









4.5 Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) Diaphragms

4.5.1 Application Requirements

CLT diaphragms shall be permitted to be used to resist lateral forces provided the deflection in the plane of the diaphragm, a determined by calculations, tests, or analogies drawn therefrom, does not exceed the maximum permissible deflection initid attached load distributing or resisting elements. Permissible deflection shall be that deflection that will permit the diaphragm and any attached elements to maintain their structural integrity and continue to support their preserviced loads as determined by the applicable building code or standard.

4.5.2 Deflection

CLT diaphragm deflection shall be determined using principles of engineering mechanics.

4.5.3 Unit Shear Capacity

CLT diaphragms shall be designed in accordance with principles of engineering mechanics using design values for wood members and connections in accordance with NDS provisions.

The nominal unit shear capacity, $v_{\rm in}$ of CLT diaphragms shall be based on the nominal shear capacity for dowel-type fastemer connections used to transfer diaphragm shear forces, as calculated per 4.5.4, hem 1.4SD allowable shear capacity or LRPD factored shear resistance for the CLT diaptargm and diaphragm shear connections shall be determined in accordance with 4.1.1

4.5.4 Additional CLT Diaphragm Design Requirements

CLT diaphragms shall meet the following additional requirements:

1. The nominal shear capacity for dowel-type fastener connections used to transfer diaphragm shear forces between CLT panels and between CLT panels and diaphragm boundary elements (chords and collectors) shall be taken as 4.52° , where 2^* is 2 multiplied by all applicable NDS adjustment factors except C_r , K_{0} , $and <math>\lambda$, and 2shall be controlled by Mode IIIs or Mode IV fas-

- tener yielding in accordance with NDS 12.3.1. Connections used to transfer diaphragm shear forces shall not be used to resist diaphragm tension forces.
- Wood elements, steel parts, and wood or steel chord splice connections shall be designed for 2.0 times the diaphragm forces associated with the shear forces induced from the design loads.

Exceptions:

- Wood elements and wood splice connections shall be permitted to be designed for 1.5 times the diaphragm forces associated with the shear forces induced by the wind design loads.
- 2. Where dowel-type fasteners are used in cherd splice connections and the connection is controlled by Model III, or Model YV fastener yielding in accordance with NDS 12.3.1, fasteners in the connection shall be permitted to be designed for 1.5 and 1.0 simes the diaphragm forces associated with the shear forces induced by the prescribed seimic and wind design loads, respectively.

Diaphragm chord elements and chord splice connections using materials other than wood or steel shall be designed using provisions in NDS 1.4.

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CLT diaphragms shall meet the following additional requirements:

 The nominal shear capacity for dowel-type fastener connections used to transfer diaphragm shear forces between CLT panels and between CLT panels and diaphragm boundary elements (chords and collectors) shall be taken as 4.32", where 2" is 2 multiplied by all applicable NDS adjustment factors except Co, Ke, 4, and 3, and 2 shall be controlled by Mode IIIs or Mode IV fas-

- tener yielding in accordance with NDS 12.3.1.
 Connections used to transfer diaphragm shear forces shall not be used to resist diaphragm tension forces.
- 3. Wood elements, steel parts, and wood or steel chord splice connections shall be designed for 2.0 times the diaphragm forces associated with the shear forces induced from the design loads.

Exceptions:

- Wood elements and wood splice connections shall be permitted to be designed for 1.5 times the diaphragm forces associated with the shear forces induced by the wind design loads.
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Diaphragm chord elements and chord splice connections using materials other than wood or steel shall be designed using provisions in NDS 1.4.



Organization

- Introduction
- Codes and Standards
- Methodology of CLT Diaphragm Design
- Diaphragm Shear Components
- Diaphragm Boundary Elements
- Diaphragm Deflections & Stiffness
- Special Design Considerations
- Design Examples (3 in total)
- References
- Appendix A Precalculated Design Capacities
- Appendix B Literature Review



7

1 Introduction

- Introduction
 - Overview
 - Purpose of the Design Guide
 - State of Practice prior to 2021 SDPWS



2 Codes and Standards

• Basis of Design

- 2021 IBC
- 2019 ANSI/APA PRG 320
- 2018 NDS
- 2016 ASCE 7
- 2021 SWDPWS
 - Nominal Unit Shear Capacity
 - Calculated Method to Justify Rigid Diaphragm Analysis of Cantilevered Diaphragms
 - CLT Diaphragm Provisions

TABLE 2.1: SDPWS 2021 design capacities

Loading	ASD Design Capacity v_n/Ω_D	LRFD Design Capacity $\phi_{\mathrm{D}} v_{\mathrm{n}}$			
Seismic	v _n /2.8	0.50 v _n			
Wind	$v_n/2.0$	0.80 v _n			

