

# Mass Timber Boot Camp: Fundamentals of Design and Construction

March 31, 2026

Presented by WoodWorks



Founders Hall, Foster School of Business, University of Washington /  
LMN Architects / Magnusson Klemencic Associates / Photo Tim Griffith

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Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.



# Course Description

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This seminar offers a thorough introduction to mass timber construction, tailored for architects, engineers, and construction professionals who are new to mass timber or still developing their expertise. The course will define mass timber, the types of products available, design strategies, and best practices for successful implementation. Technical topics will include structural performance, fire safety, occupant comfort, and key considerations during construction. Additionally, participants will receive a primer on how to implement mass timber from a code perspective and what construction types under the International Building Code (IBC) can be utilized.

# Learning Objectives

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1. Learn what mass timber products are available and understand their benefits, including structural versatility, prefabrication, lighter carbon footprint, aesthetic differentiation, and reduced labor costs.
2. Learn to navigate the International Building Code (IBC) provisions that permit mass timber construction and understand the specific requirements for building height, floor area, fire-resistance ratings, and the protection of exposed wood surfaces.
3. Highlight best practices for managing vibration and acoustics in mass timber structures, including floor system design, connections, and the integration of sound insulation materials to meet occupant comfort standards.
4. Discuss methods for protecting mass timber during construction and throughout the building's lifespan, including moisture control measures, detailing, weather protection, and sealing techniques to prevent water intrusion and ensure long-term durability.

# Mass Timber Construction: Products, Performance & Design



Presented by:  
Michael Muller, PE, SE



Photo: Structurlam

# Mass Timber – What is it?

- » Large panelized solid wood formed from small wood members
  - » CLT, NLT, Glulam, Etc.
- » Floor, roof and wall framing



## OVERVIEW | TERMINOLOGY



Light-Frame Wood  
Photo: WoodWorks

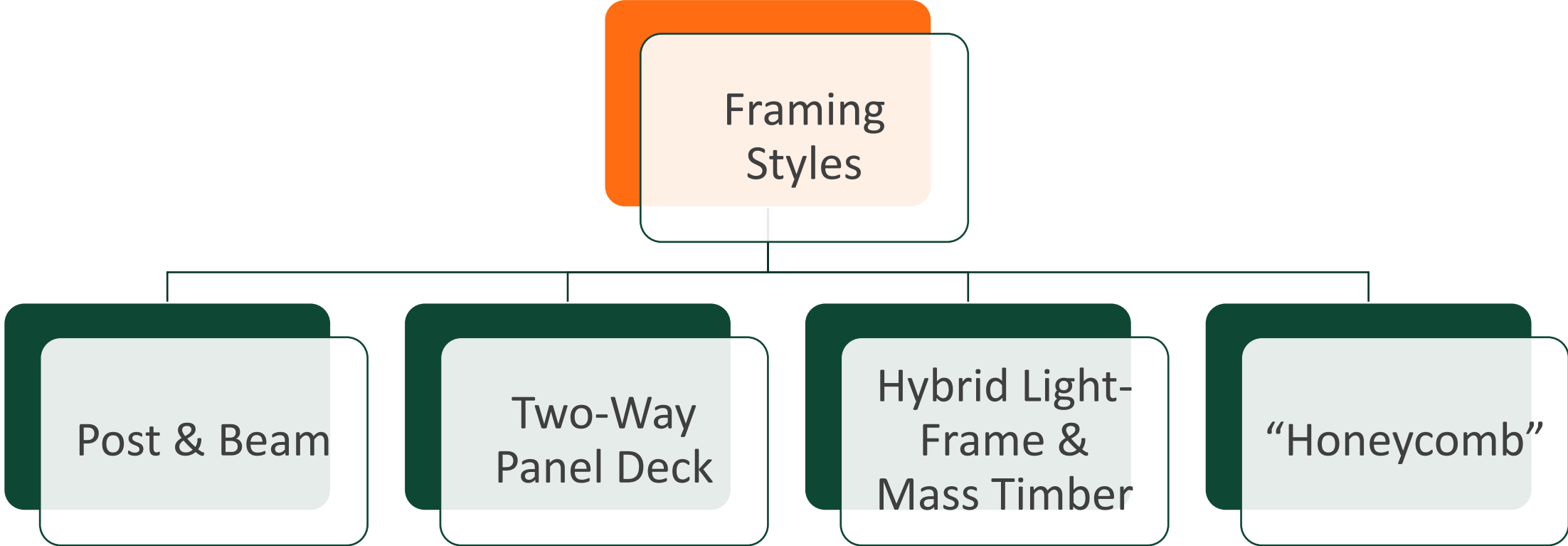


Heavy Timber  
Photo: Benjamin Benschneider



Mass Timber  
Photo: John Stamets

# Mass Timber Framing Systems



# Post and Beam



T3 Minneapolis  
Minneapolis, MN  
Image Credit: Blaine Brownell

# Two-Way Panels



Brock Commons  
Vancouver, BC  
Images: Acton Ostry Architects



# Hybrid Light-Frame & Mass Timber



Carbon 12  
Portland, OR  
Image: WoodWorks



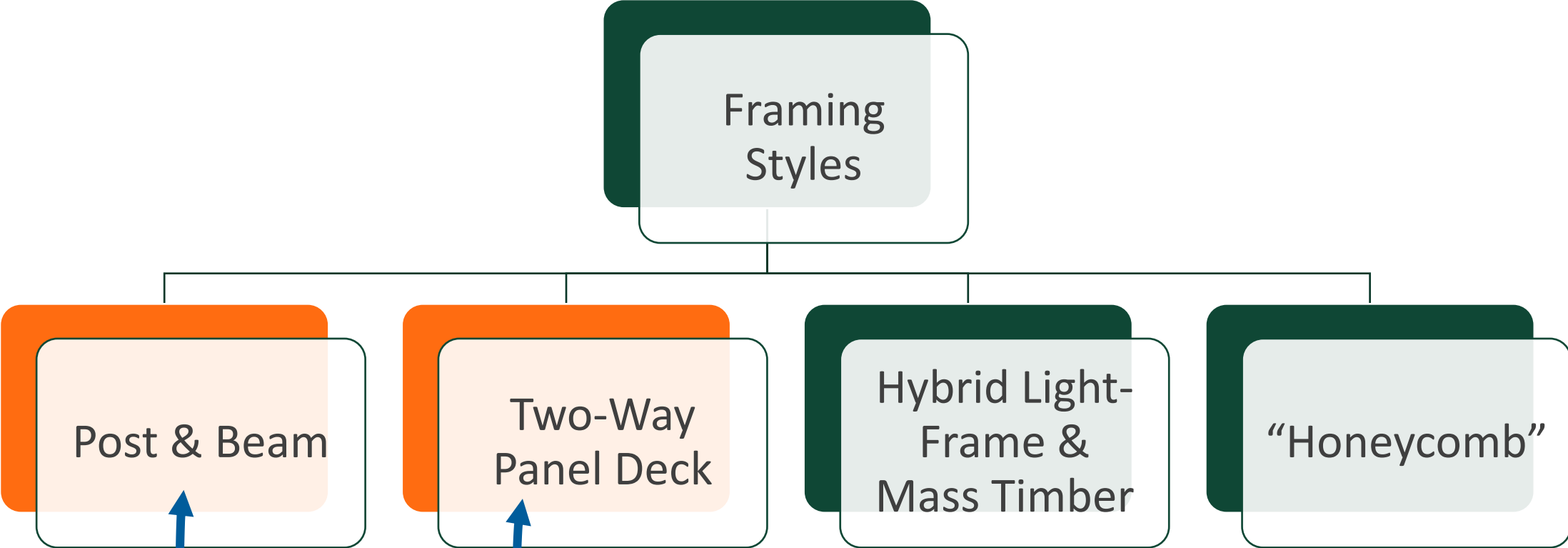
Virtuoso  
Vancouver, BC  
Image: Seagate Structures

# Honeycomb



Candlewood Suites on  
Redstone Arsenal  
Huntsville, AL  
Image Credit: LendLease

# Mass Timber Framing Systems



Vertical framing (columns & beams) commonly glulam

# Glulam

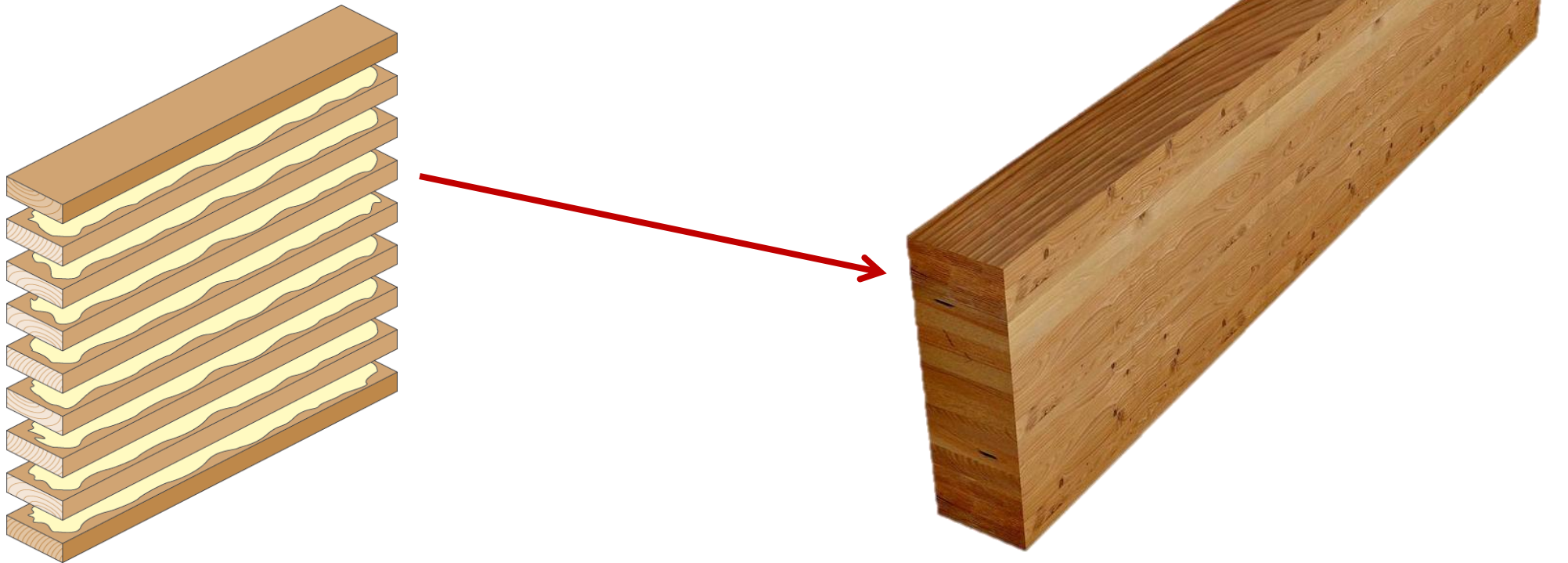


Oregon State University – Cascades-  
Edward J. Hall, SRG Partnership, catena  
consulting engineers, Photo Swinerton

# Glulam

Glulam = structural composite of lumber and adhesives

- » Recognized in IBC 2303.1.3 using ANSI/AITC A 190.1 and ASTM D 3737
- » Floors, roof purlins, beams, arches, columns



# Glulam Specs

## Typical Widths

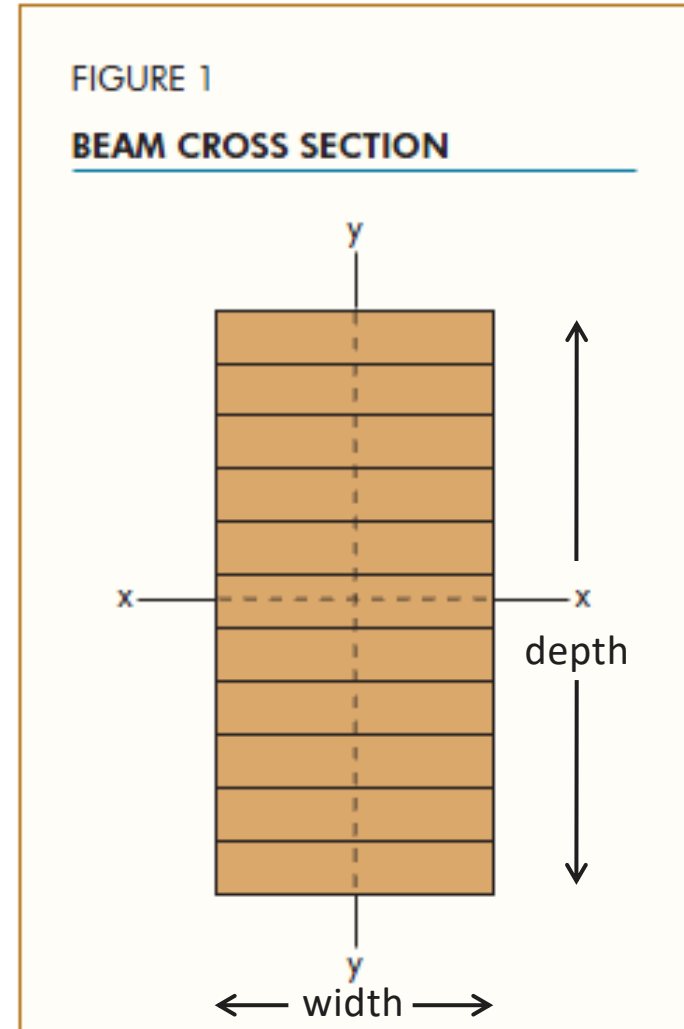
- » 3-1/8", 3-1/2", 5-1/8", 5-1/2", 6-3/4", 8-3/4", 10-3/4", 12-1/4"

## Typical Depths

- » Based on number of lams: 6" to 60"+
- » Western species lams: Typically 1-1/2" thick
- » Southern pine lams: Typically 1-3/8" thick

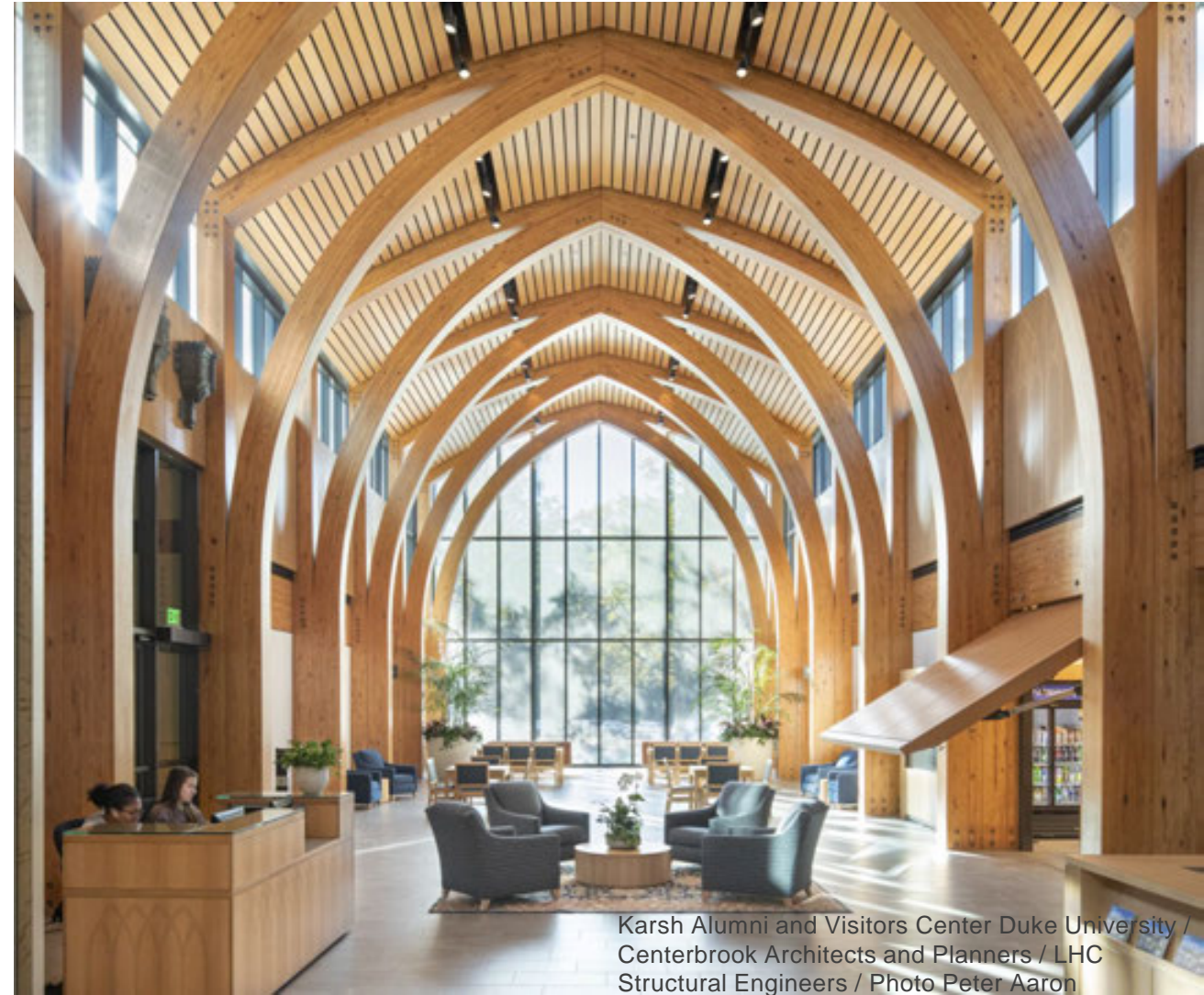
## Typical Species

- » Douglas-Fir, Southern Pine, Spruce
- » Also available in Cedar & others

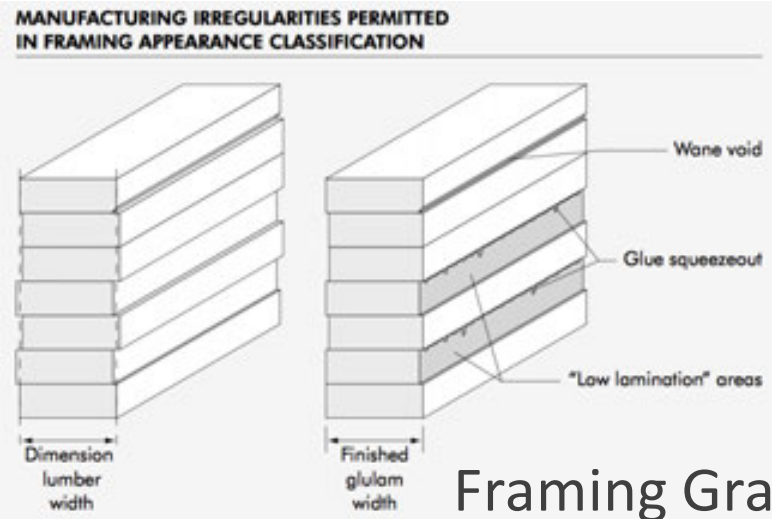


# Glulam Specs

- » Preservative treated (PT) readily available
- » Fire retardant treated (FRT) may be available
- » Can be cambered, curved, tapered
- » Various Appearance Grades



