



# Acoustics, Floor Vibration, MEP Integration, Enclosure and Moisture Protection

March 27, 2023

Presented by Jessica Scarlett, Mark Bartlett and Jason Bahr

**Noise**

**Acoustics**

**Sound Pollution**



Whatever you call it, it all comes down to one thing:  
**Occupant Comfort**



# Acoustical Design

Types of noise to control: **Exterior to interior**





# Acoustical Design

Types of noise to control: **Noise within a space**



# Room Acoustics

## WHAT IS SOUND ABSORPTION?

All materials absorb sound energy to some degree. Whenever sound waves strike a material, part of the acoustical energy in the wave is absorbed and/or transmitted, and the remainder is reflected.

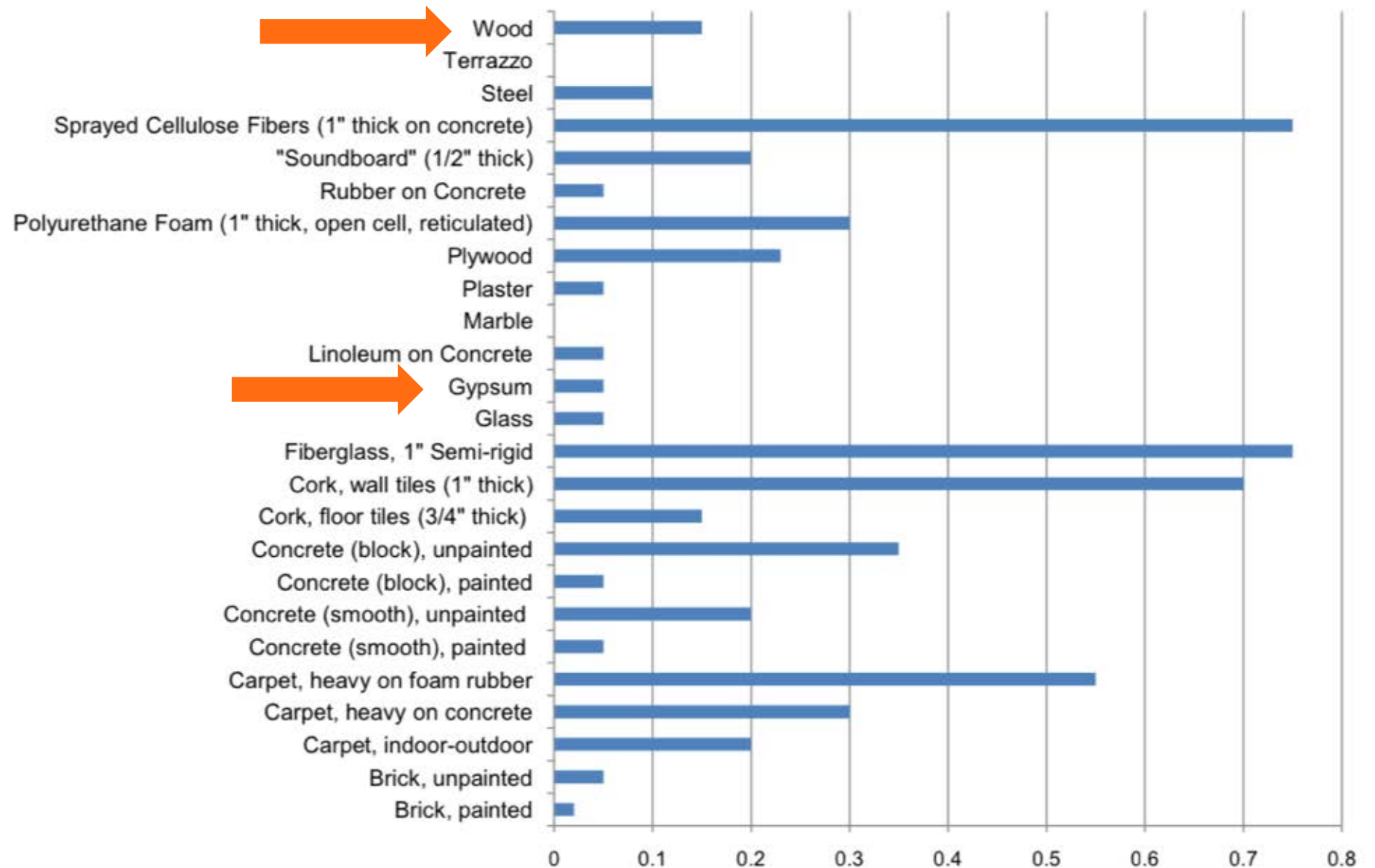


Arena Stage, Washington, DC

Photo: Nic Lehoux, Bing Thom Architects

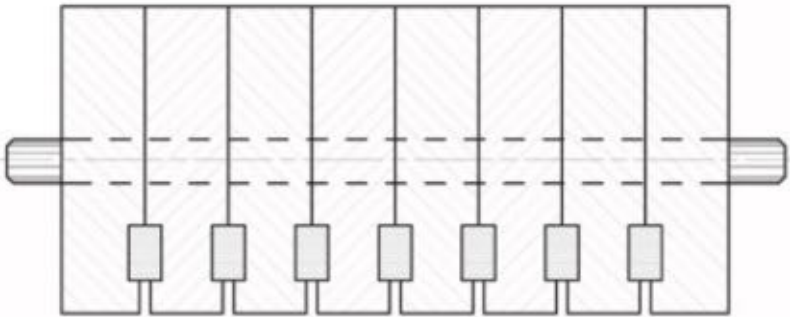


## Noise Reduction Coefficients (NRC) for Common Building Materials:

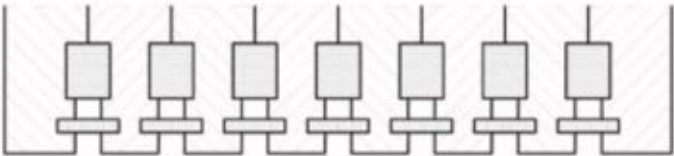


# Room Acoustics

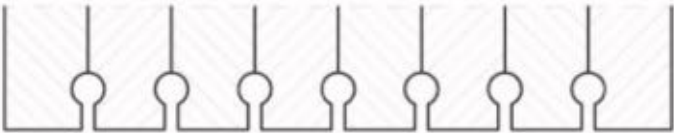
NRC of exposed wood panels like NLT & DLT can be improved with inset absorbing materials



*Acoustic Square with Wood Fibre (NRC = 0.55-0.65)*



*Acoustic Square with Wood Fibre & Felt (NRC = 0.75-0.80)*



*Acoustic Round (NRC = 0.10-0.25)*

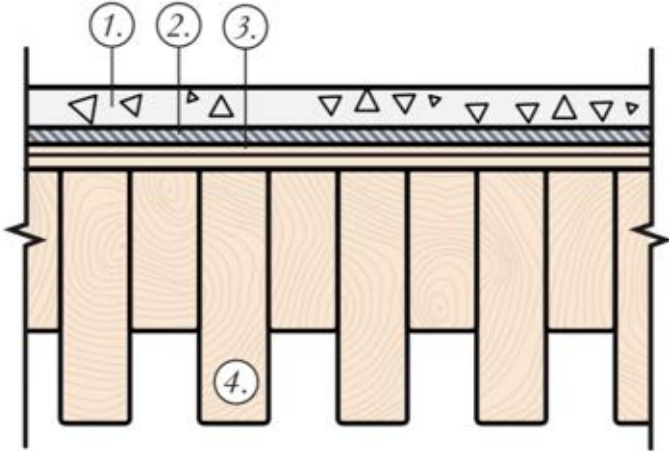


Image: NLT Design Guide

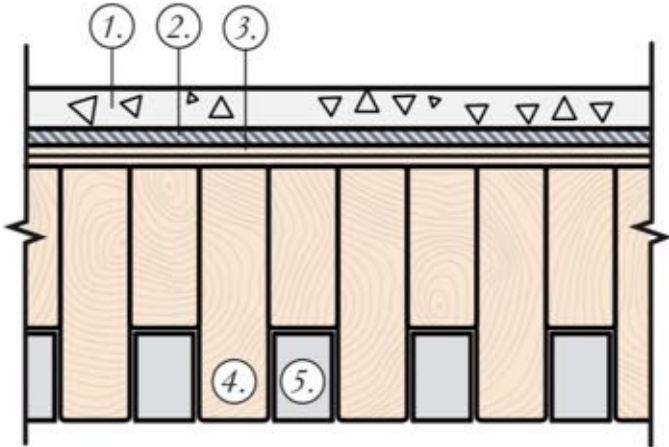


Figure 2.16: Alternating 2x4 and 2x6 lumber with and without sound absorbing material.

**Key**

- 1. Concrete topping
- 2. Acoustic mat
- 3. Plywood/ OSB
- 4. NLT
- 5. Sound absorbing material



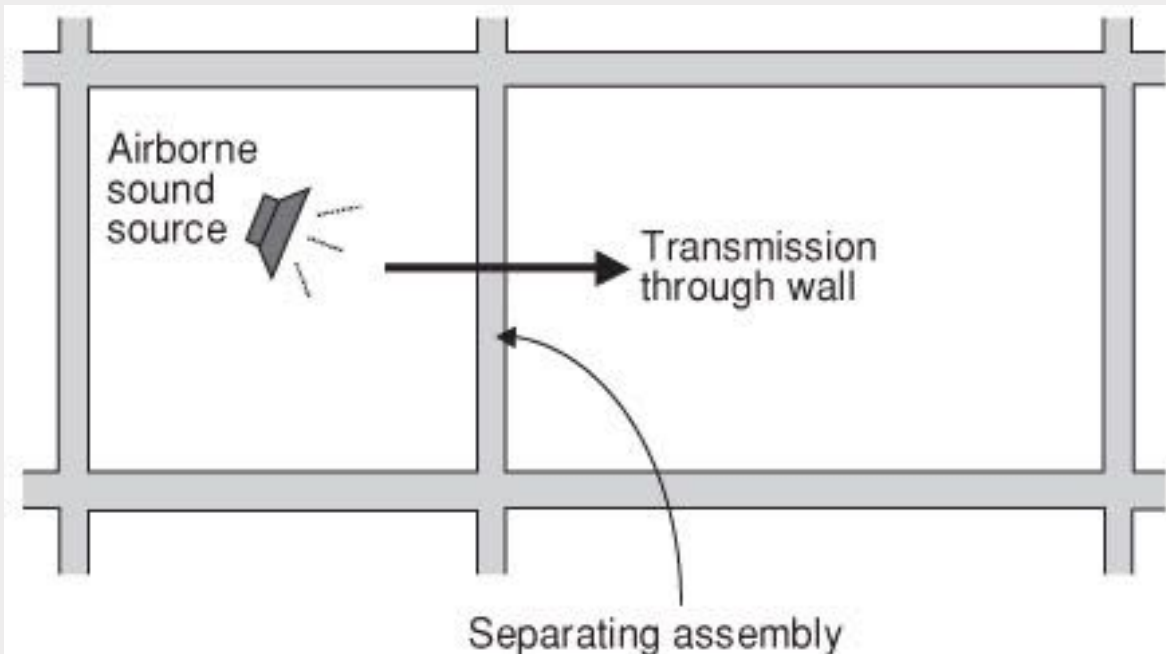
Image: StructureCraft

# Acoustical Design

Types of noise to control: **Interior to interior**

» **Air-Borne Sound: Sound Transmission Class (STC)**

Measures how effectively an assembly isolates air-borne sound and reduces the level that passes from one side to the other. Applies to walls and floor/ceiling assemblies



