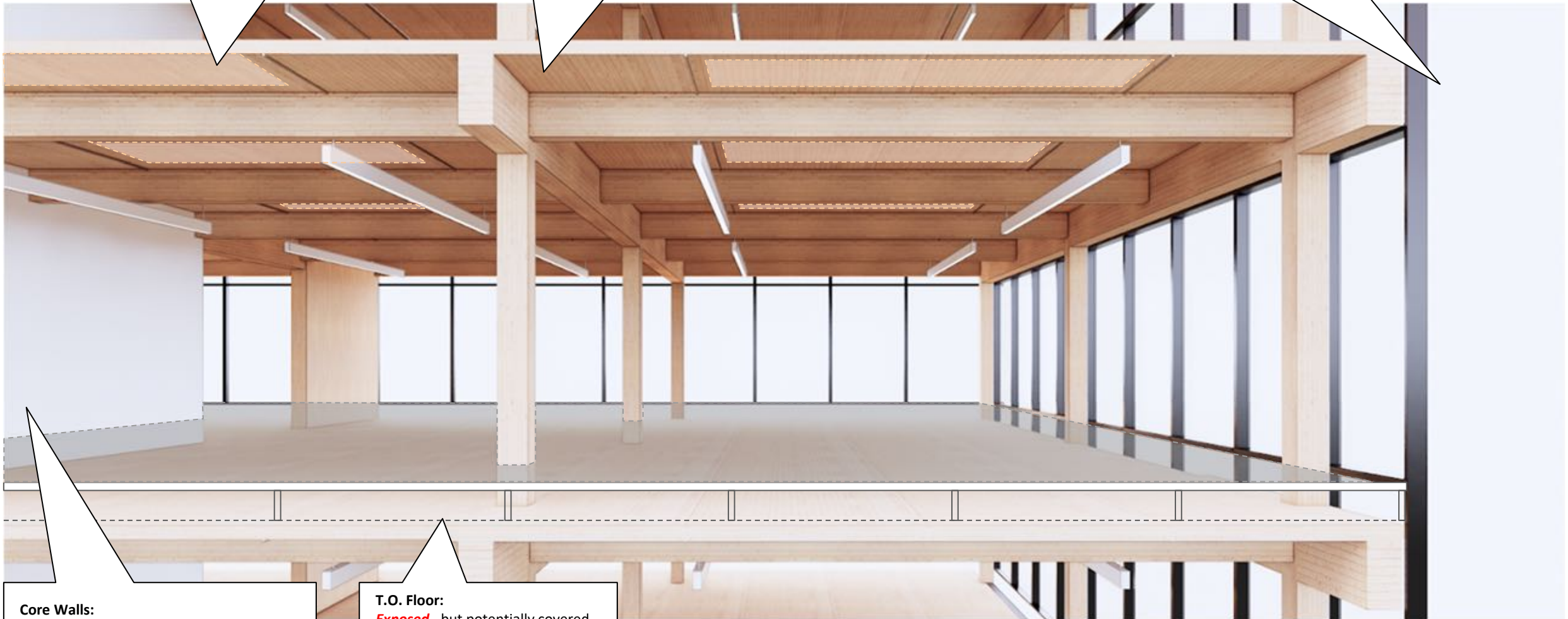
one layer of GWB on exterior face per fire  
code

**Core Walls:**

CLT core wrapped with one layer of GWB  
(Inside and outside)

**T.O. Floor:**

**Exposed** - but potentially covered  
w/ acoustical layer and/or raised  
floor



# Type IV-B Construction - Max Exposed Ceilings per Code Allowance

**Mass timber column in mass timber wall:**  
Two layers of GWB with **up to 40% floor area exposed**

**Ceiling and Beams :**  
Two layers of GWB w/ **up to 20% floor area Exposed Surface**  
(note: a 2' deep beam is approx 19% of floor area @ 30' O.C.)

**Exterior surface of building elements :**  
One layer of GWB on exterior face per fire code

**Core Walls:**  
CLT core wrapped with two layers of GWB  
(Inside and outside)

**"Unattached" Interior columns in non-combustible walls :**  
**Exposed**

**T.O. Floor:**  
1" minimum topping



# Type IV-B Construction - 50% Exposed Ceilings - Requires AHJ Approval

**Mass timber column in mass timber wall:**  
Two layers of GWB with *up to 40% floor area exposed*

**Ceiling and Beams :**  
Two layers of GWB w/ *up to 20% floor area Exposed Surface*  
(note: a 2' deep beam is approx 45% of floor area @ 30' O.C.)

**Exterior surface of building elements :**  
One layer of GWB on exterior face per fire code

**Core Walls:**  
CLT core wrapped with two layers of GWB  
(Inside and outside)

**"Unattached" Interior columns in non-combustible walls :**  
*Exposed*

**T.O. Floor:**  
1" minimum topping

# Type IV-B Construction - 50% Exposed Ceilings - Requires AHJ Approval

**Mass timber column in mass timber wall:**  
Two layers of GWB with **up to 40% floor area exposed**

**Ceiling and Beams :**  
Two layers of GWB w/ **up to 20% floor area Exposed Surface**  
(note: a 2' deep beam is approx 20% of floor area @ 30' O.C.)

**Exterior surface of building elements :**  
One layer of GWB on exterior face per fire code

**Other Program**  
(approx 60% TBC)

**Program w/ Exposed Mass Timber**  
(approx 40% TBC)

**Core Walls:**  
CLT core wrapped with two layers of GWB  
(Inside and outside)

**"Unattached" Interior columns in non-combustible walls :**  
**Exposed**

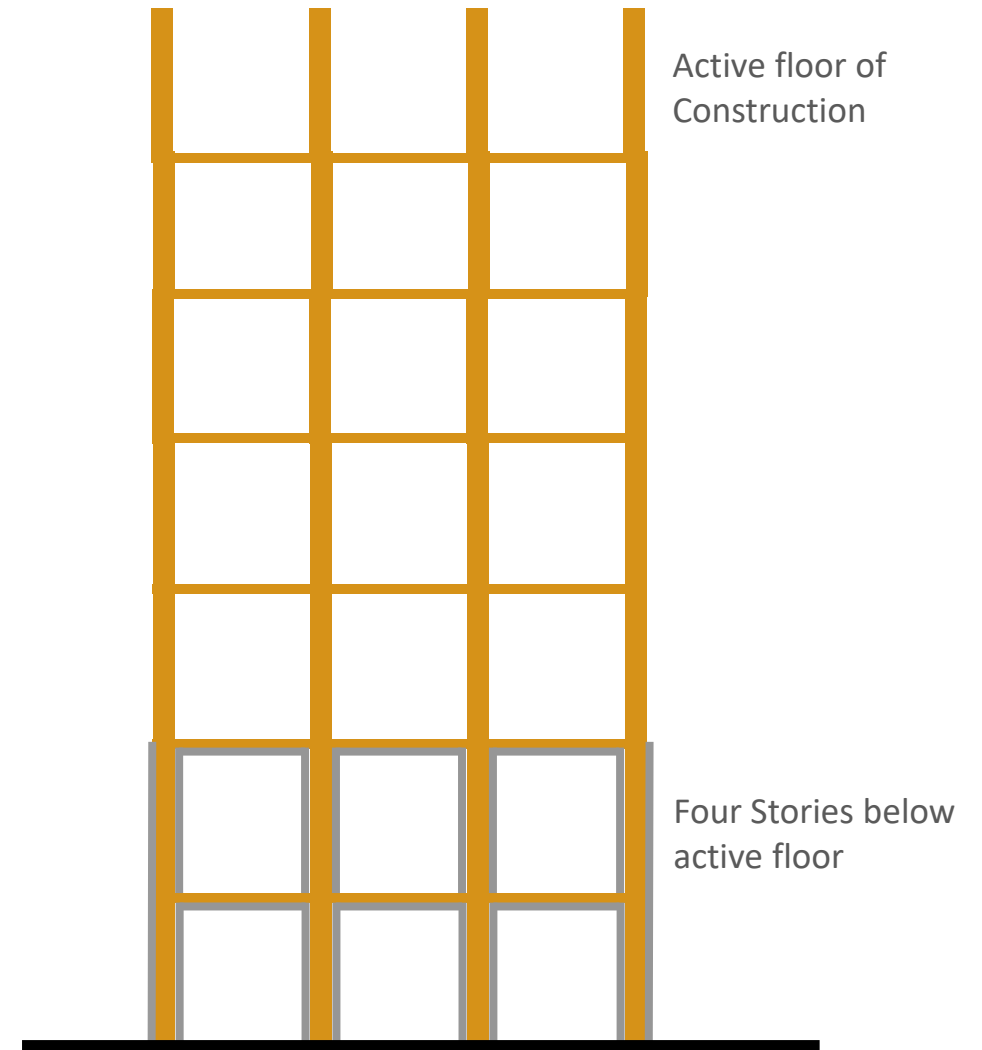
**T.O. Floor:**  
1" minimum topping

# Mass Timber Protection During Construction

During construction of a Type IV-A or IV-B building, when exceeding 6 stories, must provide the following protections during construction:

- Standpipes are provided during construction (installed prior to building reaching 40 feet in height and extend to within one floor of the highest floor with secured decking in place).
- A water supply approved by the fire code official shall be provided to the site (hydrants, standpipe, etc.)
- At least one layer of required non-combustible protection applied to building elements four stories below active floor of construction. Cannot build additional levels until non-comb layer is installed. (shafts not included) – Proposed code updates.
- Exterior wall non-combustible rating, if required, also must be installed four stories below active floor of construction before building an additional level. (shafts not included)

*Possible Alternate Means of protection may be discussed with AHJ including providing Fire Watch, site hot work and waste management protocols to reduce likelihood of fire.*