# Glulam Appearance Grades



Framing Grade



Industrial Grade



Architectural Grade



Premium Grade

Images: American Laminators

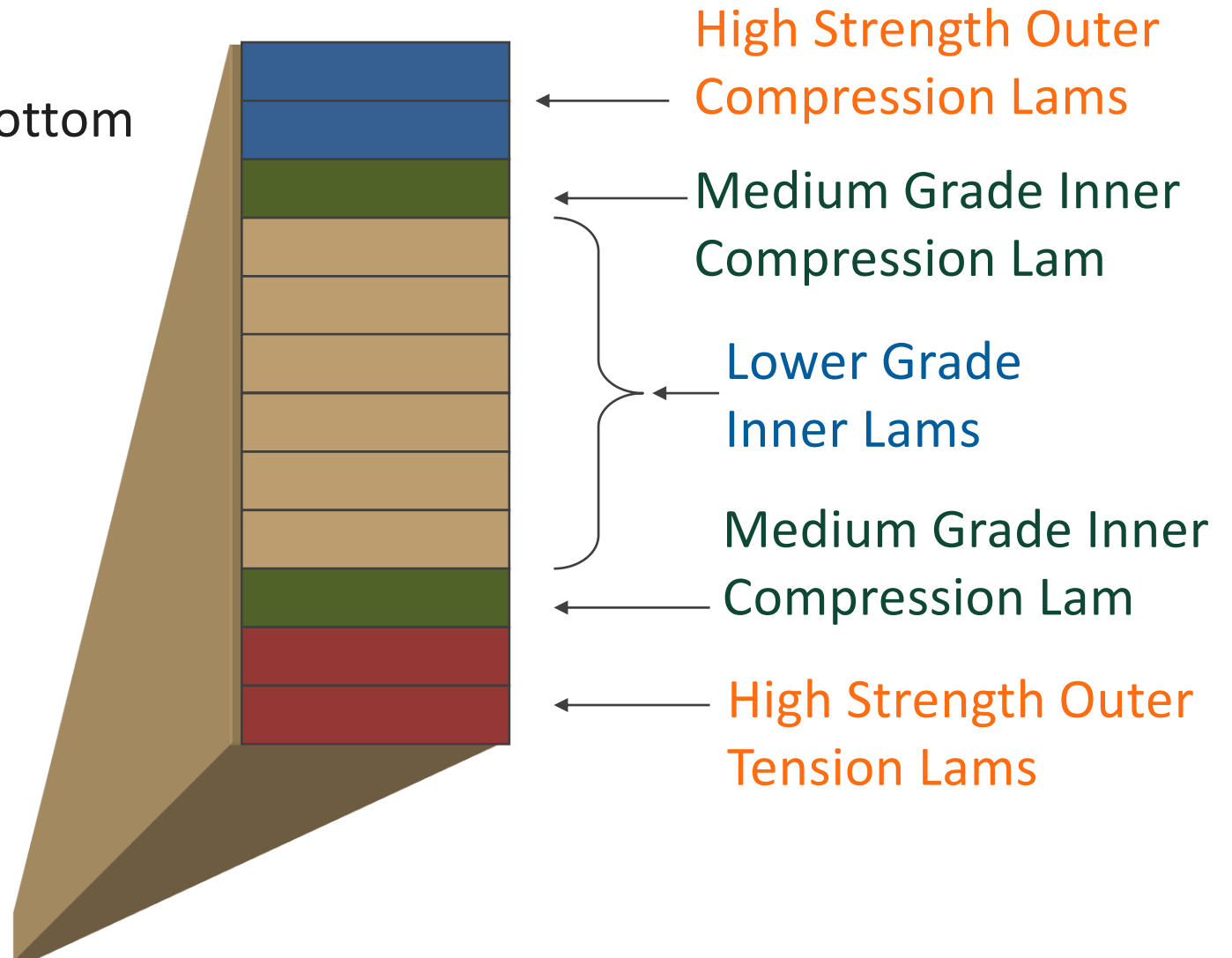
# Glulam Layup

Lamination strengths vary:

- » Higher strength at top and bottom
- » Lower strength in center



Image: APA



# Glulam Built-Up Sections

Built-Up Sections:

- » Available from some manufacturers
- » Widths of 24"+ available



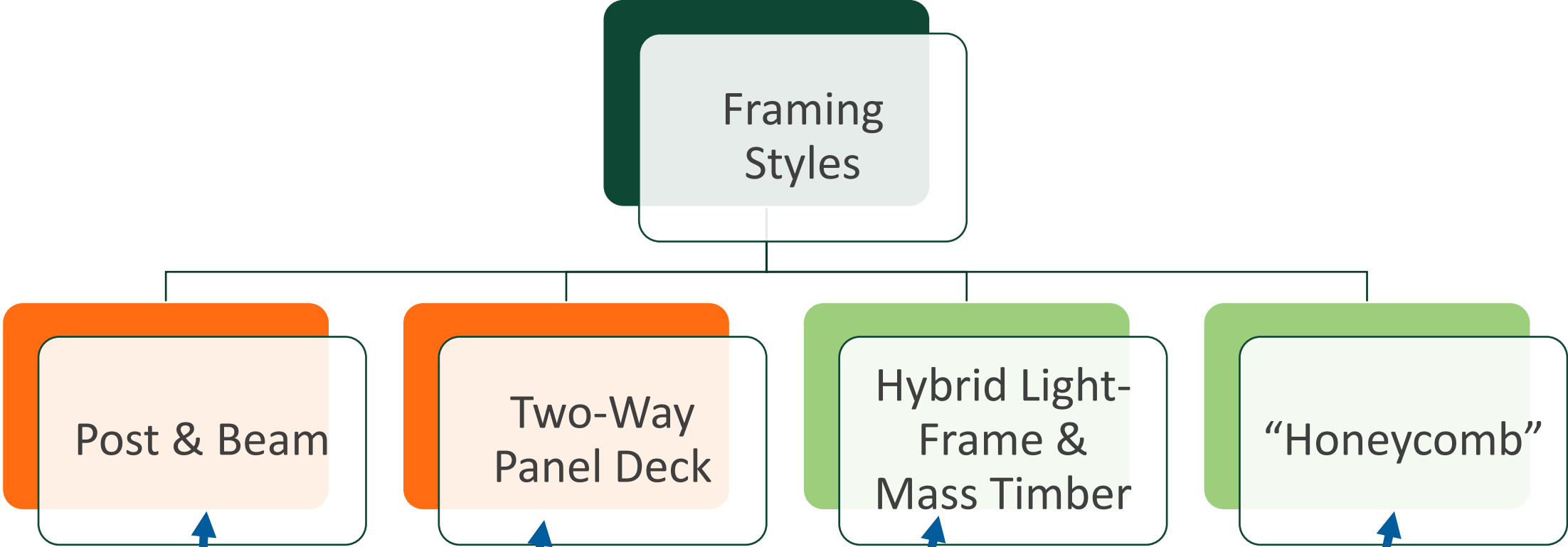
Photo: Unalam

# Flexibility of Spans and Shapes



Richmond Olympic Oval, Richmond, BC, Canada  
Design Team: Cannon Design Architecture, Fast + Epp, Glotman Simpson  
Photo Credit: Stephanie Tracey, Craig Carmichael, Jon Pesochin, KK Law Creative, Ziggy Welsch

# Mass Timber Framing Systems



Horizontal panels (& vertical panels in "honeycomb") many panel options

# Nail-Laminated Timber (NLT)



Photo: Think Wood

# Dowel-Laminated Timber (DLT)



Photo: StructureCraft

# Glue-Laminated Timber (GLT) Plank orientation



Photo: StructureCraft

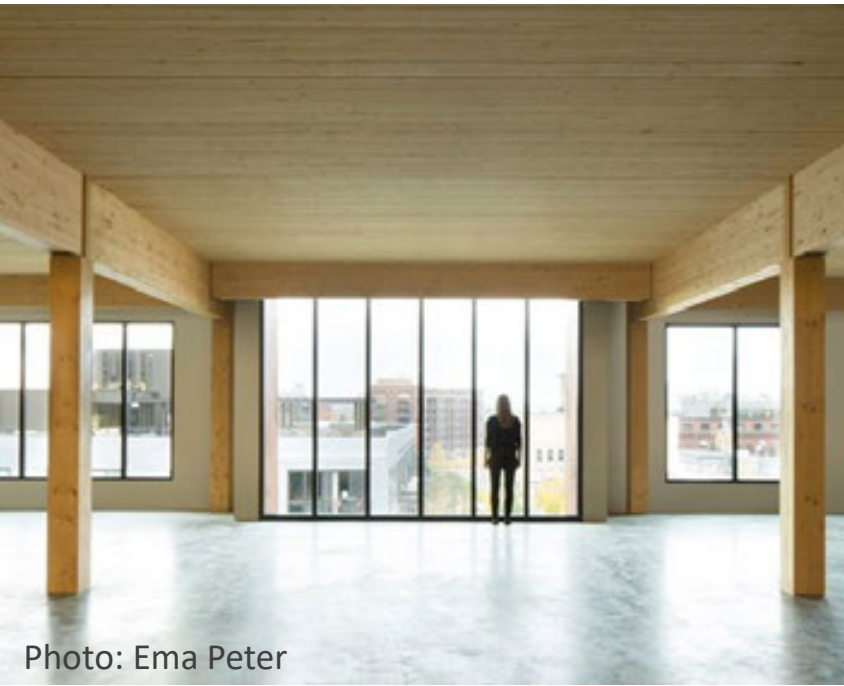


Photo: Ema Peter



Photo: StructureCraft



Photo: Manasc Isaac Architects/Fast + Epp

## Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) Solid sawn laminations



## Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) SCL laminations



Photo: Freres Lumber

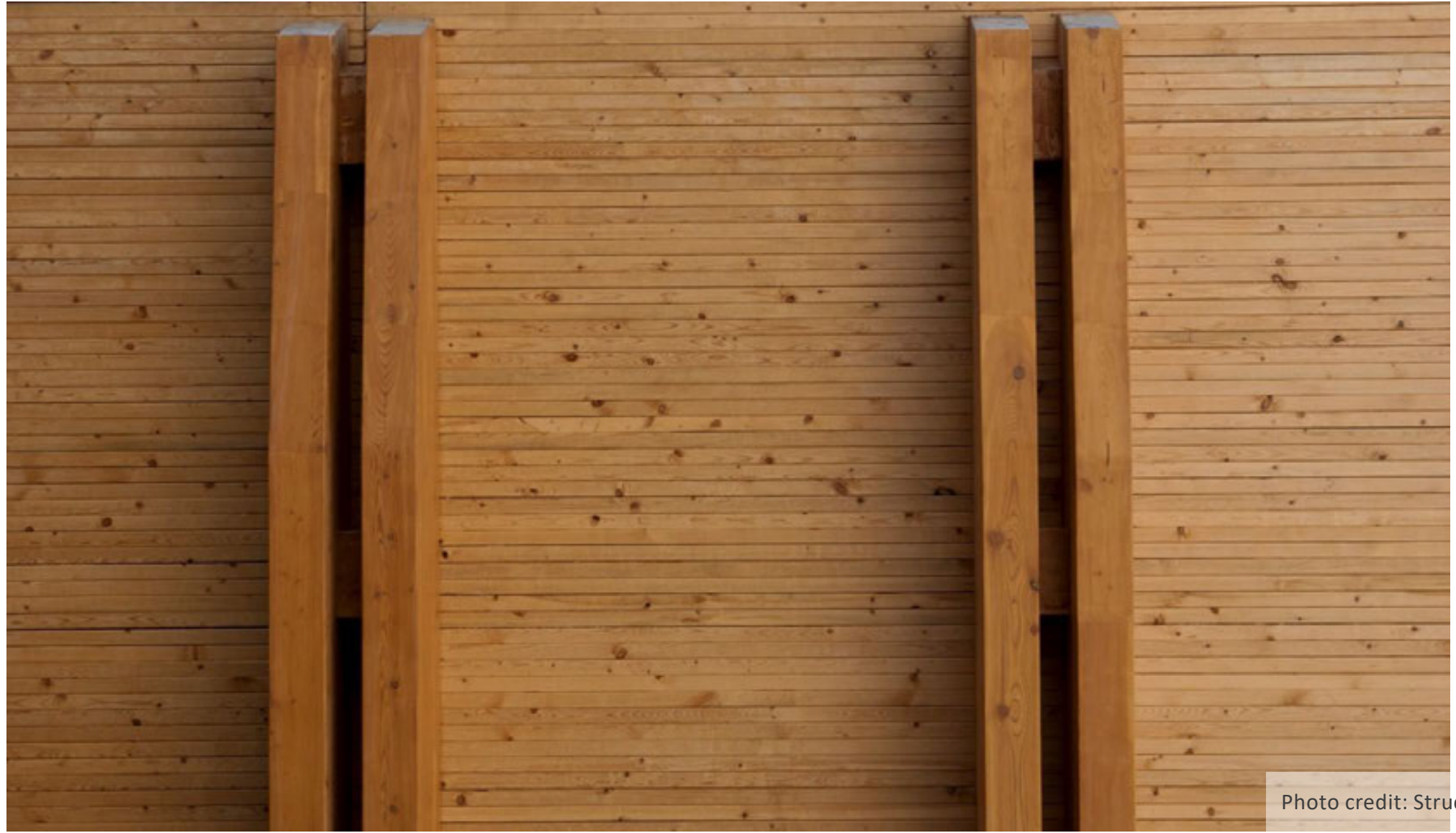


Photo: LendLease



Photo: LEVER Architecture

# Nail Laminated Timber



# Nail Laminated Timber (NLT) Panels

What is it?

- » Mechanically laminated to create solid timber panel
- » Dimension lumber on edge
  - » Nominal 2x, 3x, or 4x thickness
  - » 4 in. to 12 in. width
- » Laminations fastened with nails

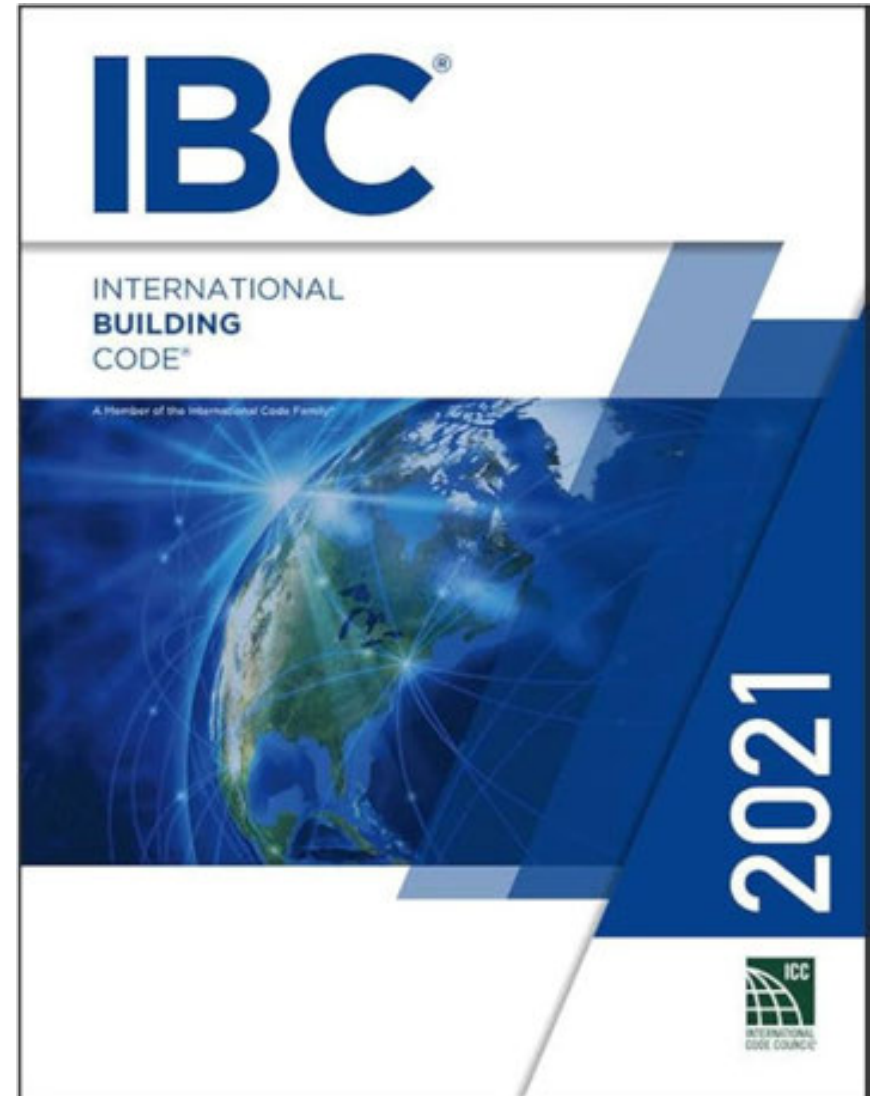


Image: Think Wood

# Nail Laminated Timber (NLT) Panels

When does the code allow it to be used?

- » IBC defines NLT as mechanically laminated decking per IBC 2304.9.3
- » Permitted anywhere that combustible materials and heavy timber are allowed, plus more



# Nail Laminated Timber (NLT) Panels

When is it used?

- » Floor and roof panels
- » Diaphragms (with Plywood/OSB added to one face)
- » Walls, shafts, etc.