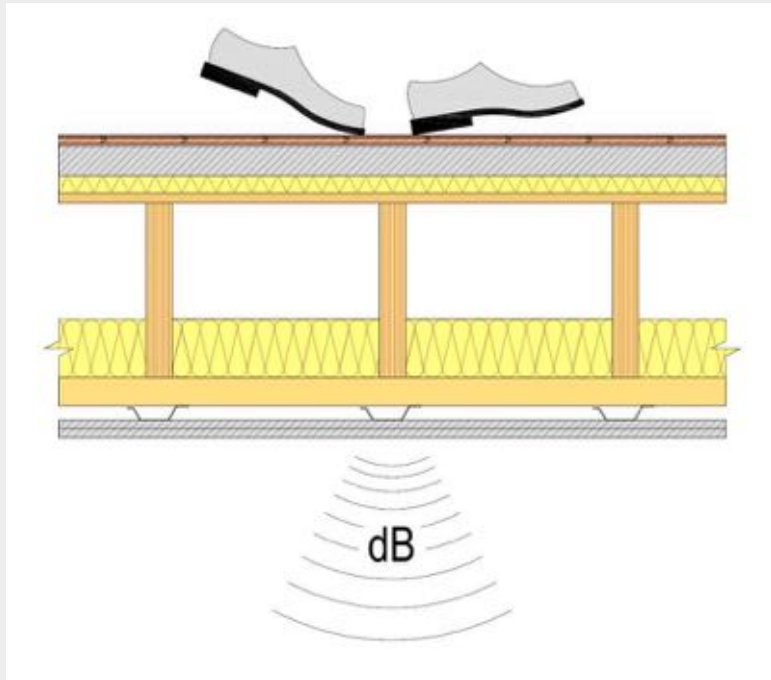


# Acoustical Design

Types of noise to control: **Interior to interior**

» **Structure-borne sound: Impact Insulation Class (IIC)**

Evaluates how effectively an assembly blocks impact sound from passing through it. Only applies to floor/ceiling assemblies



# Acoustical Criteria

Acoustical Isolation Between Units – Airborne (STC) / Impact (IIC)

<b>Class Designation</b>	<b>Airborne Sound Isolation (STC)</b>	<b>Floor Ceiling Impact Isolation (IIC)</b>
<b>Entry level</b>	50	50
<b>Market rate</b>	55	55
<b>Luxury</b>	60	60



# Acoustical Detailing



## Mass Timber Wall Acoustics: STC

Photo: Pam Wean, MSES Architects



Photo: Lend Lease & Schaefer

# Acoustical Detailing

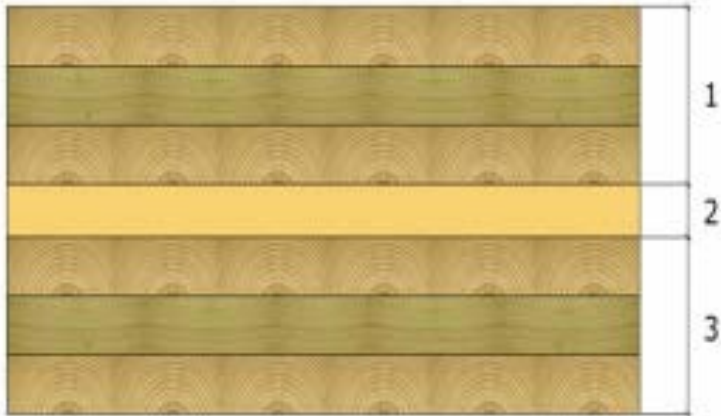
## Sound Insulation of Bare CLT Floors and Walls

Number of layers	Thickness (in. )	Wall or Floor	STC	IIC
3	3-3/4 to 4-1/2	Wall	32-34	N.A.
5	5-1/3	Floor	39	23
5	5-3/4	Floor	39	24
Measured on field bare CLT wall and floor				
Number of layers	Thickness in.	Assembly type	FSTC	FIIC
3	4-1/8	Wall	28	N.A.
7	8-1/5	Floor	N.A	25-30



# Acoustical Detailing

## Design Examples for >50 STC Walls



### STC 50:

1 and 3 = 4-1/2 in. CLT;

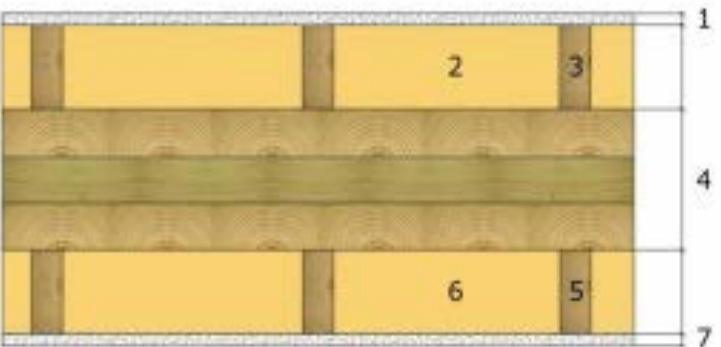
2 = 1-1/8 in. Mineral wool in the gap

### STC 55:

Add 5/8 in. gypsum board directly to both sides

### STC 60:

Gypsum boards plus double the thickness of the gap and mineral wool



### STC 58:

1 and 7 = 5/8 in. gypsum boards

3 and 5 = 2 in. by 3 in. wood studs at least 16 in. o.c.

2 and 6 = 2.5 in. mineral wool

4 = 4-1/2 in. CLT

# Acoustical Detailing

## Mass Timber Floor Acoustics – STC & IIC

Photo: John Stamets





# Acoustical Detailing



Main difference between light frame wood floors and mass timber floors is that mass timber floors are usually left exposed on ceiling side.

**All acoustical products applied on top of assembly**

# Acoustical Detailing



Concrete Slab:

6" Thick

80 PSF

STC 53



CLT Slab:

6-7/8" Thick

18 PSF

STC 41





# Acoustical Detailing

## Common mass timber floor assembly:

- » Finish floor (if applicable)
- » Underlayment (if finish floor)
- » 1.5" to 3" thick concrete/gypcrete topping
- » Acoustical mat
- » WSP (if applicable)
- » Mass timber floor panels



Image: AcoustiTECH

# Acoustical Detailing




## Options without concrete topping:

- » Gypsum/cement board (Fermacell, Permabase, etc.)
- » Proprietary products




# Mass Timber Acoustics



 CONSTRUCTION

Acoustic Testing of CLT and Assemblies


*Nordic Engineered Wood*  
Report No. AI-008253.1  
19 August 2016

 National Research Council Canada / Conseil national de recherches Canada



NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL CANADA

**REPORT TO RESEARCH CONSORTIUM  
FOR WOOD AND WOOD-HYBRID  
MID-RISE BUILDINGS**



CLT (CROSS LAMINATED TIMBER)

CLT	Insulation	Resilient Channel	Ceiling	Min. Topping Depth	Sound Mat	Floor Covering	Sound Rating			Maximum U <sub>F</sub> Fire Rating
							STC	RC	Test Number	
1"	2 1/2" Bat Insulation	Yes	Suspended Ceiling w/ 5/8" Drywall	3/4"	Acoustical I	DT	54 FRC	54	11127-06-005-1.0	40.00
						Carpet and Pad	54 FRC	54	11127-06-005-1.0	
						DT	54 FRC	54	11127-06-005-1.0	
						Carpet and Pad	54 FRC	54	11127-06-005-1.0	

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							STC	RC	Test Number	
1"	2 1/2" Bat Insulation	Yes	Suspended Ceiling w/ 5/8" Drywall	3/4"	Acoustical I	None	45 FRC	45	11127-06-005-1.0	40.00
						None	54 FRC	54	11127-06-005-1.0	

CLT	Insulation	Resilient Channel	Ceiling	Min. Topping Depth	Sound Mat	Floor Covering	Sound Rating			Maximum U <sub>F</sub> Fire Rating
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1"	2 1/2" Bat Insulation	Yes	Suspended Ceiling w/ 5/8" Drywall	3/4"	Acoustical I	None	45 FRC	45	11127-06-005-1.0	40.00
						None	54 FRC	54	11127-06-005-1.0	

Use of this guide, the associated drawings/illustrations for your project, without your Research-Engineered Wood (REW) Design Report.



F5500.11-113-11-R0  
ACOUSTICAL PERFORMANCE TEST REPORT  
ASTM E 90 AND ASTM E 492

Rendered to  
PLITEQ INC.

Series/Model: Vintage Floors Wood Flooring on Pliteq GenicMat™ RST02 over Isolation System - Pliteq GenicMat™ F350 Rubber Underlayment

Specimen Type: Cross Laminated Timber - 175 mm (6.89")

Overall Size: 3023 mm by 3632 mm (119" by 143")

STC 58  
IIC 59

**Test Specimen Identification:**  
Floor Topping: 12.7 mm (0.5") Vintage Floors Wood Flooring  
Floor Underlayment: 2 mm (0.08") Pliteq GenicMat™ RST02 Rubber Underlayment  
Subfloor Topping: 181.8 mm (4") Concrete Slab  
Subfloor Underlayment (Top Layer): 24.8 mm (0.98") Pliteq GenicMat™ F350 Rubber Underlayment  
Subfloor Underlayment (Bottom Layer): 24.8 mm (0.98") Pliteq GenicMat™ F350 Rubber Underlayment  
Floor Slab: 175 mm (6.89") Nordic Wood Products N-LAM Cross Laminated Timber

Reference should be made to Intertek-ATI Report F5500.11-113-11 for complete test specimen description. This page alone is not a complete report.