Where ${\it \emptyset}_{\rm D}$ is the LRFD diaphragm resistant factor





• Diaphragm Design Forces per ASCE 7-16

 $F_{design} = max (F_{px}, F_x) + \Omega_0 * F_{x,transfer}$

• CLT Diaphragm Design Provisions per SDPWS

§4.5.1 – Applicable Requirements

CLT diaphragms shall be permitted to be used to resist lateral forces provided the deflection in the plane of the diaphragm, as determined by calculations, tests, or analogies drawn therefrom, does not exceed the maximum permissible deflection limit of attached load distributing or resisting elements. Permissible deflection shall be that deflection that will permit the diaphragm and any attached elements to maintain their structural integrity and continue to support their prescribed loads as determined by the opplicable building code or standard.

§4.5.2 – Deflection

CLT diaphragm deflection shall be determined using principles of engineering mechanics.

§4.5.3 – Unit Shear Capacity

CLT diaphragms shall be designed in accordance with principles of engineering mechanics using design values for wood members and connections in accordance with NDS provisions.

The nominal unit shear capacity, v_{n} , of CLT diaphragms shall be based on the nominal shear capacity for dowel-type fastener connections used to transfer diaphragm shear forces, as calculated per 4.5.4, Item 1. ASD allowable shear capacity or LRFD factored shear resistance for the CLT diaphragm and diaphragm shear connections shall be determined in accordance with 4.1.1.



CLT Diaphragm Design Provisions per SDPWS (continued)

§4.5.4 – Additional CLT Diaphraam Desian Requirements (Item 1) CLT diaphragms shall meet the following additional requirements:

§4.5.4, Item 1. The nominal shear capacity for dowel-type fastener connections used to transfer

diaphragm shear forces between CLT panels and between CLT panels and diaphragm boundary elements (chords and collectors) shall be taken as 4.5Z*, where Z* is Z multiplied by all applicable NDS adjustment factors except C_D , K_F , ϕ , and λ ; and Z shall be controlled by Mode III_s or Mode IV fastener yielding in accordance with NDS §12.3.1.

4.5.4 Additional CLT Diaphragm Design Requirements

CLT diaphragms shall meet the following additional requirements:

1. The nominal shear capacity for dowel-type fastener connections used to transfer diaphragm shear forces between CLT panels and between CLT panels and diaphragm boundary elements (chords and collectors) shall be taken as 4.5Z*, where Z* is Z multiplied by all applicable NDS adjustment factors except $C_D,\,K_F,\,\varphi,\,and\,\lambda;\,and\,Z$ shall be controlled by Mode IIIs or Mode IV fastener yielding in accordance with NDS 12.3.1.

For Seismic 4.5/2.8 = 1.6!



CLT Diaphragm Design Provisions per SDPWS (continued)

§4.5.4 – Additional CLT Diaphragm Design Requirements (Item 1)

CLT diaphragms shall meet the following additional requirements:

§4.5.4, Item 1. The nominal shear capacity for dowel-type fastener connections used to transfer diaphragm shear forces between CLT panels and between CLT panels and diaphragm boundary elements (chords and collectors) shall be taken as 4.5Z*, where Z* is Z multiplied by all applicable NDS adjustment factors except C_D , K_F , ϕ , and λ ; and Z shall be controlled by Mode III_s or Mode IV fastener yielding in accordance with NDS §12.3.1.

§4.5.4 – Additional CLT Diaphragm Design Requirements (Item 2)

§4.5.4, Item 2. Connections used to transfer diaphragm shear forces shall not be used to resist diaphragm tension forces.

§4.5.4 – Additional CLT Diaphragm Design Requirements (Item 3)

\$4.5.4, Item 3. Wood elements, steel parts, and wood or steel chord splice connections shall be designed for 2.0 times the diaphragm forces associated with the shear forces induced from the desian loads

Exceptions:

- 1. Wood elements and wood splice connections shall be permitted to be designed for 1.5 times the diaphragm forces associated with the shear forces induced by the wind design loads.
- 2. Where dowel-type fasteners are used in chord splice connections and the connection is controlled by Mode IIIs or Mode IV fastener yielding in accordance with NDS 12.3.1, fasteners in the connection shall be permitted to be designed for 1,5 and 1,0 times the diaphraam forces associated with the shear forces induced by the prescribed seismic and wind design loads, respectively.

Diaphragm chord elements and chord splice connections using materials other than wood or steel shall be designed using provisions in NDS 1.4.