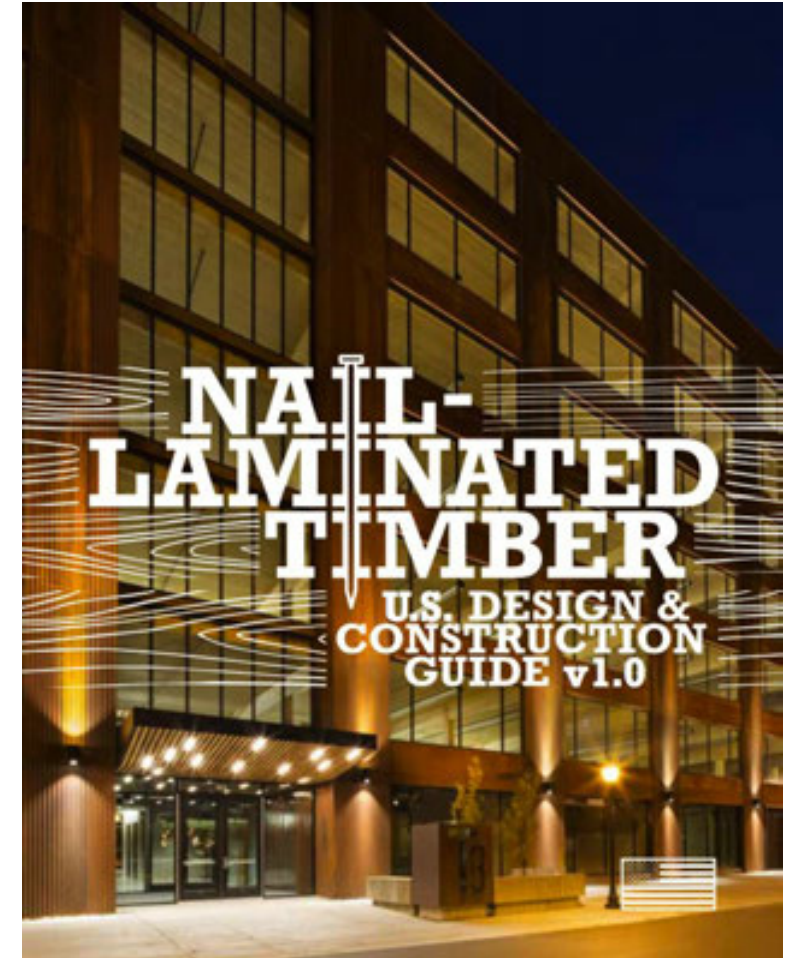


Photo credit: StructureCraft Builders

# Nail Laminated Timber (NLT) Panels

Content includes:

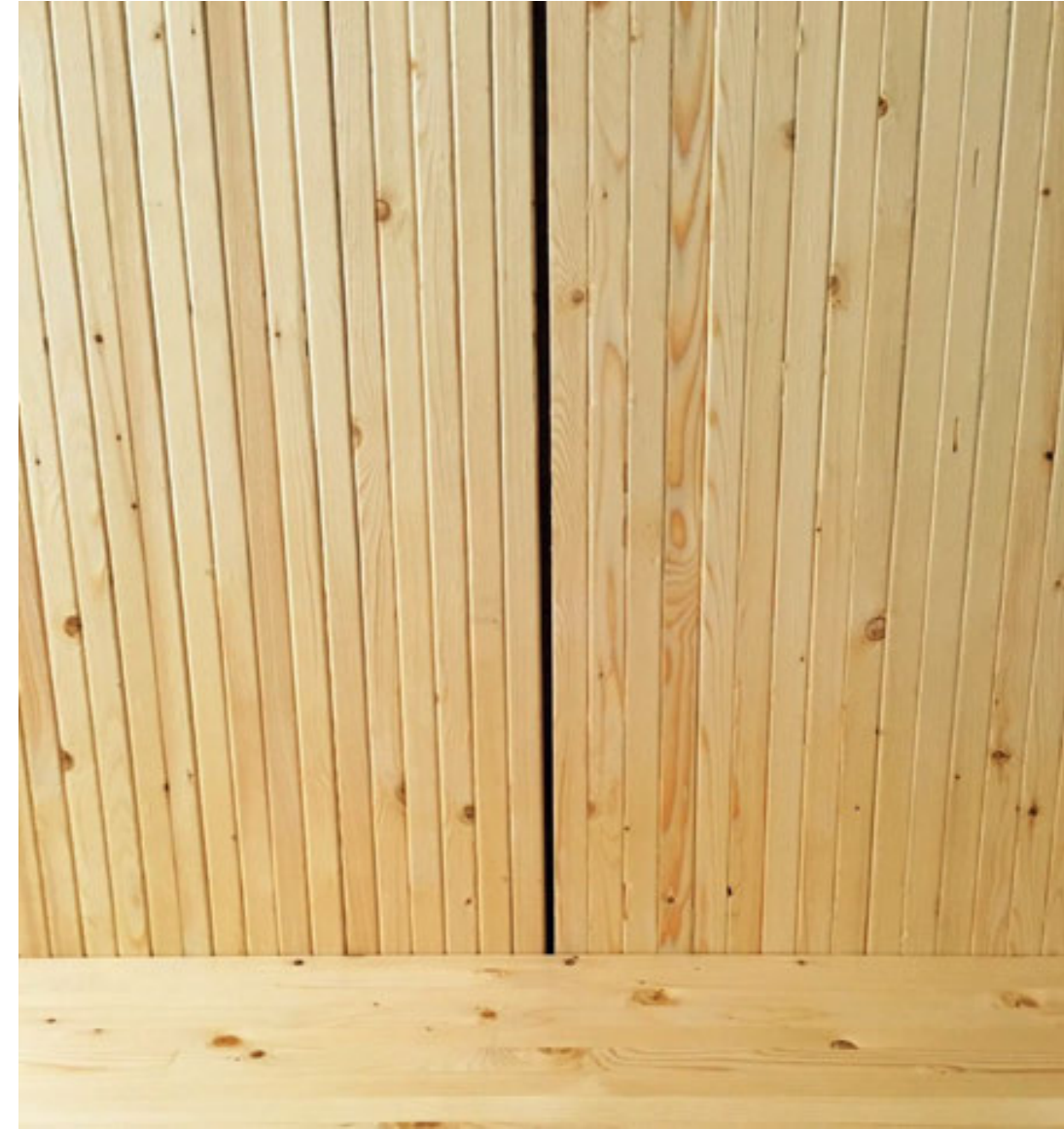
- » Architecture
- » Fire
- » Structure
- » Enclosure
- » Supply and Fabrication
- » Construction and Installation
- » Erection engineering
- » Free download at [www.thinkwood.com/nltguide](http://www.thinkwood.com/nltguide)



# Nail Laminated Timber (NLT) Panels

NLT shrinkage/ expansion design:

- » Leave one ply out per 8'-10' wide panel



# Nail Laminated Timber (NLT) Panels

Construction options:

» On-site/ in-place



» Prefabricated offsite



# Dowel Laminated Timber (DLT)



Photo credit: StructureCraft  
Builders

# Dowel Laminated Timber (DLT) Panels

What is it?

- » Similar to NLT
  - » Dowels instead of Nails connecting lams
- » Lams usually finger jointed
- » Common in Europe
- » Not recognized in IBC

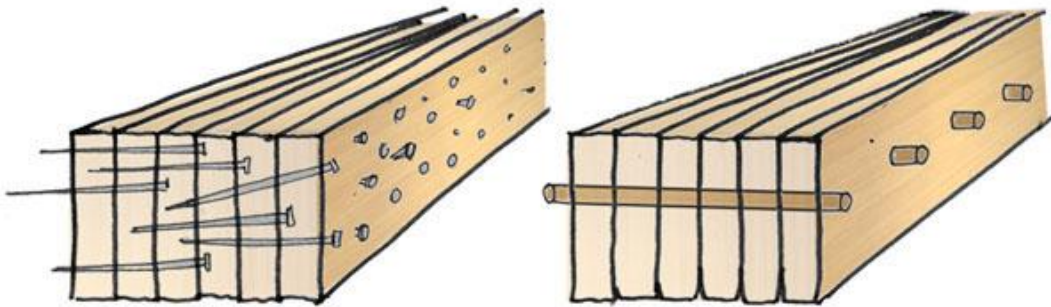


Photo credit: StructureCraft

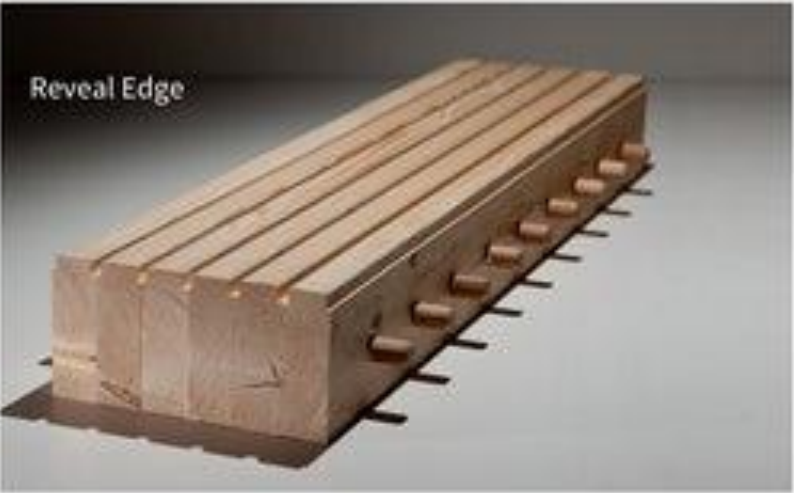
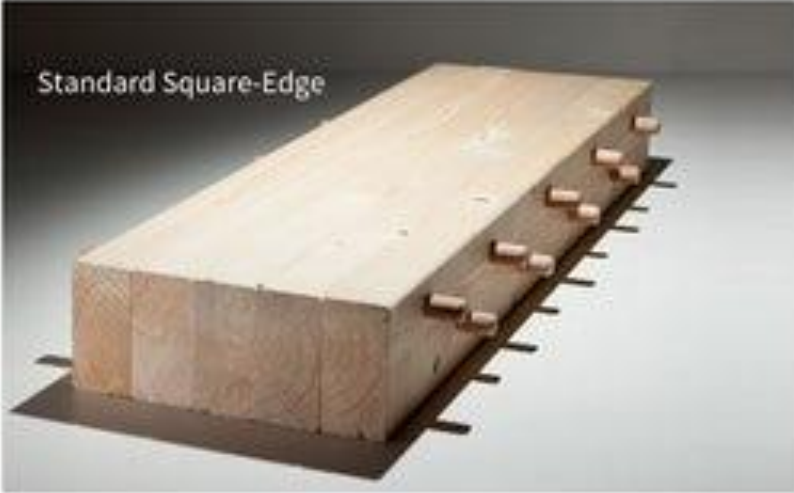


# Dowel Laminated Timber (DLT) Panels

- » Resources:
  - » Timber Framers Guild (for dowel design)
  - » DLT Design Guide



# Dowel Laminated Timber Profile Options



# Glue Laminated Timber (GLT) Panels



Photo credit: Structure Fusion



Photo credit: Unalam

# Glue Laminated Timber (GLT) Panels

What is it?

- » Similar to glulam beams on their side
- » Same code references and manufacturing standards as glulam beams and columns
- » Watch design stresses and layups
  - » Spec uniform layup (all lams same species & grade)



Image source:  
StructureCraft



Image source:  
Manasc Isaac  
Architects /  
Fast + Epp

# Glue Laminated Timber (GLT) Panels

- » Design values for bending in NDS Supplement
- » Layup combinations optimized for beams, not GLT deckings



Image source: StructureCraft

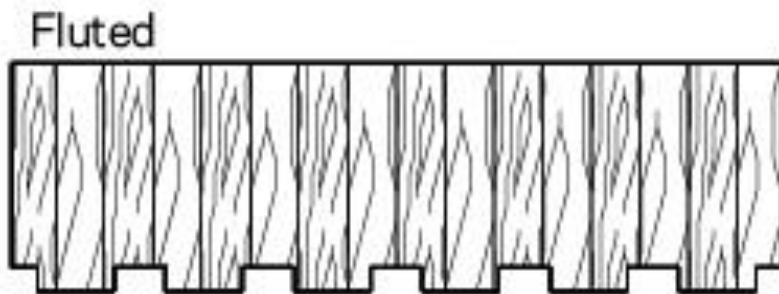
**Use with Table 5A Adjustment Factors**

| Combination<br>Symbol | Species<br>Outer/ Core | Bending About X-X Axis<br>(Loaded Perpendicular to Wide Faces<br>of Laminations) |                                                             |                                          |                     |                            |                                   |                                  | Bending About Y-Y Axis<br>(Loaded Parallel to Wide Faces<br>of Laminations) |                                          |                            |                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                       |                        | Bending                                                                          |                                                             | Compression<br>Perpendicular<br>to Grain |                     | Shear Parallel<br>to Grain | Modulus<br>of<br>Elasticity       |                                  | Bending                                                                     | Compression<br>Perpendicular<br>to Grain | Shear Parallel<br>to Grain | Modulus<br>of<br>Elasticity       |                                  |
|                       |                        | Bottom of Beam<br>Stressed in<br>Tension<br>(Positive Bending)                   | Top of Beam<br>Stressed in<br>Tension<br>(Negative Bending) | Tension<br>Face                          | Compression<br>Face |                            | For<br>Deflection<br>Calculations | For<br>Stability<br>Calculations |                                                                             |                                          |                            | For<br>Deflection<br>Calculations | For<br>Stability<br>Calculations |
|                       |                        | $F_{bx}^+$<br>(psi)                                                              | $F_{bx}^-$<br>(psi)                                         | $F_{cLx}$<br>(psi)                       |                     | $F_{vx}^{(2)}$<br>(psi)    | $E_x$<br>( $10^6$ psi)            | $E_{x \min}$<br>( $10^6$ psi)    | $F_{by}$<br>(psi)                                                           | $F_{cLy}$<br>(psi)                       | $F_{vy}^{(2)(3)}$<br>(psi) | $E_y$<br>( $10^6$ psi)            | $E_{y \min}$<br>( $10^6$ psi)    |
| <b>24F-1.8E</b>       |                        | <b>2400</b>                                                                      | <b>1450</b>                                                 | <b>650</b>                               |                     | <b>265</b>                 | <b>1.8</b>                        | <b>0.95</b>                      | <b>1450</b>                                                                 | <b>560</b>                               | <b>230</b>                 | <b>1.6</b>                        | <b>0.85</b>                      |
| 24F-V4                | DF/DF                  | 2400                                                                             | 1850                                                        | 650                                      | 650                 | 265                        | 1.8                               | 0.95                             | 1450                                                                        | 560                                      | 230                        | 1.6                               | 0.85                             |
| 24F-V8                | DF/DF                  | 2400                                                                             | 2400                                                        | 650                                      | 650                 | 265                        | 1.8                               | 0.95                             | 1550                                                                        | 560                                      | 230                        | 1.6                               | 0.85                             |
| 24F-E4                | DF/DF                  | 2400                                                                             | 1450                                                        | 650                                      | 650                 | 265                        | 1.8                               | 0.95                             | 1400                                                                        | 560                                      | 230                        | 1.7                               | 0.90                             |
| 24F-E13               | DF/DF                  | 2400                                                                             | 2400                                                        | 650                                      | 650                 | 265                        | 1.8                               | 0.95                             | 1750                                                                        | 560                                      | 230                        | 1.7                               | 0.90                             |
| 24F-E18               | DF/DF                  | 2400                                                                             | 2400                                                        | 650                                      | 650                 | 265                        | 1.8                               | 0.95                             | 1550                                                                        | 560                                      | 230                        | 1.7                               | 0.90                             |
| 24F-V3                | SP/SP                  | 2400                                                                             | 2000                                                        | 740                                      | 740                 | 300                        | 1.8                               | 0.95                             | 1700                                                                        | 650                                      | 260                        | 1.6                               | 0.85                             |
| 24F-V8                | SP/SP                  | 2400                                                                             | 2400                                                        | 740                                      | 740                 | 300                        | 1.8                               | 0.95                             | 1700                                                                        | 650                                      | 260                        | 1.6                               | 0.85                             |
| 24F-E1                | SP/SP                  | 2400                                                                             | 1450                                                        | 805                                      | 650                 | 300                        | 1.8                               | 0.95                             | 1550                                                                        | 650                                      | 260                        | 1.7                               | 0.90                             |
| 24F-E4                | SP/SP                  | 2400                                                                             | 2400                                                        | 805                                      | 805                 | 300                        | 1.9                               | 1.00                             | 1850                                                                        | 650                                      | 260                        | 1.8                               | 0.95                             |

# Glue Laminated Timber (GLT) Panels

Similar design considerations as NLT:

- » Gap panels to allow movement
- » Cover with wood structural panel for diaphragm
- » Available in variety of lamination options



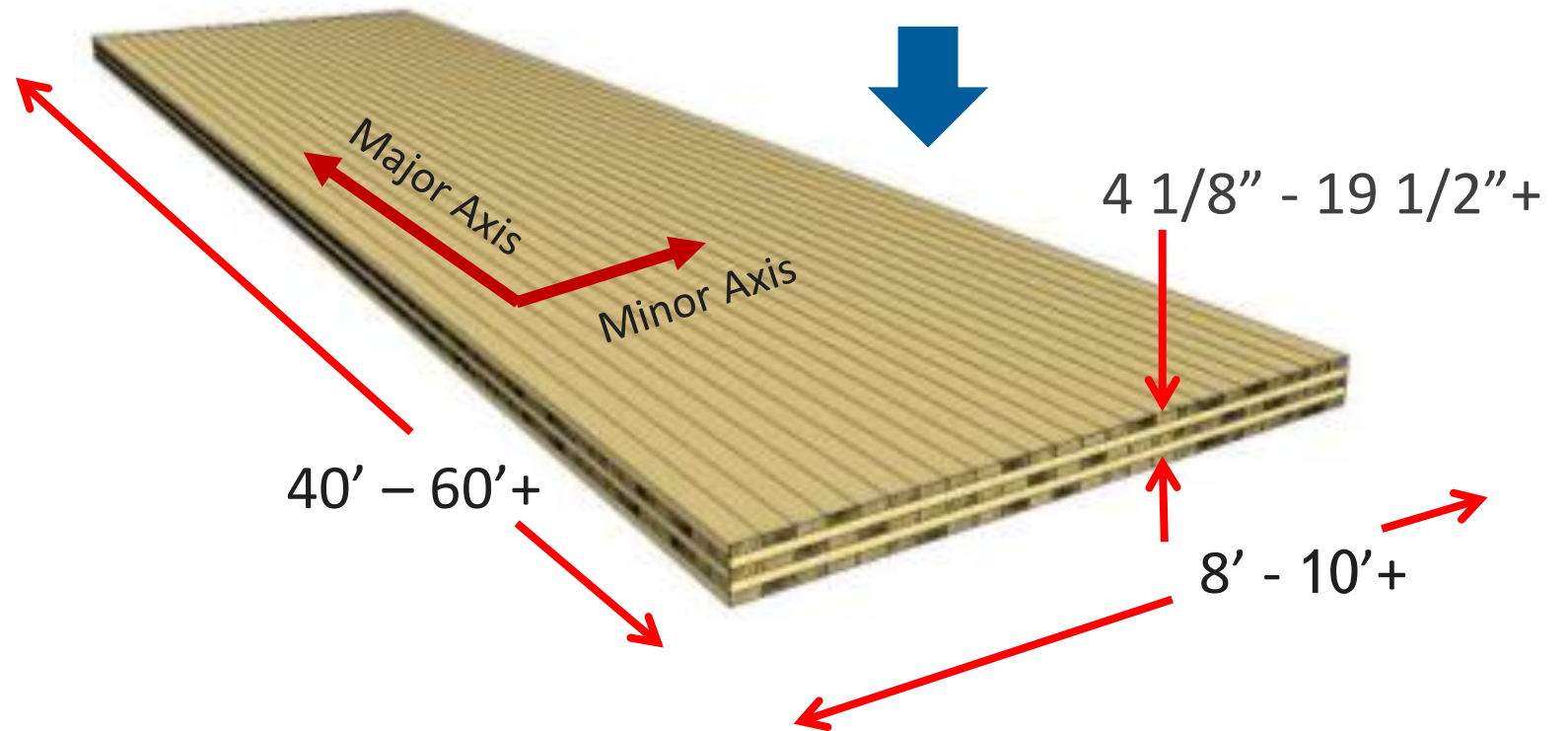
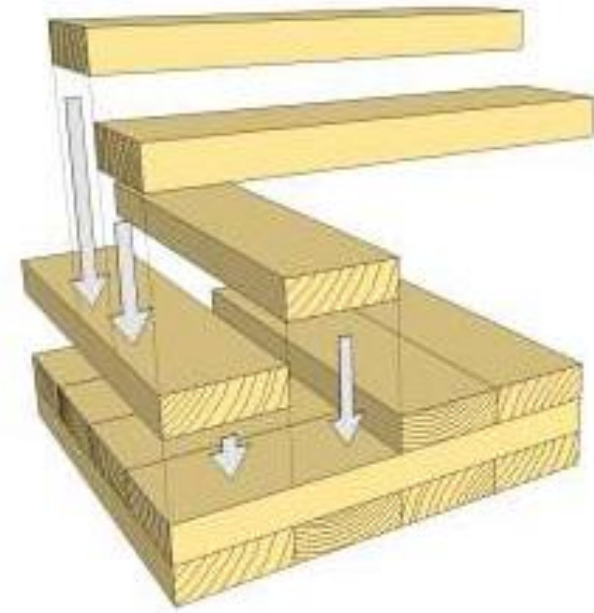
# Cross Laminated Timber (CLT)



# Cross Laminated Timber (CLT)

What is it?

