

Embodied Carbon Assessment of Wood: From Early-Stage Analysis to WBLCA

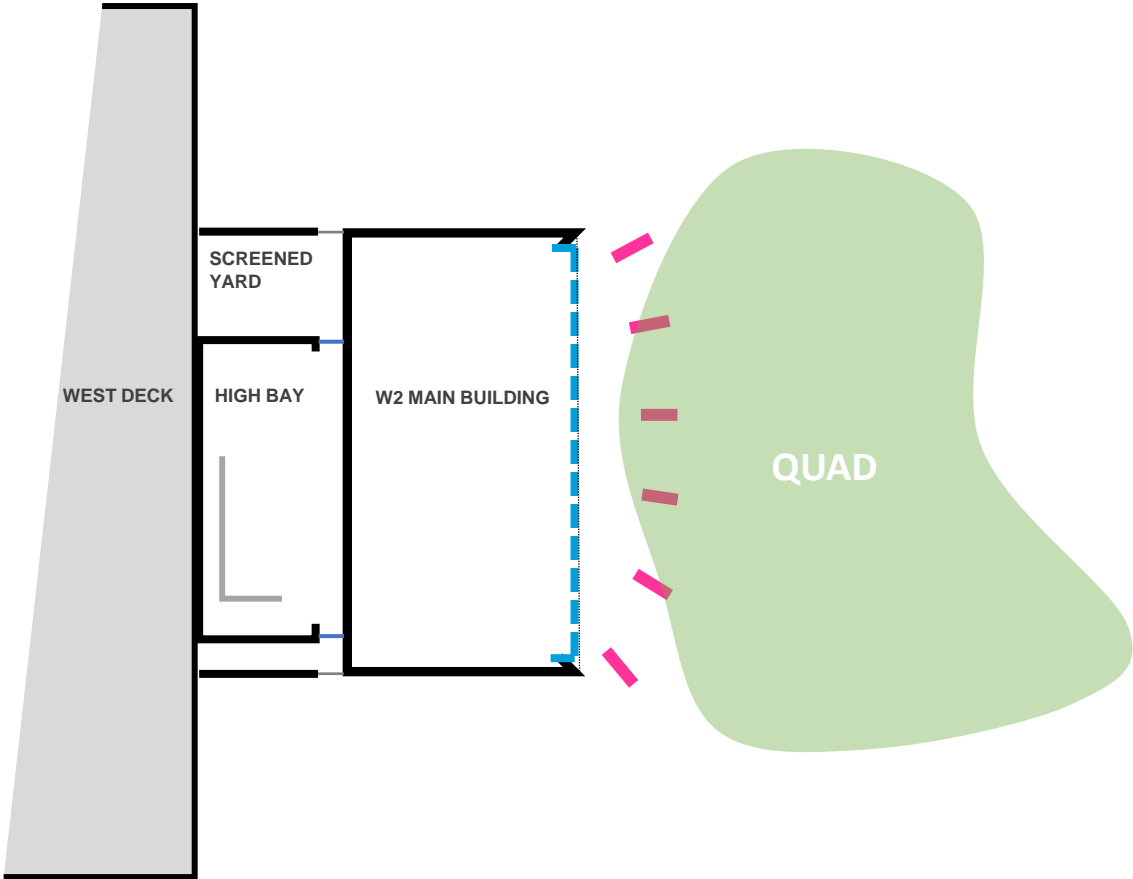
Presented by Jennifer Hardy and Melanie Silver

PAYETTE

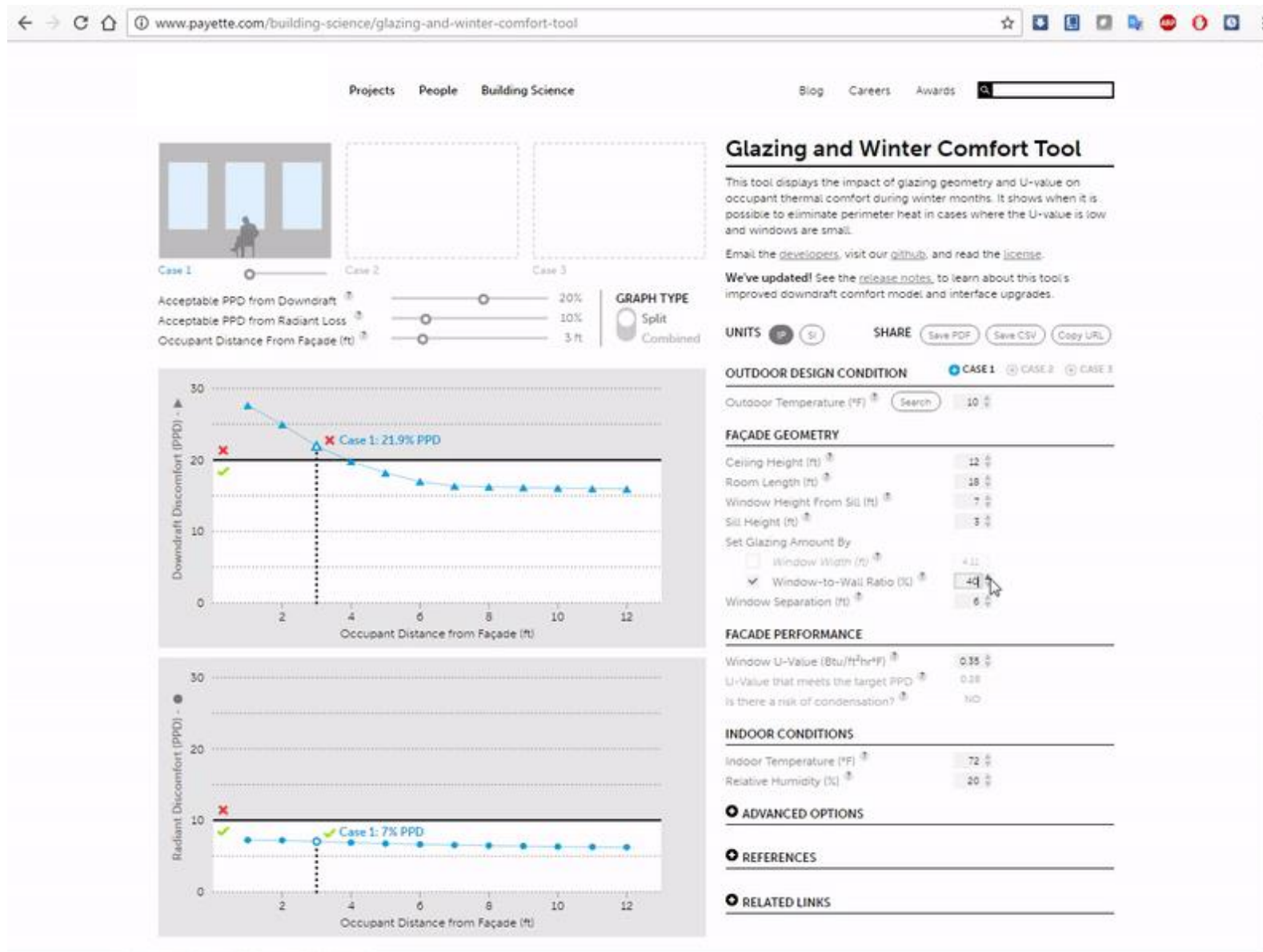
Disclaimer: This presentation was developed by a third party and is not funded by WoodWorks or the Softwood Lumber Board.