# Testing Opportunities



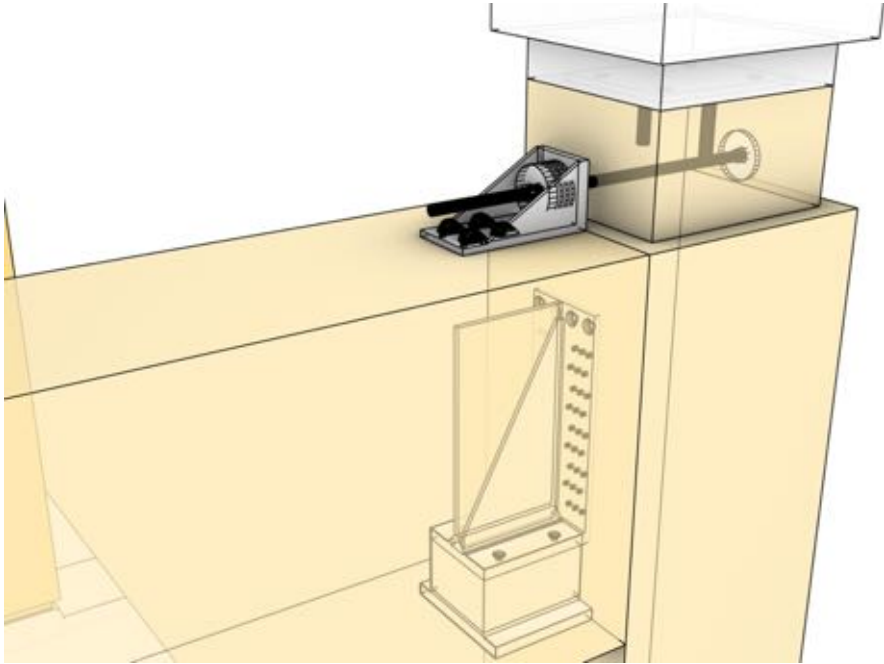


# Create Break Burn Solve

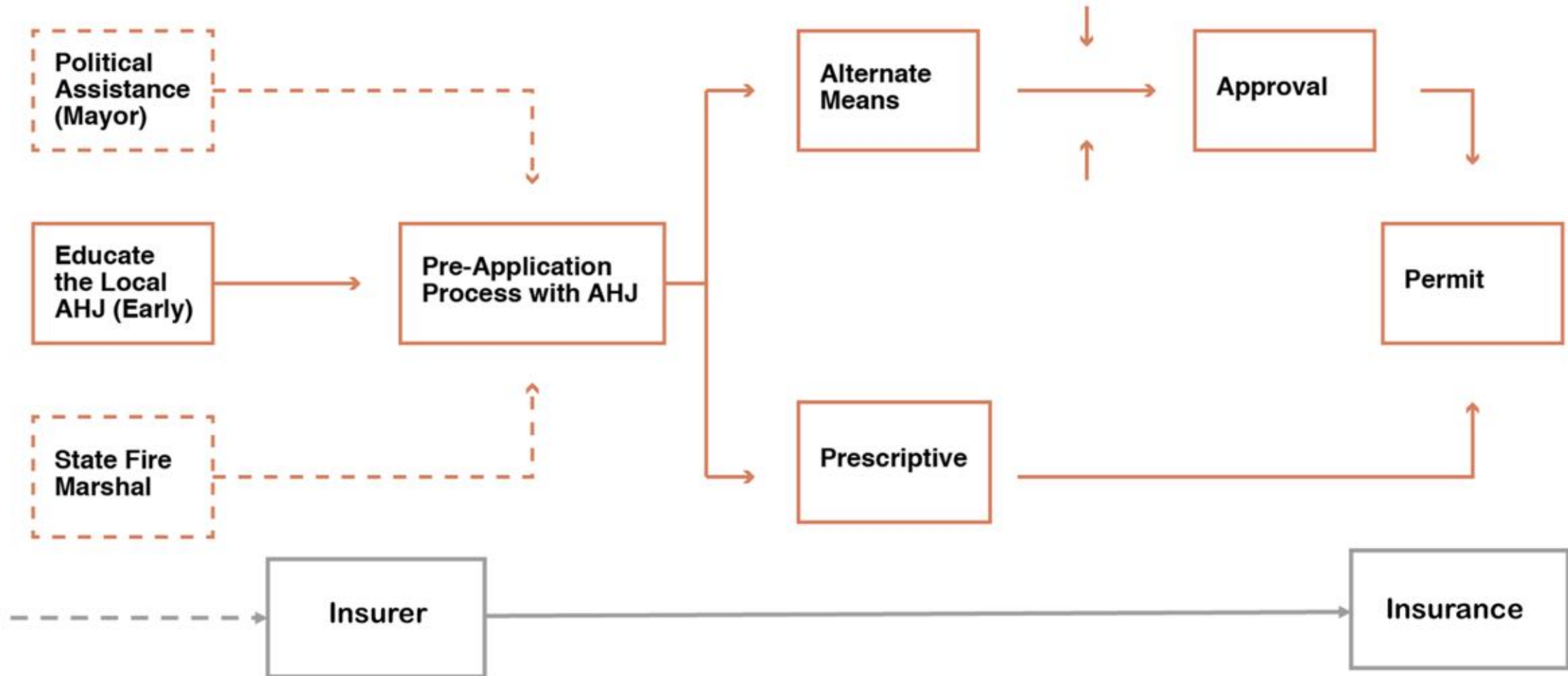




# Furnace Testing



# Approval Path

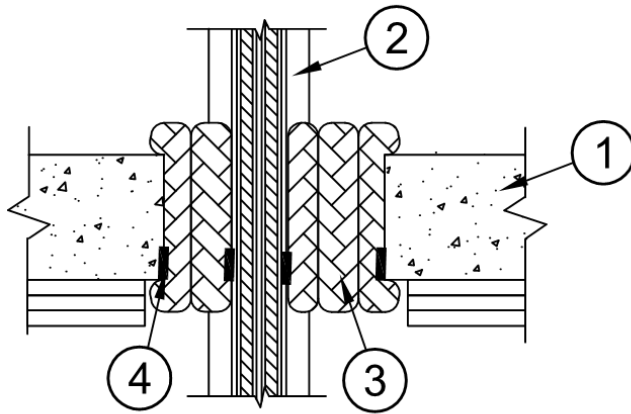


# Typical Detailing



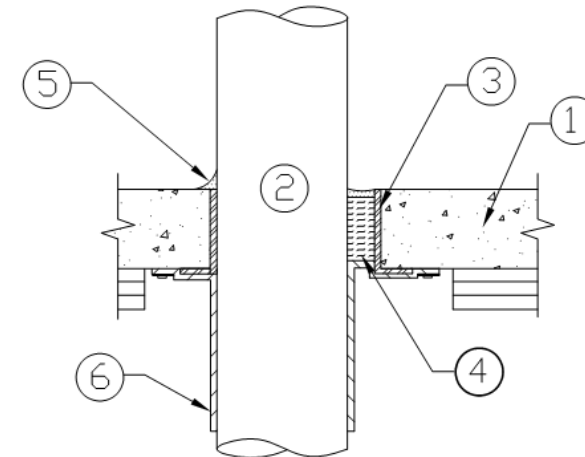
# Floor Penetrations

3M ENGINEERING JUDGEMENT NO. 615658  
MODIFIED SYSTEM NO. C-AJ-6041 DEPICTED  
REQUESTED RATING - 1 HR / F  
OBTAINABLE RATING: SEE BELOW\*



1. CONCRETE FLOOR/CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER.
2. PENETRATING ITEM PER APPROPRIATE VERSION OF CORRESPONDING EJ.
3. 3M FIRE BARRIER PILLOWS/3M FIRE BARRIER SELF LOCKING PILLOWS.
4. MP+ MOLDABLE PUTTY

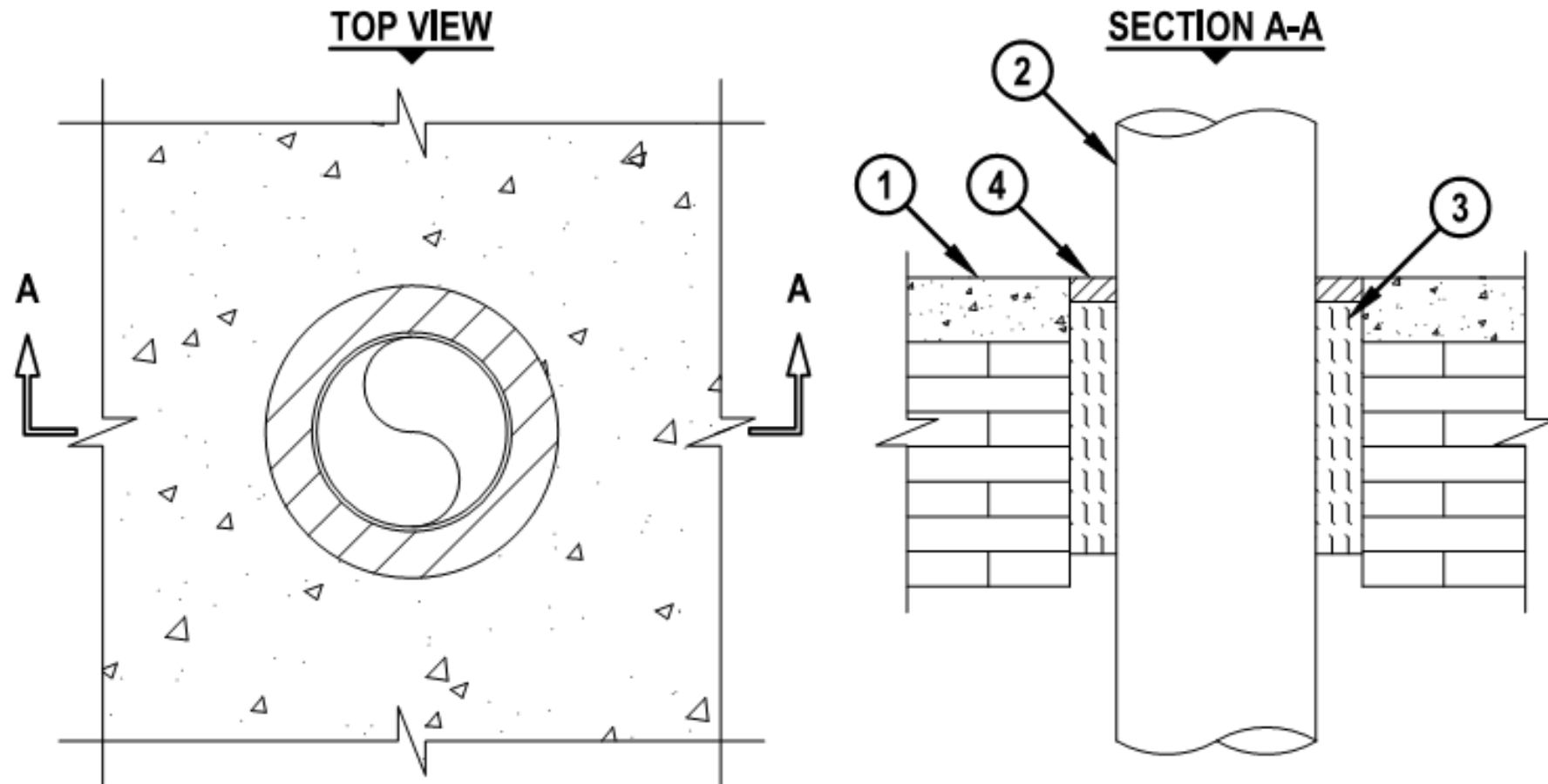
3M ENGINEERING JUDGEMENT NO. 607991 REV 3  
MODIFIED SYSTEM NO. C-AJ-1427, F-A-1057  
REQUESTED RATING - 1 HR / F AND T  
OBTAINABLE RATING (\*SEE BELOW)



1. CONCRETE AND CROSS LAMINATED TIMBER FLOOR.
2. PENETRATING ITEM PER APPROPRIATE VERSION OF CORRESPONDING EJ.
3. STEEL SLEEVE. (WITH OPTIONAL SQUARE BASE)
4. 4 PCF MINERAL WOOL INSTALLED INTO ANNULAR SPACE AS OUTLINED IN APPROPRIATE VERSION OF CORRESPONDING EJ.
5. FIRESTOP SEALANT AS OUTLINED IN APPROPRIATE VERSION OF CORRESPONDING EJ.
6. 3M DUCT WRAP 615+



# Penetrations



# Edge of Slab Detailing

**System No. CEJ 246 P (HI/BP 120-01)**  
**PERIMETER FIRE BARRIER SYSTEM - ASTM E 2307**

	CP 672 SPEED SPRAY	CP 672 FAST CURE	CFS-SP WB
F-RATING	2-HR.	2-HR.	2-HR.
T-RATING	1 1/4-HR.	3/4-HR.	1 1/4-HR.