TABLE 3.1: Summary of diaphragm force increase factors per SDPWS §4.5.4 Item 3

Component		γ	D	Design Guide	
		EQ	Wind	Eq. No.	
Diaphragm shear connections at CLT panel edges	Dowel-type fasteners in shear in panel-to-panel and panel-to-boundary element diaphragm shear connections	N/A ^a	N/A ^a	3.2 or 3.3	
Chord splice connections	Dowel-type fasteners in shear in wood chord splice connections controlled by Mode III _s or Mode IV	1.5 ^b	1.5 ^b		
	Others	2.0	2.0		
Wood elements and connections to wood not meeting the above	Includes CLT panels, wood sheathing used for splines, wood framing used as chords and collectors	2.0	1.5	3.4 or 3.5	
Steel elements and connections between steel elements	Includes steel framing, plates and rods used as chords or collectors and steel splines	2.0	2.0		

Fasteners required to be controlled by Mode III₅ or Mode IV per SDPWS §4.5.4 Item 1.
 ^b Increase factors for fasteners controlled by Mode III₂ or Mode IV per Exception 2 of SDPWS §4.5.4 Item 3.























 Diaphragm & Collector Connections to Ste 	eel VLFRS
CLT panel per plan	Panel to steel beam fastener in shop piloted flange holes, typ. Wide flange beam per plan







6 Diaphragm Deflections & Stiffness

• Classification of Diaphragm as Flexible or Rigid

TABLE 6.1: Diaphragm flexibility related to CLT diaphragms

Category	ASCE 7 §12.3.1	IBC §1604.4	SDPWS §4.1.7			
Flexible	$\frac{Permitted when}{\frac{\delta_{MDD}}{\Delta_{ADVE}}} > 2$	N/A	Per ASCE 7			
Rigid	N/A	$\frac{Permitted when}{\frac{\delta_{MDD}}{\Delta_{ADVE}}} \leq 2$				
Semi-rigid	When not idealized as flexible or rigid, analysis shall include consideration of diaphragm stiffness	Total lateral force shall be distributed to elements of VLFRS in proportion to their rigidities, considering the rigidity of the diaphragm	Shall consider relative stiffnesses of VLFRS & diaphragms; envelope analysis permitted			

δ_{MDD}: Maximum in-plane diaphragm deflection (in.)

 Δ_{ADVE} : Average drift of adjoining vertical elements of the VLFRS over the story below the diaphragm under consideration, under tributary lateral load equivalent to that used in the computation of δ_{MDD} (in.)





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A Precalculated Design Capacities

- Individual Fasteners
- Spline Capacities
- Fasteners / Spline Capacities
- Steel Strap Capacities

Spline Material	Fastener	Nominal Diaphragm Shear Capacity of Fasteners, v _n = 4.52*/S, @ Spacing, S ^{a,c} (plf)					Reference Spline Shear Capacity,
		12-in. o.c.	6-in. o.c.	4-in. o.c.	3-in. o.c.	2-in. o.c.	F _v t _v ^b (plf)
CLT SG = 0.50							
General sheathing (23/32)	8d common nail	330	659	989	1,318	1,977	1,176
General sheathing (23/32)	10d common nail	388	776	1,164	1,552	2,328	1,176
General sheathing (23/32)	Example screw 1	363	726	1,089	1,452	2,178	1,176
General sheathing (23/32)	Example screw 2	428	857	1,285	1,714	2,571	1,176
Structural 1 sheathing (23/32)	8d common nail	397	793	1,190	1,586	2,379	1,512
Structural 1 sheathing (23/32)	10d common nail	463	926	1,390	1,853	2,779	1,512
Structural 1 sheathing (23/32)	Example screw 1	423	847	1,270	1,693	2,540	1,512
Structural 1 sheathing (23/32)	Example screw 2	506	1,012	1,518	2,024	3,036	1,512
General sheathing (7/8)	10d common nail	423	847	1,270	1,694	2,540	1,440
General sheathing (7/8)	16d common nail	486	972	1,458	1,943	2,915	1,440
General sheathing (7/8)	Example screw 1	386	773	1,159	1,546	2,319	1,440
General sheathing (7/8)	Example screw 2	462	925	1,387	1,849	2,774	1,440
Structural 1 sheathing (7/8)	10d common nail	517	1,033	1,550	2,067	3,100	1,584
Structural 1 sheathing (7/8)	16d common nail	587	1,174	1,761	2,349	3,523	1,584
Structural 1 sheathing (7/8)	Example screw 1	461	923	1,384	1,845	2,768	1,584
Structural 1 sheathing (7/8)	Example screw 2	559	1,117	1,676	2,234	3,351	1,584
General sheathing (1-1/8)	10d common nail	484	968	1,452	1,936	2,904	1,920
General sheathing (1-1/8)	16d common nail	555	1,109	1,664	2,218	3,327	1,920
General sheathing (1-1/8)	Example screw 1	434	868	1,302	1,735	2,603	1,920
General sheathing (1-1/8)	Example screw 2	528	1,055	1,583	2,110	3,165	1,920
Structural 1 sheathing (1-1/8)	10d common nail	529	1,058	1,586	2,115	3,173	2,112
Structural 1 sheathing (1-1/8)	16d common nail	634	1,267	1,901	2,534	3,801	2,112
Structural 1 sheathing (1-1/8)	Example screw 1	527	1,054	1,581	2,108	3,161	2,112
Structural 1 sheathing (1-1/8)	Example screw 2	603	1.206	1.810	2.413	3,619	2.112