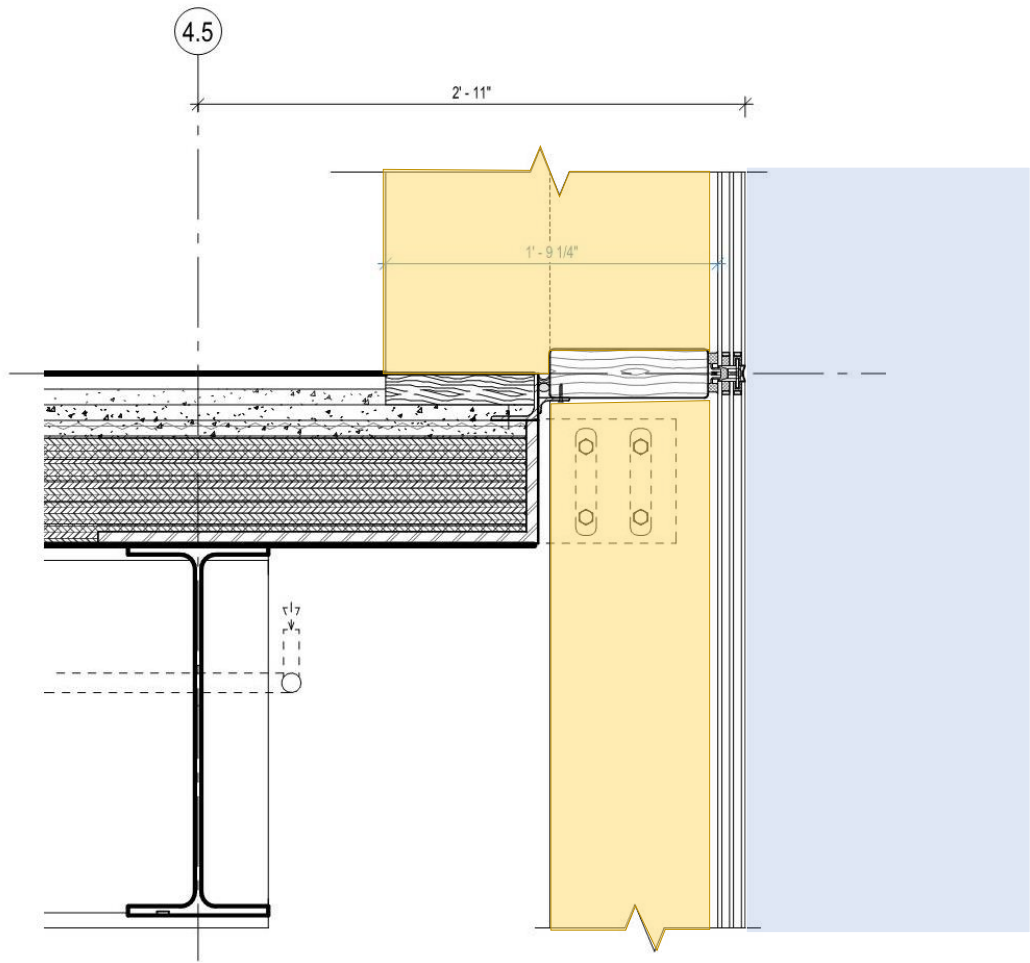
WINDOW TO THE QUAD



GLAZING AND WINTER COMFORT TOOL

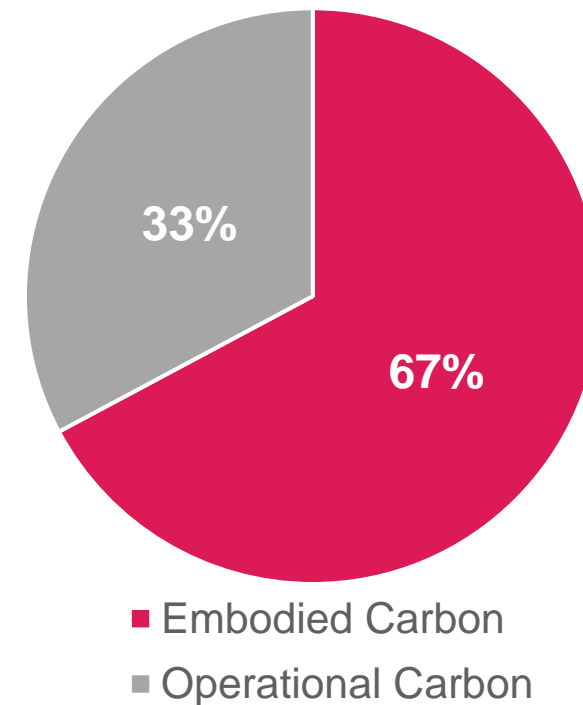
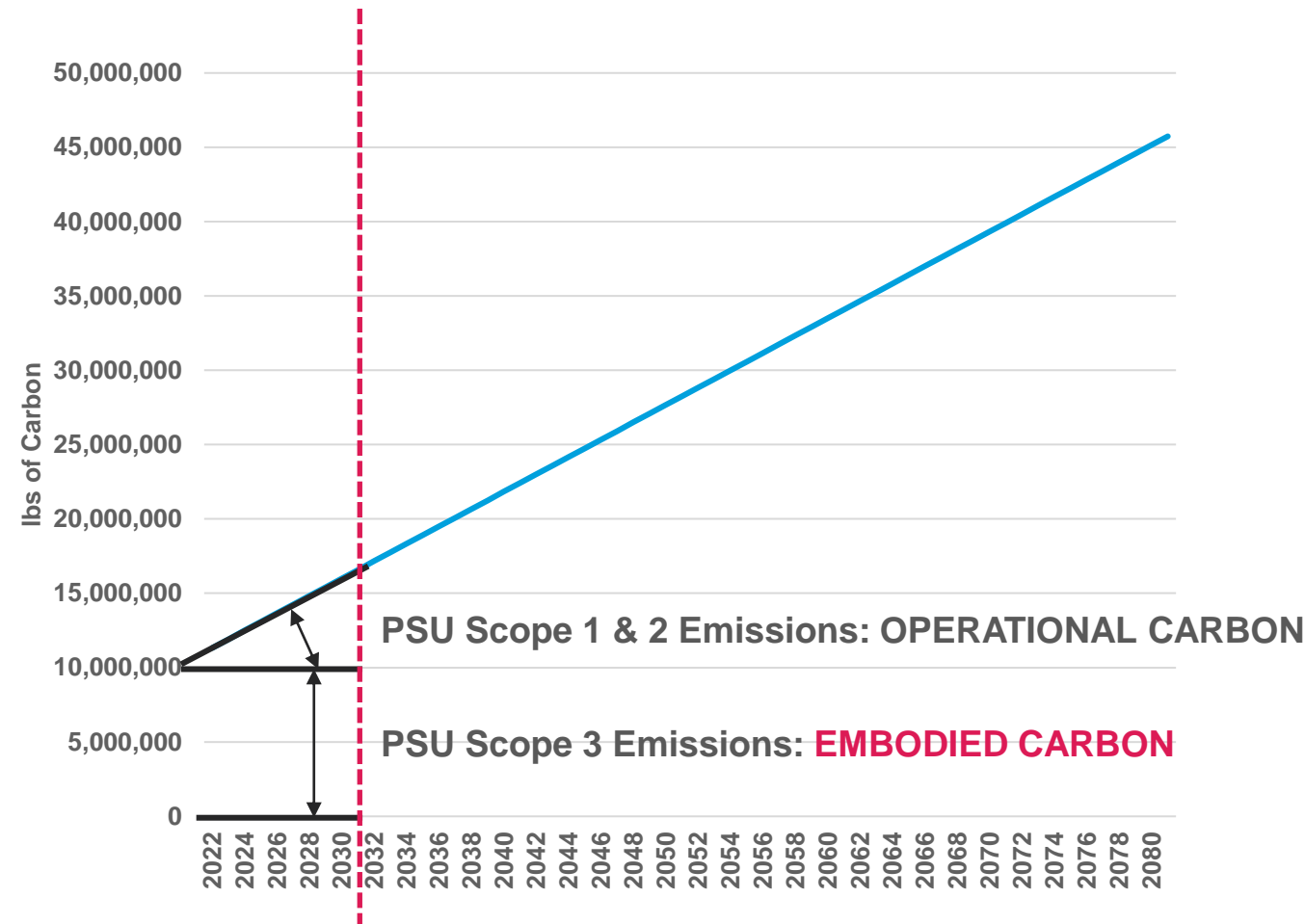


TIMBER CURTAIN WALL



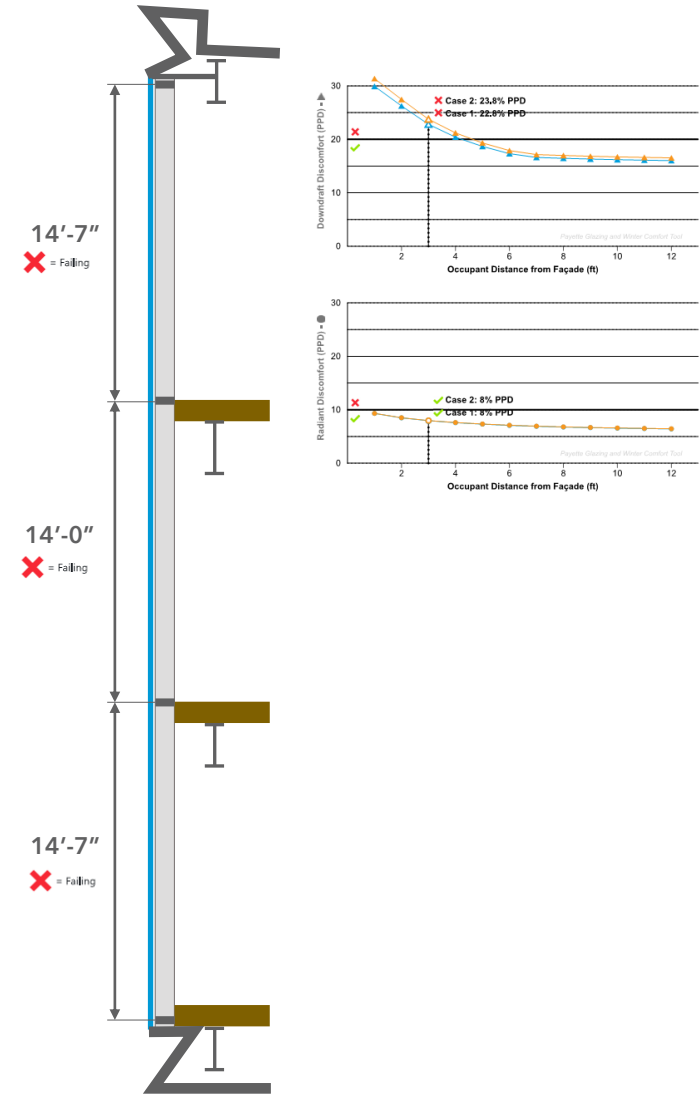
CARBON EMISSIONS

There is greater urgency to minimize carbon emissions between now & 2030 to stem the impacts of climate change - there is a time value to targeting embodied carbon