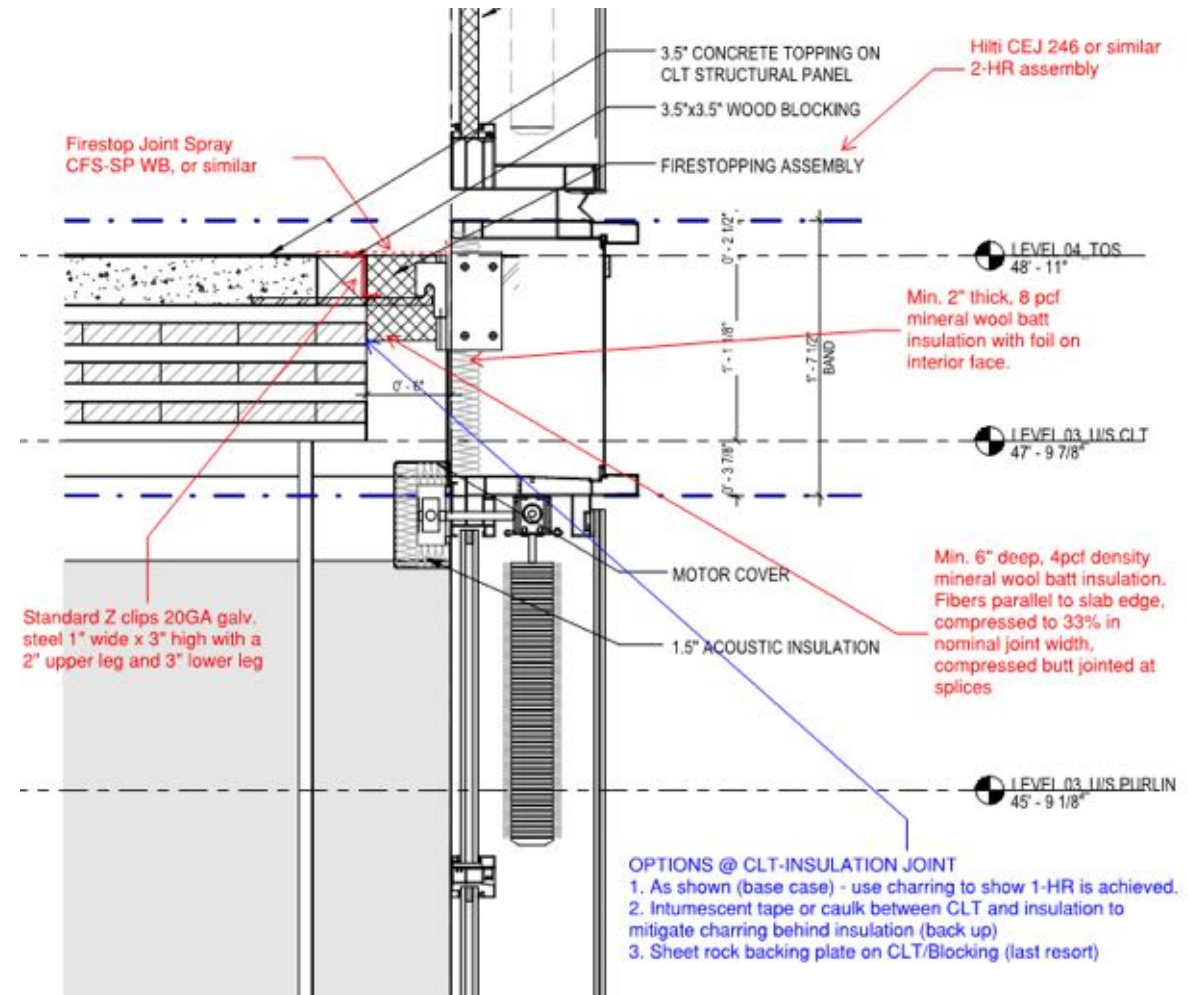
Rated for  $\pm 15\%$  Movement

**HILTI**  
Hilti Firestop Systems

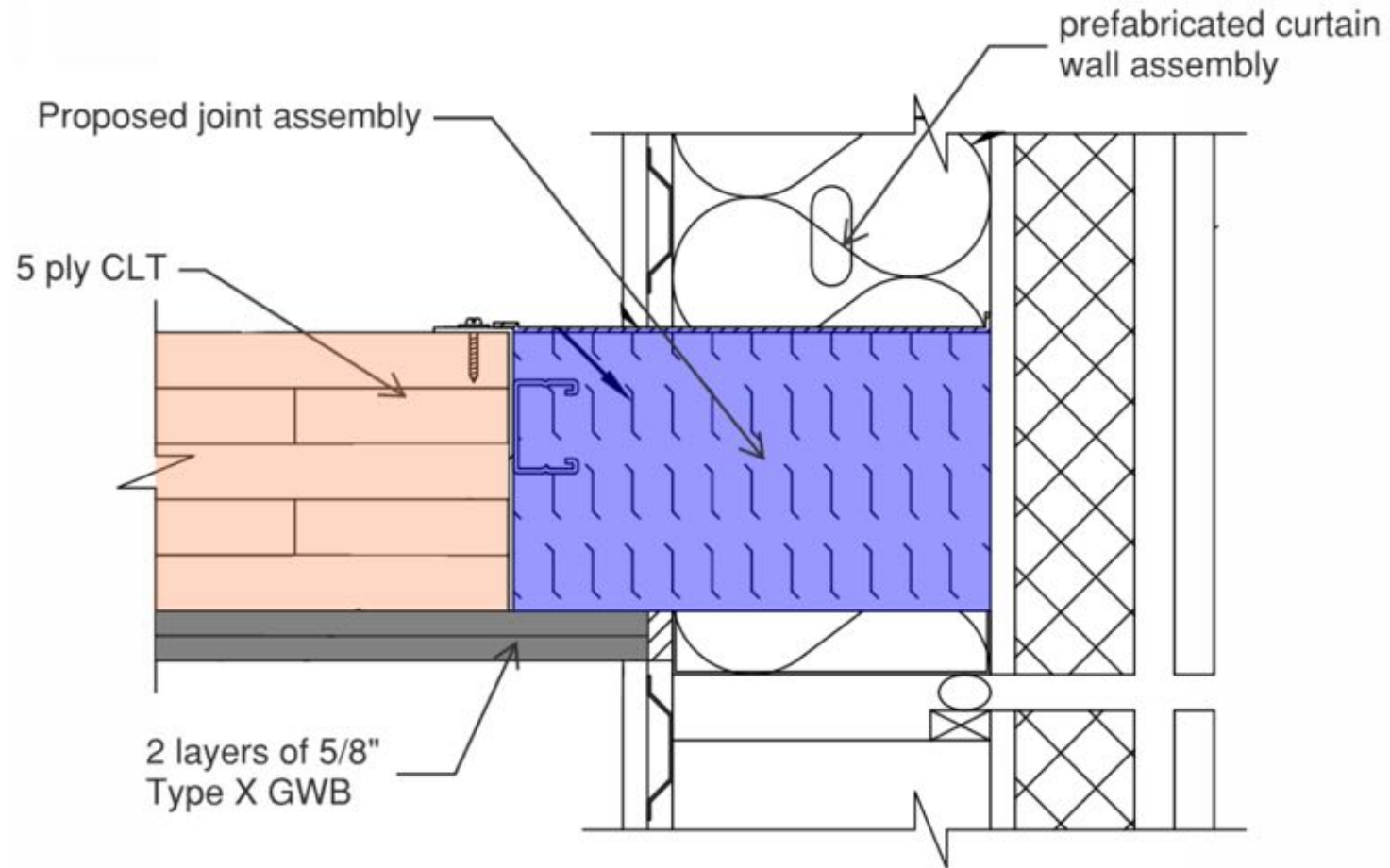
Reproduced by HILTI, Inc.  
Courtesy of Intertek Group  
March 17, 2011

**Intertek**

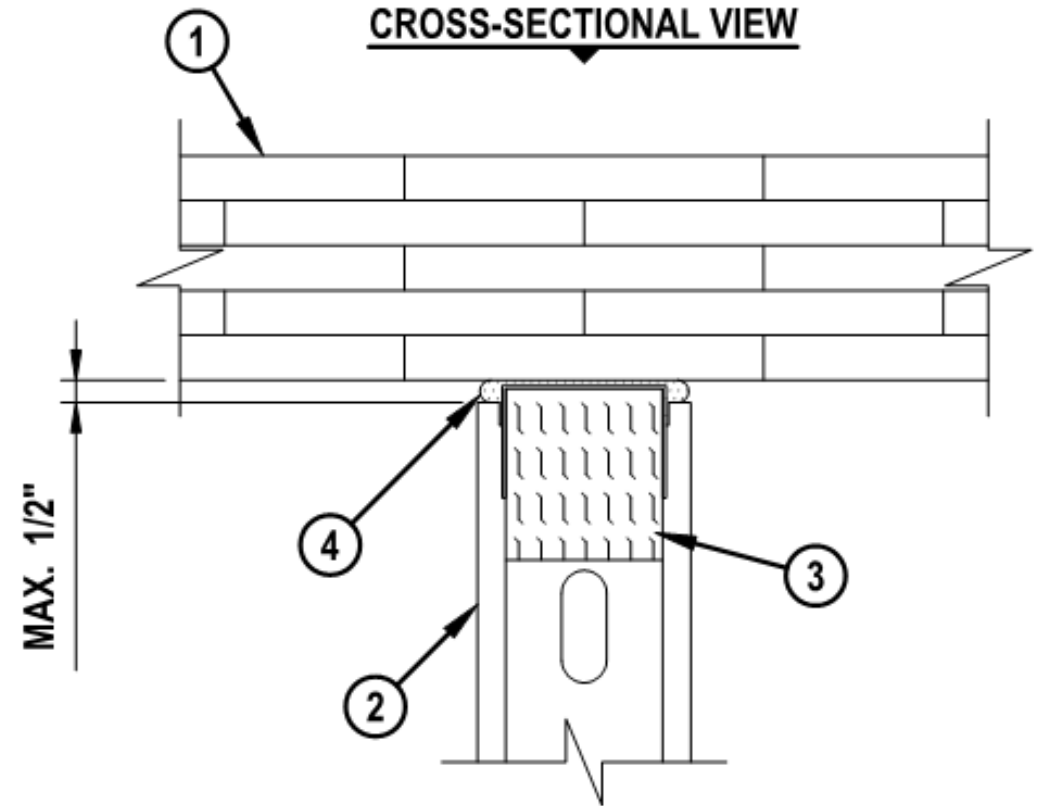
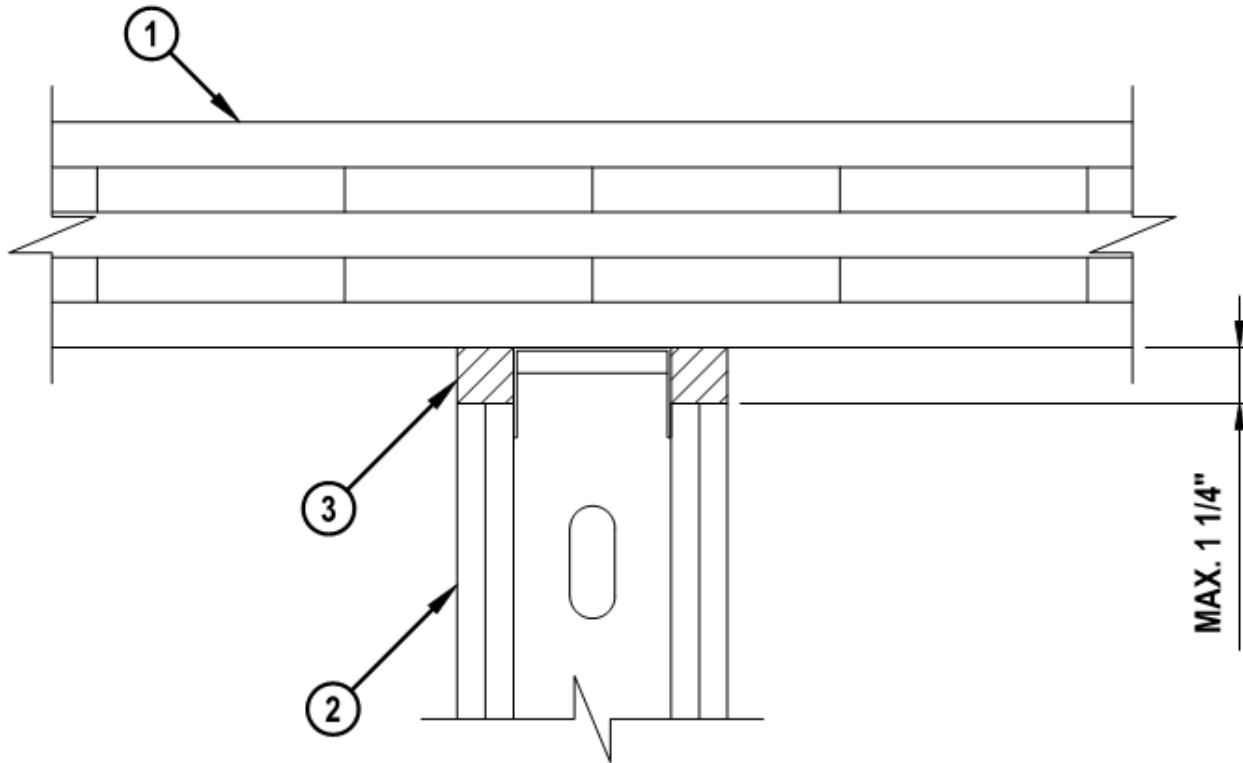
Page: 1 of 3