- » Solid wood panel
- » Solid sawn lams
- » 3+ layers
- » 90° cross-lams



# Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) Common Layups

3-ply 3-layer



5-ply 5-layer



7-ply 7-layer



9-ply 9-layer



7-ply 5-layer



9-ply 7-layer



# Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) Panel Fabrication



# Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) Prefabrication

- » Panels planed, sanded, cut to size
- » Openings cut with CNC routers
- » 3<sup>rd</sup> party inspection at factory
- » Custom designed and engineered
- » Panels delivered/ installed in predetermined sequence



Photo Credit:  
Sissi Slotover-Smutny

# Cross Laminated Timber (CLT)

- » Since 2015 IBC, CLT defined in Chapter 2 Definitions:

**[BS] CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER.** A prefabricated engineered wood product consisting of not less than three layers of solid-sawn lumber or *structural composite lumber* where the adjacent layers are cross oriented and bonded with structural adhesive to form a solid wood element.

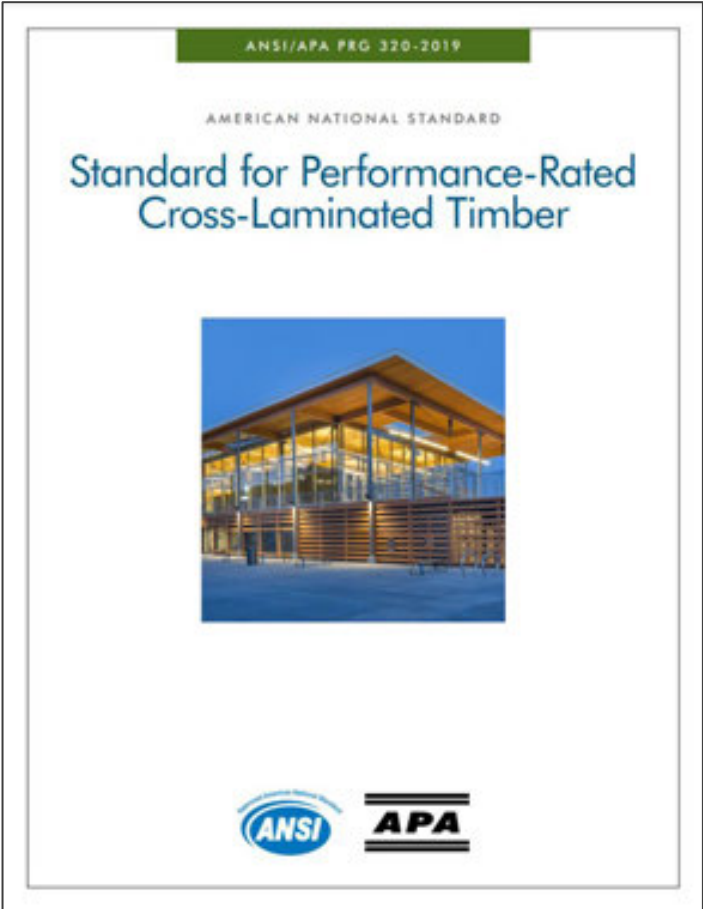
- » And referenced in Chapter 23:

**2303.1.4 Structural glued cross-laminated timber.** Cross-laminated timbers shall be manufactured and identified in accordance with ANSI/APA PRG 320.

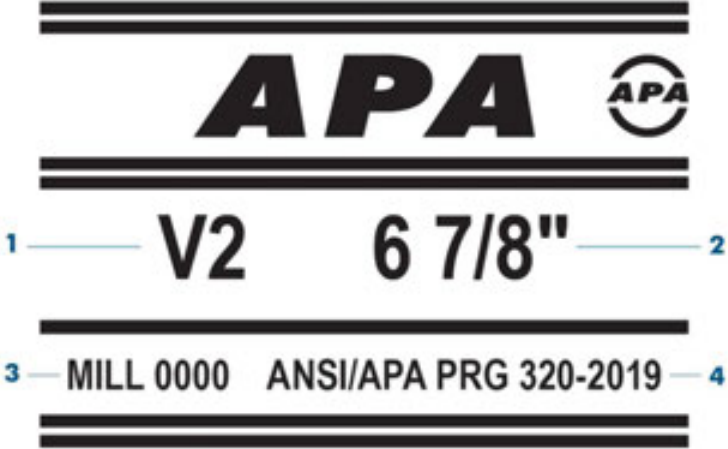


# Cross Laminated Timber (CLT)

» ANSI / APA PRG 320 Standard



## CLT Trademark Example:



- 1. Grade qualified in accordance with ANSI/APA PRG 320.
- 2. Product thickness.
- 3. APA mill number.
- 4. Referenced product standard.

Source: Structure Magazine, April 2022

# Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) Product Reports



**Boise Cascade VersaWorks® Veneer Laminated Timber PR-L335**  
**Boise Cascade Wood Products, LLC** Revised March 15, 2024

Products: Boise Cascade VersaWorks® Veneer Laminated Timber  
 Boise Cascade Wood Products, LLC, PO Box 2400, White City, Oregon 97503-0400  
 (833) 769-0257  
<https://commercial.k...>

1. Basis of the product report:
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Building Code (IBC): Section 2303.1.4 Structural glued cross-laminated timber
  - 2012 IBC: Section 104.11 Alternative materials
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Residential Code (IRC): Sections R502.1.6, R602.1.6, and R802.1.6 Cross-laminated timber
  - 2012 IRC: Section R104.11 Alternative materials
  - ANSI/APA PRG 320-2019 Standard for Performance-Rated Cross-Laminated Timber, recognized in the 2021 IBC and IRC
  - ANSI/APA PRG 320-2017, PRG 320-2012, and PRG 320-2011 recognized in the 2018 IBC and IRC, 2015 IRC, and 2015 IBC, respectively
  - ASTM D5454 IRC, 2018 IRC, and 2015 IRC, respectively
  - APA Reports T2022P-18, T2023P-05, T2023P-06, T2023P-08, and T2023P-14, and other qualification data



**IB MAX-CORE® Cross-Laminated Timber PR-L327**  
**IB X-LAM USA, LLC** Revised November 30, 2023

Products: IB MAX-CORE® Cross-Laminated Timber  
 IB X-Lam USA, LLC, (334) 661-4100  
[www.smartlam.com](http://www.smartlam.com)

1. Basis of the product report:
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Building Code (IBC): Section 2303.1.4 Structural glued cross-laminated timber
  - 2012 IBC: Section 104.11 Alternative materials
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Residential Code (IRC): Sections R502.1.6, R602.1.6, and R802.1.6 Cross-laminated timber
  - 2012 IRC: Section R104.11 Alternative materials
  - ANSI/APA PRG 320-2019 Standard for Performance-Rated Cross-Laminated Timber, recognized in the 2021 IBC and IRC
  - ANSI/APA PRG 320-2017, PRG 320-2012, and PRG 320-2011 recognized in the 2018 IBC and IRC, 2015 IRC, and 2015 IBC, respectively
  - APA Reports T2022P-18, T2023P-05, T2023P-06, T2023P-08, and T2023P-14, and other qualification data



**Element5 Cross-Laminated Timber PR-L339**  
**Element5 Limited Partnership** Revised April 18, 2024

Products: Element5 Cross-Laminated Timber  
 Element5 Limited Partnership, 70 Dennis Road, St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada N5P 0B6  
 (888) 670-7713  
[www.elementfive.co](http://www.elementfive.co)

1. Basis of the product report:
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Building Code (IBC): Section 2303.1.4 Structural glued cross-laminated timber
  - 2012 IBC: Section 104.11 Alternative materials
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Residential Code (IRC): Sections R502.1.6, R602.1.6, and R802.1.6 Cross-laminated timber
  - 2012 IRC: Section R104.11 Alternative materials
  - ANSI/APA PRG 320-2019 Standard for Performance-Rated Cross-Laminated Timber, recognized in the 2021 IBC and IRC
  - ANSI/APA PRG 320-2017, PRG 320-2012, and PRG 320-2011 recognized in the 2018 IBC and IRC, 2015 IRC, and 2015 IBC, respectively
  - PFS TECO Reports No. 20-202, 20-211, 21-031, 21-044, 21-052, 21-053, 21-113, 21-132, 21-504, 21-609, 21-610, 21-689, and 21-690, APA Reports T2023P-06 and T2023P-28, and other qualification data



**Freres Mass Ply Panels (MPP) and Mass Ply Lam (MPL) Beams and Columns PR-L325**  
**Freres Lumber Co., Inc. dba Freres Engineered Wood** Revised May 2, 2024

Products: Freres Mass Ply Panels (MPP) and Mass Ply Lam (MPL) Beams and Columns  
 Freres Lumber Co., Inc. dba Freres Engineered Wood, Lyons, Oregon 97358  
 (503) 859-2121  
[www.frereswood.com](http://www.frereswood.com)

1. Basis of the product report:
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Building Code (IBC): Section 2303.1.4 Structural glued cross-laminated timber
  - 2012 IBC: Section 104.11 Alternative materials
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Residential Code (IRC): Sections R502.1.6, R602.1.6, and R802.1.6 Cross-laminated timber
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  - ANSI/APA PRG 320-2019 Standard for Performance-Rated Cross-Laminated Timber, recognized in the 2021 IBC and IRC
  - ANSI/APA PRG 320-2017, PRG 320-2012, and PRG 320-2011 recognized in the 2018 IBC and IRC, 2015 IRC, and 2015 IBC, respectively
  - APA Reports T2022P-18, T2023P-05, T2023P-06, T2023P-08, and T2023P-14, and other qualification data

Freres MPP is available in applications. Freres thicknesses (t) of 2-1/2 inches up to 48 feet.

Freres Mass Ply Lam is available in applications. Freres thicknesses (t) of 2-1/2 inches up to 48 feet.

Freres Mass Ply Lam is available in applications. Freres thicknesses (t) of 2-1/2 inches up to 48 feet.



**Kalesnikoff Cross-Laminated Timber PR-L332**  
**Kalesnikoff Mass Timber Inc.** Revised October 28, 2023

Products: Kalesnikoff Cross-Laminated Timber  
 Kalesnikoff Mass Timber Inc., (250) 399-4211  
[www.kalesnikoff.com](http://www.kalesnikoff.com)

1. Basis of the product report:
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Building Code (IBC): Section 2303.1.4 Structural glued cross-laminated timber
  - 2012 IBC: Section 104.11 Alternative materials
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Residential Code (IRC): Sections R502.1.6, R602.1.6, and R802.1.6 Cross-laminated timber
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  - APA Reports T2022P-18, T2023P-05, T2023P-06, T2023P-08, and T2023P-14, and other qualification data

Freres MPP is available in applications. Freres thicknesses (t) of 2-1/2 inches up to 48 feet.



**Vaagen Cross-Laminated Timber PR-L328**  
**Vaagen Timbers, LLC** Revised January 9, 2024

Products: Vaagen Cross-Laminated Timber  
 Vaagen Timbers, LLC, 1245 N Highway, Colville, WA 99114  
 (509) 684-3678  
[www.vaaqentimbers.com](http://www.vaaqentimbers.com)

1. Basis of the product report:
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Building Code (IBC): Section 2303.1.4 Structural glued cross-laminated timber
  - 2012 IBC: Section 104.11 Alternative materials
  - 2021, 2018, and 2015 International Residential Code (IRC): Sections R502.1.6, R602.1.6, and R802.1.6 Cross-laminated timber
  - 2012 IRC: Section R104.11 Alternative materials
  - ANSI/APA PRG 320-2019 Standard for Performance-Rated Cross-Laminated Timber, recognized in the 2021 IBC and IRC
  - ANSI/APA PRG 320-2017, PRG 320-2012, and PRG 320-2011 recognized in the 2018 IBC and IRC, 2015 IRC, and 2015 IBC, respectively
  - APA Reports T2019P-38, T2021P-41, T2022P-05, T2023P-05, T2023P-14, and T2023P-50, PFS TECO Reports No. 20-016 (Rev. 21-08-17), No. 20-089, No. 20-090, No. 20-522, No. 21-068, No. 21-187, and No. 21-583, and other qualification data

# Mass Plywood Panels (MPP)



# Mass Plywood Panels (MPP)

What is it?

- » Thicknesses in 1" Increments
- » Structural properties in APA PR-L325



**MPP**

Table 1. ASD Reference Design Values<sup>(a,b,c)</sup> for Freres MPP (For Use in the U.S.)

| MPP Layout | Layup ID | Thickness, $t_p$ (in.) | Major Strength Direction        |                                                     |                                   |                    | Minor Strength Direction         |                                                      |                                    |                     |
|------------|----------|------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
|            |          |                        | $(F_b S)_{eff,1.0}$ (lbf-ft/ft) | $(EI)_{eff,1.0}$ ( $10^6$ lbf-in. <sup>2</sup> /ft) | $(GA)_{eff,1.0}$ ( $10^6$ lbf/ft) | $V_{k,0}$ (lbf/ft) | $(F_b S)_{eff,1.90}$ (lbf-ft/ft) | $(EI)_{eff,1.90}$ ( $10^6$ lbf-in. <sup>2</sup> /ft) | $(GA)_{eff,1.90}$ ( $10^6$ lbf/ft) | $V_{k,90}$ (lbf/ft) |
| F16        | F16-2    | 2                      | 1,110                           | 16                                                  | 0.82                              | 2,190              | 210                              | 2.8                                                  | 0.17                               | 695                 |
|            | F16-3    | 3                      | 1,870                           | 51                                                  | 1.23                              | 2,190              | 355                              | 9.0                                                  | 0.26                               | 695                 |
|            | F16-4    | 4                      | 3,325                           | 122                                                 | 1.64                              | 2,925              | 630                              | 21                                                   | 0.34                               | 930                 |
|            | F16-5    | 5                      | 5,200                           | 238                                                 | 2.05                              | 3,650              | 985                              | 42                                                   | 0.43                               | 1,160               |
|            | F16-6    | 6                      | 7,500                           | 410                                                 | 2.46                              | 4,375              | 1,420                            | 72                                                   | 0.69                               | 1,390               |
|            | F16-7    | 7                      | 10,200                          | 652                                                 | 2.66                              | 5,100              | 1,930                            | 114                                                  | 0.81                               | 1,630               |
|            | F16-8    | 8                      | 13,325                          | 973                                                 | 3.04                              | 5,825              | 2,525                            | 170                                                  | 0.91                               | 1,860               |
|            | F16-9    | 9                      | 16,850                          | 1,385                                               | 3.42                              | 6,575              | 3,200                            | 242                                                  | 1.04                               | 2,090               |
|            | F16-10   | 10                     | 20,825                          | 1,900                                               | 3.80                              | 7,300              | 3,950                            | 333                                                  | 1.15                               | 2,320               |
|            | F16-11   | 11                     | 25,175                          | 2,529                                               | 4.18                              | 8,025              | 4,775                            | 443                                                  | 1.27                               | 2,550               |
|            | F16-12   | 12                     | 29,975                          | 3,283                                               | 4.56                              | 8,750              | 5,675                            | 575                                                  | 1.38                               | 2,775               |

For SI: 1 in. = 25.4 mm; 1 ft = 304.8 mm; 1 lbf = 4.448N

<sup>(a)</sup> Tabulated values are allowable design values.

<sup>(b)</sup> Tabulated values are limited to MPP manufactured with 1-inch-thick Freres 1.6E Douglas-fir LVL.