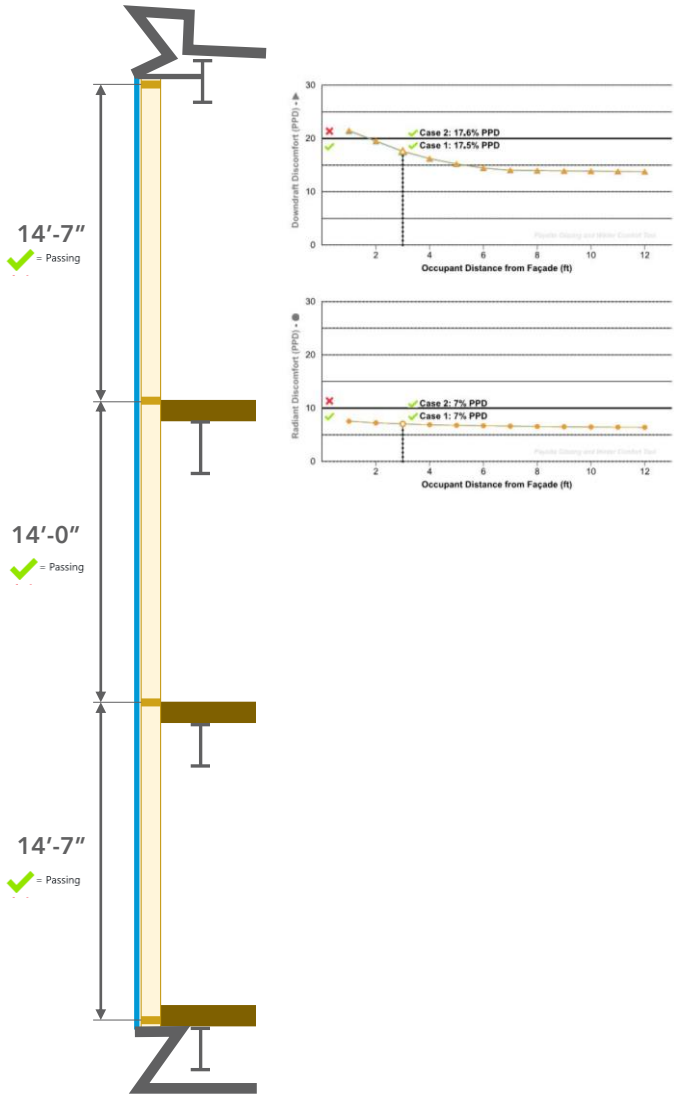


ENVELOPE AND THERMAL COMFORT

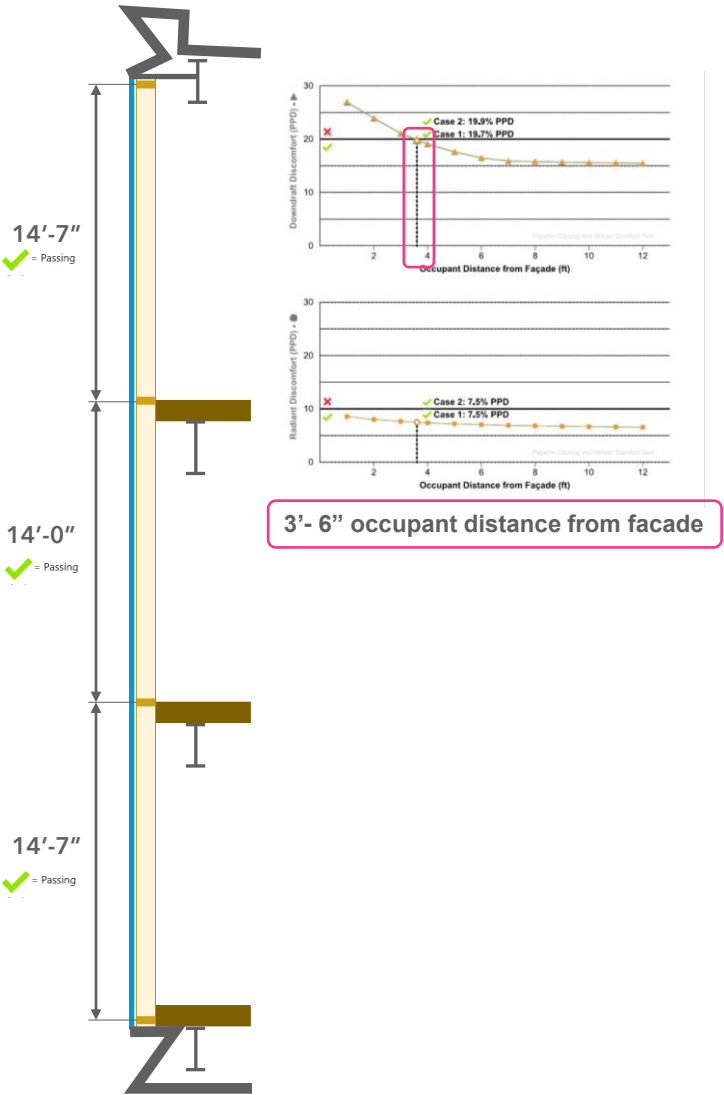
ALUMINUM + TRIPLE GLAZING $U = 0.25$



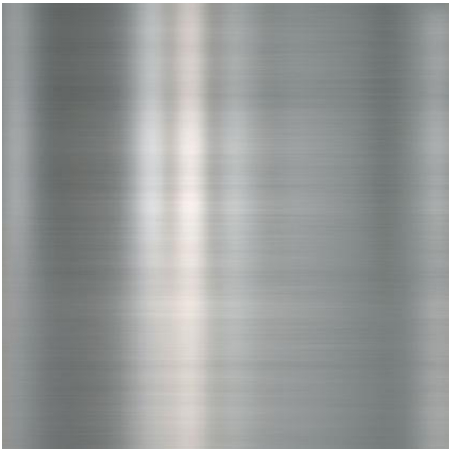
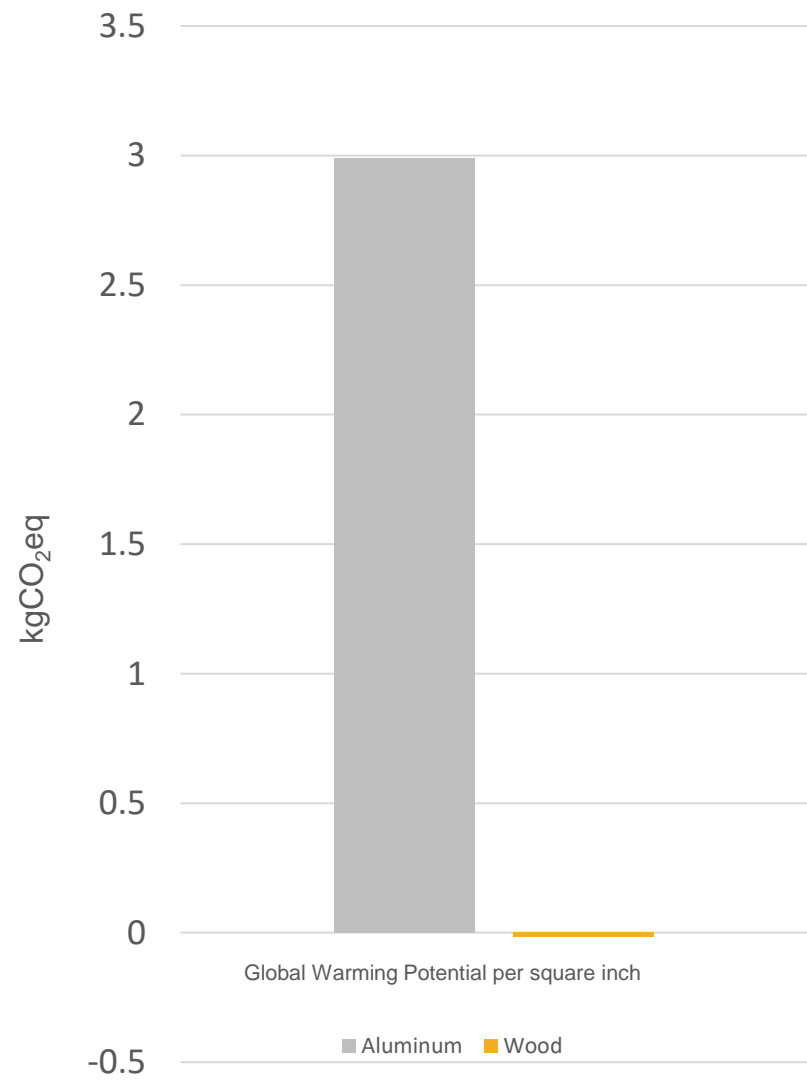
TIMBER + TRIPLE GLAZING $U = 0.16$



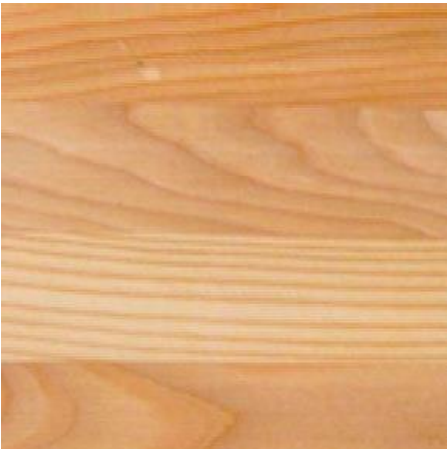
TIMBER + DOUBLE GLAZING $U = 0.22$



UNIT BASED EMBODIED CARBON SAVINGS

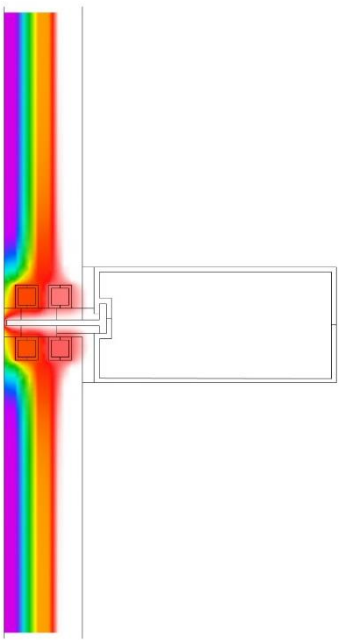
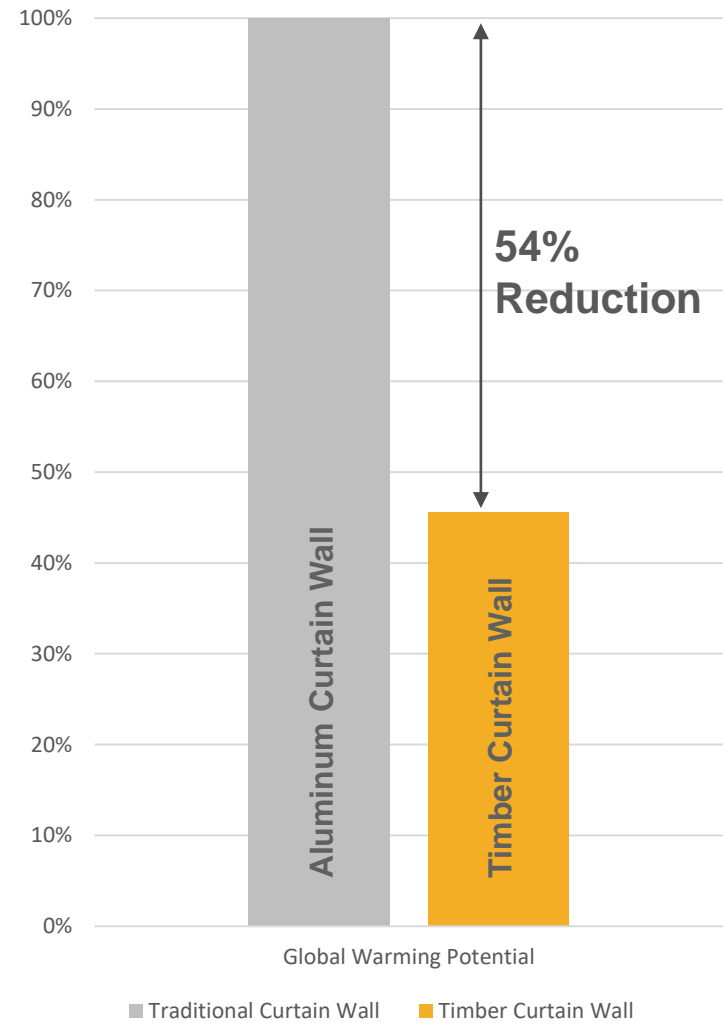


Aluminum

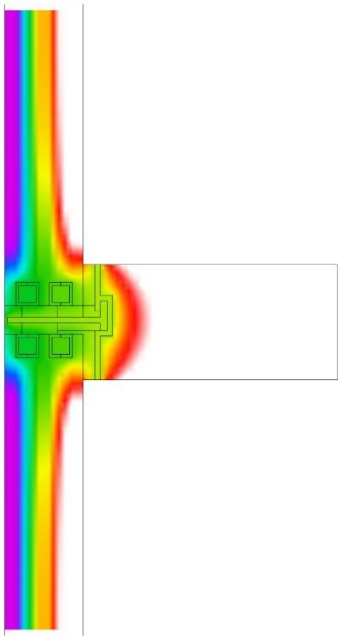


Timber

VOLUME BASED EMBODIED CARBON SAVINGS

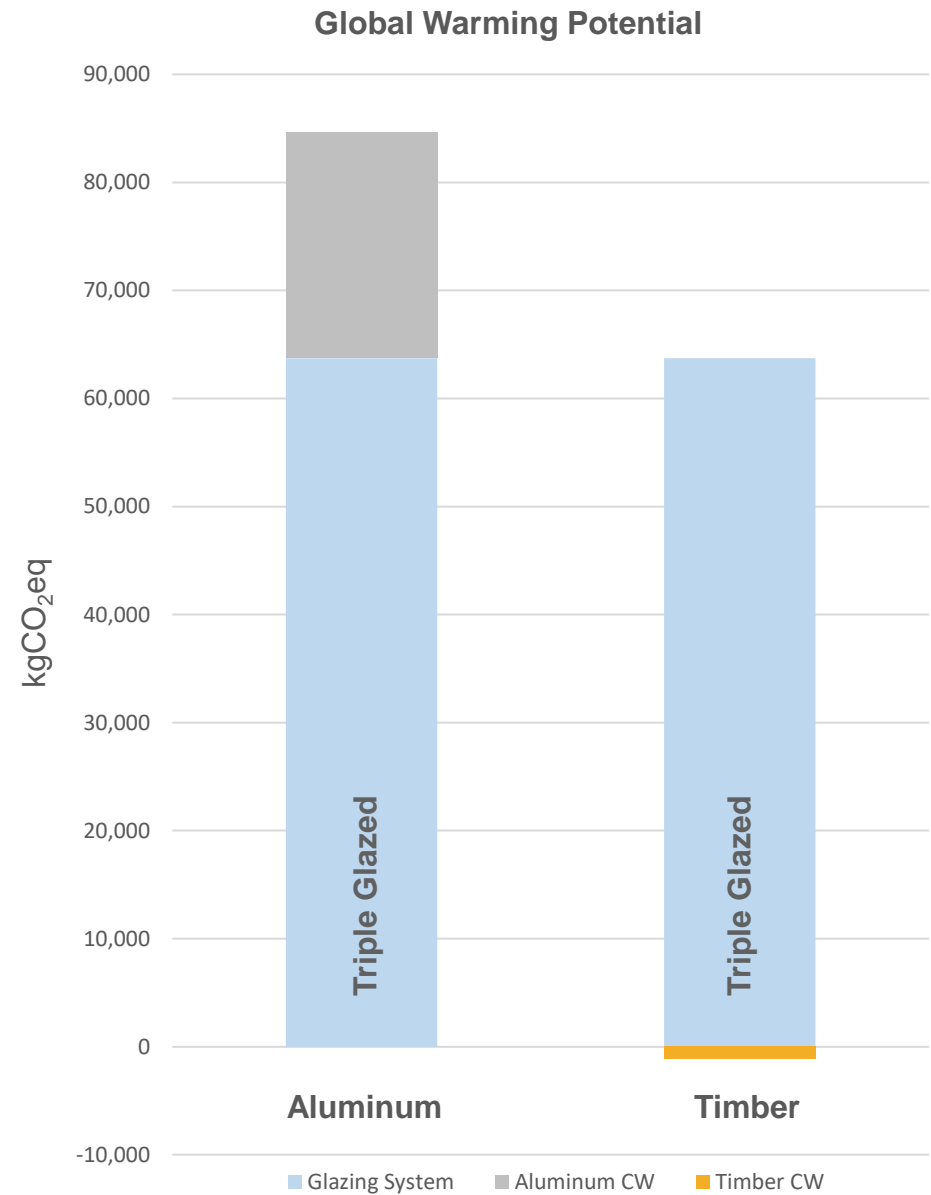
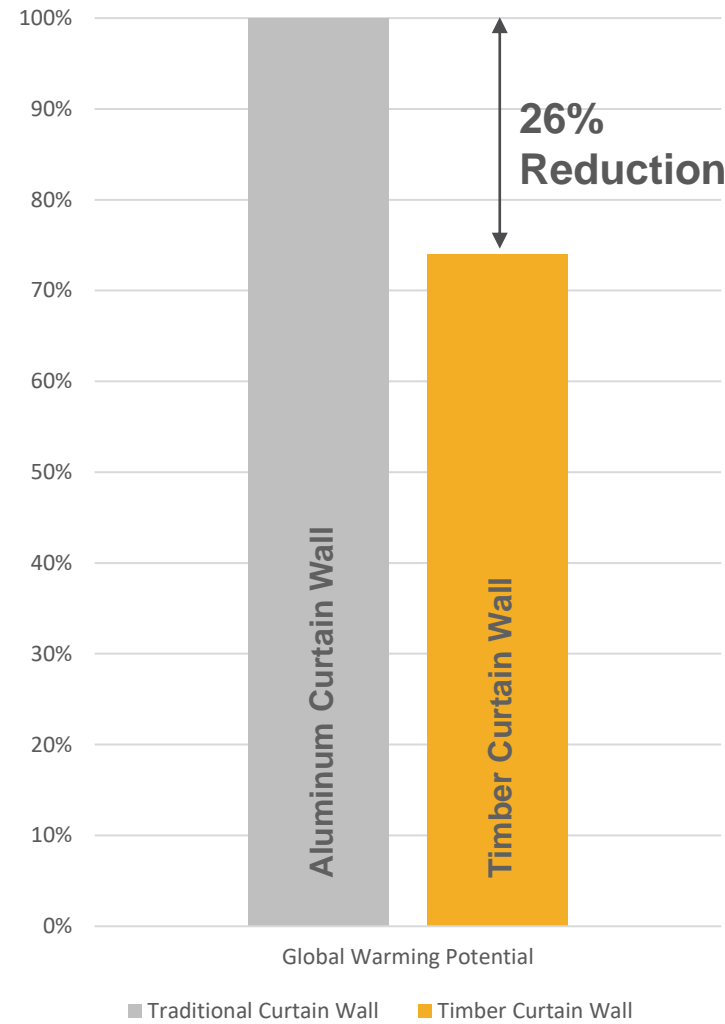
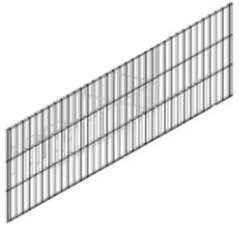