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Summary –  
Insulation in Mid-rise Wood Buildings

A1-004377.2

4

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**KINETICS NOISE CONTROL, INC.**  
**ACOUSTICAL PERFORMANCE TEST REPORT**

**SCOPE OF WORK**  
ASTM E90 AND ASTM E492 TESTING ON USG STRUCTURAL PANELS CONCRETE SUBFLOOR WITH RIM-L-2-16 SYSTEM OVER STRUCTURE CRAFT NL

**SPECIMEN TYPE**  
Nail Laminated Timber - 152 mm

**REPORT NUMBER**  
18483-04-113-11-R1

**TEST DATE**  
10/31/18

**ISSUE DATE** **REVISED DATE**  
11/26/18 11/20/18

**RECORD RETENTION END**  
10/31/22

**PAGES**  
12

**DOCUMENT CONTROL**  
ATI 00629 (03/22/18)  
RTT06-R-AMER-Test-2844  
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# Mass Timber Acoustics



## Acoustics and Mass Timber: Room-to-Room Noise Control

Richard McLain, PE, SE • Senior Technical Director • WoodWorks



T3 Minneapolis  
Architect: MGA (Michael Green Architecture), DLR Group  
Structural Engineer: Magnusson Klemencic Associates  
Design Assist • Build: StructuralCraft

The growing availability and code acceptance of mass timber—i.e., large solid wood panel products such as cross-laminated timber (CLT) and nail-laminated timber (NLT)—for floor, wall and roof construction has given designers a low-carbon alternative to steel, concrete, and masonry for many applications. However, the use of mass timber in multi-family and commercial buildings presents unique acoustic challenges.

While laboratory measurements of the impact and airborne sound isolation of traditional building assemblies such as light wood-frame, steel and concrete are widely available, fewer resources exist that quantify the acoustic performance of mass timber assemblies. Additionally, one of the most desired aspects of mass timber construction is the ability to leave a building's structure exposed as finish, which creates the need for asymmetric assemblies. With careful design and detailing, mass timber buildings can meet the acoustic performance expectations of most building types.

FIGURE 3:  
Interior CLT partition wall with chase walls on both sides

### Example Mass Timber Wall Assembly, STC 58

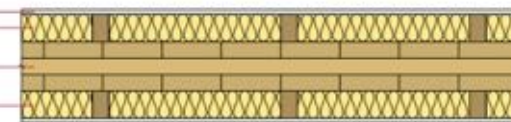
#### Plan View

5/8" Gypsum wallboard

2x3 studs @ 16" o.c. min.

3-ply CLT panel, 4-1/2" thick

2.5" Mineral wool batt insulation



Source: US CLT Handbook

### Mass Timber Assembly Options: Walls

Mass timber panels can also be used for interior and exterior walls—both bearing and non-bearing. For interior walls, the need to conceal services such as electrical and plumbing is an added consideration. Common approaches include building a chase wall in front of the mass timber wall or installing gypsum wallboard on resilient channels that are attached to the mass timber wall. As with bare mass timber floor panels, bare mass timber walls don't typically provide adequate noise control, and chase walls also function as acoustical improvements. For example, a 3-ply CLT wall panel with a thickness of 3.07" has an STC rating of 33.<sup>4</sup> In contrast, Figure 3 shows an interior CLT partition wall with chase walls on both sides. This assembly achieves an STC rating of 58, exceeding the IBC's acoustical requirements for multi-family construction. Other examples are included in the inventory of tested assemblies noted above.

### Acoustical Differences between Mass Timber Panel Options

The majority of acoustically-tested mass timber assemblies include CLT. However, tests have also been done on other mass timber panel options such as NLT and dowel-laminated timber (DLT), as well as traditional heavy timber options such as tongue and groove decking. Most tests have concluded that CLT acoustical performance is slightly better than that of other mass timber options, largely because the cross-orientation of laminations in a CLT panel limits sound flanking.

For those interested in comparing similar assemblies and mass timber panel types and thicknesses, the inventory noted above contains tested assemblies using CLT, NLT, glued-laminated timber panels (GLT), and tongue and groove decking.

### Improving Performance by Minimizing Flanking

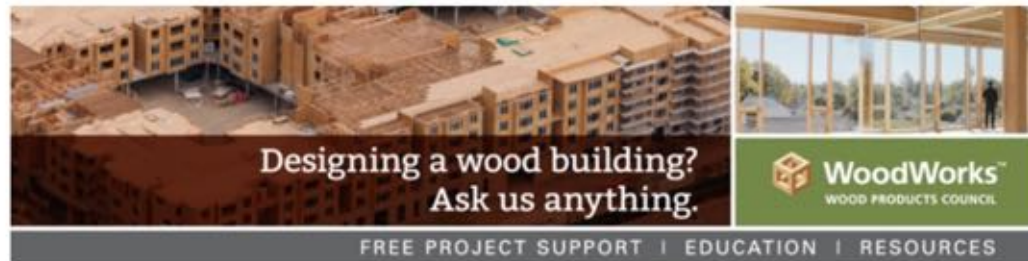
Even when the assemblies in a building are carefully designed and installed for high acoustical performance, consideration of flanking paths—in areas such as assembly intersections, beam-to-column/wall connections, and MEP penetrations—is necessary for a building to meet overall acoustical performance objectives.

One way to minimize flanking paths at these connections and interfaces is to use resilient connection isolation and sealant strips. These products are capable of resisting structural loads in compression between structural members and connections while providing isolation and breaking hard, direct connections between members. In the context of the three methods for improving acoustical performance noted above, these strips act as decouplers. With airtight connections, interfaces and penetrations, there is a much greater chance that the acoustic performance of a mass timber building will meet expectations.





# Mass Timber Acoustics



## Acoustically-Tested Mass Timber Assemblies

Following is a list of mass timber assemblies that have been acoustically tested as of January 23, 2019. Sources are noted at the end of this document. For free technical assistance on any questions related to the acoustical design of mass timber assemblies, or free technical assistance related to any aspect of the design, engineering or construction of a commercial or multi-family wood building in the U.S., email [help@woodworks.org](mailto:help@woodworks.org) or contact the WoodWorks Regional Director nearest you: <http://www.woodworks.org/project-assistance>

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Table 1: CLT Floor Assemblies with Concrete/Gypsum Topping, Ceiling Side Exposed

CLT Panel	Concrete/Gypsum Topping	Acoustical Mat Product Between CLT and Topping	Finish Floor	STC <sup>1</sup>	IIC <sup>1</sup>	Source
CLT 5-ply (6.875")	1-1/2" Gyp-Crete*	Maxxon Acousti-Mat* 3/4	None	47 <sup>2</sup> ASTC	47 <sup>2</sup> AIIIC	1
			LVT	-	49 <sup>2</sup> AIIIC	
			Carpet + Pad	-	75 <sup>2</sup> AIIIC	
			LVT on Acousti-Top*	-	52 <sup>2</sup> AIIIC	
			Eng Wood on Acousti-Top*	-	51 <sup>2</sup> AIIIC	
			None	49 <sup>2</sup> ASTC	45 <sup>2</sup> AIIIC	
	CLT 5-ply (6.875")	Maxxon Acousti-Mat* 3/4 Premium	LVT	-	47 <sup>2</sup> AIIIC	1
			LVT on Acousti-Top*	-	49 <sup>2</sup> AIIIC	
		USG SAM N25 Ultra	None	45 <sup>6</sup>	39 <sup>6</sup>	15
			LVT	48 <sup>6</sup>	47 <sup>6</sup>	16
			LVT Plus	48 <sup>6</sup>	49 <sup>6</sup>	58
			Eng Wood	47 <sup>6</sup>	47 <sup>6</sup>	59
		Soprema* Insonomat	Carpet + Pad	45 <sup>6</sup>	67 <sup>6</sup>	60
			Ceramic Tile	50 <sup>6</sup>	46 <sup>6</sup>	61
		USG SAM N75 Ultra	None	45 <sup>6</sup>	42 <sup>6</sup>	15
			LVT	48 <sup>6</sup>	44 <sup>6</sup>	16
			LVT Plus	48 <sup>6</sup>	47 <sup>6</sup>	58
			Eng Wood	47 <sup>6</sup>	45 <sup>6</sup>	59
			Carpet + Pad	45 <sup>6</sup>	71 <sup>6</sup>	60
			Ceramic Tile	50 <sup>6</sup>	46 <sup>6</sup>	61
		USG SAM N75 Ultra	None	45 <sup>6</sup>	38 <sup>6</sup>	15
			LVT	48 <sup>6</sup>	47 <sup>6</sup>	16
			LVT Plus	48 <sup>6</sup>	49 <sup>6</sup>	58
			Eng Wood	47 <sup>6</sup>	49 <sup>6</sup>	59

# Floor Vibration Design

“One might almost say that **strength is essential** and **otherwise unimportant**”

- Hardy Cross

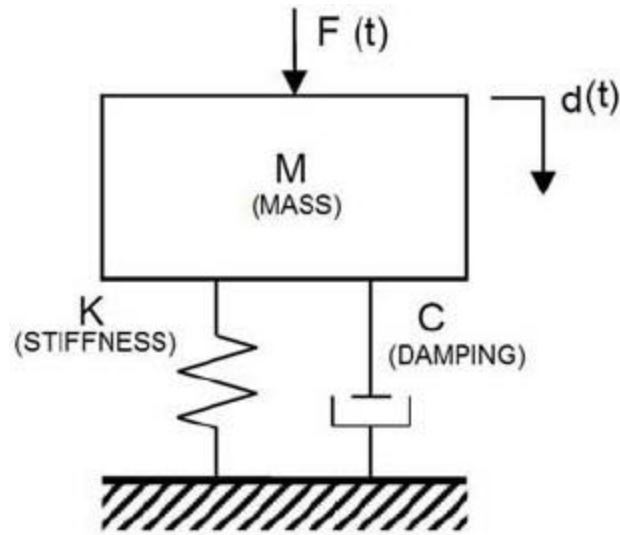


# US Building Code Requirements for Vibration

None

- » Barely discussed in IBC, NDS, etc.
- » ASCE 7 Commentary Appendix C has some discussion, no requirements