<sup>(c)</sup> Deflection under a specified uniformly distributed load,  $w$ , acting perpendicular to the face of a single-span panel may be calculated as a sum of the deflections due to moment and shear effects using the effective bending stiffness,  $(EI)_{eff}$ , and the effective in-plane (planar) shear rigidity,  $(GA)_{eff}$ , as follows:

$$\delta = \frac{22.5wL^4}{(EI)_{eff}} + \frac{3wL^2}{2(GA)_{eff}} \quad [1]$$

where:  $\delta$  = Estimated deflection, inches;

$w$  = uniform load, plf;

$L$  = span, feet;

$(EI)_{eff}$  = tabulated effective bending stiffness,  $10^6$  lbf-in.<sup>2</sup>/ft; and

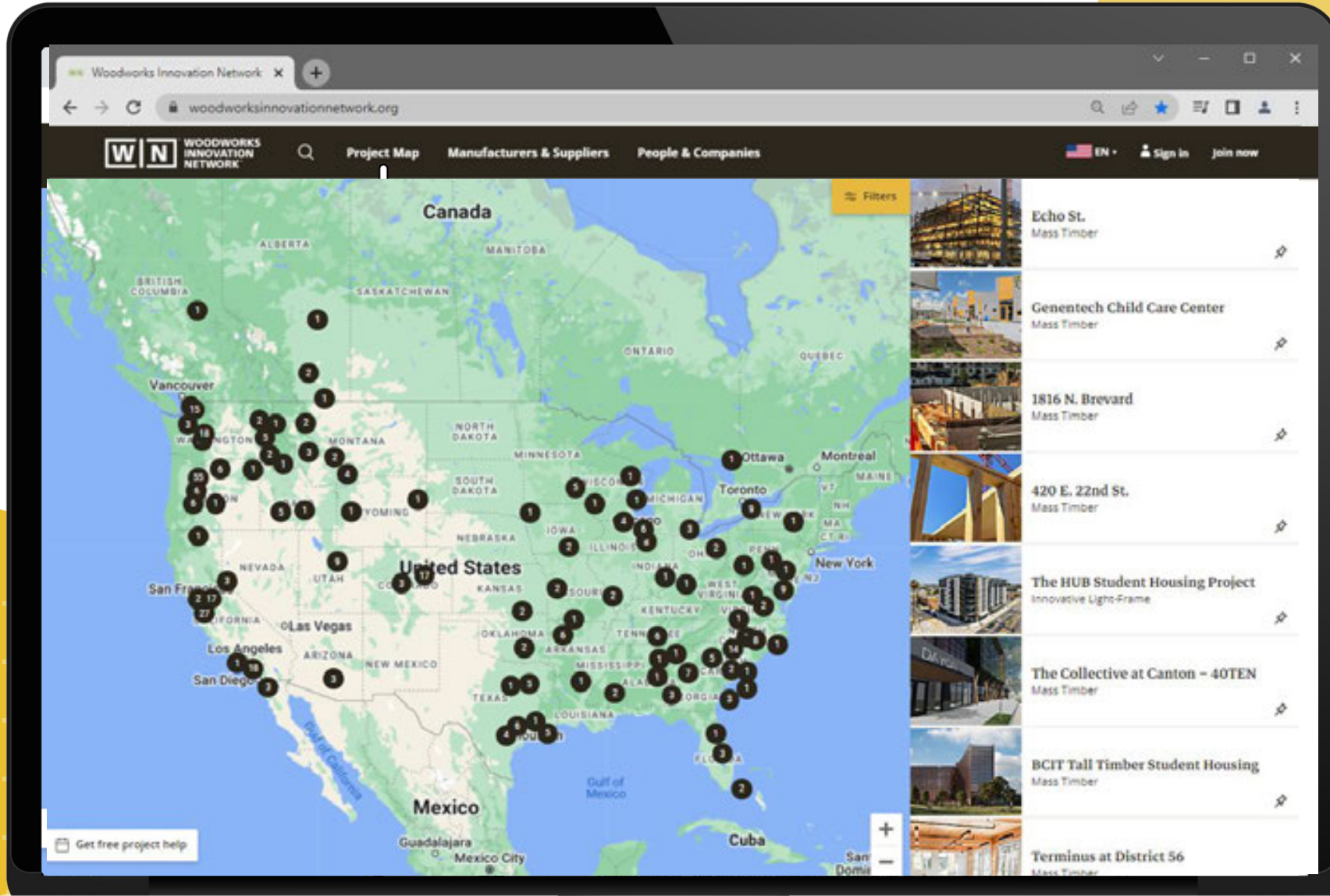
$(GA)_{eff}$  = tabulated effective in-plane (planar) shear rigidity,  $10^6$  lbf/ft



**WOODWORKS  
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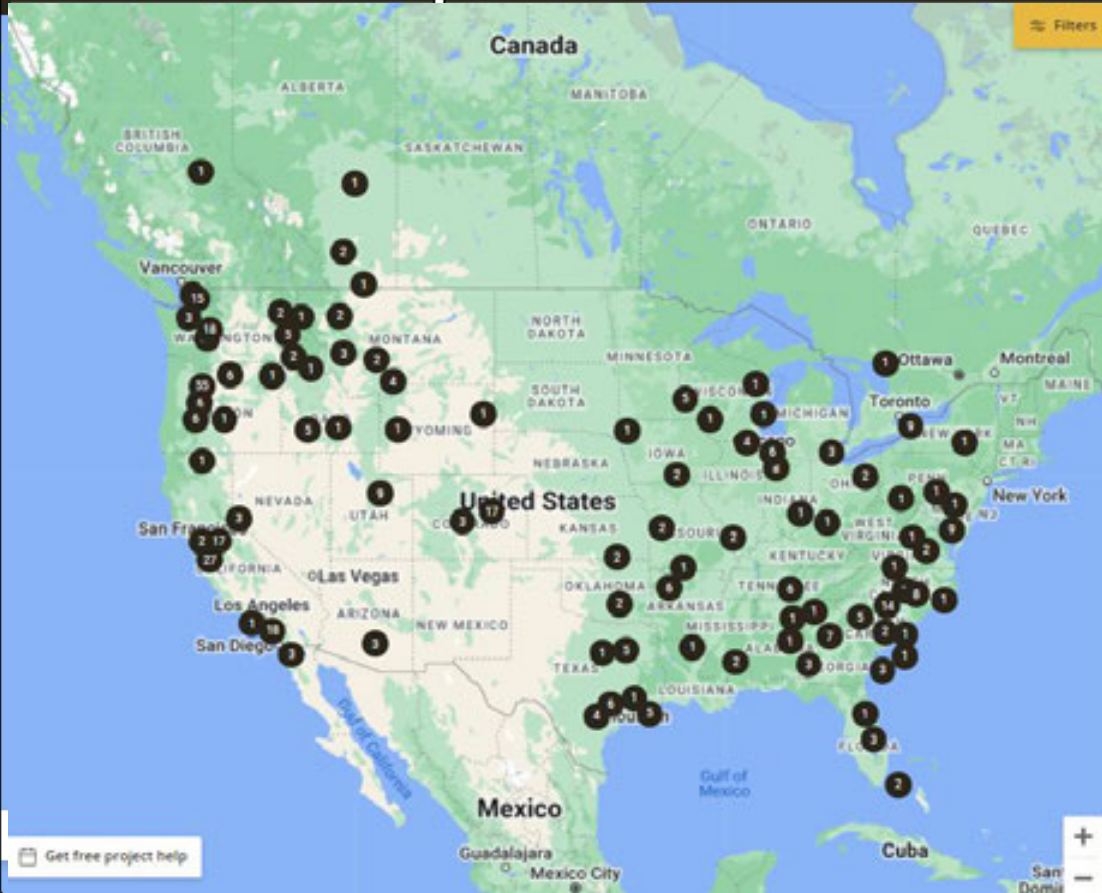
111 East Grand / Neumann Monson Architects  
photo Mike Sinclair



Woodworks Innovation Network  
woodworksinnovationnetwork.org

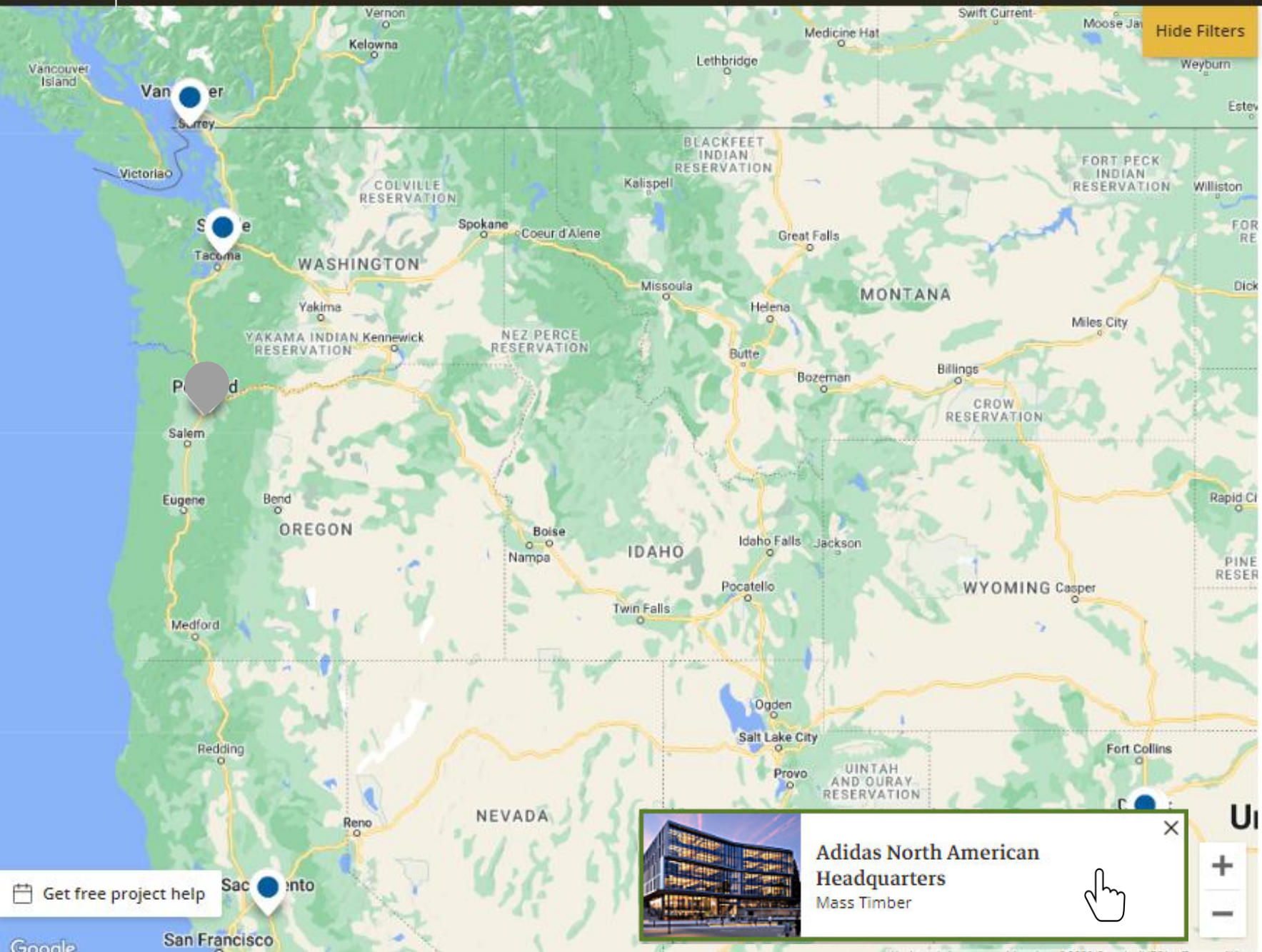
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Project Map Manufacturers & Suppliers People & Companies

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- Echo St. Mass Timber
- Genentech Child Care Center Mass Timber
- 1816 N. Brevard Mass Timber
- 420 E. 22nd St. Mass Timber
- The HUB Student Housing Project Innovative Light-Frame
- The Collective at Canton - 40TEN Mass Timber
- BCIT Tall Timber Student Housing Mass Timber
- Terminus at District 56 Mass Timber

Get free project help



Hide Filters

- Structural Composite Lumber (e.g. LVL and LSL) 0
- Timber-Frame / Post and Beam 2
- Wood structural panels 0
- Wood-Concrete Composite Systems 0

Other Properties

- Wood Design Award Winner 2
- Affordable Housing 1
- Business Case Study Available 0
- Spec Office 1
- Technical Case Study Available 1

Number of Stories

1 — 12

Year Built


Select...

Construction Types

- I-A 0
- I-B 0
- II-A 0
- II-B 0
- III-A 3
- III-B 1
- IV-A 0
- IV-B 1
- IV-C 0
- IV-HT 2
- Unknown 0
- V-A 0
- V-B 1

Square Footage

- < 10,000 18
- 10,000 - 50,000 72
- 50,000 - 200,000 74
- 200,000 + 8



**Adidas North American Headquarters**  
Mass Timber

Free Project Support from WoodWorks [Learn more](#)

# Adidas North American Headquarters

Portland, OR



Photo Credit Jeremy Bittermann



Innovation, performance, and sustainability were top priorities for Adidas when they expanded their headquarters. The building faced unique design challenges, including the schedule, budget, structural requirements, and the need for a sustainable and healthy indoor environment.



**Thomas Robi**  
Founding Principal, LEED  
Portland, OR

INDUSTRY  
Architect

SERVICES OFFERED  
Architect, Design

HAS EXPERIENCE WITH THESE BUSINESS OFFICES

HAS EXPERIENCE WITH THESE MASS TIMBER

HAS EXPERIENCE WITH THESE CONSTRUCTION TYPES  
LA

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# Early Design Decisions: Priming Mass Timber Projects for Success



Jason Bahr, P.E.



Photo: Structurlam

# Outline

- Key Early Design Decisions
  - » Construction Types
  - » Fire Design
  - » Structural Grid
  - » Connections
  - » Penetrations & Firestopping
  - » MEP Layout and Integration
  - » Lateral Systems
  - » Acoustics

# Key Early Design Decisions

What is the Single Most Important Early Design Decision on a Mass Timber Project? Is it:

Construction Type

Fire-Resistance Ratings

Member Sizes

Grids & Spans

Exposed Timber (where & how much)

MEP Layout

Acoustics

Concealed Spaces

Connections

Penetrations

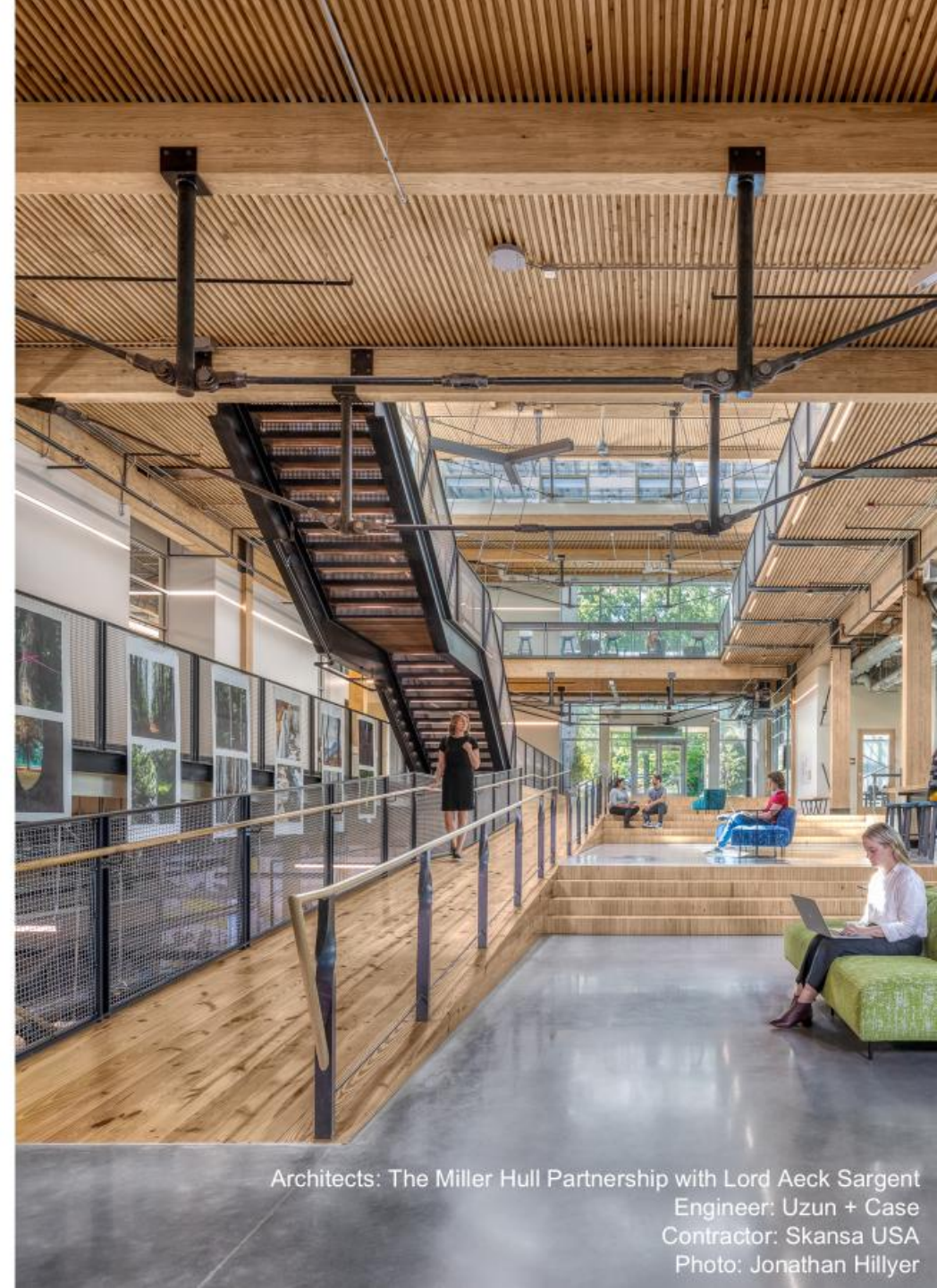
The Answer is...They All Need to Be Weighed (Plus Others)

# Key Early Design Decisions

One *potential* design route:

1. Building size & occupancy informs construction type & grid
2. Construction type informs fire resistance ratings
3. Grid & fire resistance ratings inform timber member sizes & MEP layout

But that's not all...