Aluminum Extrusion

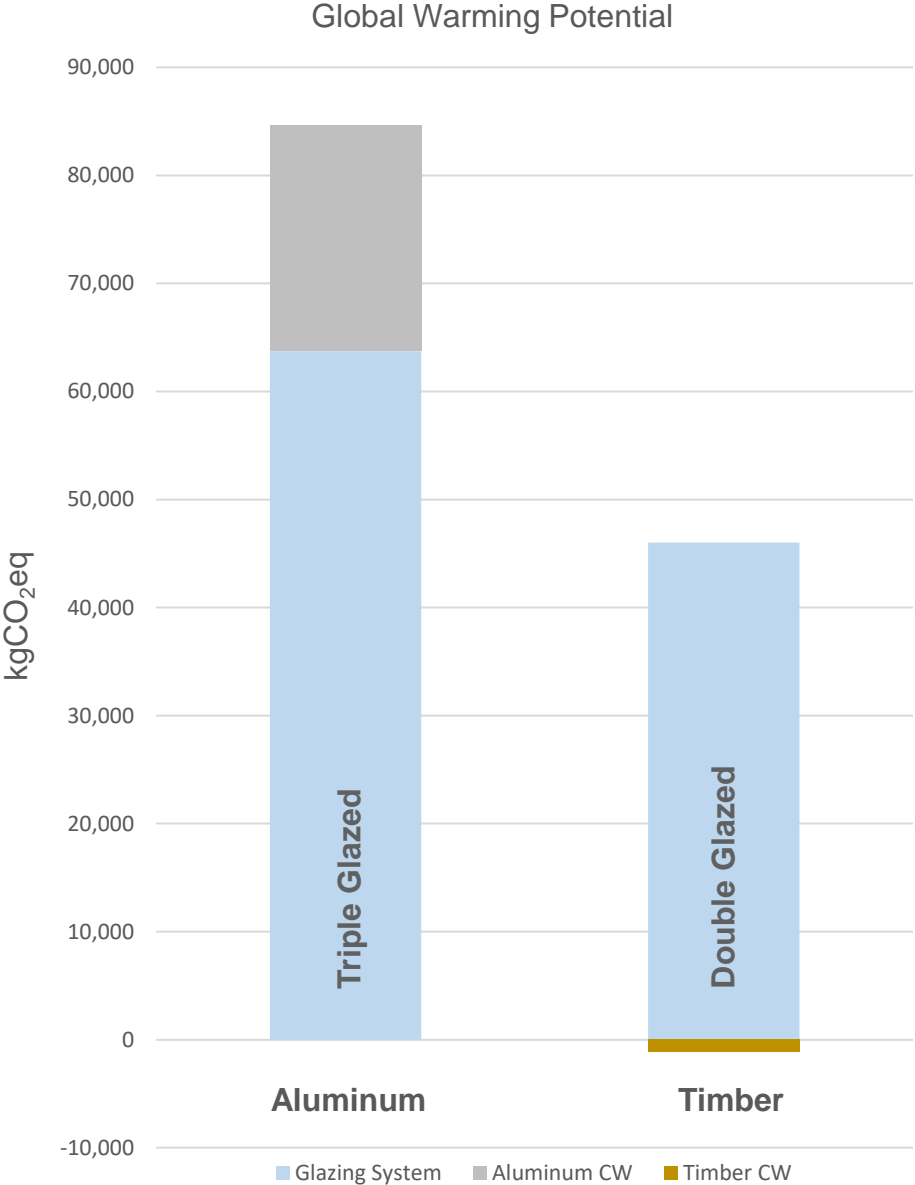
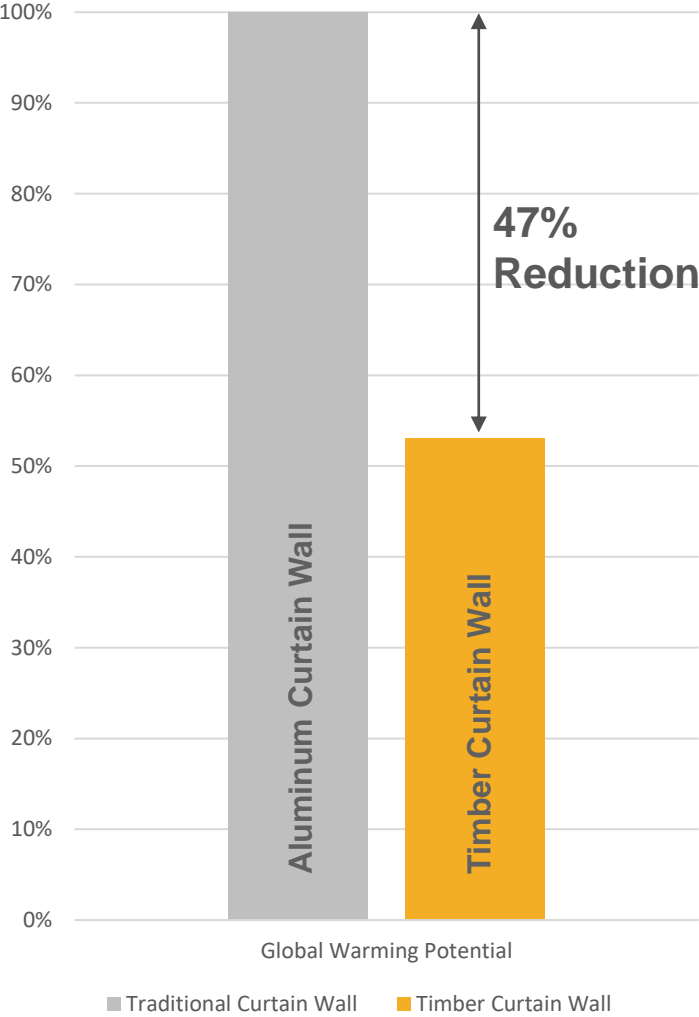
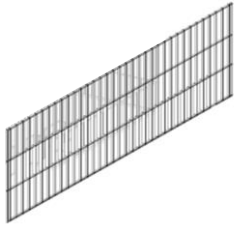


Glulam

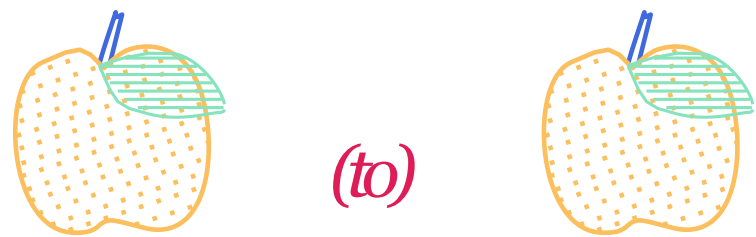
CURTAIN WALL BASED EMBODIED CARBON SAVINGS



PERFORMANCE BASED EMBODIED CARBON SAVINGS

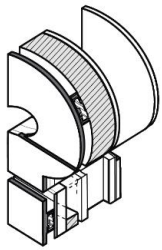


KALEIDOSCOPE



WELCOME

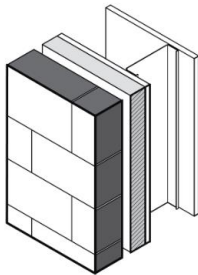
Want A Tour?



VIEW INTRO

ENVELOPES

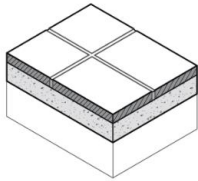
Exterior Assemblies



VIEW ENVELOPES

FLOORING

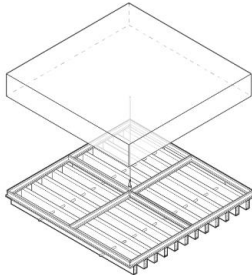
Flooring Assemblies



VIEW FLOORING

CEILINGS

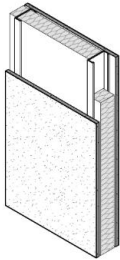
Ceiling Assemblies



VIEW CEILINGS

PARTITIONS

Partitions Assemblies



VIEW PARTITIONS

Kaleidoscope: Embodied Carbon Design Tool

ENVELOPE ASSEMBLIES

Share Link

CHART TYPE

- Global Warming Potential
- All Impacts
- Life Cycle Stage
- Material Breakdown

LIFESPAN

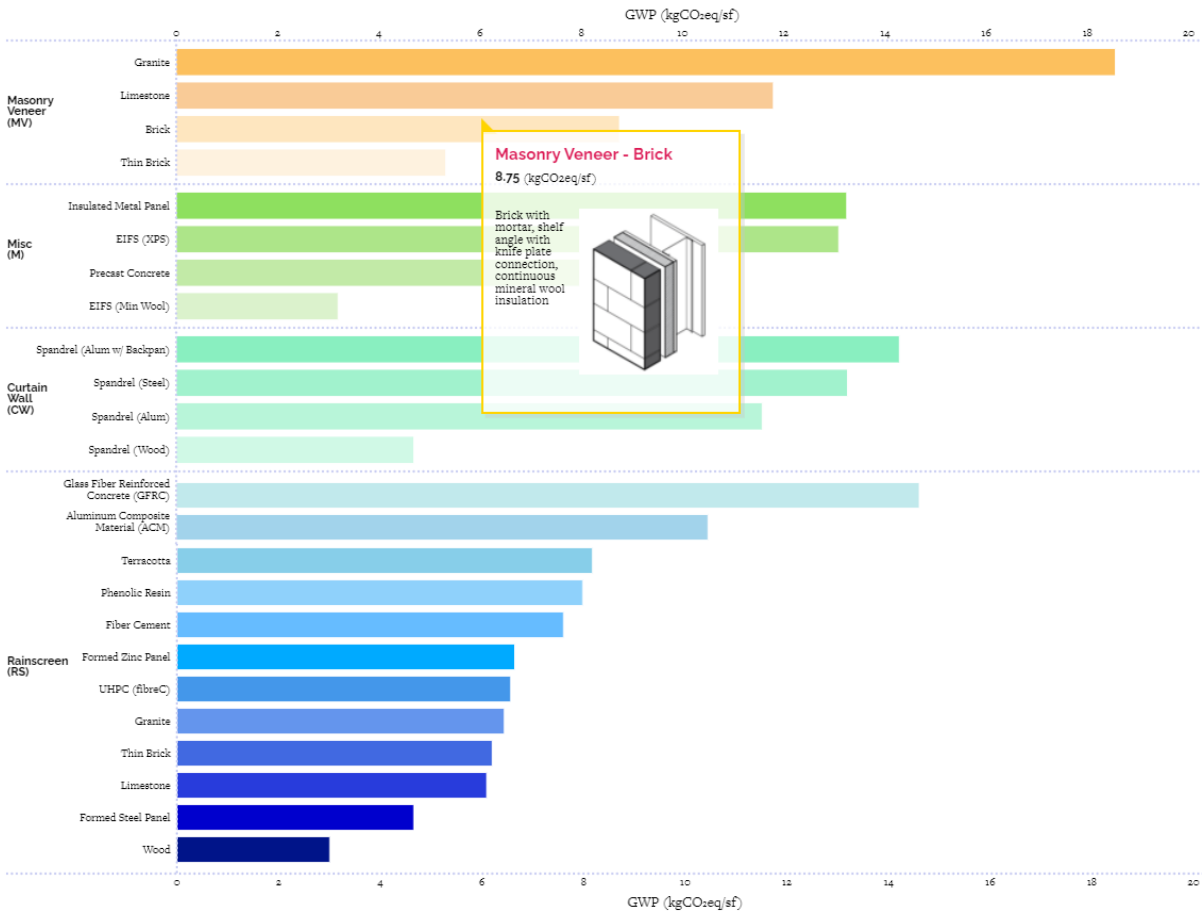
- Initial Carbon (only Module A)
- 60 Year (With Module D)
- 60 Year (No Module D)