# Floor Vibration Dynamics

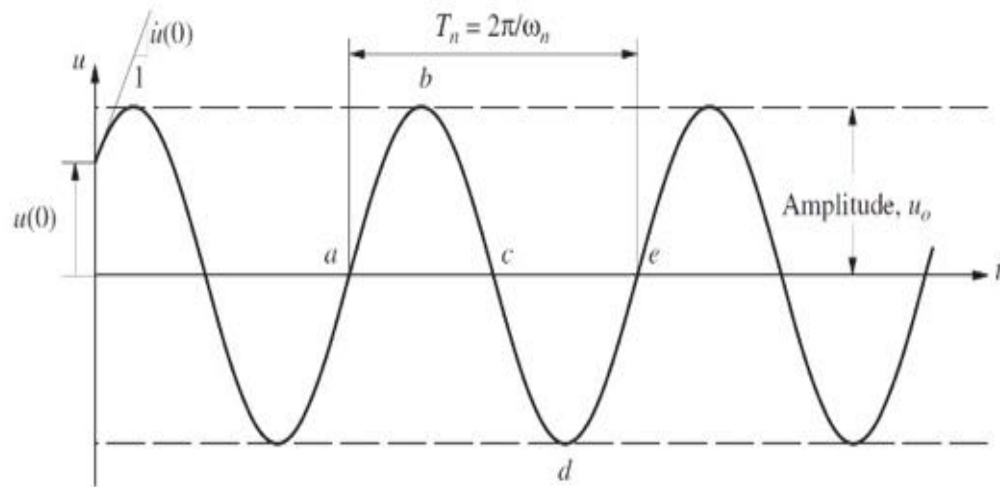


Natural Frequency

$$f_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$$

Undamped Free Response

Period  $T = 1 / f_n$  Frequency





# Walking Frequency $f_w$



Walking Speed	Walking Frequency	Steps Per Minute
Very Slow	1.25 Hz	75 SPM
Slow	1.6 Hz	95 SPM
Moderate	1.85 Hz	110 SPM
Fast	2.1 Hz	126 SPM
Running	Up to 4.0 Hz	240 SPM
<u>Practical Tip</u> - walk to a metronome too understand the range		

The range of walking frequencies considered is an important consideration of vibration analysis

# Vibration Design Methods



*U.S. CLT Handbook, 2013*

*Canadian CLT Handbook 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed., 2019*

FPIinnovations



# CLT Handbook Base Span Limit

## For PRG 320-2019 Basic CLT Grades and Layups from Solid Sawn Lumber

Grade	Layup	Thickness	Base Span Limit
E1	3ply	4 1/8"	13.1
	5ply	6 7/8"	18.2
	7ply	9 5/8"	22.7
E2	3ply	4 1/8"	12.4
	5ply	6 7/8"	17.2
	7ply	9 5/8"	21.6
E3	3ply	4 1/8"	12.0
	5ply	6 7/8"	16.7
	7ply	9 5/8"	20.9
E4	3ply	4 1/8"	12.7
	5ply	6 7/8"	17.6
	7ply	9 5/8"	22.1
E5	3ply	4 1/8"	12.6
	5ply	6 7/8"	17.5
	7ply	9 5/8"	21.9

Grade	Layup	Thickness	FPI Span Limit
V1	3ply	4 1/8"	12.6
	5ply	6 7/8"	17.6
	7ply	9 5/8"	22.0
V1(N)	3ply	4 1/8"	12.6
	5ply	6 7/8"	17.6
	7ply	9 5/8"	22.0
V2	3ply	4 1/8"	12.4
	5ply	6 7/8"	17.2
	7ply	9 5/8"	21.5
V3	3ply	4 1/8"	12.0
	5ply	6 7/8"	16.7
	7ply	9 5/8"	20.9
V4	3ply	4 1/8"	11.7
	5ply	6 7/8"	16.3
	7ply	9 5/8"	20.4
V5	3ply	4 1/8"	12.1
	5ply	6 7/8"	16.8
	7ply	9 5/8"	21.0

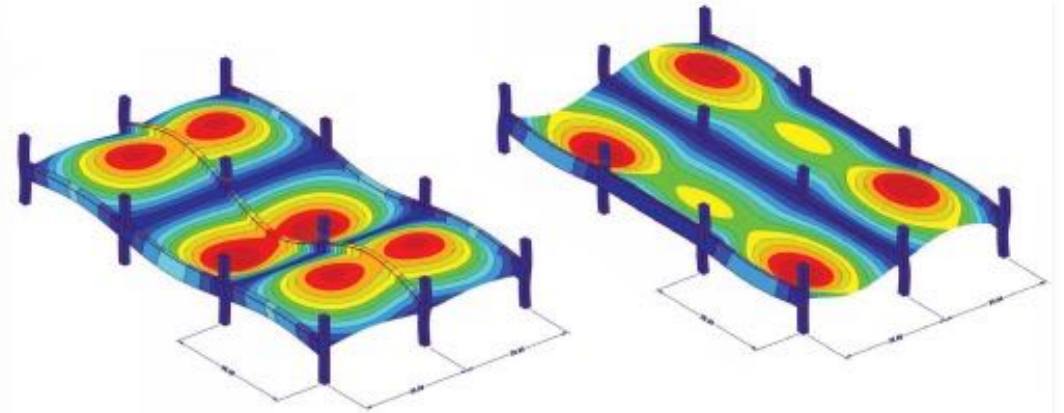
*Reference: US Mass Timber Floor Vibration Design Guide, assuming 12% M.C.*



# New Mass Timber Floor Vibration Design Guide

U.S. Mass Timber  
Floor Vibration

**D e s i g n   G u i d e**

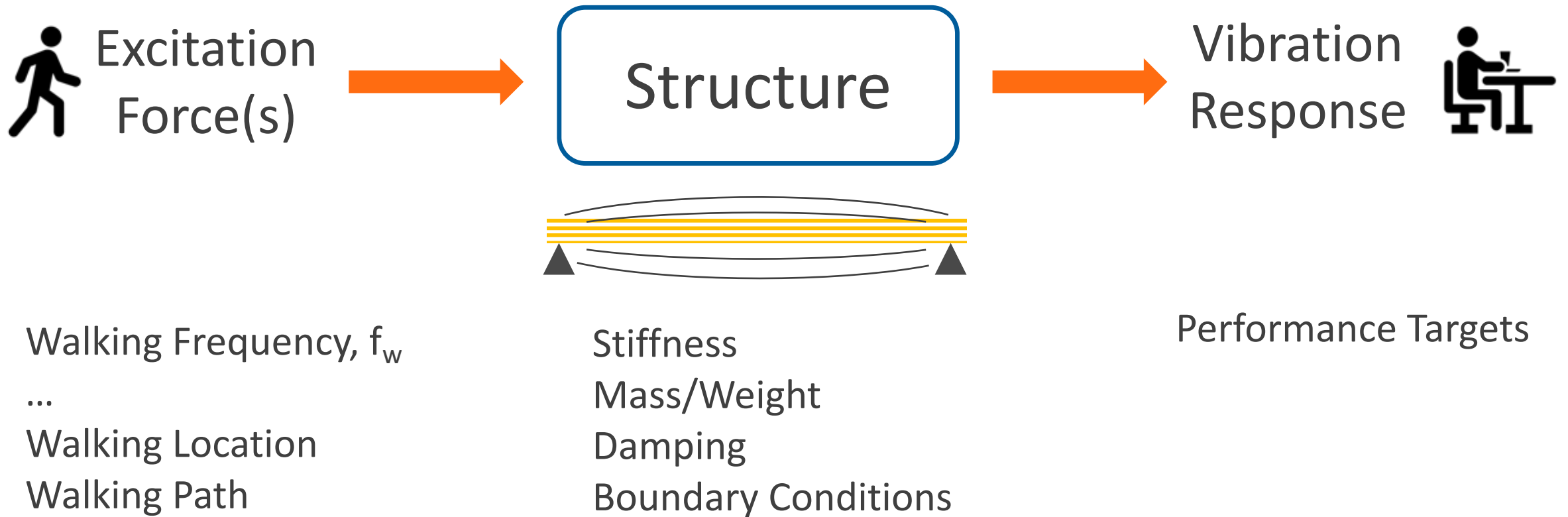


## **Worked office, lab and residential Examples**

Covers simple and complex methods  
for bearing wall and frame supported  
floor systems

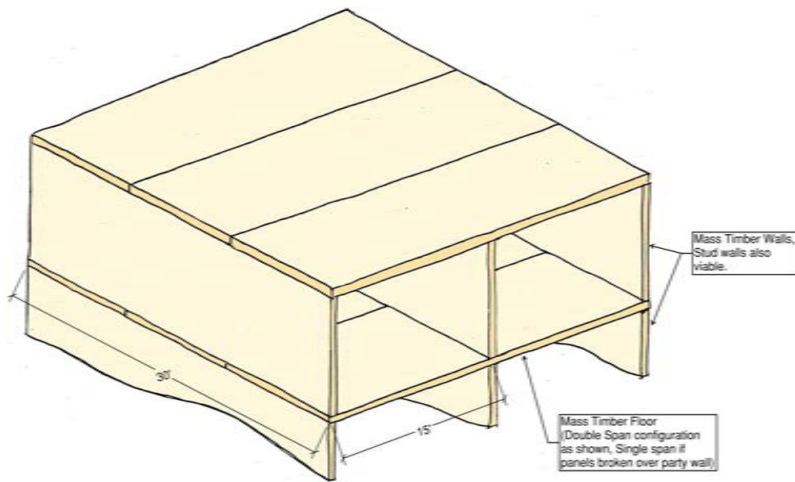
<https://www.woodworks.org/publications-media/solution-papers/>