Architects: The Miller Hull Partnership with Lord Aeck Sargent  
Engineer: Uzun + Case  
Contractor: Skanska USA  
Photo: Jonathan Hillyer

# Key Early Design Decisions

## Other impactful decisions:

- **Acoustics** informs member sizes (and vice versa)
- Fire-resistance ratings inform **connections & penetrations**
- **MEP layout** informs use of concealed spaces

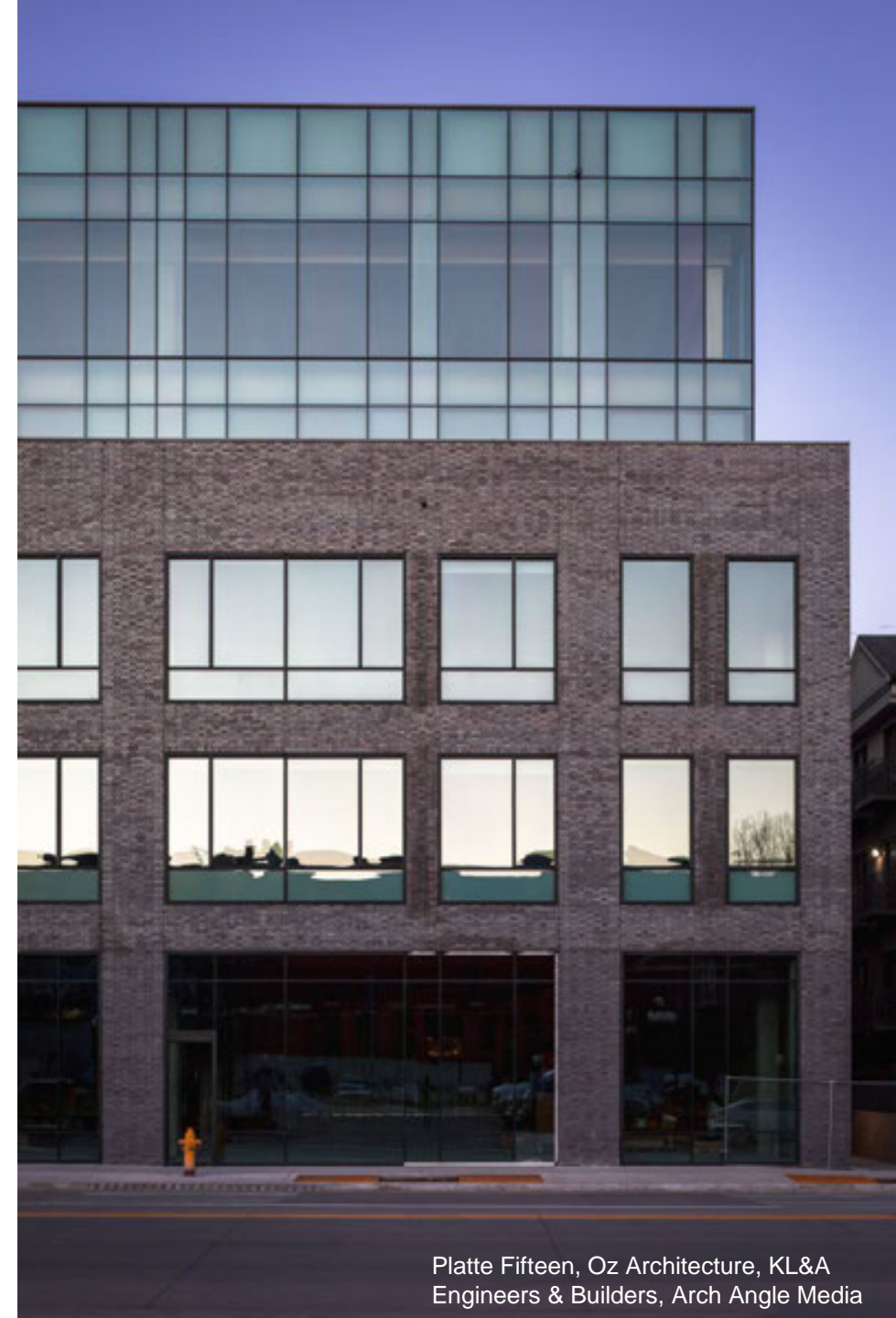


# Key Early Design Decisions

## Other impactful decisions:

- **Manufacturer capabilities** inform member sizes, grids & connections
- **Lateral system** informs connections, construction sequencing

And more...



# Key Early Design Decisions

Early = Efficient

Realize Efficiency in:

- » Cost reduction
- » Material use (optimize fiber use, minimize waste)
- » Construction speed
- » Trade coordination
- » Minimize RFIs

Commit to a mass timber design from the start



# Outline

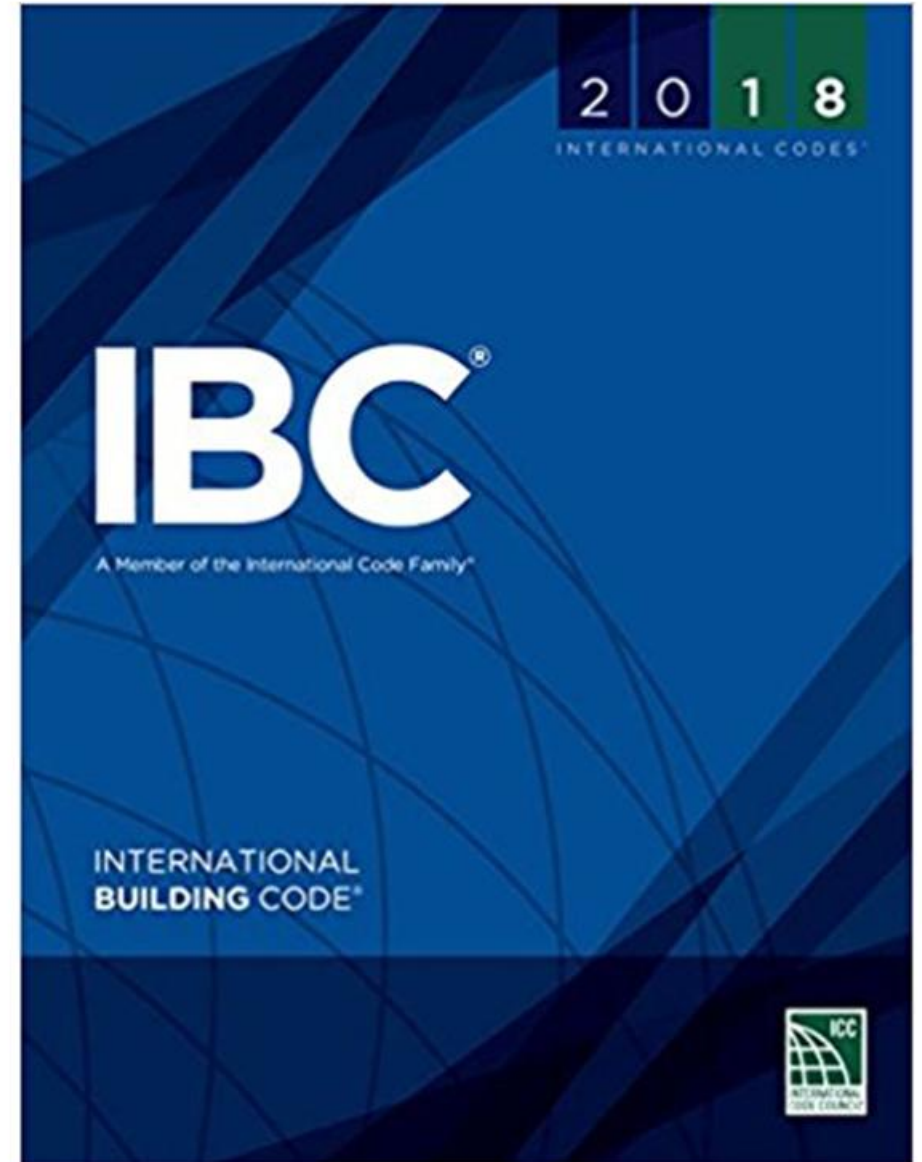
- » Key Early Design Decisions
- **Construction Types**
- » Fire Design
- » Structural Grid
- » Connections
- » Penetrations & Firestopping
- » MEP Layout and Integration
- » Lateral Systems
- » Acoustics

# Construction Types

When does the code allow mass timber to be used?

IBC defines mass timber systems in IBC Chapter 2 and notes their acceptance and manufacturing standards in IBC Chapter 23

Permitted anywhere that combustible materials and heavy timber are allowed, plus more



# Construction Types

IBC defines 5 construction types: I, II, III, IV, V

A building must be classified as one of these

Construction Types I & II:

All elements required to be non-combustible materials

However, there are exceptions including several for mass timber

# Construction Types

Where does the code allow MT to be used?

Type IB & II: Roof Decking



Image: DeStafano & Chamberlain, Inc, Robert Benson Photography



Image: StructureCraft Builders

# Construction Types

All wood-framed building options:

## Type III

Exterior walls non-combustible (may be FRTW)

Interior elements any allowed by code, including mass timber

## Type V

All building elements are any allowed by code, including mass timber

Types III and V are subdivided to A (protected) and B (unprotected)

## Type IV (Heavy Timber)

Exterior walls non-combustible (may be FRTW OR CLT)

Interior elements qualify as Heavy Timber (min. sizes, no concealed spaces except in 2021 IBC)

# Construction Types

Where does the code allow MT to be used?

Type III: Interior elements (floors, roofs, partitions/shafts) and exterior walls if FRT



# Construction Types

Where does the code allow MT to be used?

Type IV: Any exposed interior elements & roofs, must meet min. sizes; exterior walls if CLT or FRT. Concealed space limitations (varies by code version)



# Construction Types

Type IV construction permits exposed heavy/mass timber elements of min. sizes.

Minimum Width by Depth in Inches

| Framing |         | Solid Sawn<br>(nominal) | Glulam<br>(actual)                                            | SCL<br>(actual)                                               |
|---------|---------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Floor   | Columns | 8 x 8                   | 6 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> x 8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> | 7 x 7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>                             |
|         | Beams   | 6 x 10                  | 5 x 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>                            | 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> x 9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
| Roof    | Columns | 6 x 8                   | 5 x 8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>                             | 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> x 7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
|         | Beams*  | 4 x 6                   | 3 X 6 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub>                             | 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> X 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |

\*3" nominal width allowed where sprinklered

See IBC 2018 2304.11 or IBC 2015 602.4 for Details



# Construction Types

Type IV min. sizes:

Floor Panels/Decking:

- » 4" thick CLT (actual thickness)
- » 4" NLT/DLT/GLT (nominal thickness)
- » 3" thick (nominal) decking covered with: 1" decking or 15/32" WSP or 1/2" particleboard



Photo: StructureCraft



Photo: Aitor Sanchez/ Ewing Cole



Photo: WoodWorks

# Construction Types

## Concealed spaces solutions paper



### Concealed Spaces in Mass Timber and Heavy Timber Structures

Concealed spaces, such as those created by a dropped ceiling in a floor/ceiling assembly or by a stud wall assembly, have unique requirements in the International Building Code (IBC) to address the potential of fire spread in non-visible areas of a building. Section 718 of the 2018 IBC includes prescriptive requirements for protection and/or compartmentalization of concealed spaces through the use of draft stopping, fire blocking, sprinklers and other means. For information on these requirements, see the WoodWorks Q&A, *Are sprinklers required in concealed spaces such as floor and roof cavities in multi-family wood-frame buildings?*<sup>21</sup>

For mass timber building elements, the choice of construction type can have a significant impact on concealed space requirements. Because mass timber products such as cross-laminated timber (CLT) are prescriptively recognized for Type IV construction, there is a common misperception that exposed mass timber building elements cannot be used or exposed in other construction types. This is not the case.

In addition to Type IV buildings, structural mass timber elements—including CLT, glue-laminated timber (glulam), nail-laminated timber (NLT), structural composite lumber (SCL), and tongue-and-groove (T&G) decking—can be utilized and exposed in the following construction types, whether or not a fire-resistance rating is required:

- **Type III** – Floors, roofs and interior walls may be any material permitted by code, including mass timber; exterior walls are required to be noncombustible or fire retardant-treated wood.
- **Type V** – Floors, roofs, interior walls and exterior walls (i.e., the entire structure) may be constructed of mass timber.
- **Types I and II** – Mass timber may be used in select circumstances such as roof construction—including the primary frame in the 2021 IBC—in Types I-B, II-A or II-B; exterior columns and arches when 20 feet or more of horizontal separation is provided; and balconies, canopies and similar projections.



The John W. Olver Design Building at UMass Amherst includes exposed wood structure in some areas and dropped ceilings in others. Architect: Leers Weinzapfel Associates



[https://www.woodworks.org/wp-content/uploads/wood\\_solution\\_paper-Concealed\\_Spaces\\_Timber\\_Structures.pdf](https://www.woodworks.org/wp-content/uploads/wood_solution_paper-Concealed_Spaces_Timber_Structures.pdf)

# Construction Types

Where does the code allow MT to be used?

Type V: All interior elements, roofs & exterior walls



# Construction Types



Type III: 6 stories

Allowable mass timber building size for group B occupancy with NFPA 13 Sprinkler



Type IV: 6 stories

Credit: Ema Peter

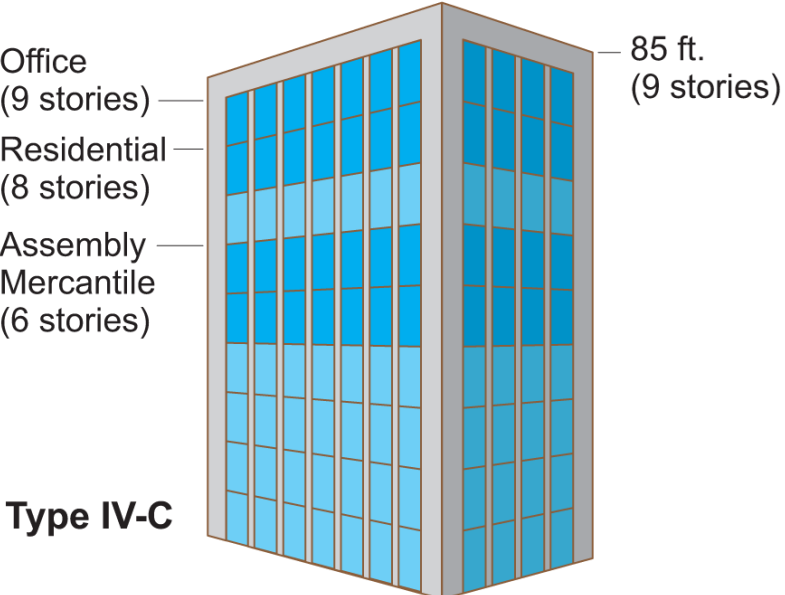
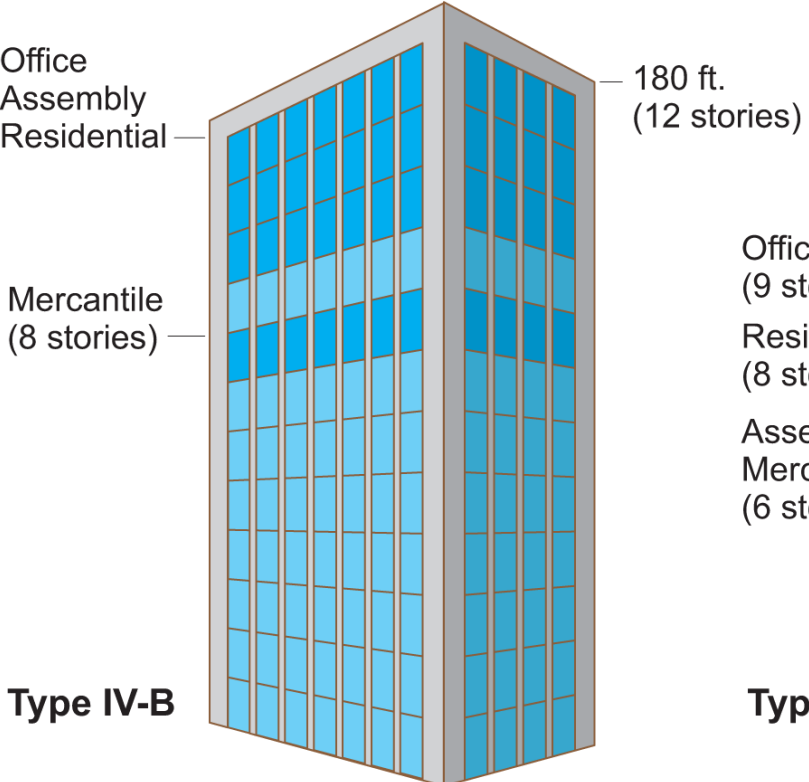
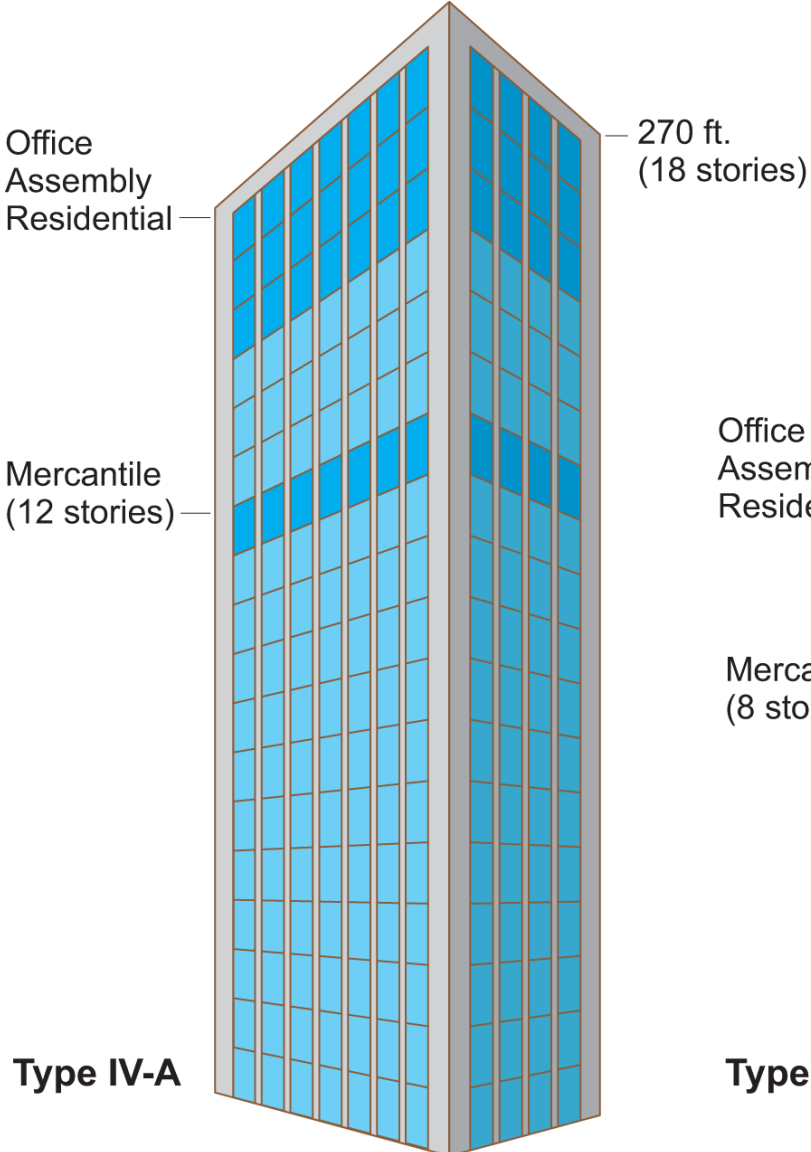