BIOGENIC CARBON

- With Biogenic Carbon
- No Biogenic Carbon

Global Warming Potential

LEGEND



ASSEMBLY TYPE [Select All](#)

Click on a type below for additional details

- ☒ MV - Granite
- ☒ MV - Limestone
- ☒ MV - Brick
- ☒ MV - Thin Brick
- ☒ M - Insulated Metal
- ☒ M - EIFS (XPS)
- ☒ M - Precast Concrete
- ☒ M - EIFS (Min Wool)
- ☒ CW - Backpan Spandrel
- ☒ CW - Steel Spandrel
- ☒ CW - Alum Spandrel
- ☒ CW - Wood Spandrel
- ☒ RS - GFRC
- ☒ RS - ACM
- ☒ RS - Terracotta
- ☒ RS - Phenolic Resin
- ☒ RS - Fiber Cement
- ☒ RS - Zinc
- ☒ RS - UHPC
- ☒ RS - Granite
- ☒ RS - Thin Brick
- ☒ RS - Limestone
- ☒ RS - Steel
- ☒ RS - Wood

Kaleidoscope: Embodied Carbon Design Tool

ENVELOPE ASSEMBLIES

Share Link

CHART TYPE

☒ Global Warming Potential

☐ All Impacts

☐ Life Cycle Stage

☐ Material Breakdown

LIFESPAN

☒ Initial Carbon (only Module A)

☐ 60 Year (With Module D)

☐ 60 Year (No Module D)

BIOGENIC CARBON

☒ With Biogenic Carbon

☐ No Biogenic Carbon

Global Warming Potential



LEGEND

ASSEMBLY TYPE [Select All](#)

Click on a type below for additional details

MF - Granite

MF - Brick

M - Insulated Metal

M - Precast Concrete

CW - Backpan Spandrel

CW - Alum Spandrel

BS - GRC

BS - Terracotta

BS - Fiber Concrete

BS - L/SPC

BS - Thin Brick

BS - Steel

MF - Limestone

MF - Thin Brick

M - EPS (XPS)

M - EPS (Max Wood)

CW - Steel Spandrel

CW - Wood Spandrel

BS - ACM

BS - Porcelain Enamel

BS - Zinc

BS - Granite

BS - Limestone

BS - Wood

ENVELOPE CALCULATOR

☒ Initial Carbon (only Module A) ☐ 60 Year (with Module D) ☐ 60 Year (no Module D)

Export CSV

Option 1

Type	Square Feet	GWP
<div>CW - Wood Spandrel</div>	<div>8500</div>	39950.00
	8,500 ft ²	39,950.00 kgCO ₂ eq

[Add row](#) [Remove row](#)

[Add Option](#) [Delete Option](#)

Export CSV

Option 2

Type	Square Feet	GWP
<div>CW - Alum Spandrel</div>	<div>8500</div>	98430.00
	8,500 ft ²	98,430.00 kgCO ₂ eq

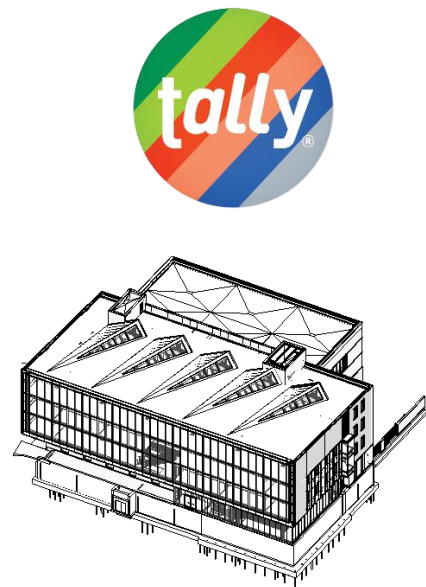
[Add row](#) [Remove row](#)



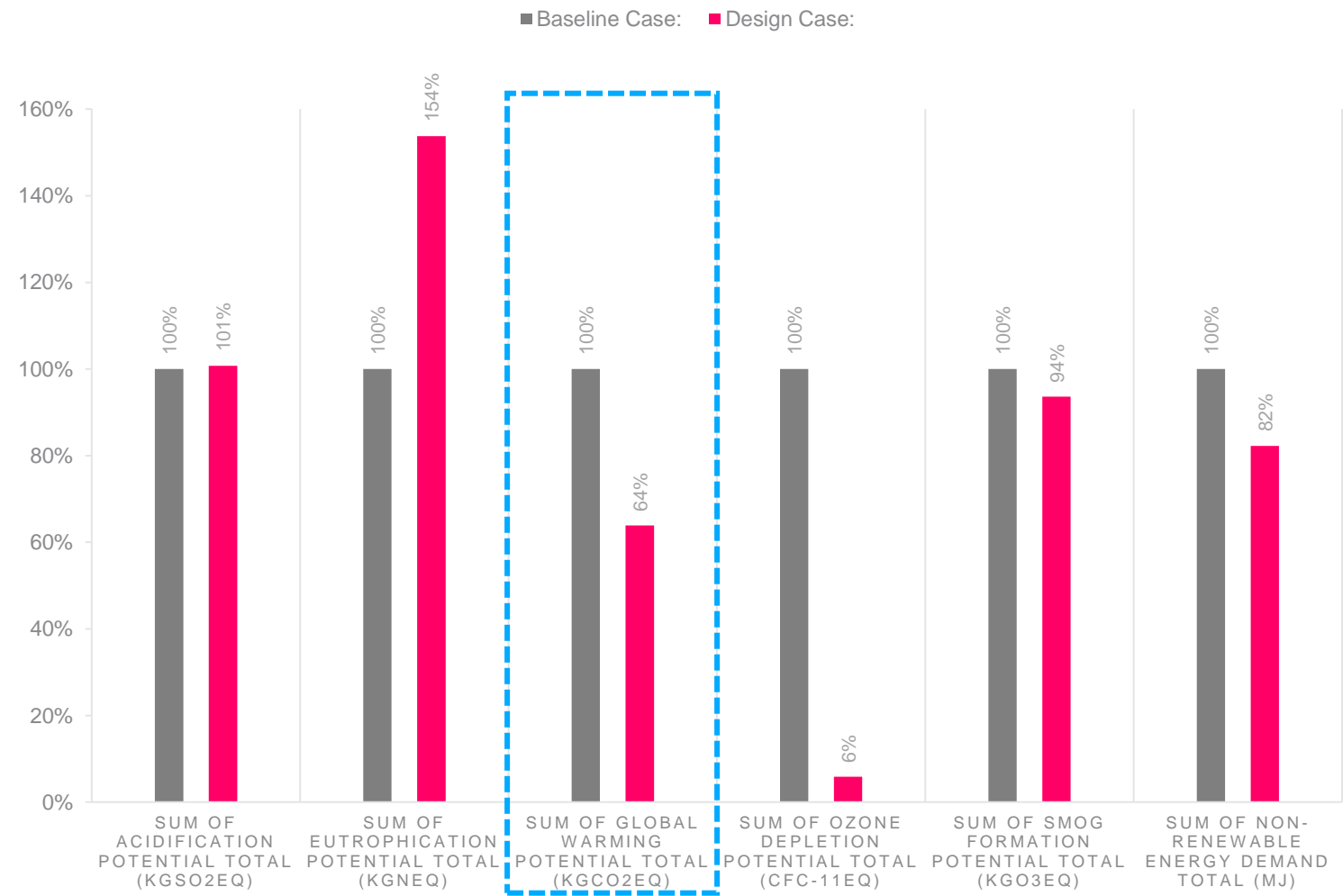




WHOLE BUILDING LCA



BASELINE VS DESIGN CASE



WHOLE BUILDING LCA - CHALLENGES

Ghulam as CLT proxy



EPD specific data for CLT

Environmental
Product
Declaration

STRUCTURLAM
MASS TIMBER CORPORATION
Intelligence In Wood

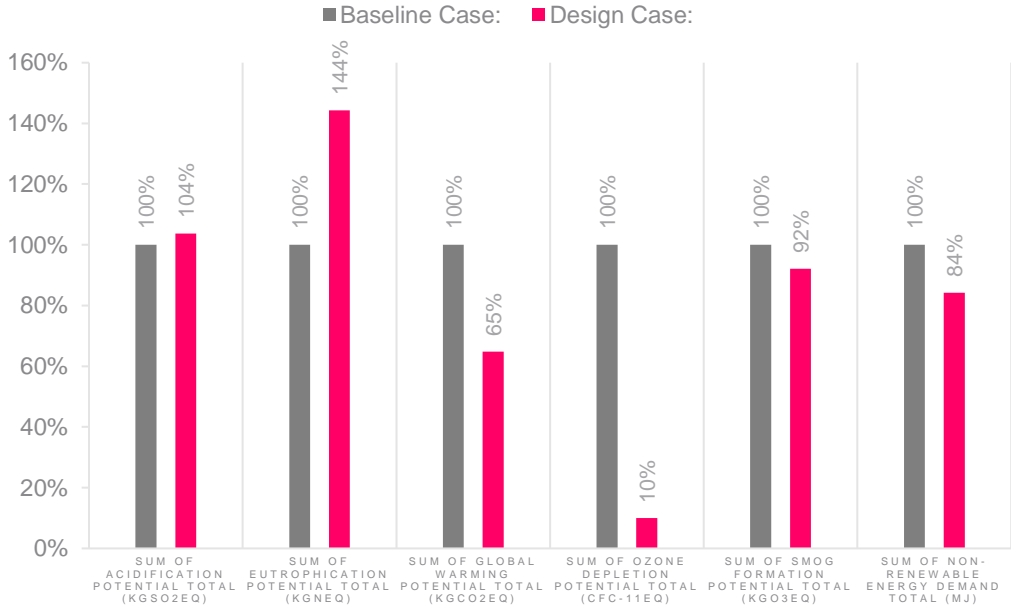
CROSSLAM CLT
EPD for Cross Laminated Timber produced by Structurlam in Okanagan Falls, BC



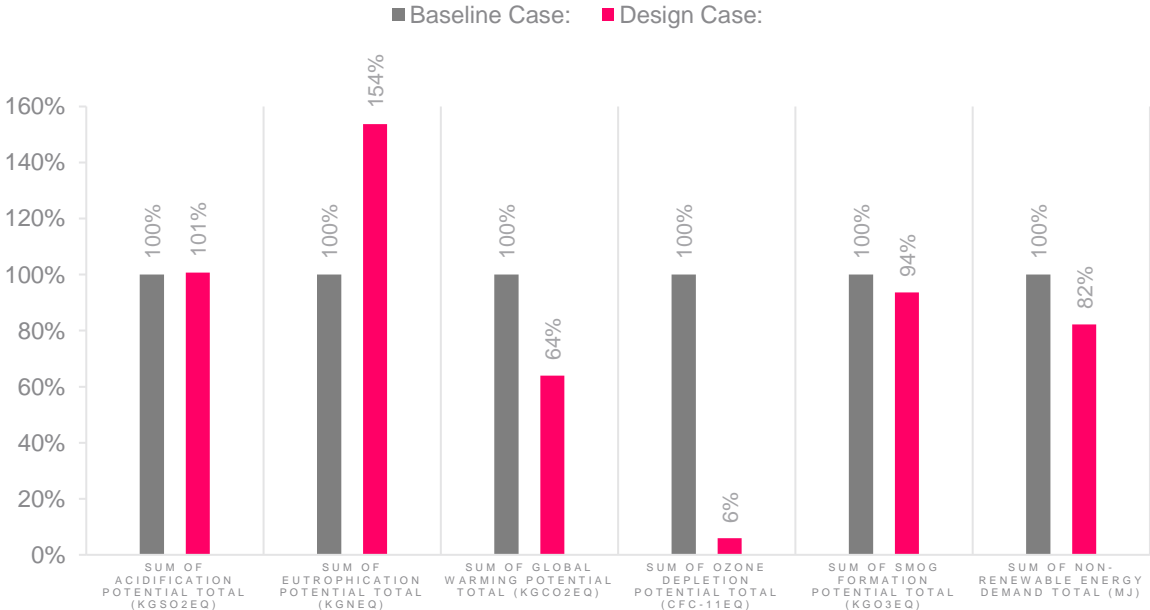
ASTM Certified Environmental Product Declaration