# Parameters of Modal Superposition Methods

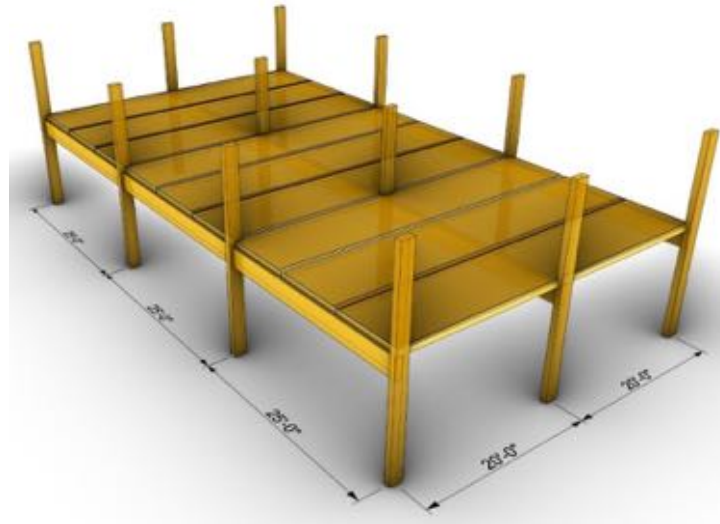


# Details of U.S. Mass Timber Floor Vibration Design Guide

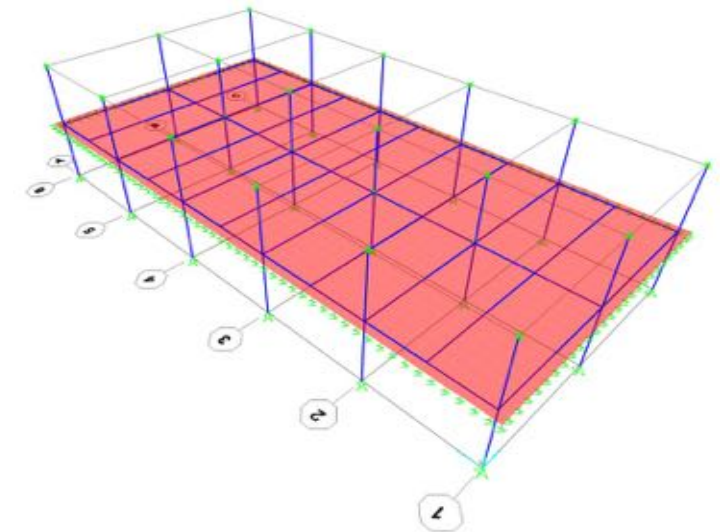
## Vibration Design Examples



**Residential Bearing Wall  
Building with CLT**



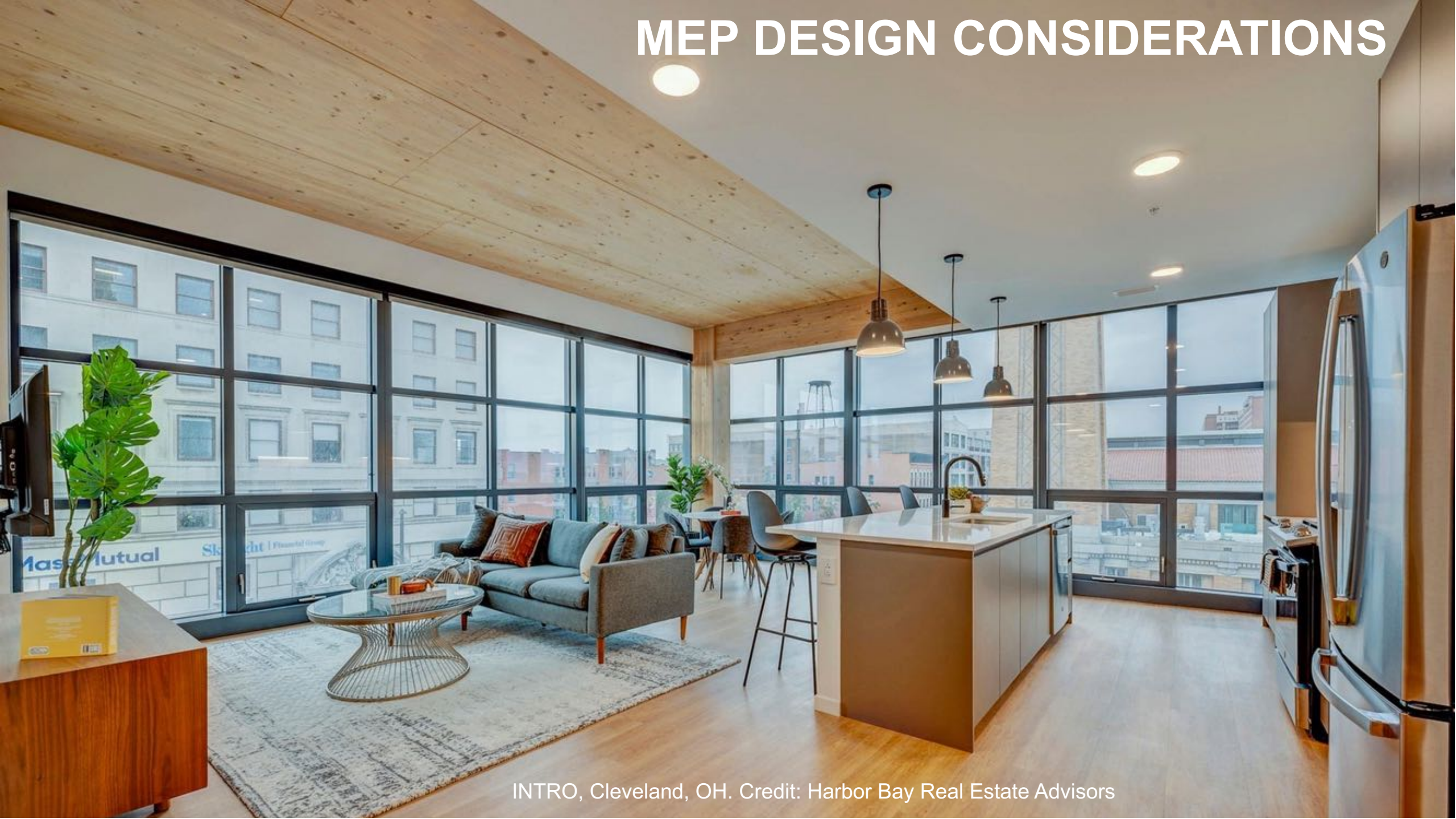
**Open Office with NLT on  
Glulam Frame**



**High Performance Lab Space  
with CLT on Glulam Frame**



# MEP DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS



INTRO, Cleveland, OH. Credit: Harbor Bay Real Estate Advisors

# MEP Layout & Integration

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## Key considerations:

- Level of exposure desired
- Floor-to-floor structure depth & desired head height
- Building occupancy and configuration (i.e. central core vs. double loaded corridor)
- Grid layout and beam orientations
- Need for future tenant reconfiguration
- Impact on fire & structural design
- Concealed spaces
- Penetrations



Credit: WoodWorks



# MEP Layout & Integration

---



## Exposed MEP

MEP items often left exposed on the ceiling side of floor assembly





# MEP Layout & Integration

---

Set Realistic Owner Expectations About Aesthetics

- MEP fully exposed with MT structure, or limited exposure?





# MEP Layout & Integration

---

Smaller grid bays at central core (more head height)

- Main MEP trunk lines around core, smaller branches in exterior bays



Credit: Blaine Brownell



Credit: WoodWorks

# MEP Layout & Integration

Grid impact: one-way beam layout.

Columns/beams spaced at panel span limits in one direction.

Beam penetrations are minimized/eliminated

Recall typical panel span limits:

Panel	Example Floor Span Ranges
3-ply CLT (4-1/8" thick)	Up to 12 ft
5-ply CLT (6-7/8" thick)	14 to 17 ft
7-ply CLT (9-5/8")	17 to 21 ft
2x4 NLT	Up to 12 ft
2x6 NLT	10 to 17 ft
2x8 NLT	14 to 21 ft
5" MPP	10 to 15 ft



Credit: Hacker Architects



# MEP Layout & Integration

---

Dropped below MT framing

- Can simplify coordination (fewer penetrations)
- Bigger impact on head height



Credit: Alex Schreyer



Credit: WoodWorks



# MEP Layout & Integration

---

In penetrations through MT framing

- Requires more coordination (penetrations)
- Bigger impact on structural capacity of penetrated members
- Minimal impact on head height



# MEP Layout & Integration

---

In chases above beams and below panels

- Fewer penetrations
- Bigger impact on head height (overall structure depth is greater)
- FRR impacts: top of beam exposure



Credit: JC Buck



Credit: KL&A Engineers & Builders



# MEP Layout & Integration

In raised access floor (RAF) above MT

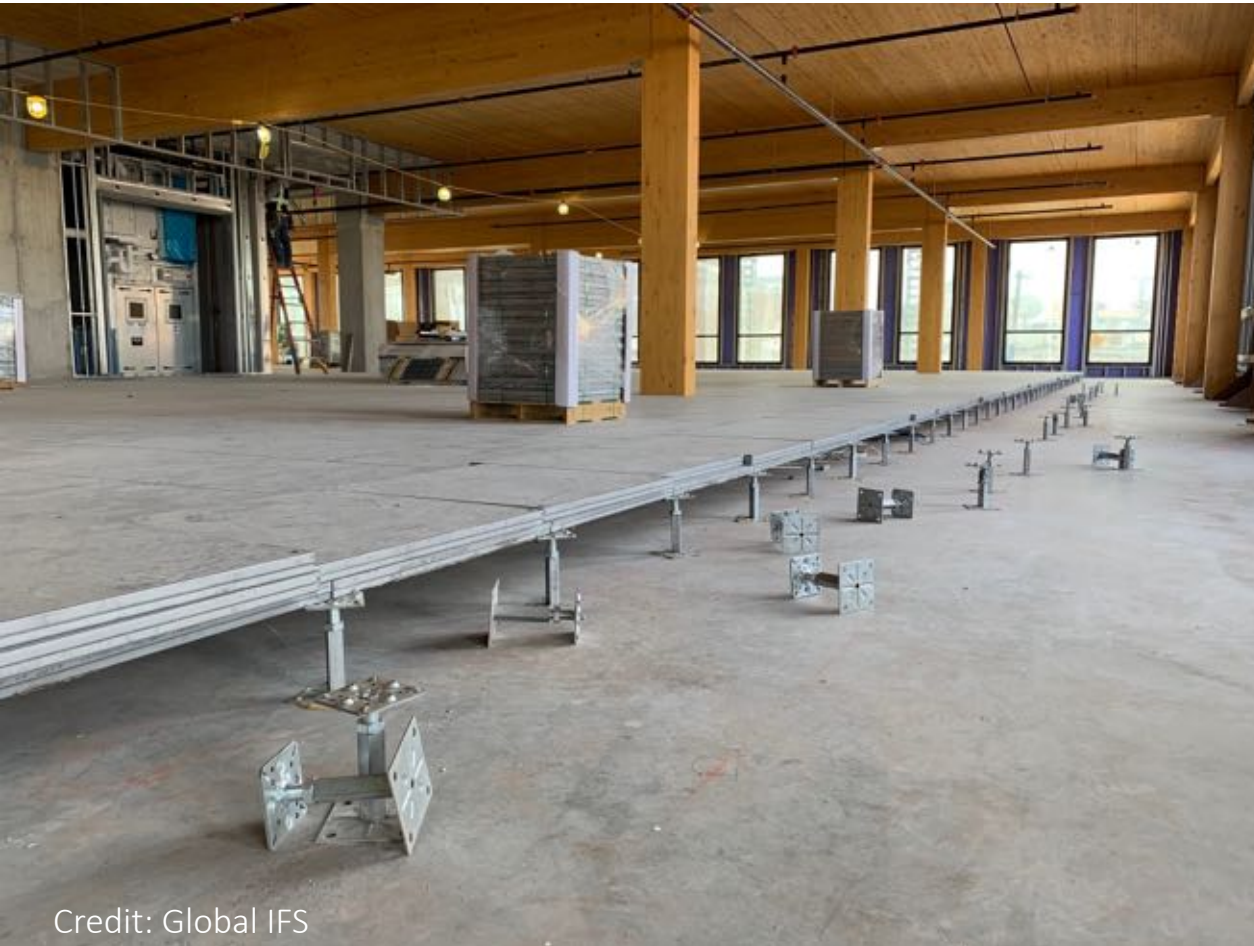
- Aesthetics (minimal exposed MEP)