# Edge of Slab Detailing



# Head of the Walls





# Beam-Column Joint

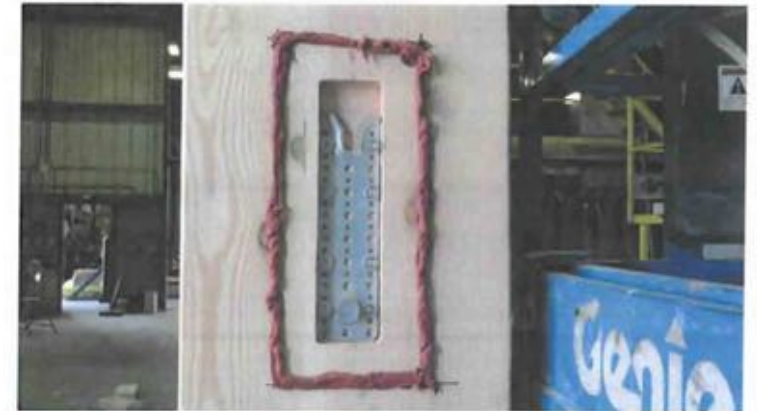
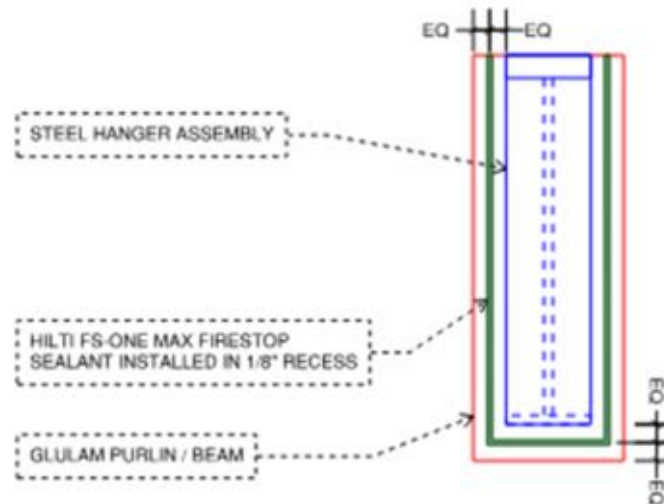
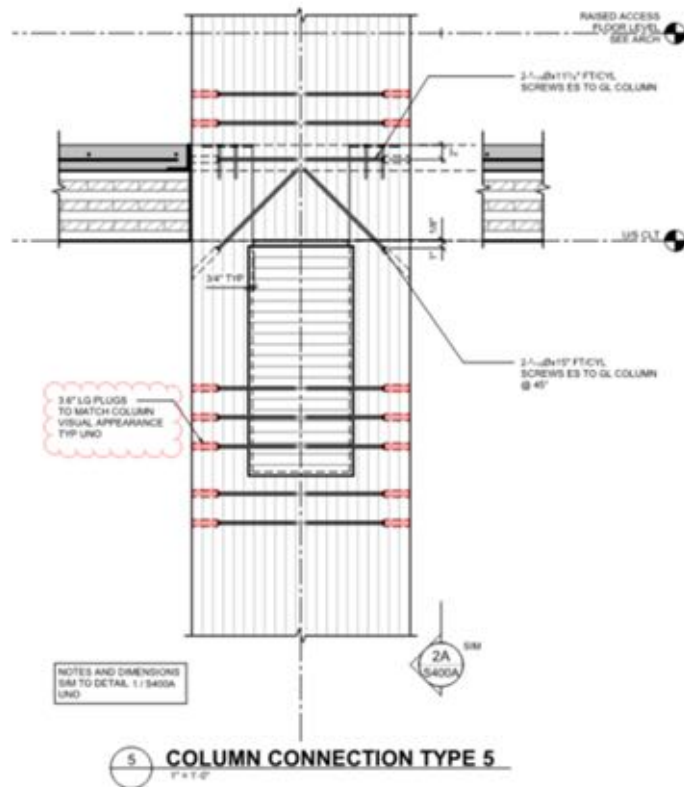


Figure A-3. Column Prepped.

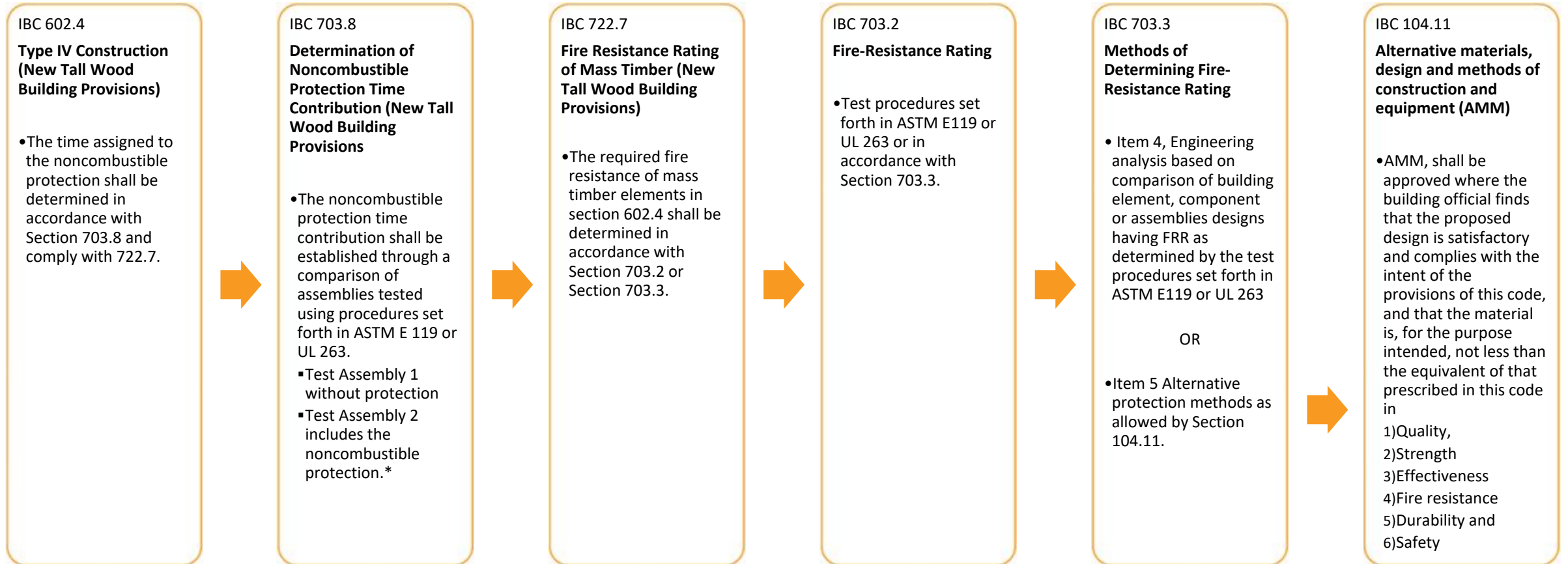


Figure A-4. Column and Beam Connection.

# Performance Based Design

The background image shows a large-scale construction mold. It consists of multiple vertical wooden panels held together by a series of metal rods and clamps. The rods are threaded and pass through the panels, with nuts and washers used to secure them. The wooden panels have a light, natural wood grain. The entire scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange rectangle that serves as a backdrop for the title text.

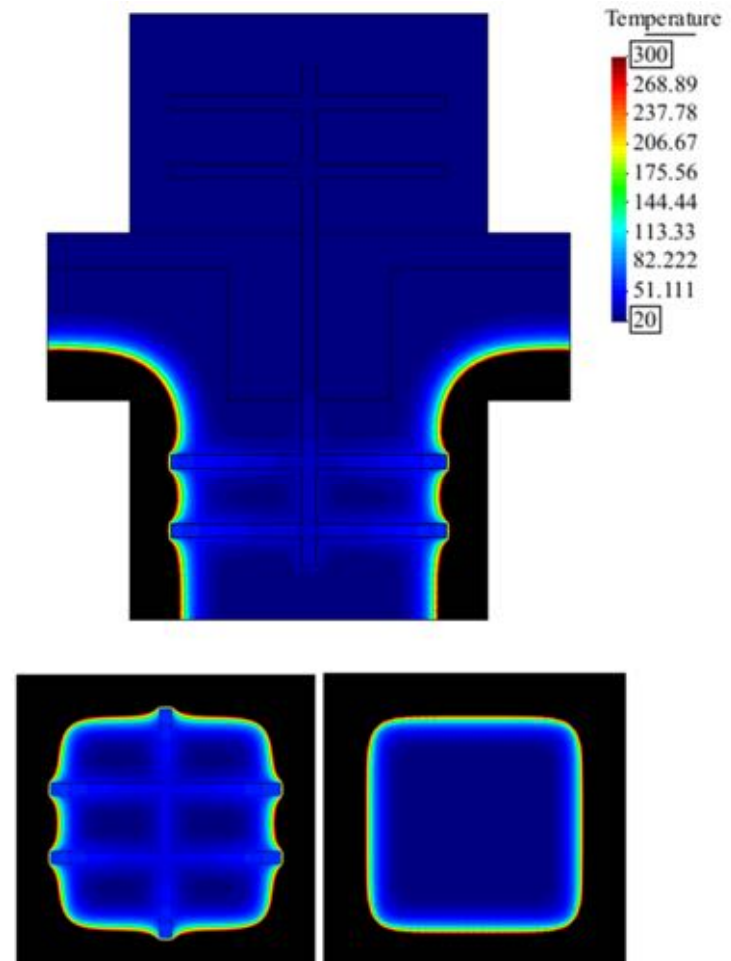
# Alternative Means and Methods



\*Noncombustible protection time contribution is determined by subtracting the fire resistance time of Test Assembly 1 from the fire resistance time of Test Assembly 2.

# Performance Based Analysis

- Thermal-finite element assessment of assemblies
- Support engineering judgement of untested systems/assemblies
- Protection details for connections, exposure of mass timber
- Furnace and realistic building fires





# Case Studies



# Case Study 1

## Corporate Campus, Mountain View

**Architect:** WRNS Studio

**Contractor:** Rudolph & Sletten

**Location:** Mountain View, CA

**Project Description:** Corporate campus predominately office use with assembly uses accessible green roof over all new building structure

**Gross SF:** 645,000 SF office + 505,000 SF structured parking

**Construction Type:** III-B-Sprinklered

**Structural System – Gravity:** Composite CLT + conc. topping floor, steel beams w/glulam columns

**Structural System – Lateral:** Concrete shear wall

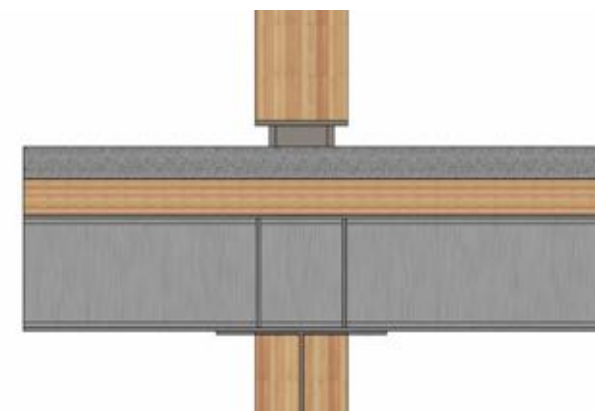
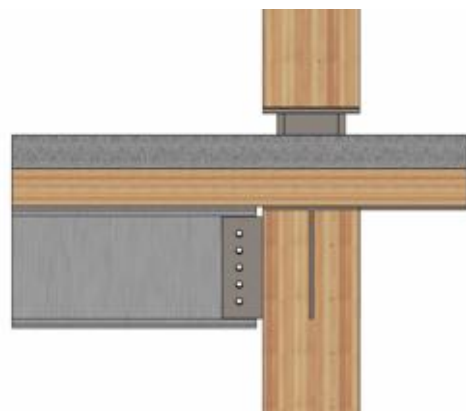
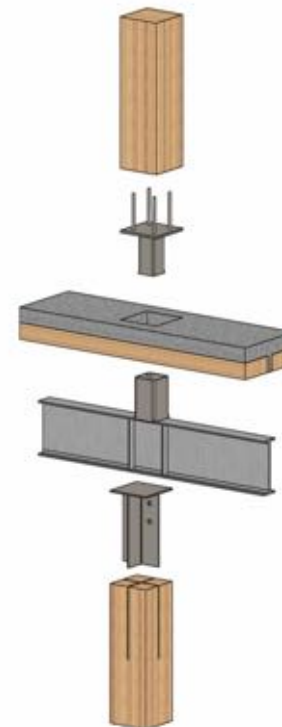
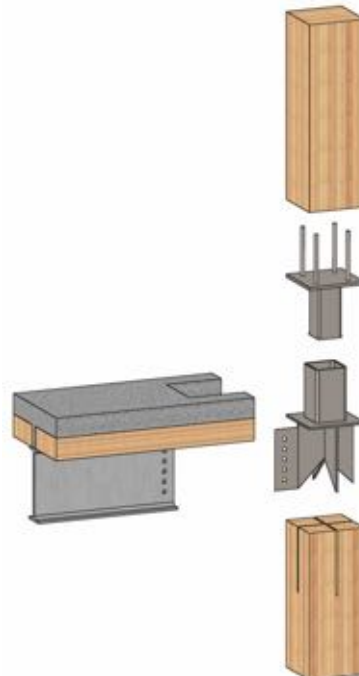
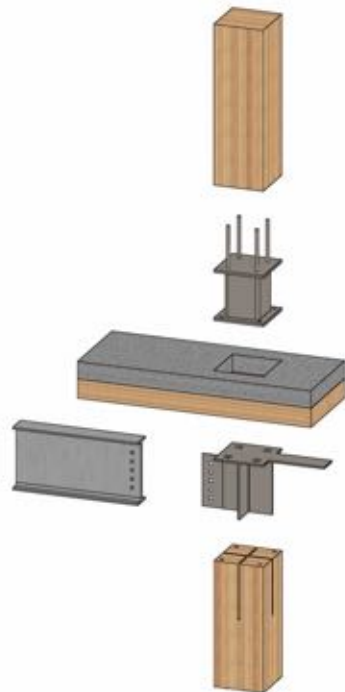