Credit: Christian Columbres Photography

Type V: 4 stories

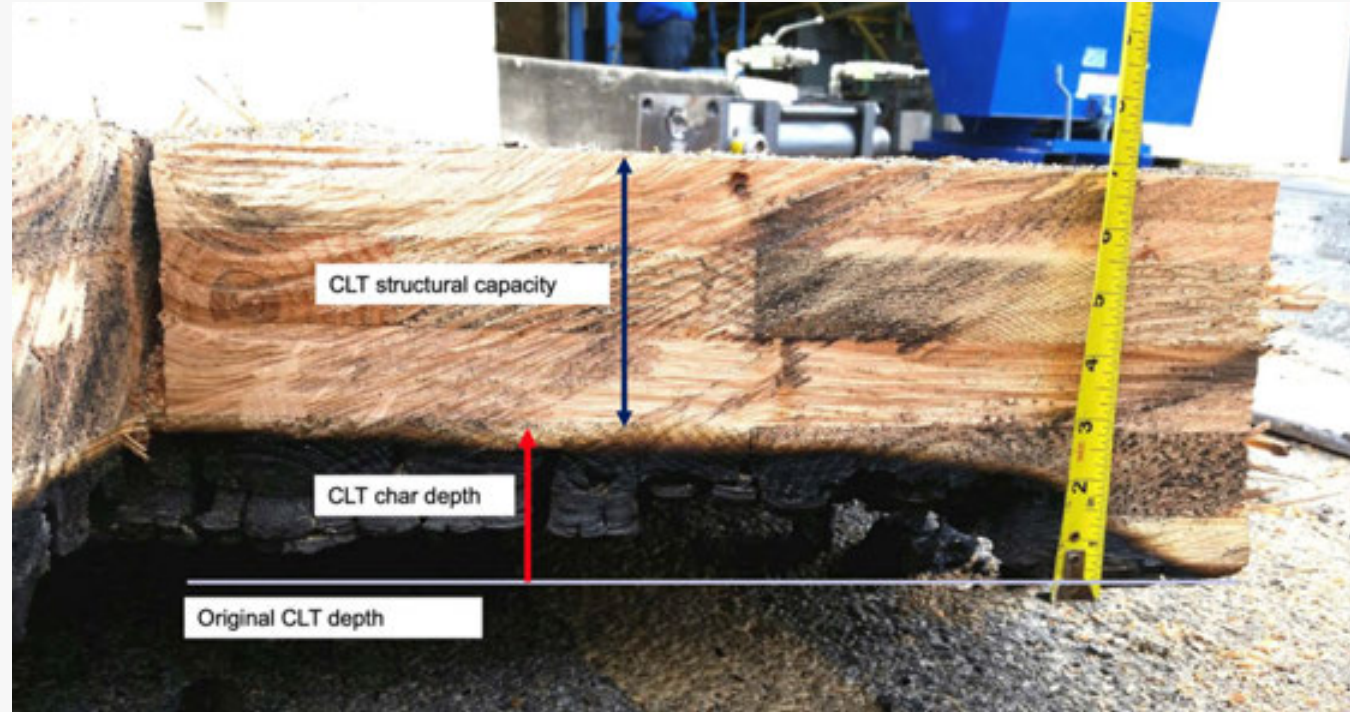
# Construction Types

New Options in 2021 IBC  
Allowable mass timber building size for  
group B occupancy with NFPA 13  
Sprinkler



# Outline

- » Key Early Design Decisions
- » Construction Types
- » Fire Design
- » Structural Grid
- » Connections
- » Penetrations & Firestopping
- » MEP Layout and Integration
- » Lateral Systems
- » Acoustics



# Key Early Design Decisions

Construction type influences FRR

**TABLE 601  
FIRE-RESISTANCE RATING REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDING ELEMENTS (HOURS)**

| BUILDING ELEMENT                                                      | TYPE I                        |                  | TYPE II          |                | TYPE III         |   | TYPE IV             | TYPE V           |   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|---|---------------------|------------------|---|
|                                                                       | A                             | B                | A                | B              | A                | B | HT                  | A                | B |
| Primary structural frame <sup>f</sup> (see Section 202)               | 3 <sup>a</sup>                | 2 <sup>a</sup>   | 1                | 0              | 1                | 0 | HT                  | 1                | 0 |
| Bearing walls                                                         |                               |                  |                  |                |                  |   |                     |                  |   |
| Exterior <sup>e, f</sup>                                              | 3                             | 2                | 1                | 0              | 2                | 2 | 2                   | 1                | 0 |
| Interior                                                              | 3 <sup>a</sup>                | 2 <sup>a</sup>   | 1                | 0              | 1                | 0 | 1/HT                | 1                | 0 |
| Nonbearing walls and partitions                                       | See Table 602                 |                  |                  |                |                  |   |                     |                  |   |
| Exterior                                                              |                               |                  |                  |                |                  |   |                     |                  |   |
| Nonbearing walls and partitions                                       | 0                             | 0                | 0                | 0              | 0                | 0 | See Section 602.4.6 | 0                | 0 |
| Interior <sup>d</sup>                                                 |                               |                  |                  |                |                  |   |                     |                  |   |
| Floor construction and associated secondary members (see Section 202) | 2                             | 2                | 1                | 0              | 1                | 0 | HT                  | 1                | 0 |
| Roof construction and associated secondary members (see Section 202)  | 1 <sup>1/2</sup> <sup>b</sup> | 1 <sup>b,c</sup> | 1 <sup>b,c</sup> | 0 <sup>c</sup> | 1 <sup>b,c</sup> | 0 | HT                  | 1 <sup>b,c</sup> | 0 |

# Key Early Design Decisions

Construction type influences FRR

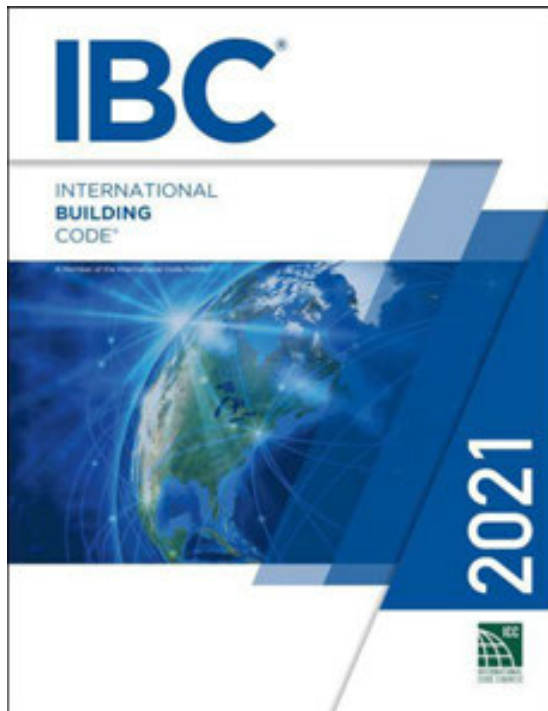
**TABLE 601  
FIRE-RESISTANCE RATING REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDING ELEMENTS (HOURS)**

| BUILDING ELEMENT                                                                 | TYPE I                        |                      | TYPE II           |                | TYPE III          |   | TYPE IV          |                |                |                       | TYPE V            |   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|---|------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---|
|                                                                                  | A                             | B                    | A                 | B              | A                 | B | A                | B              | C              | HT                    | A                 | B |
| Primary structural frame <sup>f</sup> (see Section 202)                          | 3 <sup>a, b</sup>             | 2 <sup>a, b, c</sup> | 1 <sup>b, c</sup> | 0 <sup>c</sup> | 1 <sup>b, c</sup> | 0 | 3 <sup>a</sup>   | 2 <sup>a</sup> | 2 <sup>a</sup> | HT                    | 1 <sup>b, c</sup> | 0 |
| Bearing walls                                                                    |                               |                      |                   |                |                   |   |                  |                |                |                       |                   |   |
| Exterior <sup>e, f</sup>                                                         | 3                             | 2                    | 1                 | 0              | 2                 | 2 | 3                | 2              | 2              | 2                     | 1                 | 0 |
| Interior                                                                         | 3 <sup>a</sup>                | 2 <sup>a</sup>       | 1                 | 0              | 1                 | 0 | 3                | 2              | 2              | 1/HT <sup>g</sup>     | 1                 | 0 |
| Nonbearing walls and partitions<br>Exterior                                      |                               |                      |                   |                | See Table 705.5   |   |                  |                |                |                       |                   |   |
| Nonbearing walls and partitions<br>Interior <sup>d</sup>                         | 0                             | 0                    | 0                 | 0              | 0                 | 0 | 0                | 0              | 0              | See Section 2304.11.2 | 0                 | 0 |
| Floor construction and associated secondary structural members (see Section 202) | 2                             | 2                    | 1                 | 0              | 1                 | 0 | 2                | 2              | 2              | HT                    | 1                 | 0 |
| Roof construction and associated secondary structural members (see Section 202)  | 1 <sup>1/2</sup> <sup>b</sup> | 1 <sup>b, c</sup>    | 1 <sup>b, c</sup> | 0 <sup>c</sup> | 1 <sup>b, c</sup> | 0 | 1 <sup>1/2</sup> | 1              | 1              | HT                    | 1 <sup>b, c</sup> | 0 |

# Construction type influences FRR

- » Type IV-HT Construction (minimum sizes)
- » Other than type IV-HT: Demonstrated fire resistance

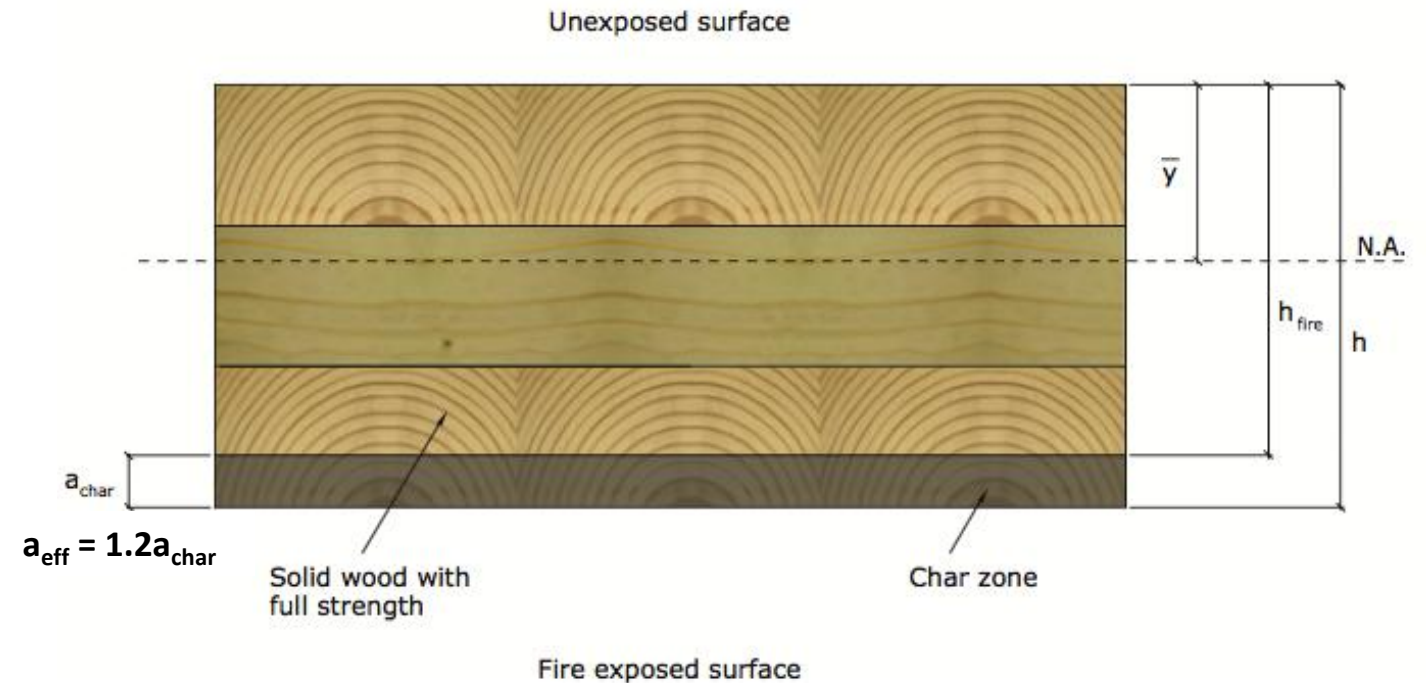
Method of demonstrating FRR (calculations or testing) can impact member sizing



# Construction type influences FRR

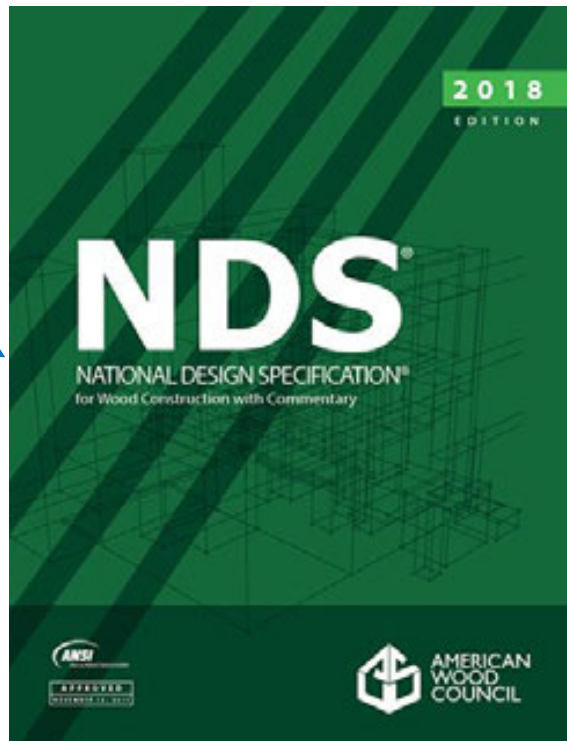
Which Method of Demonstrating FRR of MT is Being Used?

- » Calculations in Accordance with IBC 722 → NDS Chapter 16
- » Tests in Accordance with ASTM E119



# FRR Design of MT

Calculated FRR of Exposed MT:  
IBC to NDS code compliance path



Code Path for Exposed Wood Fire-Resistance Calculations

## IBC 703.3

### Methods for determining fire resistance

- Prescriptive designs per IBC 721.1
- **Calculations in accordance with IBC 722**
- Fire-resistance designs documented in sources
- Engineering analysis based on a comparison
- Alternate protection methods as allowed by 104.11



## IBC 722

### Calculated Fire Resistance

"The calculated *fire resistance* of exposed wood members and wood decking shall be permitted in accordance with **Chapter 16 of ANSI/AWC National Design Specification for Wood Construction (NDS)**



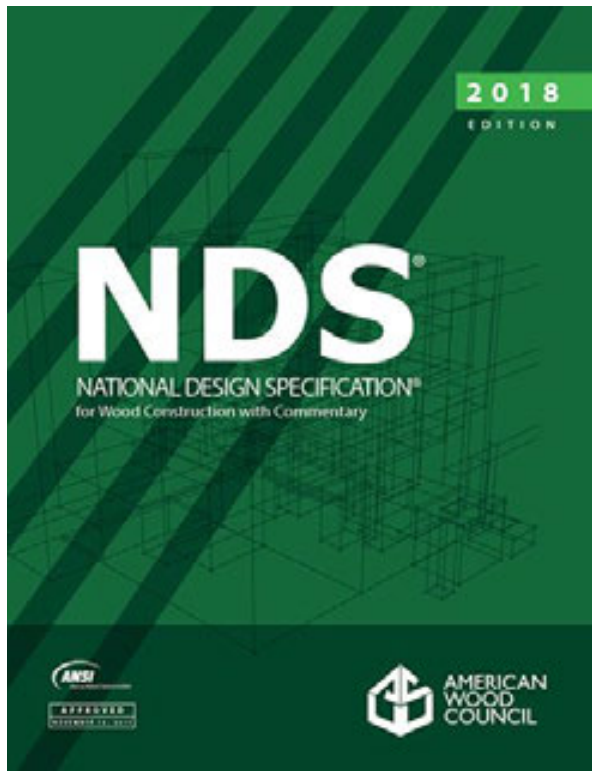
## NDS Chapter 16

### Fire Design of Wood Members

- Limited to calculating fire resistance up to 2 hours
- Char depth varies based on exposure time (i.e., fire-resistance rating), product type and lamination thickness. Equations and tables are provided.
- TR 10 and NDS commentary are helpful in implementing permitted calculations.