Program Operator	ASTM International 1910 Avenue of the Stars 1916 Westborough, MA 01581 www.astm.org
Second Program Intervention and Review Number	ASTM Program Operator for Product Category Rules (PCR) and Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs): General Program Instructions, version 4.0
Declaration Owner	Structurlam Mass Timber Corporation 2200 Government Street Okanagan Falls, BC, Canada V2K 3B5 www.structurlam.com
Declaration Number	000000
Declared Product	Cross Laminated Timber (CLT), Board name: CROSSLAM CLT
Declared Unit	1 m ³ of CLT produced at Structurlam's facility in Okanagan Falls 1000 (Solid) (Solid) Sustainability in Building Construction - Environmental Declaration of Building Products (EBC)
Reference PC and Product Number	See Environmental Product Category Rules for Building Products and Related Products, Part 1 of 2: Calculation Rules for the Life Cycle Assessment and Requirements for the Product Rules, Part 2 of 2: Requirements and Environmental Wood Products (EPD) Requirements, v4.0 (EBC)
Description of Product Intended application and use	Product is a high performance structural wood panel with high mechanical strength and stability. It can be used in building exterior for any floor, wall, roof or core construction.
Market of Application	Construction Sector, Mass timber design
Date of Issue	January 12, 2023
Period of Validity	January 12, 2023
EPD Type	Product specific (PS)
EPD Scope	Cradle to gate
Year of Impact and Emissions Analysis	2020
LCA Software	SimaPro v8.13.026
LCA Database	ecoinvent 3.10, European V1.1 (EU), European (EU), Athena (E)
LCA Methodology	ISO 14040 EN 15804 (2012) EN 15958 (2010)
The following EPD values are calculated for	Dr. Tamasz Gombosi University of Washington Dr. Tamasz Gombosi University of Washington Dr. Tamasz Gombosi University of Washington

BASELINE VS DESIGN CASE



BASELINE VS DESIGN CASE



PROCESS

Tools tested (only Module A)



Updated CSV output with product specific EPD



Replaced with EPD data, calculated for same volume

Row Labels	Sum of Acidification Potential Total (kgSO2eq)	Sum of Eutrophication Potential Total (kgNeq)	Sum of Global Warming Potential Total (kgCO2eq)	Sum of Ozone Depletion Potential Total (CFC-11eq)	Sum of Smog Formation Potential Total (kgO3eq)	Sum of Non-renewable Energy Demand Total (MJ)
Aluminum mullion, custom finish	0.34	0.01	66.06	6.17E-06	4.91	995.05
Aluminum, formed	1.05	0.06	366.70	9.90E-05	16.49	6,845.54
Door frame, steel, galvanized	0.39	0.02	55.68	1.99E-06	5.73	797.13
Door, exterior, glass	2.34	0.45	440.58	1.73E-05	27.39	6,347.84
Door, exterior, wood, solid core	2.83	1.00	57.86	3.56E-05	23.02	4,575.90
Door, interior, wood, structural composite core, flush	15.46	4.85	360.01	1.78E-04	96.28	21,072.72
Glazing, custom IGU	25.11	1.07	3,709.03	1.89E-09	325.47	50,958.33
Steel, rectangular tubing	0.10	0.01	87.20	3.55E-11	1.79	1,458.49
Floors	5,031.05	779.31	342,820.51	4.22E-02	52,983.65	5,862,137.07
Cast-in-place concrete, structural concrete, 4000 psi	454.86	28.98	178,199.88	-8.95E-05	9,359.58	1,520,270.86
Cast-in-place concrete, structural concrete, 6000 psi	582.10	37.57	229,400.92	-9.72E-05	12,036.68	1,887,845.59
Cross laminated timber (CLT)	3,400.37	805.16	146,187.68	2.80E-03	35,256.98	1,230,260.82
Extruded polystyrene (XPS), board	4.20	1.94	17,250.36	9.97E-03	56.96	23,297.51
Steel, rectangular bar	15.25	0.66	2,507.15	7.16E-05	225.84	33,902.86
Roofs	850.66	55.88	229,756.13	8.71E-03	13,546.25	3,414,817.56
Aluminum, sheet	1.01	0.04	232.51	3.37E-08	9.64	3,268.05
Cast-in-place concrete, structural concrete, 6000 psi	257.72	16.81	101,565.15	-4.30E-05	5,329.13	835,826.26
Fiberglass mat gypsum sheathing	85.72	7.91	19,852.68	7.61E-04	1,127.82	315,527.41
Metal roofing panels, formed	22.33	1.44	3,857.13	1.04E-04	298.70	55,611.41
Polyisocyanurate (PIR), board	158.76	14.19	40,794.18	1.73E-03	1,874.24	900,500.25
SBS modified bitumen, sheet	50.90	3.19	13,869.55	-2.02E-06	804.06	475,864.02
Self-adhering sheet waterproofing, modified bituminous	17.14	1.13	4,602.95	3.81E-07	281.29	170,708.62
Steel, deck	257.08	11.16	44,981.98	6.16E-03	3,821.37	677,531.53
Stairs and Railings	178.04	20.94	25,052.40	2.69E-03	1,714.25	365,506.72
Stair, steel with concrete fill	73.41	3.64	13,606.76	3.79E-04	1,103.71	183,232.35
Steel, rectangular bar	64.03	11.32	6,790.80	1.24E-03	314.48	105,819.57
Steel, round tubing	40.60	5.98	4,654.84	1.07E-03	296.06	76,454.80
Structure	8,523.99	298.86	2,111,242.41	3.09E-01	90,399.78	23,576,890.16
Cast-in-place concrete, custom mix	151.24	10.59	60,827.06	1.08E-08	3,255.48	393,338.58
Cast-in-place concrete, structural concrete, 4000 psi	295.99	15.44	93,360.59	-8.97E-05	5,392.15	901,556.73
Cast-in-place concrete, structural concrete, 5000 psi	2,055.23	114.77	787,710.50	-9.08E-04	38,147.52	7,635,531.92
Steel, angle	8.17	0.19	1,585.05	-7.83E-07	63.91	19,860.28
Steel, C channel	13.05	0.30	2,556.63	-1.27E-06	89.02	31,806.63
Steel, WIP bearing pile	182.41	4.23	36,130.84	-1.82E-05	1,041.06	45,980.48
Steel, HSS section	418.64	18.20	70,255.32	4.60E-03	6,206.05	986,806.40

Step 1: Tally locked CSV

Row Labels	Sum of Acidification Potential Total (kgSO2eq)	Sum of Eutrophication Potential Total (kgNeq)	Sum of Global Warming Potential Total (kgCO2eq)	Sum of Ozone Depletion Potential Total (CFC-11eq)	Sum of Smog Formation Potential Total (kgO3eq)	Sum of Non-renewable Energy Demand Total (MJ)
Door, exterior, glass	2.34	0.45	440.58	1.73E-05	27.39	6,347.84
Door, exterior, wood, solid core	2.83	1.00	57.86	3.56E-05	23.02	4,575.90
Door, interior, wood, structural composite core, flush	15.46	4.85	360.01	1.78E-04	96.28	21,072.72
Glazing, custom IGU	25.11	1.07	3,709.03	1.89E-09	325.47	50,958.33
Steel, rectangular tubing	0.10	0.01	87.20	3.55E-11	1.79	1,458.49
Floors	5,031.05	779.31	342,820.51	4.22E-02	52,983.65	5,862,137.07
Cast-in-place concrete, structural concrete, 4000 psi	454.86	28.98	178,199.88	-8.95E-05	9,359.58	1,520,270.86
Cast-in-place concrete, structural concrete, 6000 psi	582.10	37.57	229,400.92	-9.72E-05	12,036.68	1,887,845.59
Cross laminated timber (CLT)	3,400.37	805.16	146,187.68	2.80E-03	35,256.98	1,230,260.82
Extruded polystyrene (XPS), board	4.20	1.94	17,250.36	9.97E-03	56.96	23,297.51
Steel, rectangular bar	15.25	0.66	2,507.15	7.16E-05	225.84	33,902.86
Roofs	850.66	55.88	229,756.13	8.71E-03	13,546.25	3,414,817.56
Aluminum, sheet	1.01	0.04	232.51	3.37E-08	9.64	3,268.05
Cast-in-place concrete, structural concrete, 6000 psi	257.72	16.81	101,565.15	-4.30E-05	5,329.13	835,826.26
Fiberglass mat gypsum sheathing	85.72	7.91	19,852.68	7.61E-04	1,127.82	315,527.41
Metal roofing panels, formed	22.33	1.44	3,857.13	1.04E-04	298.70	55,611.41
Polyisocyanurate (PIR), board	158.76	14.19	40,794.18	1.73E-03	1,874.24	900,500.25
SBS modified bitumen, sheet	50.90	3.19	13,869.55	-2.02E-06	804.06	475,864.02
Self-adhering sheet waterproofing, modified	17.14	1.13	4,602.95	3.81E-07	281.29	170,708.62
Steel, deck	257.08	11.16	44,981.98	6.16E-03	3,821.37	677,531.53
Stairs and Railings	178.04	20.94	25,052.40	2.69E-03	1,714.25	365,506.72
Stair, steel with concrete fill	73.41	3.64	13,606.76	3.79E-04	1,103.71	183,232.35

Step 2: Copied and changed in new excel document

PROCESS



From Tally (1 ft3)	A1-3	A4	C1-4	D	Total
GWP Inc Bio Carb (kg CO2e)	-19.98	0.35	16.1	1.28	-2.25
Acidification (kg SO2e)	0.05	0.00	0.06	-0.01	0.11
Eutrophication (kg N e)	3.01E-03	1.34E-04	1.61E-02	-3.86E-04	1.89E-02
Smog Formation (kg o3e)	0.68	0.05	0.21	-0.11	0.83
Ozone Depletion (kg CFC-11e)	8.60E-07	1.21E-14	1.29E-13	-1.86E-11	8.60E-07
Non-Renewable Energy Demand	87.41	5.03	8.27	-37.05	63.67

Wood End-of-Life

Scope:

End of Life waste treatment methods and rates for wood are based on the 2014 Municipal Solid Waste and Construction Demolition Wood Waste Generation and Recovery in the United States report by Dovetail Partners, Inc. It is assumed that 63.5% of wood is sent to landfill, 22% to incineration, and 14.5% to recovery.



+



EPD Conversion + Tally Module C&D (1 ft3)	A1-3	A4	C1-4	D	Total
GWP Inc Bio Carb (kg CO2e)	-21.261	0	16.1	1.28	-3.88
Acidification (kg SO2e)	0.038	0	0.06	-0.01	0.090
Eutrophication (kg N e)	5.66E-03	0.00E+00	1.61E-02	-3.86E-04	2.14E-02
Smog Formation (kg o3e)	0.840	0	0.21	-0.11	0.936
Ozone Depletion (kg CFC-11e)	7.45E-08	0	1.29E-13	-1.86E-11	7.45E-08
Non-Renewable Energy Demand	61.434	0	8.27	-37.05	32.66

CLT (Cross laminated timber)

522,331.0 kg

Used in the following Revit families:

4" FINISHED FLOOR CLT DECK ASSEMBLY

522,331.0 kg (60 yrs)

Used in the following Tally entries:

Cross laminated timber (CLT)

Description:

Engineered wood panel made of several layers of kiln-dried lumber stacked in alternating directions, bonded with structural adhesives, and pressed to form a solid rectangular panel.