Largest (by S.F.) mass timber building in North America



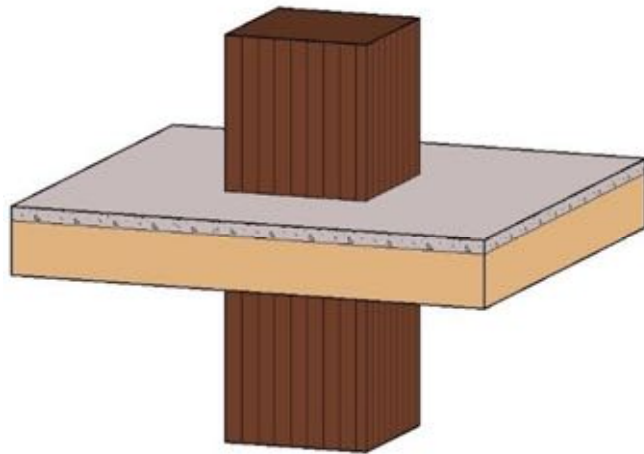


# Connections

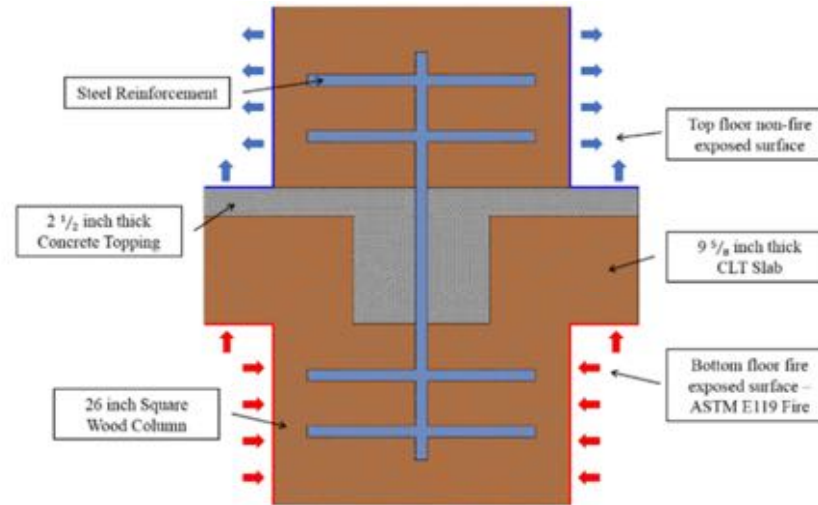




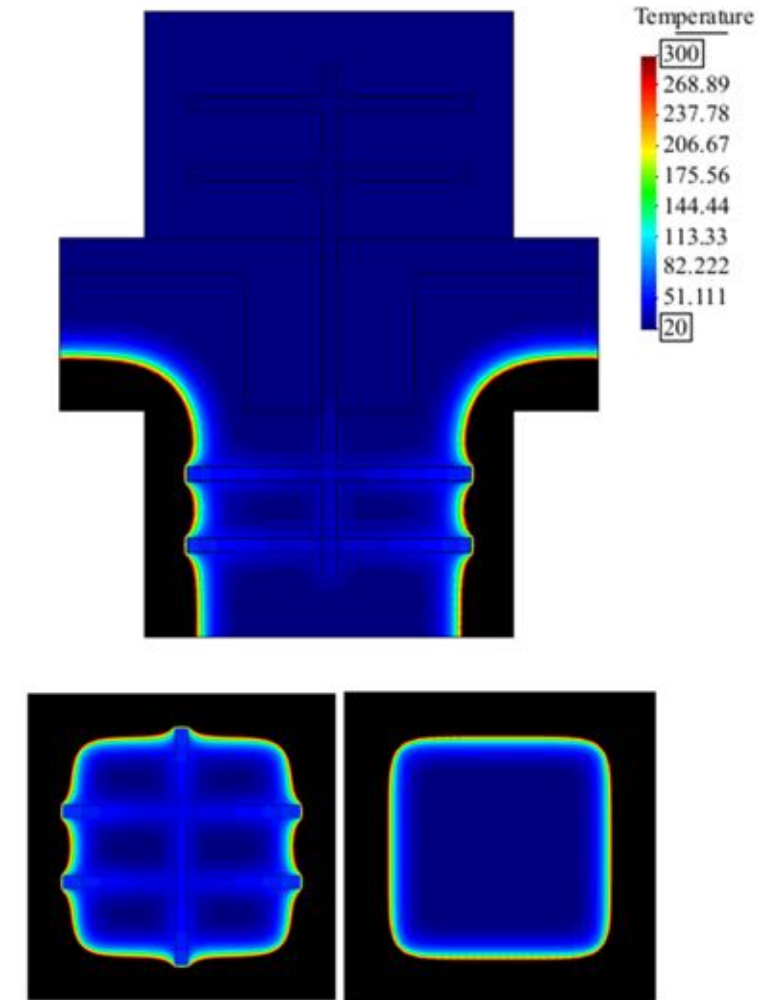
# Fire Design



Assembly Selected for Fire Analysis



Square Column to Slab Connection



# Case Study 2

## Residential Building, San Jose

**Architect:** SERA

**Owner:** First Community Housing

**Location:** San Jose, CA

**Project Description:** 12-story residential buildings located on a shared podium

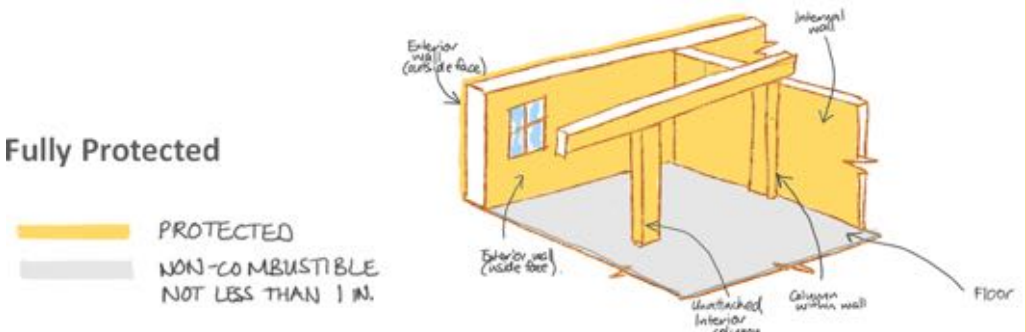
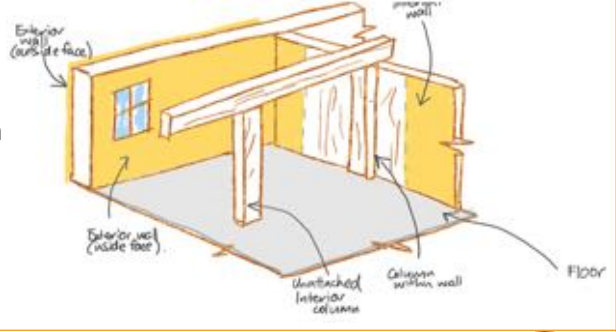
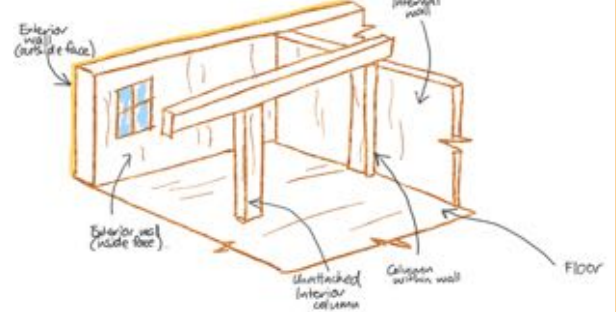
**Gross SF:** 260,000 SF

**Construction Type:** IV-B, Sprinklered

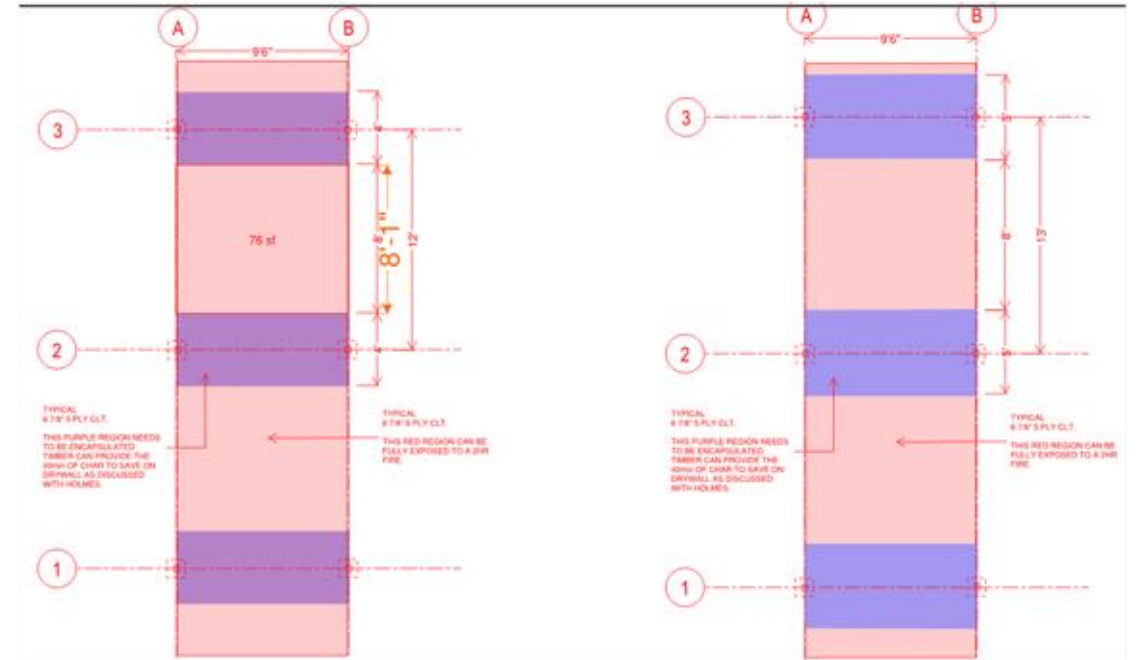
**Structural System – Gravity:** CLT + conc. topping floor, glulam columns



# Mass Timber Construction Types, Fire Ratings (Code)

Construction Type	# Stories	Max Height	Mass Timber	Primary Frame Fire Rating
IV-A	18	250 - 270'	<p><b>Fully Protected</b></p>  <p> <span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:10px; background-color:yellow; border:1px solid black;"></span> PROTECTED  <span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:10px; background-color:grey; border:1px solid black;"></span> NON-COMBUSTIBLE NOT LESS THAN 1 IN.         </p>	3 hour
IV-B	12	180'	<p><b>Partially Exposed</b>            (20% of ceilings allowed to remain exposed            Stand-alone columns can remain exposed)</p> 	2 hour
IV-C	9	85'	<p><b>Fully Exposed</b>            (Except outside of external walls, shafts and concealed spaces)</p> 	2 hour

# 50% Exposed Mass Timber



Gypsum protection at column lines and weak axis of CLT span.



# Upcoming Code Changes (G147-21)

## Excerpt from G147-21:

**602.4.2.2.2** Protected area. Interior faces of mass timber elements, including the inside face of exterior mass timber walls and mass timber roofs, shall be protected in accordance with Section 602.4.2.2.1.

**Exceptions:** Unprotected portions of mass timber ceilings and walls complying with Section 602.4.2.2.4 and the following:

1. Unprotected portions of mass timber ceilings and walls complying with one of the following:
  - 1.1. Unprotected portions of mass timber ceilings, including attached beams, shall be permitted and shall be limited to an area less than or equal to ~~20~~**100** percent of the floor area in any dwelling unit or fire area.
  - 1.2. Unprotected portions of mass timber walls, including attached columns, shall be permitted and shall be limited to an area less than or equal to 40 percent of the floor area in any dwelling unit or fire area.
  - 1.3. Unprotected portions of both walls and ceilings of mass timber, including attached columns and beams, in any dwelling unit or fire area shall be permitted in accordance with Section 602.4.2.2.3.
2. Mass timber columns and beams that are not an integral portion of walls or ceilings, respectively, shall be permitted to be unprotected without restriction of either aggregate area or separation from one another.