# MEP Layout & Integration

In raised access floor (RAF) above MT

- Impact on head height
- Concealed space code provisions

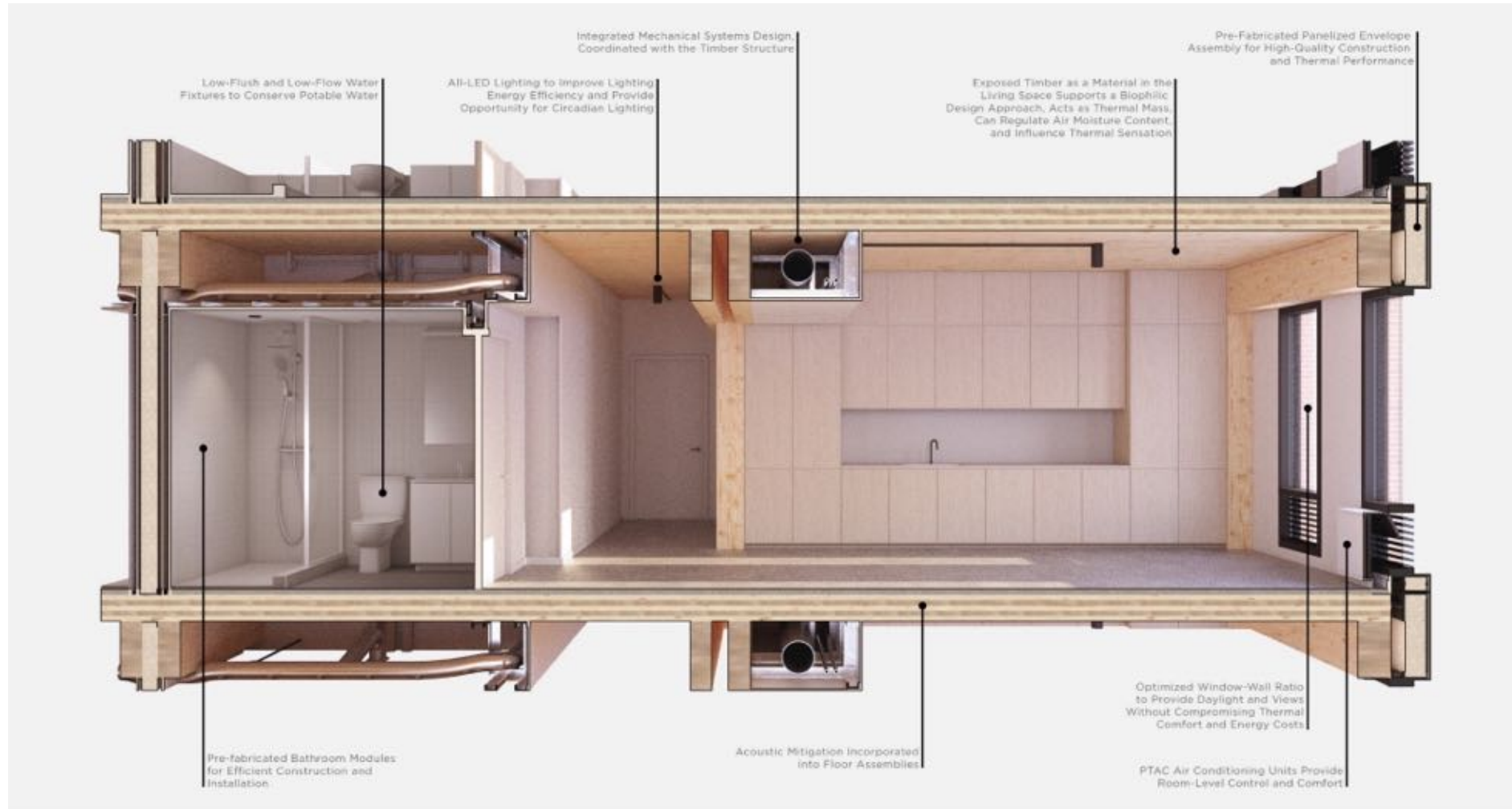


Credit: Global IFS





# MEP Layout & Integration



## INTEGRATED SYSTEMS

Credit: John Klein, Generate Architecture

The Tailhouse building system prioritizes the integration of design, engineering, and construction. This results in a high performance building finely tuned to meet energy, comfort, acoustic, and design criteria that has been vetted by constructability experts to ensure fast, efficient production.

Utilizing Pre-Fabricated Facade Panels and Bathroom Modules that are manufactured off-site in factories allows for reducing construction time on-site, higher quality control practices, and safer labor conditions for construction workers. Efficient routing of duct-work conserves material, and associated embodied carbon, allowing more exposed timber all while providing the air quality needed for healthy living. Water conserving fixtures reduce potable water use as a precious resource, while maintaining reliable performance.



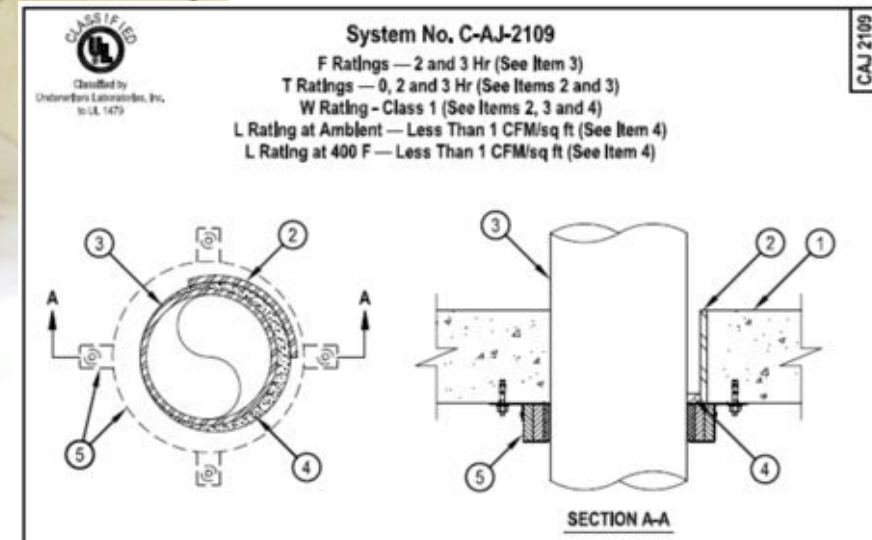
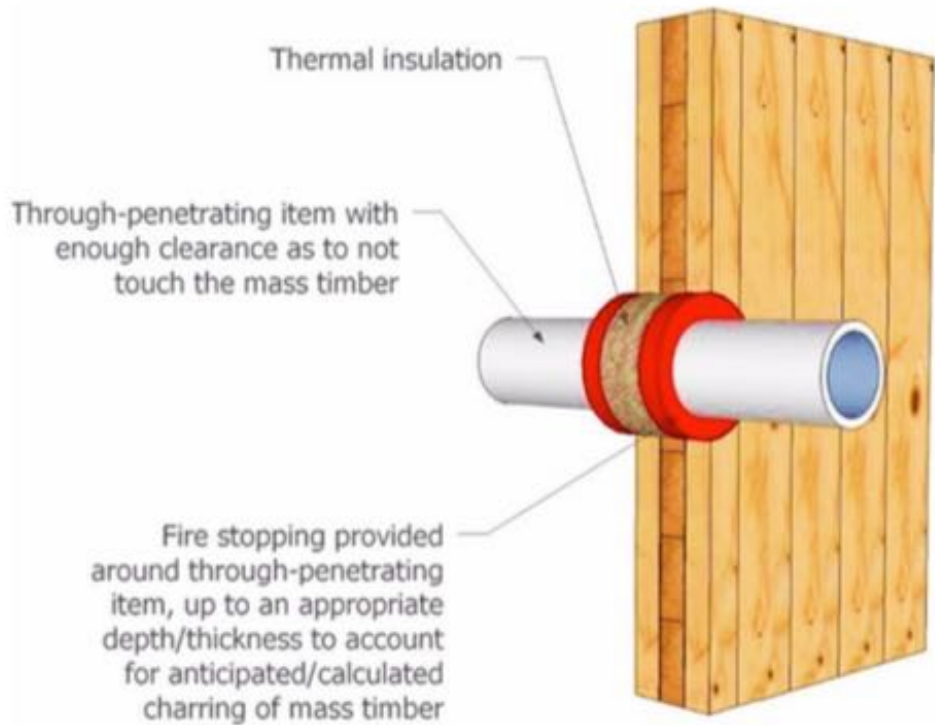
# Penetration Fire Protection

Although not a new code requirement or specific to tall wood, more testing & information is becoming available on firestopping of penetrations through MT assemblies



# Penetration Fire Protection

Most firestopping systems include combination of fire safing (eg. noncombustible materials such as mineral wool insulation) plus fire caulk



# Penetration Fire Protection

Firestop systems tests on Mass Timber  
Contact WoodWorks for information

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CHEMISTRY AND CHEMICAL ENGINEERING DIVISION

FIRE TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

WWW.FIRE.SWRI.ORG

FAX (210) 522-3377



FIRE RESISTANCE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION  
OF A PENETRATION FIRESTOP SYSTEM TESTED  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH ASTM E814-13A,  
STANDARD TEST METHOD FOR FIRE TESTS OF  
PENETRATION FIRESTOP SYSTEMS

FINAL REPORT  
Consisting of 18 Pages

SwRI® Project No. 01.21428.01.001a  
Test Date: September 30, 2015  
Report Date: October 22, 2015

Prepared for:

American Wood Council  
222 Catoctin Circle SE  
Leesburg, VA 20175



WCTE 2018  
2018 World Conference on Timber Engineering  
August 20 - 23, 2018 | Seoul, Republic of Korea

FIRE PERFORMANCE OF FIRESTOPS, PENETRATIONS, AND FIRE  
DOORS IN MASS TIMBER ASSEMBLIES

Lindsay Ranger<sup>1</sup>, Christian Dagenais<sup>1</sup>, Conroy Lum<sup>1</sup>, Tony Thomas<sup>1</sup>

**ABSTRACT:** Integrity and continuity must be maintained for fire separations required to provide fire resistance. Firestop systems are required to prevent passage of hot gases or increased temperature on the unexposed side. Vulnerable locations, where penetrations are introduced into mass timber systems, are susceptible to fire spread. Service and closure penetrations in mass timber fire separation have been investigated. Many of the fire stop systems were able to achieve 1-1/2 hr fire resistance in accordance with CAN/ULC-S115, which would be required for 2-hr fire resistance rated assemblies, such as in tall wood buildings. Construction details are outlined which ensure adequate fire performance of these penetrations.