Life Cycle Inventory:

Proxied by Glulam

Product Scope:

Cradle to gate

Transportation Distance:

By truck: 468 km

End-of-Life Scope:

14.5% Recovered

22% Incinerated with energy recovery

63.5% Landfilled (wood product waste)

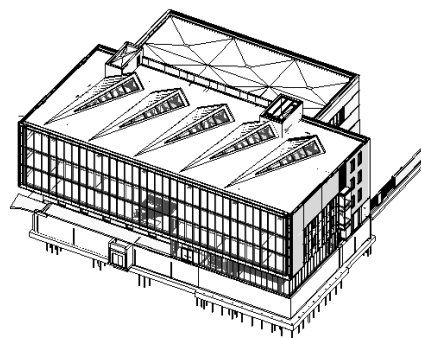
Module D Scope:

Recovered wood products credited as avoided burden.

LCI Source:

RNA: Glue laminated timbers CORRIM (2011)

WHOLE BUILDING LCA



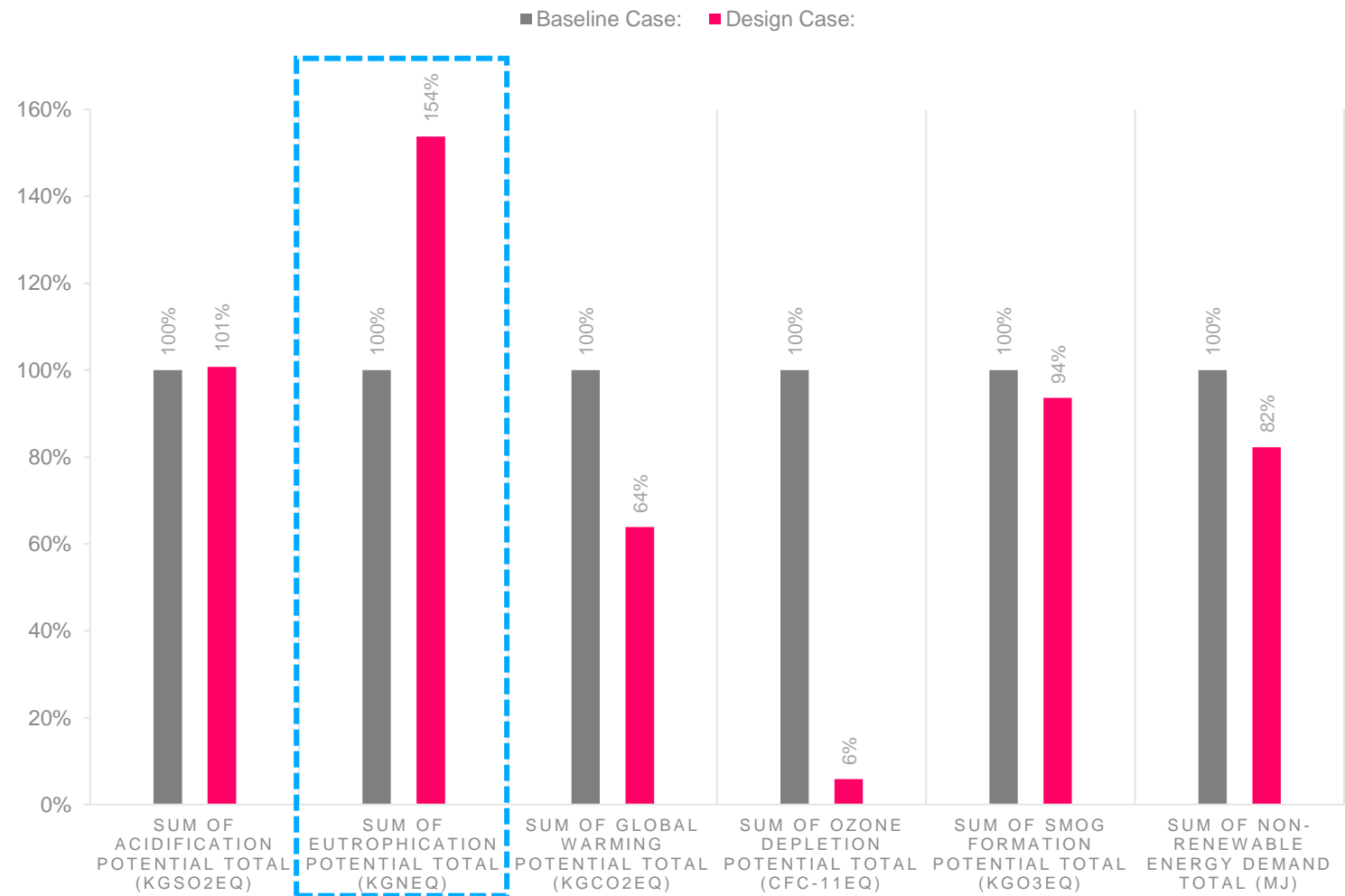
Environmental
Product
Declaration



CROSSLAM CLT
SPC for Cross Laminated Timber produced by Structurlam in Chignagat Falls, BC

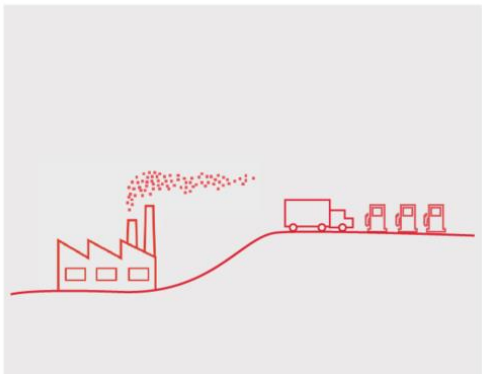


BASELINE VS DESIGN CASE



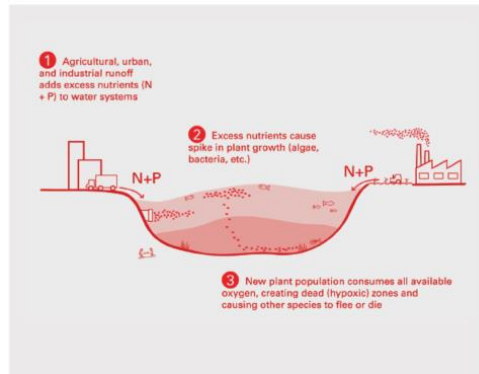
OTHER LIFE CYCLE IMPACTS

non-renewable energy
[MJ]



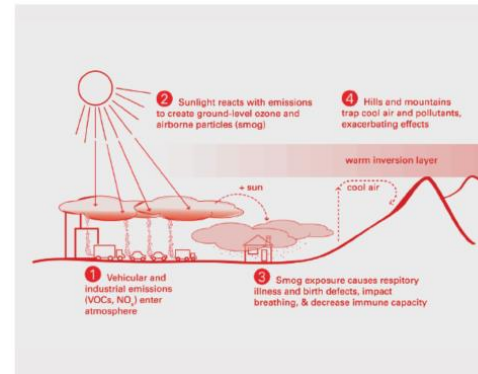
Source: iStock, & K. Simonen, Life Cycle Assessment, Routledge, 2014

eutrophication
potential [kg N-eq]



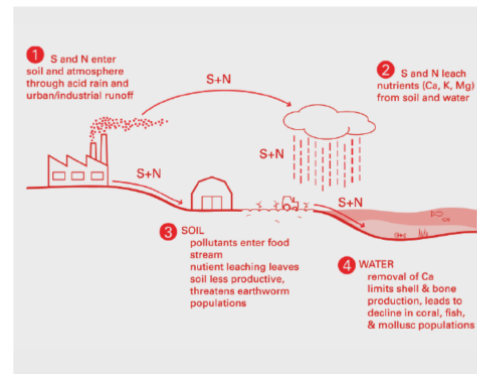
Source: Wikimedia, & K. Simonen, Life Cycle Assessment, Routledge, 2014

smog formation
potential [kg O₃-eq]



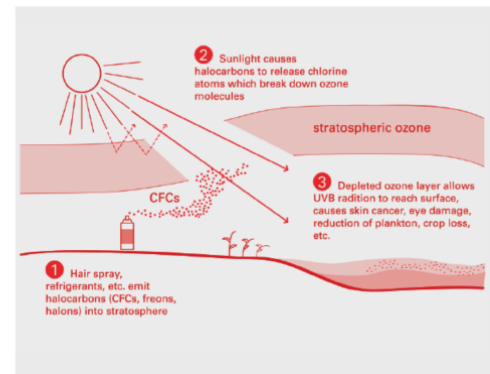
Source: Getty images, & K. Simonen, Life Cycle Assessment, Routledge, 2014

acidification
potential [kg SO₂-eq]



Source: Wikipedia, & K. Simonen, Life Cycle Assessment, Routledge, 2014

ozone depletion
potential [kg CFC 11-eq]



Source: reconoil.com, & K. Simonen, Life Cycle Assessment, Routledge, 2014

LEED V4.1 CREDITS

Materials & Resources: Building Life-Cycle Impact Reduction



Option 2: Whole Building Life-Cycle Assessment (1-4 points):

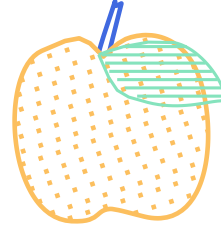
For new construction (buildings or portions of buildings), conduct a cradle-to-grave LCA of the project's structure and enclosure and follow one of the paths below to earn up to 4 points:

- *Path 1 (1 point):* Conduct LCA of structure and enclosure
- *Path 2 (2 points):* Conduct LCA of structure and enclosure that demonstrates a minimum of 5% reduction, compared with baseline building in at least 3 of the 6 impact categories, one of which must be GWP*
- *Path 3 (3 points):* Conduct LCA of structure and enclosure that demonstrates a minimum of 10% reduction, compared with baseline building in at least 3 of the 6 impact categories, one of which must be GWP*
- *Path 4 (4 points):* Meet requirements of Path 3 and incorporate reuse and/or salvage materials into the project's structure and enclosure for the proposed design. Demonstrate reductions compared to baseline building of at least 20% reduction for GWP, and at least 10% reduction in 2 additional impact categories*

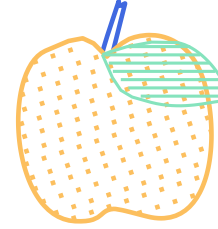
* no impact category assessed as part of the life-cycle assessment may increase by more than 5% compared with the baseline building

** impact categories: GWP in kg CO₂e, depletion of stratospheric ozone layer in kg CFC-11e, acidification in kg SO₂e, eutrophication in kg nitrogen eq, formation of tropospheric ozone in kg O₃ eq (smog), depletion of nonrenewable energy resources in MJ

END-OF-LIFE - EUTROPHICATION



(to)



?

Metal

Metals End-of-Life

Scope:

Metal products are modeled using the avoided burden approach. The recycling rate at end of life is used to determine how much secondary metal can be recovered after having subtracted any scrap input into manufacturing (net scrap). Net scrap results in an environmental credit in Module D for the corresponding share of the primary burden that can be allocated to the subsequent product system using secondary material as an input. If the value in Module D reflects an environmental burden, then the original product (A1-A3) contains more secondary material than is recovered.

LCI Source:

Aluminum - RNA: Primary Aluminum Ingot AA/ts (2010)
Aluminum - RNA: Secondary Aluminum Ingot AA/ts (2010)
Brass - GLO: Zinc mix ts (2012)
Brass - GLO: Copper (99.99% cathode) ICA (2013)
Brass - EU-28: Brass (CuZn20) ts (2017)
Copper - DE: Recycling potential copper sheet ts (2016)
Steel - GLO: Value of scrap worldsteel (2014)
Zinc - GLO: Special high grade zinc IZA (2012)

End-of-Life Scope:

98% Recovered
2% Landfilled (inert material)

Wood

Wood End-of-Life

Scope:

End of Life waste treatment methods and rates for wood are based on the 2014 Municipal Solid Waste and Construction Demolition Wood Waste Generation and Recovery in the United States report by Dovetail Partners, Inc. It is assumed that 63.5% of wood is sent to landfill, 22% to incineration, and 14.5% to recovery.