Tabulate values based on an agustment tactors applicable to L^{-1} in NuS Table (1.3.) equal to (M, U^{-2}, L) besigned All statence capacity values provided are controlled by Modelli, or IV forsater yielding. Adjusted design spline capacity to be calculated from reference spine capacity using NDS Table 9.3.1. Before using highlighted fostener capacity values, verify the adjusted design spline capacity is greater than the an SDPWS §4.5.4.

Verify adjusted spline capacity is greater than SDPWS §4.5.4.3 Exception 1 for wind design. Verify adjusted spline capacity is greater than SDPWS §4.5.4.3 for seismic design and SDPWS 4.5.4.3 Exception 1 for wind design

B Literature Review

- Component Level Testing
- Full Scale Diaphragm Testing
- Diaphragm Design Literature
- Other References

B.5 Summary of Significant Tests and Related References

TABLE B.1: Literature on small-scale CLT panel-panel connection tests

Article Title	Connection Type	Fastener & Loading	Type of Loading	Loading Direction	Reported Results	Additional Notes	Reported Fastener Slip Modulus
[Sandhaas et al., 2009] Analysis of X-Lam Panel-to-Panel Connections Under Monotonic and Cyclic Loading	LVL surface spline	8x80mm and 8x100mm STS; fasteners loaded in shear	Monotonic and cyclic	Parallel to shear plane	Load displacement at monotonic and cyclic loadings; peak load; damping; fastener initial and plastic stiffness	Test results compared with EC5 strength and stiffness prediction equations;	K _{ser} (0.4Fmax) and K ₂ (post yielding stiffness)
[Follesa et al., 2010] Mechanical In-Piane Joints Between Cross Laminated Timber Panels	Internal spline, half-lap and surface spline	6mm and 8mm STS with and without washer; 3.1mm smooth nail and 3.1/3.4 threaded shank nails	Monotonic	Parallel to shear plane	Load-carrying capacity; stiffness	Authors observed significant difference between tested stiffness and EN1995 method;	K _{ser} and K _u (ultimate limit state stiffness)
[Joyce et al., 2011] Mechanical Behaviour of In-Plane Shear Connections Between CLT Wall Panels	Double spline and butt joints	8x100mm and 10x100mm for double spline; 8x160 partially- threaded (PT) and fully-threaded (FT) for butt joint	Monotonic and cyclic	Parallel to shear plane	Monotonic and cyclic loadings; peak load; allowable load; ductility and elastic fastener slip modulus	Fully-threaded angled screw option provides a significantly higher stiffness	Kelastic
[Ashtari, 2012] In-Plane Stiffness of Cross-Laminated Timber floors	Butt joint	8mmx180-250mm ASSY VG in shear and withdrawal combination	Monotonic	Parallel to shear plane	Peak and ultimate forces; fastener stiffness	Author calibrated the connection model in ANSYS and modeled a Smxt0.8m CLT diaphragm	K _S (0.4 to 0.7F _{max})
[Gavric et al., 2012] Strength and Deformation Characteristics of Typical X-Lam Connections	Lap and spline joints	Wall-to-wall (paraliei); 8x80mm; wall-to- wall (perpendicular); 10x180mm; floor-to- floor: 10x140mm; wall- to-floor: 10x260mm	Monotonic and cyclic	Parallel and perpendicular to shear planes	12 tested configurations; 15 reported tested statistics for each configuration	Each configuration includes 1 monotonic and 6 cyclic tests; perpendicular to shear plane test results also available	κ_{see} and κ_2
[Bratulic et al., 2014] Monotonic and Cyclic Behavior of Joints with Self-Tapping Screws in CLT Structures	Surface spline	Fastemer type not reportect loaded in sheer	Monotonic and cyclic	Parallel to shear plane	For floor-wall connection: load- displacement at monotonic and cyclic loadings; peak load; initial stiffness; yield displacement; ductility	Load-carrying capacity calculated per Johansen's yield theory	K _{ser}