**KEYWORDS:** Firestop, through-penetrations, fire rated door, mass timber, cross-laminated timber, fire resistance

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Many tall wood buildings using mass timber are planned or are currently being designed for construction around the world. A few have been built in Canada, including an 18 storey cross-laminated timber (CLT) and glulam building in British Columbia. The prescriptive requirements in the National Building Code of Canada (NBCC) [1] do not (yet) permit the construction of wood buildings taller than six stories, however an alternative

construction, as well as in several alternative building designs.

Although the general fire performance of mass timber is well documented, there are still several areas that warrant further investigation to ensure that safety levels are met and a number of design options are available for designers to use. Generating generic assemblies will reduce the need for testing completed on an individual construction.



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FIRESTOPPING TEST WITNESS REPORT

for

NORDIC STRUCTURES



# Penetration Fire Protection

## Inventory of Fire Tested Penetrations in MT Assemblies



**Table 3: North American Fire Tests of Penetrations and Fire Stops in CLT Assemblies**

CLT Panel	Exposed Side Protection	Penetrating Item	Penetrant Centered or Offset in Hole	Firestopping System Description	F Rating	T Rating	Stated Test Protocol	Source	Testing Lab
3-ply (78mm 3.07")	None	1.5" diameter data cable bunch	Centered	3.5 in diameter hole. Mineral wool was installed in the 1in. annular space around the data cables to a total depth of approximately 2 – 5/64 in. The remaining 1in. annular space from the top of the mineral wool to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	1 hour	0.5 hour	CANULC S115	26	Intertek March 30, 2016
3-ply (78mm 3.07")	None	2" copper pipe	Centered	4.375 in diameter hole. Pipe wrap was installed around the copper pipe to a total depth of approximately 2 – 5/64 in. The remaining 1in. annular space starting at the top of the mineral wool to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	1 hour	N.A.	CANULC S115	26	Intertek March 30, 2016
3-ply (78mm 3.07")	None	2.5" sched. 40 pipe	Centered	4.92 in diameter hole. Pipe wrap was installed around the schedule 40 pipe to a total depth of approximately 2 – 5/64 in. The remaining 1in. annular space starting at the top of the pipe wrap to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	1 hour	N.A.	CANULC S115	26	Intertek March 30, 2016
3-ply (78mm 3.07")	None	6" cast iron pipe	Centered	8.35 in diameter hole. Mineral wool was installed in the 1in. annular space around the cast iron pipe to a total depth of approximately 2 – 5/64 in. The remaining 1in. annular space starting at the top of the pipe wrap to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	1 hour	N.A.	CANULC S115	26	Intertek March 30, 2016
3-ply (78mm 3.07")	None	Hilti 6 in drop in device. System No.: F-B-2049	Centered	9.01" diameter hole. Mineral wool was installed in the 1 – 1/4in. annular space around the drop-in device to a total depth of approximately 1 – 7/64 in and the remaining 1in. annular space from the top of the mineral wool to the top edge of the 9 – 1/64 in. hole in the CLT was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	1 hour	0.75 hour	CANULC S115	26	Intertek March 30, 2016
5-ply CLT (131mm 5.16")	None	1.5" diameter data cable bunch	Centered	3.5" diameter hole. Mineral wool was installed in the 1in. annular space around the data cables to a total depth of approximately 4 – 5/32 in. The remaining 1in. annular space from the top of the mineral wool to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	2 hours	1.5 hours	CANULC S115	26	Intertek March 30, 2016
5-ply CLT (131mm 5.16")	None	2" copper pipe	Centered	4.375 in diameter hole. Pipe wrap was installed around the copper pipe to a total depth of approximately 4 – 5/32 in. The remaining 1in. annular space starting at the top of the mineral wool to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	2 hours	N.A.	CANULC S115	26	Intertek March 30, 2016
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5-ply (175mm 6.875")	None	1" nominal PVC pipe	Centered	4.21 in diameter with a 3/4 in plywood reducer flush with the top of the slab reducing the opening to 2.28 in. Two wraps of Hilti CP 648-E W45/1-3/4" Firestop wrap strip at two locations with a 30 gauge steel sleeve which extended from the top of the slab to 1 in below the slab. The first location was with the bottom of the wrap strip flush with the bottom of the steel sleeve and the second was with the bottom of the wrap strip 3 in. from the bottom of the slab. The void between the steel sleeve and the CLT and between the steel sleeve and pipe at the top was filled with Roxul Safe mineral wool leaving a 3/4 in deep void at the top of the assembly. Hilti FS-One Max Intumescent Firestop Sealant was applied to a depth of 3/4 in on the top of the assembly between the plywood and steel sleeve as well as the steel sleeve and pipe.	2 hours	2 hours	ASTM E814	24	QAI Laboratories March 3, 2017

# New for GCs and installers: U.S. Mass Timber Construction Manual



PHOTO: MARCUS KAUFFMAN



Download free at  
[woodworks.org](http://woodworks.org)



# New for GCs and installers: U.S. Mass Timber Construction Manual



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<https://www.osha.gov/complianceassistance/quickstarts/construction#step4>

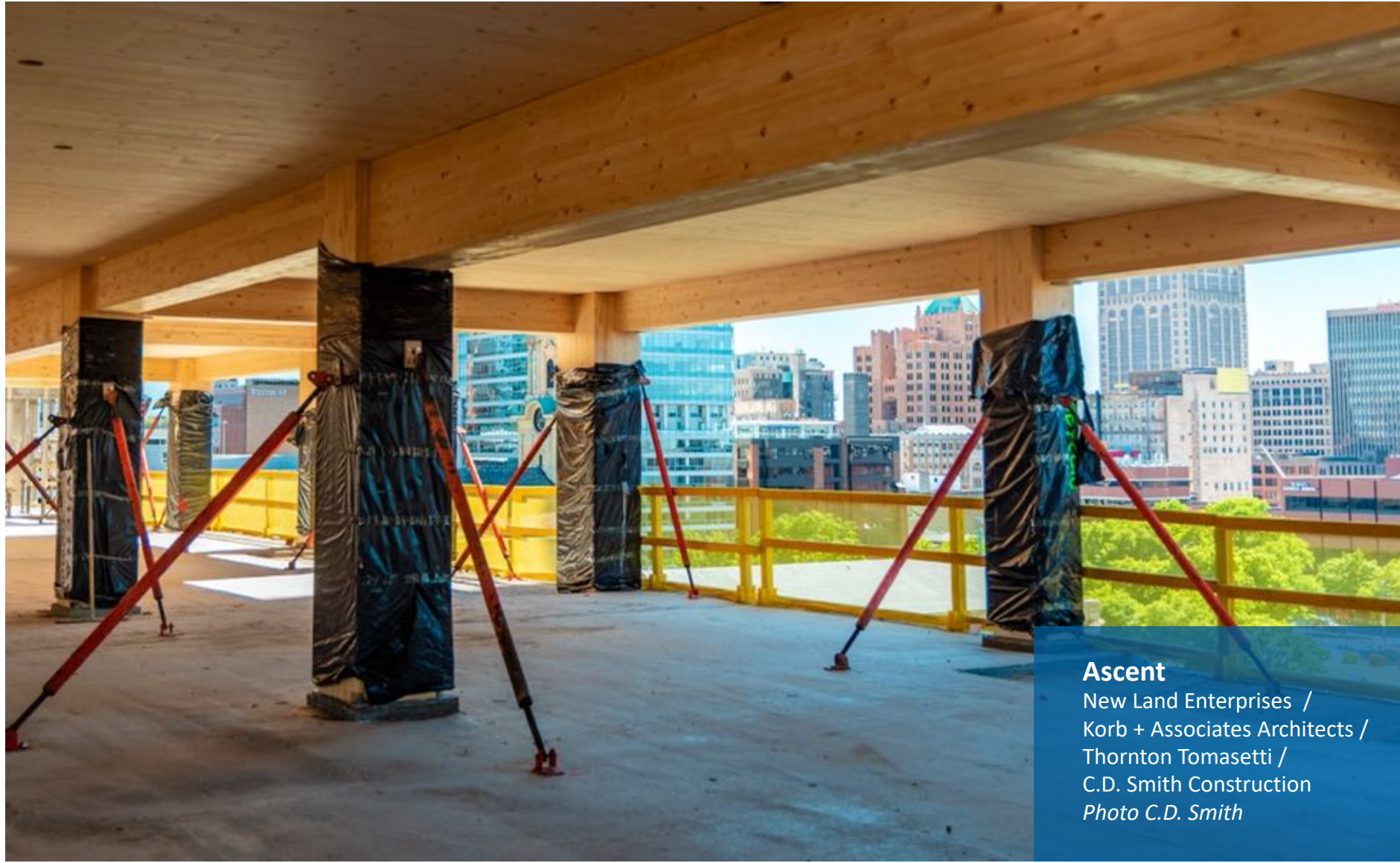
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# Material Protection

- » Moisture
- » UV rays
- » Damage



## **Ascent**

New Land Enterprises /  
Korb + Associates Architects /  
Thornton Tomasetti /  
C.D. Smith Construction  
*Photo C.D. Smith*

# Moisture Management

Keep wood as dry as possible to avoid:

- » Stains and dirt
- » Shrinkage and swelling
- » Damage from prolonged moisture exposure

*Mass timber can get wet—and will get wet on most projects. That is not a problem, provided an effective moisture management plan is in place.*



**John W. Olver Design  
Building at UMass Amherst**

Leers Weinzapfel Associates / Equilibrium  
Consulting / Simpson Gumpertz & Heger  
(EOR) / Suffolk Construction

*Photo Alex Schreyer*



# Moisture Management Plan

Planning starts at the earliest stage and is collaborative.