# Connection Fire-Resistance Rating

FRR for connections in Type IV-A IV-B, or IV-C construction shall be determined by one of the following:

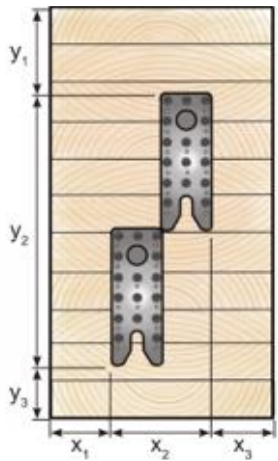
1. **Testing** in accordance with Section 703.2 where the connection is part of the fire resistance test.
2. **Engineering analysis** that demonstrates that the temperature rise at any portion of the connection is limited to an average temperature rise of 250°F (139°C) and a maximum temperature rise of 325°F (181°C) for a time corresponding to the required fire resistance rating of the structural element being connected.

For the purposes of this analysis the connection includes connectors fasteners and portions of wood members included in the structural design of the connection.

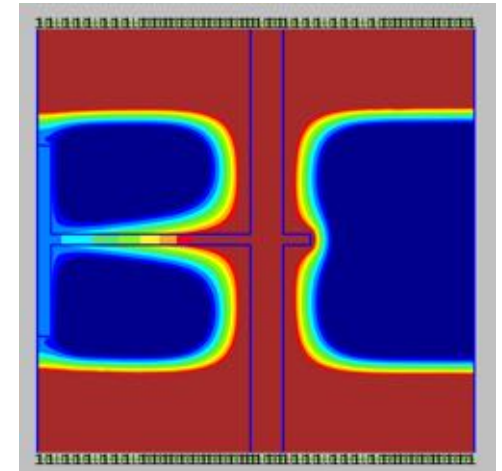
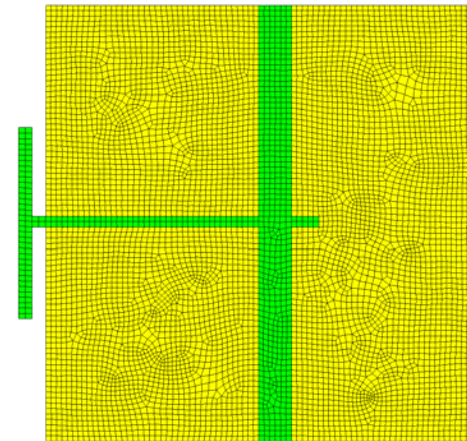
# Concealed / exposed connections

- New IBC criteria can be applied in simple calculations for concealed connections – (similar to char calculations)
- Engineering analysis of exposed connections are challenging – Finite Element Analysis / Alternative Means and Methods may be needed

Concealed connection

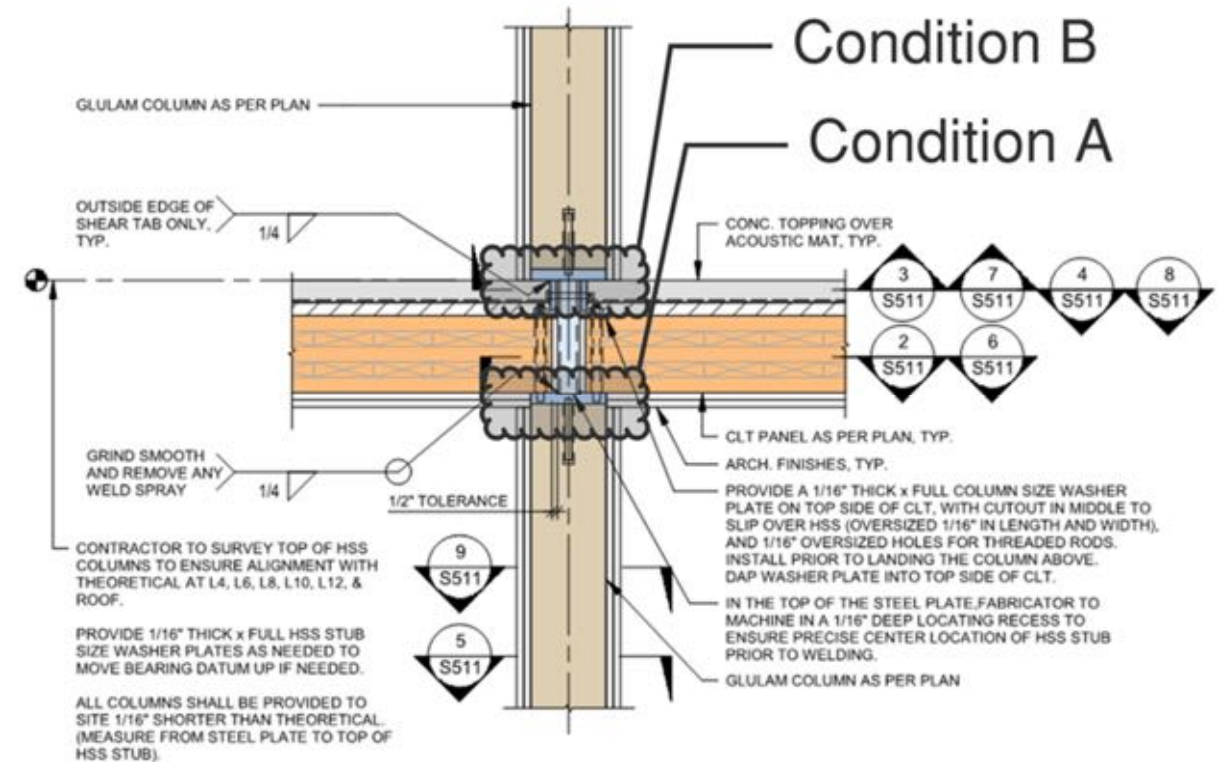


Connection with exposed steel



# Connection Protection

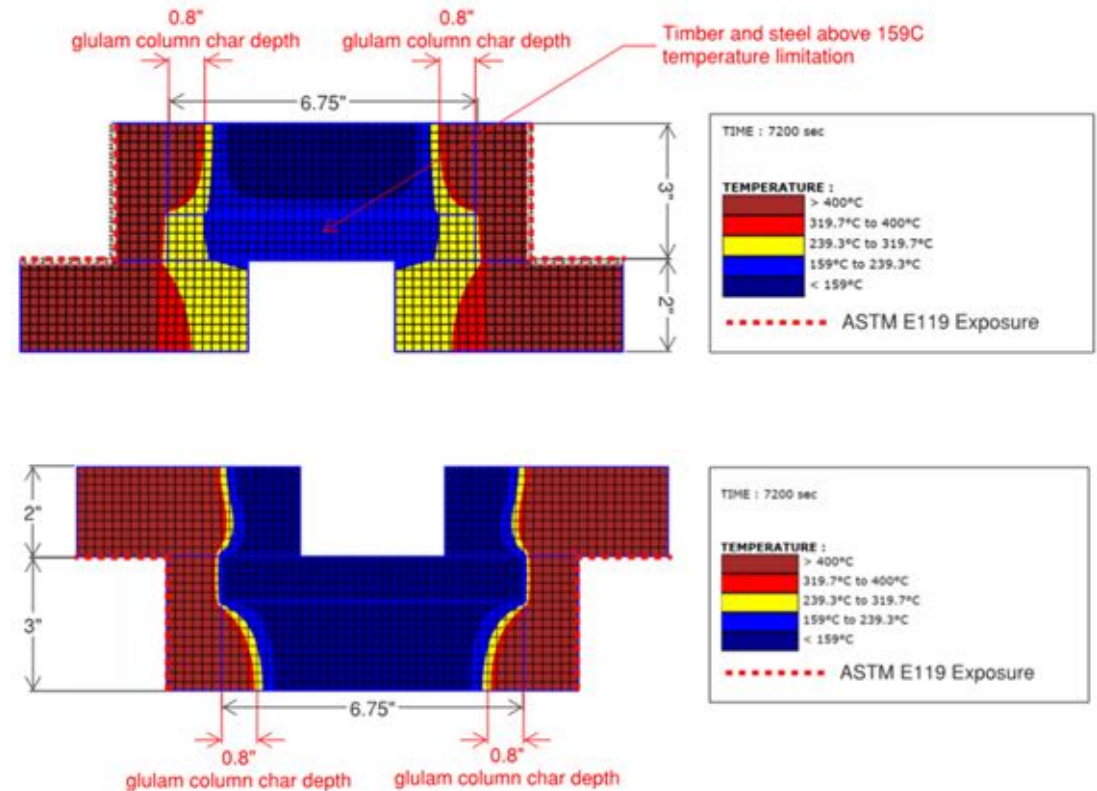
## Applying new connection criteria of IBC





# Finite Element Assessment

- Thermal-finite element assessment to ASTM E119 temperature curve for 2-hour duration.
- Indicated additional protection was required to bottom bearing plate to mitigate accelerated charring at bottom of column.



TOP and BOTTOM sections of column-floor-column joint (thermal analysis)

# Case Study 3

Commercial Building, San Jose

**Architect:** Studio Gang

**Owner:** West Bank

**Location:** San Jose, CA

**Project Description:** 14-story Commercial building predominately office use with assembly uses.

**Gross SF:** 240,000 SF

**Construction Type:** IV-A, Sprinklered

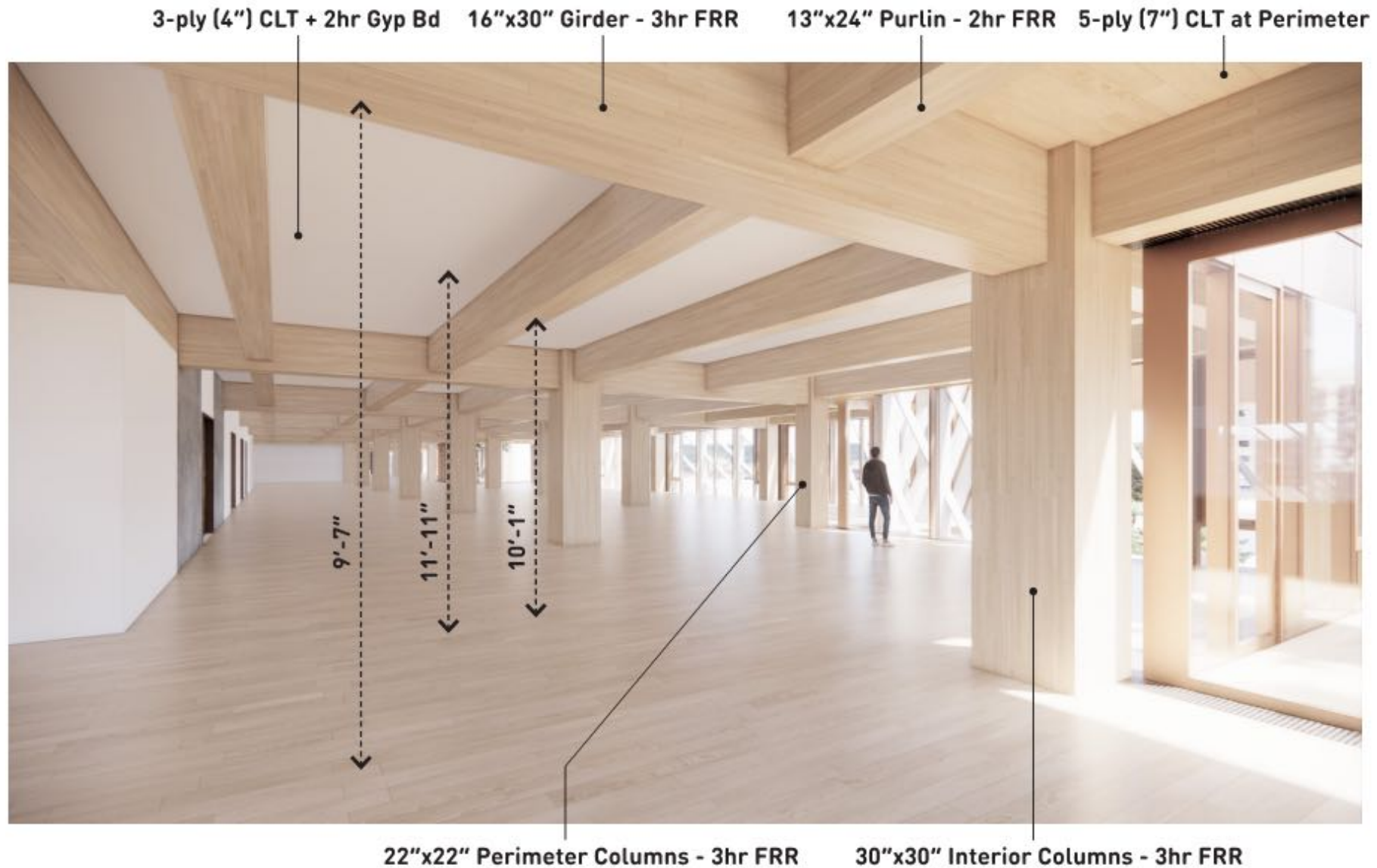
**Structural System – Gravity:** Composite CLT + conc. topping floor, glulam beams w/glulam columns