LCI Source:

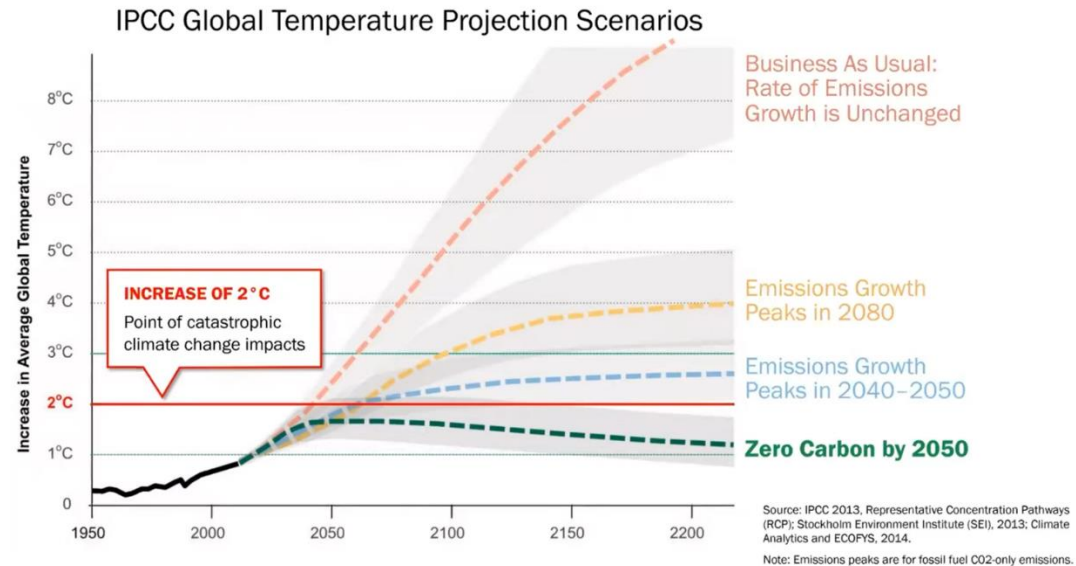
US: Untreated wood in waste incineration plant ts (2017)
US: Wood product (OSB, particle board) waste in waste incineration plant ts (2017)
US: Wood products (OSB, particle board) on landfill, post-consumer ts (2017)
US: Untreated wood on landfill, post-consumer ts (2017)
RNA: Softwood lumber CORRIM (2011)

End-of-Life Scope:

14.5% Recovered
22% Incinerated with energy recovery
63.5% Landfilled (wood product waste)

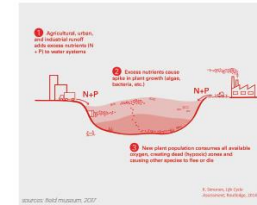
EUTROPHICATION - TOMORROW'S SOLUTION

Today
Time value of carbon

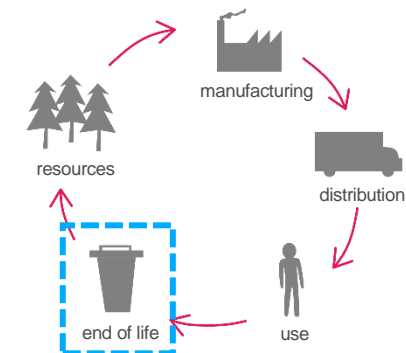


Tomorrow
Eutrophication

eutrophication
potential [kg N-eq]



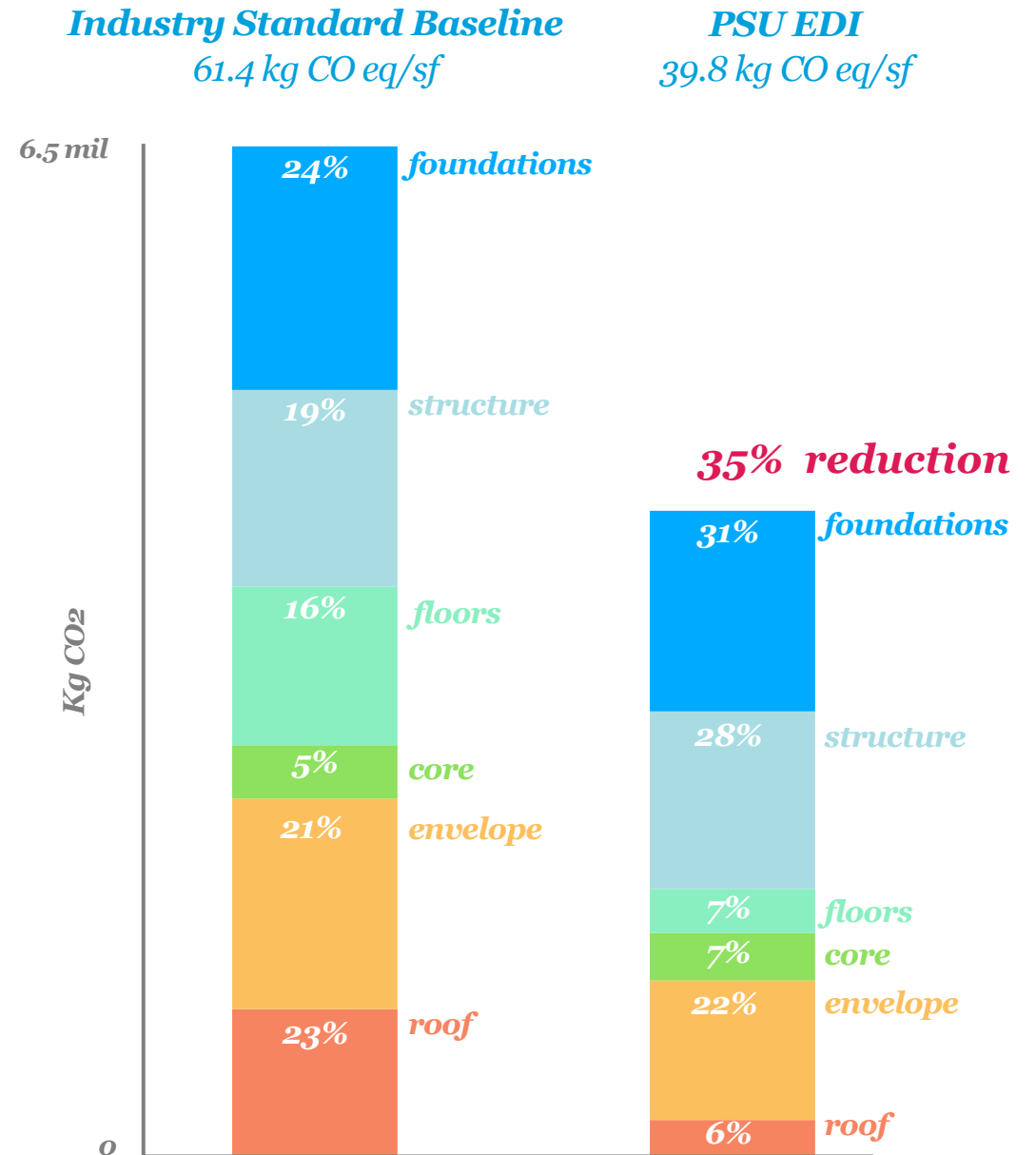
Source: Wikipedia



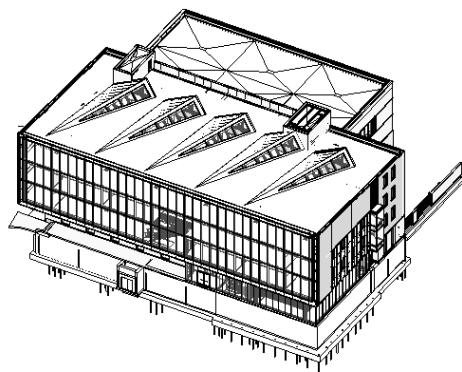
Call to action:
Improve mass
timber end of
life in 60 years

EMBODIED CARBON REDUCTION AREAS

- **Envelope Assembly**
 - Timber Curtainwall
- **Roof Assembly**
 - XPS to Polyiso
- **Floors**
 - CLT deck
- **Structural System**
 - Low Embodied Carbon Concrete mix
 - Steel beam quantity reduction



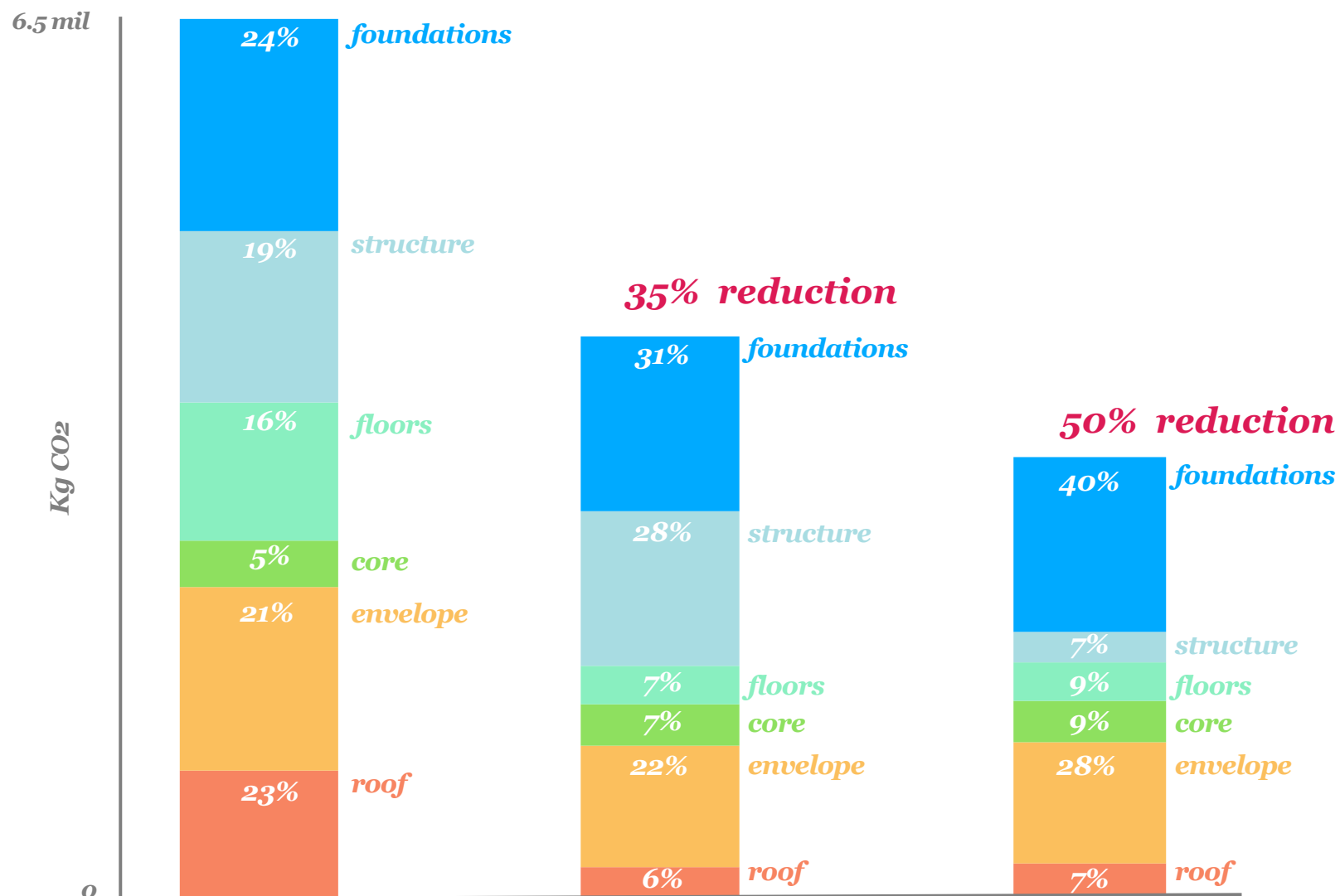
WHAT IF ALL TIMBER?



Industry Standard Baseline
61.4 kg CO eq/sf

PSU EDI: Timber + Steel
39.8 kg CO eq/sf

All Timber
30.6 kg CO eq/sf



QUESTIONS?

This concludes The American
Institute of Architects Continuing
Education Systems Course

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