Construction team responsibilities include:

- » Construction phase plan; on-site strategies based on risk evaluation
  - » Coverings
  - » Deflection/diversion
  - » Ventilation/drying
- » Anticipating and troubleshooting issues
- » Monitoring

## Type and Extent of Protection

- Decision by architect/contractor
- Appearance requirements
- Extent and cost of protection methods
- Protection in fabrication plant and/or on jobsite
- Capability of fabricator
- Capability of installer/moisture protection subcontractor
- Schedule protection plan
- Protection prior to installation
- Protection during installation
- Protection after installation

## Moisture Management Responsibility and Risk

- Responsibility for managing and cost of the plan
- Contractor and/or fabricator
- Conditions to be considered
- Schedule delays and revisions
- Construction weather conditions (worst case)

## Monitoring Moisture Before, During and After Construction

- Coordination with concrete topping activities
- Roofing material
- Columns, beams and floor/wall panels

# Factory- Applied Sealants & Coatings



**Adidas Headquarters**  
LEVER Architecture / KPFF /  
Turner Construction Company  
*Photo Jeremy Bittermann*



Membranes can be spray-applied, sheet product (adhesive or non), or board/sheathing product.





# Transportation & Storage



*Photos Paul Alberts / Ardor Media / naturallywood.com*



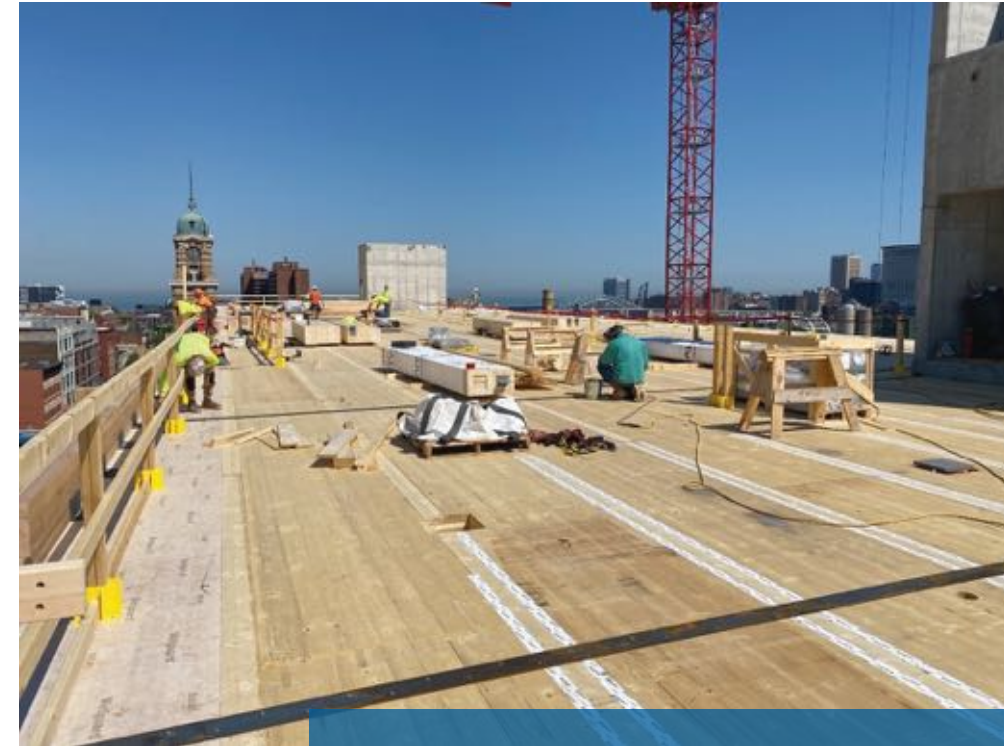
# MATERIAL DELIVERY



Photo: Swinerton



# Panel Joint Treatment



## INTRO

Harbor Bay Ventures / Hartshorne Plunkard  
Architecture / Forefront Structural Engineers /  
Fast + Epp / Panzica Construction  
*Photos WoodWorks*



# Deflection & Diversion

## Platte Fifteen

Oz Architecture / KL&A Engineers & Builders /  
Adolfson & Peterson Construction  
*Photo WoodWorks*



*From Moisture Risk Management Strategies for Mass Timber Buildings,  
© 2020 RDH Building Science Inc.*



# Coverings



INTRO / Photos WoodWorks





# Moisture Monitoring

Monitor the moisture content (MC) of wood materials throughout construction.

- » When materials are received
- » Regular intervals
- » After rainfall
- » Before drying in

Product	MC at Manufacture	Desired MC at Project Close-in with Direct-Applied Concrete Toppings
CLT	12% +/- 3% <sup>a</sup>	<16%
GLT	12-16% <sup>b</sup>	<16%
NLT	<19% <sup>c</sup>	<16%
DLT	15-19% <sup>d</sup>	<16%

Sources: <sup>a</sup>PRG-320 standard, <sup>b</sup>ANSI A190.1,  
<sup>c</sup>Nail-Laminated Timber Design Guide – U.S. Edition,  
and <sup>d</sup>DLT Design and Profile Guide

The best way to minimize exposure to moisture is to close in the project quickly.





# MASS TIMBER APPEAL

Reduced construction time

**1 Floor = 3 Days**

**17 Floors Erected  
in 9.5 Weeks**

Brock Commons, Vancouver, BC  
Source: naturally:wood<sup>5</sup>



# Cleaning Mass Timber



Sanding and cleaning solutions are the most common ways to remove stains.





# Planning for Environmental Exposures



- Plan Early
- Risk Evaluation
- Develop Construction Phase Plan
- Execute the Design and Moisture Management Plan
- Monitor

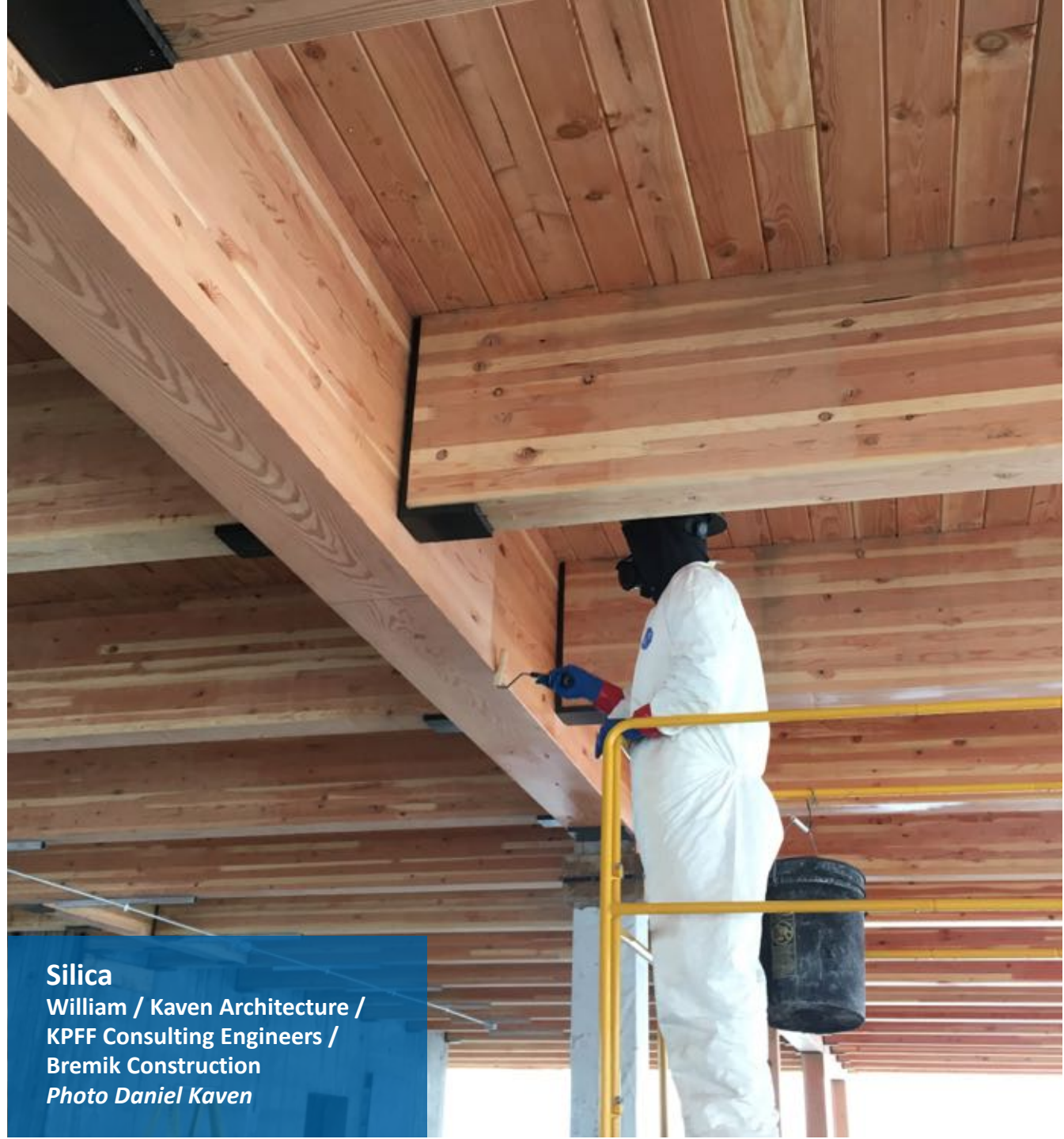
RDH Moisture  
Management Guide 1<sup>st</sup> Ed

# Applying Finishes

Below, glulam panels are coated in the controlled environment of a fabrication facility. On the right, a coating is being applied on the jobsite.



*Photo Sansin Corporation, Western Archrib*



## Silica

William / Kaven Architecture /  
KPFF Consulting Engineers /  
Bremik Construction  
*Photo Daniel Kaven*





On Site Considerations





# Onsite Considerations

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# Other Materials

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# Questions? Ask us anything.



**Jessica Scarlett, EIT**  
Regional Director | NC, SC, TN

(803) 616-621

[jessica.scarlett@woodworks.org](mailto:jessica.scarlett@woodworks.org)



**Mark Bartlett, PE**  
Regional Director | TX

(214) 679-1874

[mark.bartlett@woodworks.org](mailto:mark.bartlett@woodworks.org)



**Jason Bahr, PE**  
Regional Director | KS, AR, MO, OK

(913) 732-0075

[jason.bahr@woodworks.org](mailto:jason.bahr@woodworks.org)



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