# Mass Timber Construction Types, Fire Ratings (Code)

Construction Type	# Stories	Max Height	Mass Timber	Primary Frame Fire Rating
IV-A	18	270'	<p><b>Fully Protected</b></p>	3 hour
IV-B	12	180'	<p><b>Partially Exposed</b> (20% of ceilings allowed to remain exposed Stand-alone columns can remain exposed)</p>	2 hour
IV-C	9	85'	<p><b>Fully Exposed</b> (Except outside of external walls, shafts and concealed spaces)</p>	2 hour

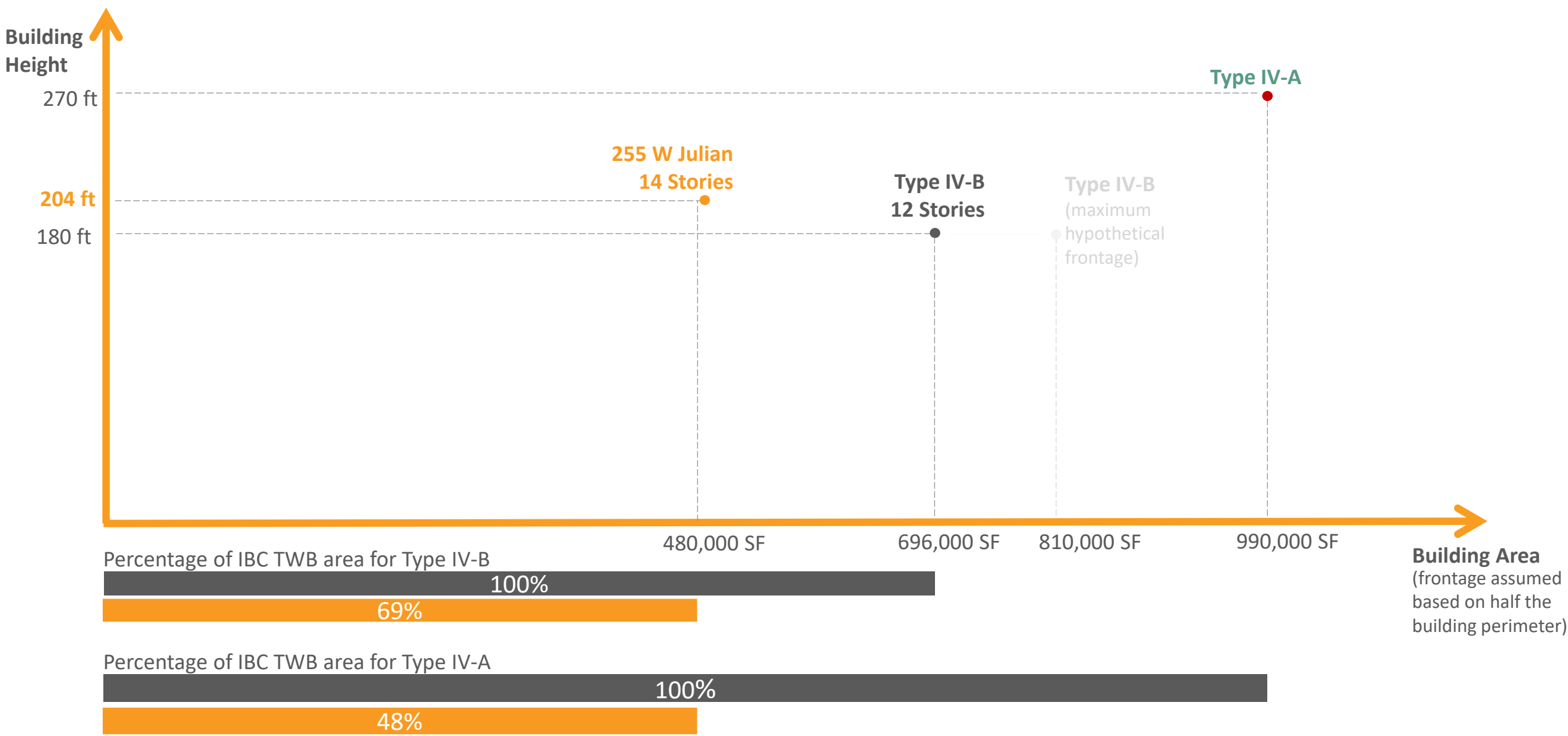
# 255 W Julian – Project Vision



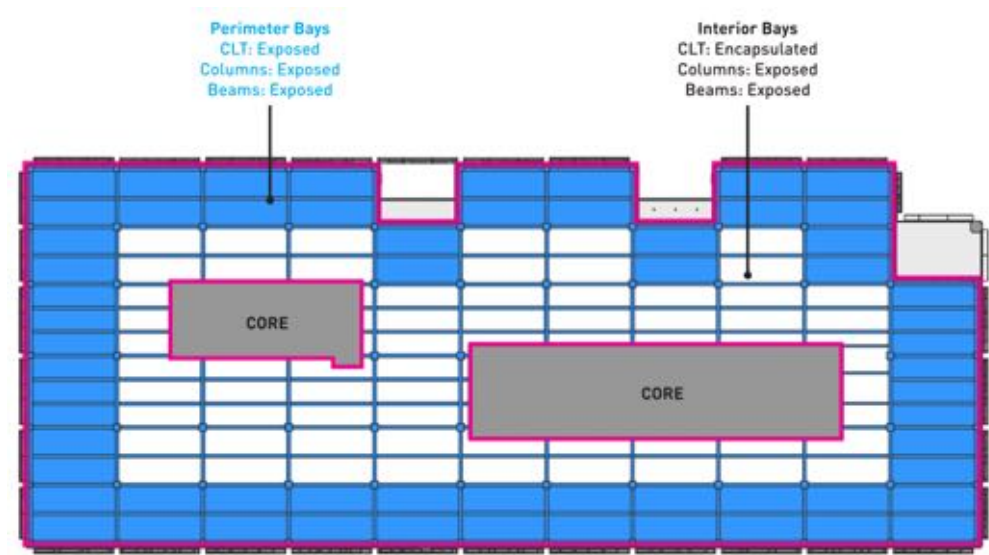


# Height / Area Comparisons

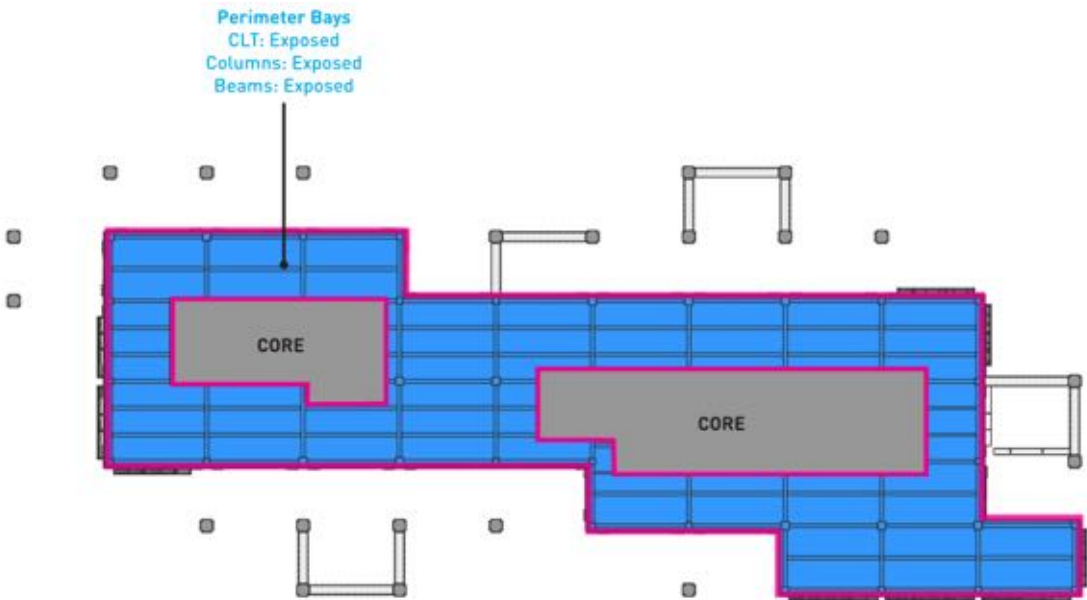
Type I-A •  
Unlimited



# Project Vision



Typical Floor (Level 2 shown)



Level 14

Item	Code Allowance	Proposed Approach
Exposed Mass timber- Columns	None	14% to 16% of fire area (i.e., floor area)
Exposed Mass timber- Beams*	None	70% to 100% of fire area (i.e., floor area)
Exposed Mass timber- CLT Ceiling	None	40% to 100% of fire area (i.e., floor area)

\* Area of the exposed mass timber within the beam accounts for all exposed surfaces of the beam within the fire area.

# Why Exposed Mass Timber?

Exposed Mass Timber  
(Analysis and Justification)

Mitigation Measures

Recent Testing

Performance Based  
Engineering

# Proposed Mitigation Measures

1. Sprinkler upgrade from LH to OH1
  - Increased sprinkler density (from 225 SF to 130 SF coverage area)
  - Increased water flow per sprinkler design area (150 gpm to > 300 gpm)
  - Reduced fire size at time of sprinkler activation (from 1.4 MW to 1.1 MW)
  
2. Smoke detection throughout the building
  - Quicker occupant notification
  - Quicker fire department response
  - Accurate addressability of the fire location



# Previous Test Series

- Series of full-scale compartment tests
- Multi-story compartment used for the test series, consisted CLT walls and floors
- Complete burnout of the fuel load without contribution of the mass timber elements
- No automatic fire sprinklers



# Mass Timber Material Testing Developments

## ICC Tall Wood Building provisions based on testing to PRG-320 (2015)

- Adhesives not thermally resistant
- Resulted in CLT delamination

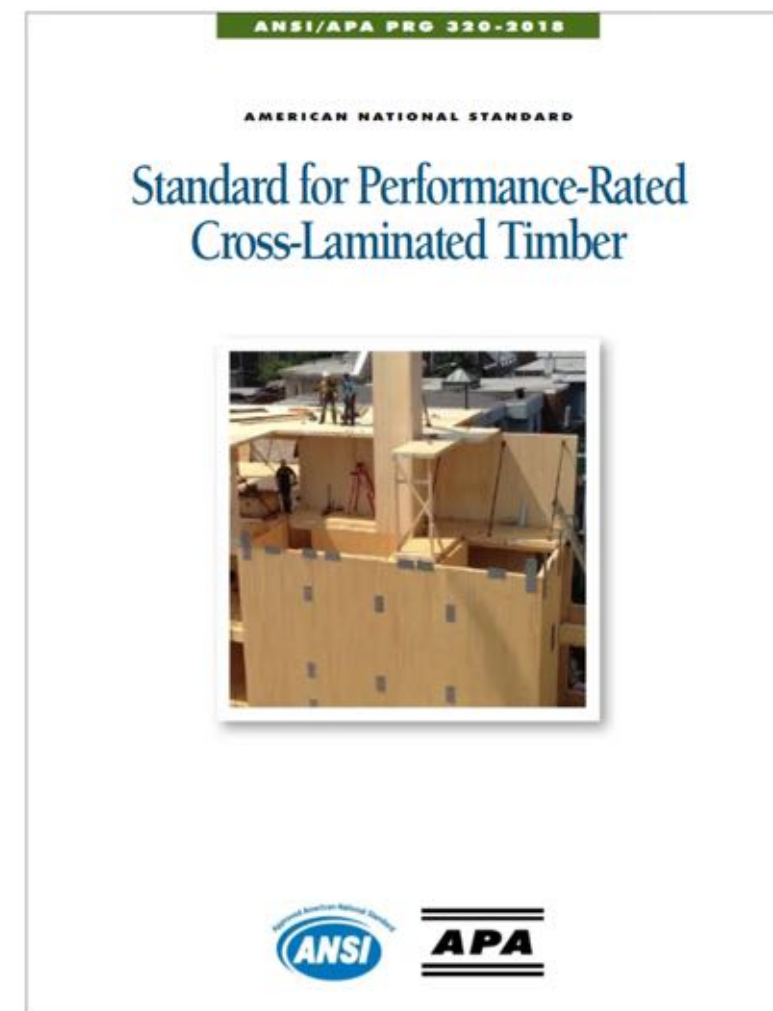
## Current panels manufactured to PRG-320 (2018)

- Thermally resistant PUR (Polyurethane Reactive) adhesives
- No delamination expected
- Additional testing (AWC) just completed

**Self-extinguishment** is expected to improve within Commercial spaces (compared to residential configuration):

- Reduced re-radiation effects
- Increased ventilation (reduced fire severity)
- Glulam Columns tested > 3hr FRR

**High rise commercial projects approved** within Canada and US with increased exposed mass timber: INTRO Market Square residential building, ASCENT residential project



# FPL Test Results

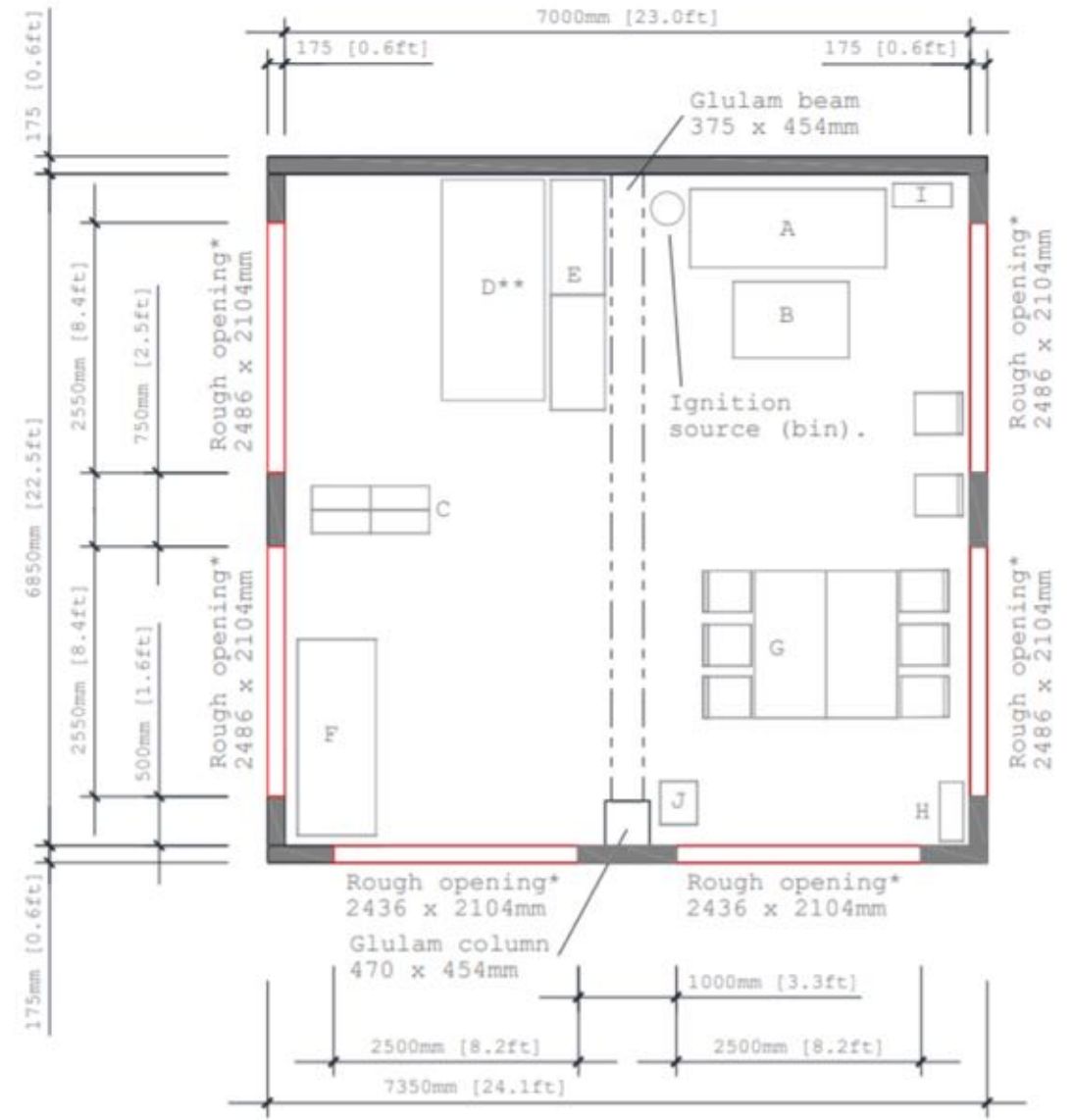
- Series of 4 compartment tests (residential compartment and fuel load).
- In all tests with exposed mass timber, the peak room temperatures were similar to fully encapsulated test. The fully developed fire stages were longer than the baseline as the exposed timber added more fuel load to the rooms.
- Glulam columns sized to 3-HR FRR per NDS 16, achieved > 4-hrs FRR.



<https://www.iccsafe.org/wp-content/uploads/Fire-Tests-of-Encapsulated-MT-Rooms-with-Exposed-Wood.pdf>

# RISE Test Results

- Five compartment fire experiments were performed for this study.
- One of the tests were undertaken with six larger openings, resulting in an opening factor of 0.25  $m^{1/2}$  (0.453  $ft^{1/2}$ ), which is approximately equal to the **midrange of opening factors for office compartments**.
- ANSI/APA PRG 320, 2018 compliant panels.
- Only back wall protected (2xType X GWB).





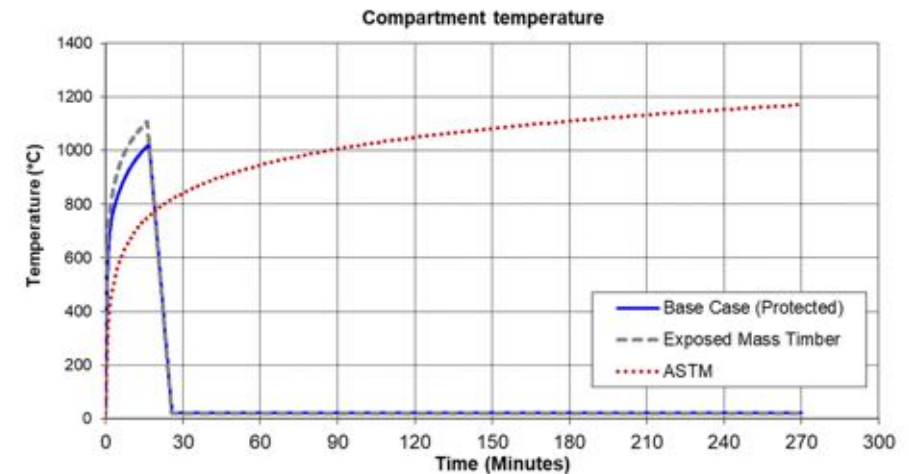
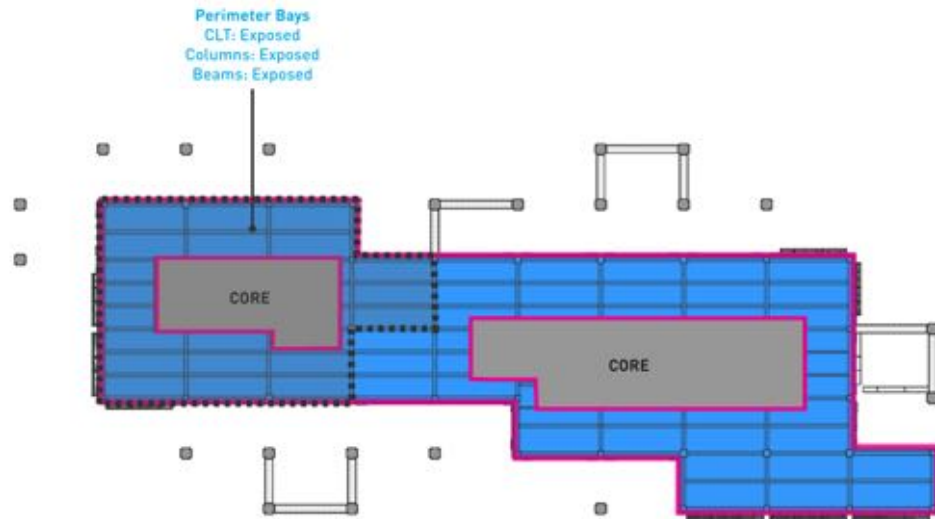
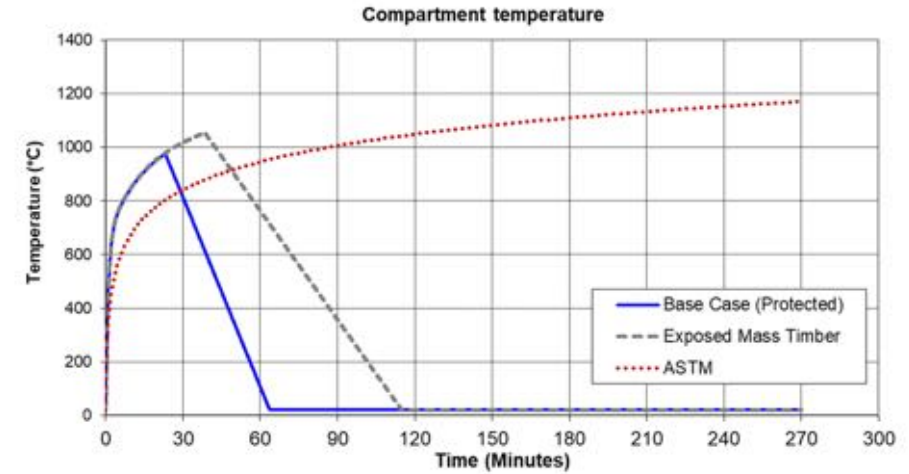
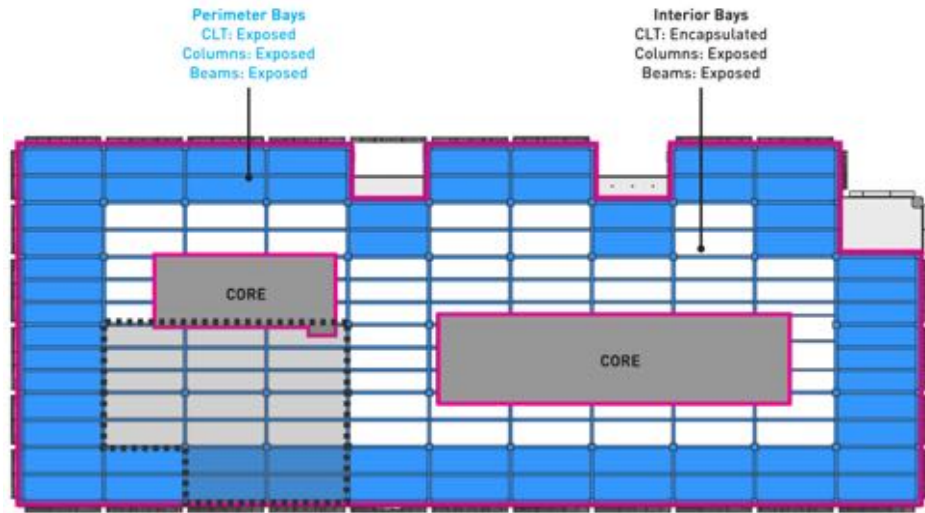
# Egress Time Calculation

Egress traveling time includes the following:

- Time for the first occupant to reach the interior exit stair door; and
- Time for the occupants to wait at the stair before entering; and
- Time for the last person to enter the stair door; and
- Time for the last person to reach safety from the controlling component (i.e., relocation to 4 stories below )



# Fire Load Energy Density Assessment (FLED)



# Summary

## Exposed Mass Timber (Analysis and Justification)

### Mitigation Measures

### Recent Testing

### Performance Based Engineering

Full smoke detection

Sprinkler upgrade

FPL test results

RISE test results

Detection Time

Egress Time

FLED Assessment

Detection time decreased by more than 2 minutes

Smaller fire (from 1.4 MW to 1.1 MW)

Performance of the columns under fire conditions

Fully exposed mass timber proposed in office layout

Detection time decreased by more than 2 minutes

Detection time decreased by more than 2 minutes compared to a code compliant option

Short hot fire is expected. The peak temperature to be achieved within the first hour

# Let's Talk!



Holmes

Bevan Jones

[Bevan.Jones@holmes.us](mailto:Bevan.Jones@holmes.us)

Parisa Nassiri

[Parisa.Nassiri@holmes.us](mailto:Parisa.Nassiri@holmes.us)