# FRR Design of MT

NDS Chapter 16 includes calculation of fire resistance of NLT, CLT, Glulam, Solid Sawn and SCL wood products



Credit: FPInnovations

**Table 16.2.1B Effective Char Depths (for CLT with  $\beta_n=1.5\text{in./hr.}$ )**

| Required Fire Endurance (hr.) | Effective Char Depths, $a_{\text{char}}$ (in.) |     |     |     |       |       |       |       |     |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
|                               | lamination thicknesses, $h_{\text{lam}}$ (in.) |     |     |     |       |       |       |       |     |
|                               | 5/8                                            | 3/4 | 7/8 | 1   | 1-1/4 | 1-3/8 | 1-1/2 | 1-3/4 | 2   |
| 1-Hour                        | 2.2                                            | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 2.0   | 1.9   | 1.8   | 1.8   | 1.8 |
| 1½-Hour                       | 3.4                                            | 3.2 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 2.9   | 2.8   | 2.8   | 2.8   | 2.6 |
| 2-Hour                        | 4.4                                            | 4.3 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 3.9   | 3.8   | 3.6   | 3.6   | 3.6 |

# FRR Design of MT

Nominal char rate of 1.5"/HR is recognized in NDS. Effective char depth calculated to account for duration, structural reduction in heat-affected zone



Credit: ARUP

**Table 16.2.1A Char Depth and Effective Char Depth (for  $\beta_n = 1.5$  in./hr.)**

| Required Fire Resistance (hr.) | Char Depth, $a_{char}$ (in.) | Effective Char Depth, $a_{eff}$ (in.) |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1-Hour                         | 1.5                          | 1.8                                   |
| 1½-Hour                        | 2.1                          | 2.5                                   |
| 2-Hour                         | 2.6                          | 3.2                                   |

**Table 16.2.1B Effective Char Depths (for CLT with  $\beta_n=1.5$ in./hr.)**

| Required Fire Endurance (hr.) | Effective Char Depths, $a_{char}$ (in.) |     |     |     |       |       |       |       |     |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
|                               | lamination thicknesses, $h_{lam}$ (in.) |     |     |     |       |       |       |       |     |
|                               | 5/8                                     | 3/4 | 7/8 | 1   | 1-1/4 | 1-3/8 | 1-1/2 | 1-3/4 | 2   |
| 1-Hour                        | 2.2                                     | 2.2 | 2.1 | 2.0 | 2.0   | 1.9   | 1.8   | 1.8   | 1.8 |
| 1½-Hour                       | 3.4                                     | 3.2 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 2.9   | 2.8   | 2.8   | 2.8   | 2.6 |
| 2-Hour                        | 4.4                                     | 4.3 | 4.1 | 4.0 | 3.9   | 3.8   | 3.6   | 3.6   | 3.6 |

# WoodWorks Inventory of Fire Tested MT Assemblies



**Table 1: North American Fire Resistance Tests of Mass Timber Floor / Roof Assemblies**

| CLT Panel                  | Manufacturer | CLT Grade or Major x Minor Grade | Ceiling Protection                                                                                            | Panel Connection in Test     | Floor Topping                                                                      | Load Rating                       | Fire Resistance Achieved (Hours) | Source      | Testing Lab                       |
|----------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3-ply CLT (114mm 4.488 in) | Nordic       | SPF 1650 Fb 1.5 EMSR x SPF #3    | 2 layers 1/2" Type X gypsum                                                                                   | Half-Lap                     | None                                                                               | Reduced<br>36% Moment Capacity    | 1                                | 1 (Test 1)  | NRC Fire Laboratory               |
| 3-ply CLT (105mm 4.133 in) | Structurlam  | SPF #1/#2 x SPF #1/#2            | 1 layer 5/8" Type X gypsum                                                                                    | Half-Lap                     | None                                                                               | Reduced<br>75% Moment Capacity    | 1                                | 1 (Test 5)  | NRC Fire Laboratory               |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | Nordic       | EI                               | None                                                                                                          | Topside Spline               | 2 staggered layers of 1/2" cement boards                                           | Loaded,<br>See Manufacturer       | 2                                | 2           | NRC Fire Laboratory<br>March 2016 |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | Nordic       | EI                               | 1 layer of 5/8" Type X gypsum under Z-channels and furring strips with 3 5/8" fiberglass batts                | Topside Spline               | 2 staggered layers of 1/2" cement boards                                           | Loaded,<br>See Manufacturer       | 2                                | 5           | NRC Fire Laboratory<br>Nov 2014   |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | Nordic       | EI                               | None                                                                                                          | Topside Spline               | 3/4 in. proprietary gypcrete over Maxxon acoustical mat                            | Reduced<br>50% Moment Capacity    | 1.5                              | 3           | UL                                |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | Nordic       | EI                               | 1 layer 5/8" normal gypsum                                                                                    | Topside Spline               | 3/4 in. proprietary gypcrete over Maxxon acoustical mat or proprietary sound board | Reduced<br>50% Moment Capacity    | 2                                | 4           | UL                                |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | Nordic       | EI                               | 1 layer 5/8" Type X Gyp under Resilient Channel under 7 7/8" I-Joists with 3 1/2" Mineral Wool between Joists | Half-Lap                     | None                                                                               | Loaded,<br>See Manufacturer       | 2                                | 21          | Intertek<br>8/24/2012             |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | Structurlam  | EI M5<br>MSR 2100 x SPF #2       | None                                                                                                          | Topside Spline               | 1-1/2" Maxxon Cyp-Grete 2000 over Maxxon Reinforcing Mesh                          | Loaded,<br>See Manufacturer       | 2.5                              | 6           | Intertek, 2/22/2016               |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | DR Johnson   | VI                               | None                                                                                                          | Half-Lap &<br>Topside Spline | 2" gypsum topping                                                                  | Loaded,<br>See Manufacturer       | 2                                | 7           | SwRI (May 2016)                   |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | Nordic       | SPF 1950 Fb MSR x SPF #3         | None                                                                                                          | Half-Lap                     | None                                                                               | Reduced<br>59% Moment Capacity    | 1.5                              | 1 (Test 3)  | NRC Fire Laboratory               |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | Structurlam  | SPF #1/#2 x SPF #1/#2            | 1 layer 5/8" Type X gypsum                                                                                    | Half-Lap                     | None                                                                               | Unreduced<br>101% Moment Capacity | 2                                | 1 (Test 6)  | NRC Fire Laboratory               |
| 7-ply CLT (245mm 9.65")    | Structurlam  | SPF #1/#2 x SPF #1/#2            | None                                                                                                          | Half-Lap                     | None                                                                               | Unreduced<br>101% Moment Capacity | 2.5                              | 1 (Test 7)  | NRC Fire Laboratory               |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | SmartLam     | SL-V4                            | None                                                                                                          | Half-Lap                     | nominal 1/2" plywood with 8d nails.                                                | Loaded,<br>See Manufacturer       | 2                                | 12 (Test 4) | Western Fire Center<br>10/26/2016 |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | SmartLam     | VI                               | None                                                                                                          | Half-Lap                     | nominal 1/2" plywood with 8d nails.                                                | Loaded,<br>See Manufacturer       | 2                                | 12 (Test 5) | Western Fire Center<br>10/28/2016 |
| 5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")   | DR Johnson   | VI                               | None                                                                                                          | Half-Lap                     | nominal 1/2" plywood with 8d nails.                                                | Loaded,<br>See Manufacturer       | 2                                | 12 (Test 6) | Western Fire Center<br>11/01/2016 |
| 5-ply CLT (160mm 6.3")     | KLH          | CV3M1                            | None                                                                                                          | Half-Lap &<br>Topside Spline | None                                                                               | Loaded,<br>See Manufacturer       | 1                                | 18          | SwRI                              |

# FRR Design of MT

Method of demonstrating FRR (calculations or testing) can impact member sizing

Each has unique benefits:

## » Testing:

- » Can result in higher FRR for some assemblies when compared to calculations (i.e. 2-hr FRR with 5-ply CLT panel).
- » Seen as more acceptable by some building officials

## » Calculations:

- » Can provide more design flexibility
- » Allows for project span and loading specific analysis

# FRR Design of MT

## Mass Timber Fire Design Resource

- » Code compliance options for demonstrating FRR
- » Free download at [woodworks.org](http://woodworks.org)



## Fire Design of Mass Timber Members

### Code Applications, Construction Types and Fire Ratings

For many years, exposed heavy timber framing elements have been permitted in U.S. buildings due to their inherent fire-resistance properties. The predictability of wood's char rate has been well-established for decades and has long been recognized in building codes and standards.

Today, one of the exciting trends in building design is the growing use 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. Like heavy timber, mass timber products have inherent fire resistance that allows them to be left exposed and still achieve a fire-resistance rating (FRR). Because of their strength and dimensional stability, these products also offer an alternative to steel, concrete, and masonry for many applications, but have a much lighter carbon footprint. It is this combination of exposed structure and strength that developers and designers across the country are leveraging to create innovative designs with a warm yet modern aesthetic, often for projects that go beyond traditional norms.

This paper has been written to support architects and engineers exploring the use of mass timber for commercial and multi-family construction. It focuses on how to meet fire-resistance requirements in the International Building Code (IBC), including calculation and testing-based methods. Unless otherwise noted, references refer to the 2021 IBC.

#### Mass Timber & Construction Type

Before demonstrating FRRs of exposed mass timber elements, it's important to understand under what circumstances the code currently allows the use of mass timber in commercial and multi-family construction.

A building's assigned construction type is the main indicator of where and when all wood systems can be used. IBC Section 602 defines five main options (Type I through V); Types I, II, III and V have subcategories A and B, while Type IV has subcategories IV-HT, V-A, IV-B, and IV-C. Types III, IV and V permit the use of wood

framing throughout much of the structure and are used extensively for modern mass timber buildings.

**Type III** (IBC 602.3) – Timber elements can be used in floors, roofs and interior walls. Fire-retardant-treated wood (FRTW) framing is permitted in exterior walls required to have an FRR of 2 hours or less.

**Type V** (IBC 602.5) – Timber elements can be used throughout the structure, including floors, roofs and both interior and exterior walls.

University of Washington Founders Hall  
LMN Architects / Magnusson Klemencic Associates



# Outline

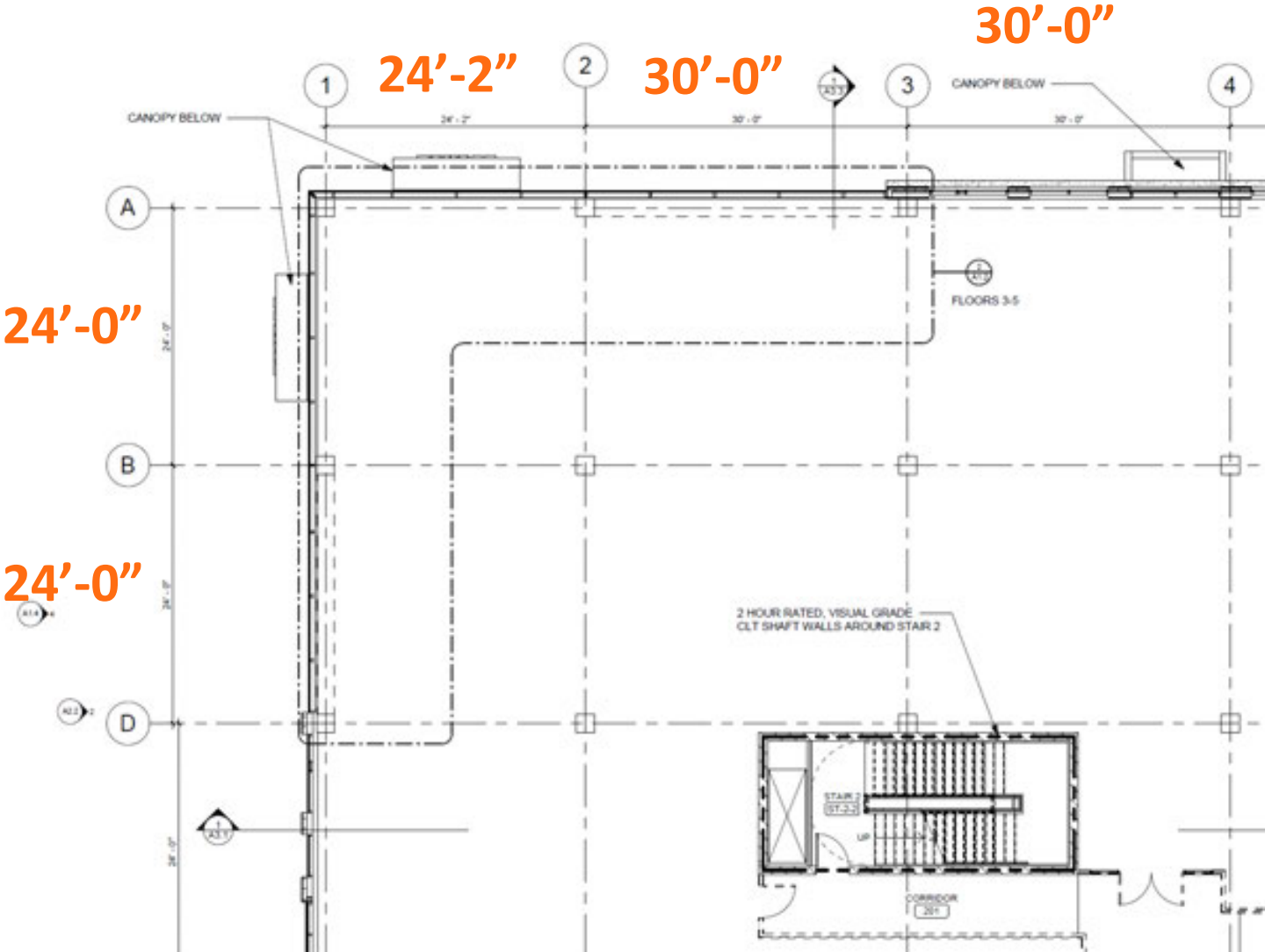
- » Key Early Design Decisions
- » Construction Types
- » Fire Design
- **Structural Grid**
- » Connections
- » Penetrations & Firestopping
- » MEP Layout and Integration
- » Lateral Systems
- » Acoustics



# Structural Grid

## Grids & Spans

- » Consider Efficient Layouts
- » Repetition & Scale
- » Manufacturer Panel Sizing
- » Transportation

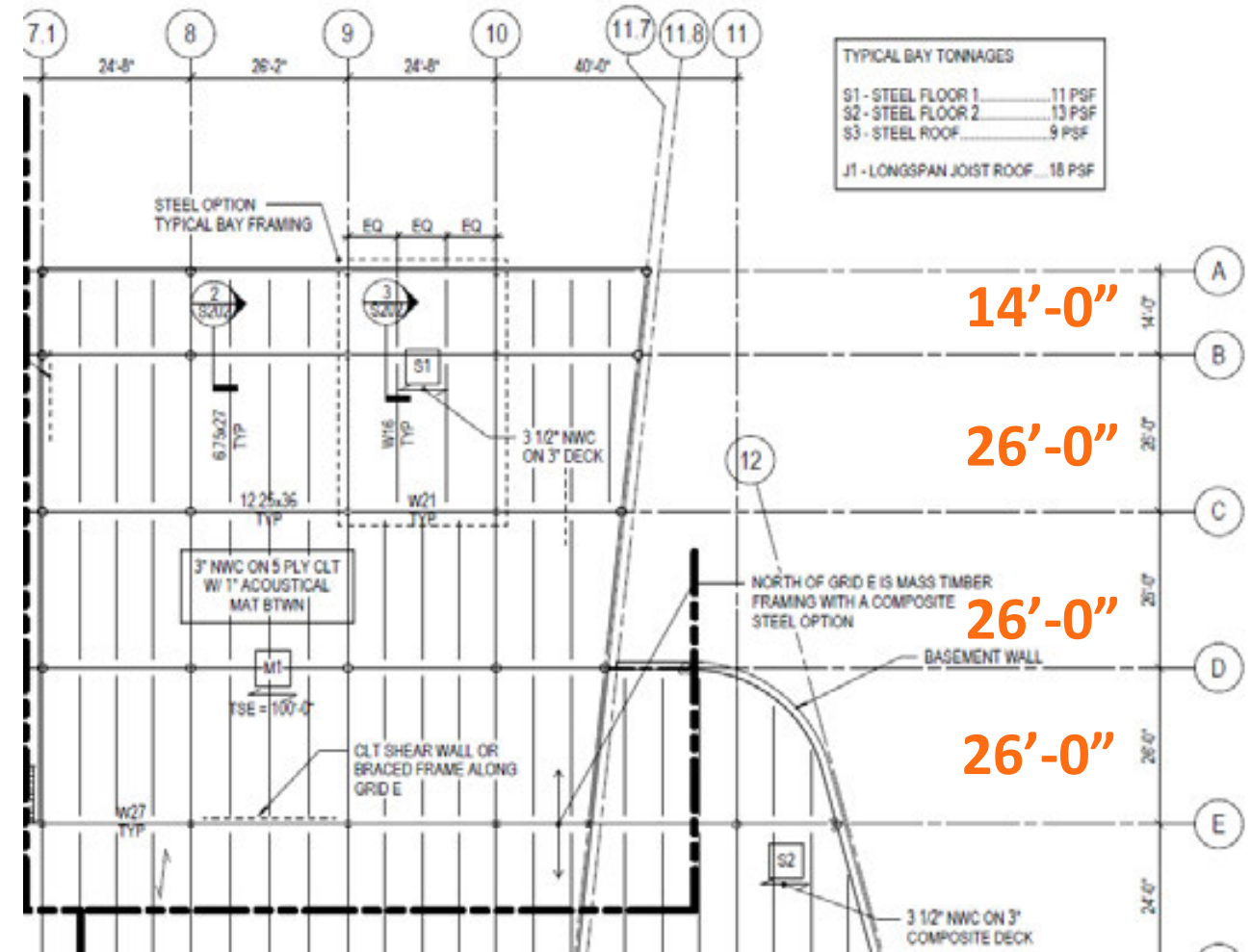


# Structural Grid

## Grids & Spans

- » Consider Efficient Layouts
- » Repetition & Scale
- » Manufacturer Panel Sizing
- » Transportation

24'-6" 26'-2" 24'-6" 40'-0"



# Structural Grid

## Member Sizes

- » Impact of FRR on Sizing
- » Impact of Sizing on Efficient Spans
- » Consider connections – can drive member sizing

## 0 HR FRR: Consider 3-ply Panel

- » Efficient Spans of 10-12 ft
- » Grids of 20x20 (1 purlin) to 30x30 (2 purlins) may be efficient



Albina Yard, Portland, OR  
20x20 Grid, 1 purlin per bay  
3-ply CLT  
Image: Lever Architecture

# Structural Grid

## Member Sizes

- » Impact of FRR on Sizing
- » Impact of Sizing on Efficient Spans
- » Consider connections – can drive member sizing

## 1 or 2 HR FRR: Likely 5-ply Panel

- » Efficient spans of 14-17 ft
- » Grids of 15x30 (no purlins) to 30x30 (1 purlin) may be efficient

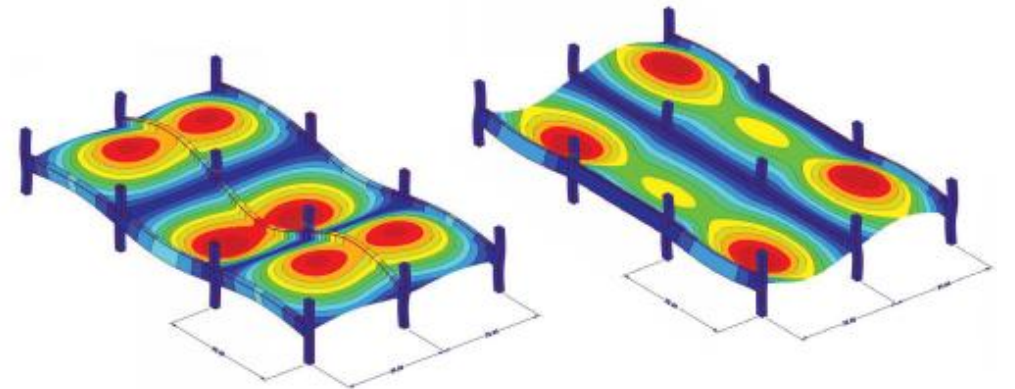
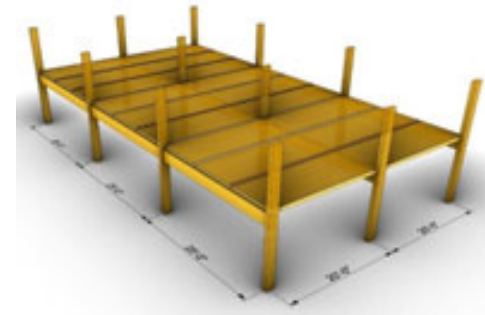
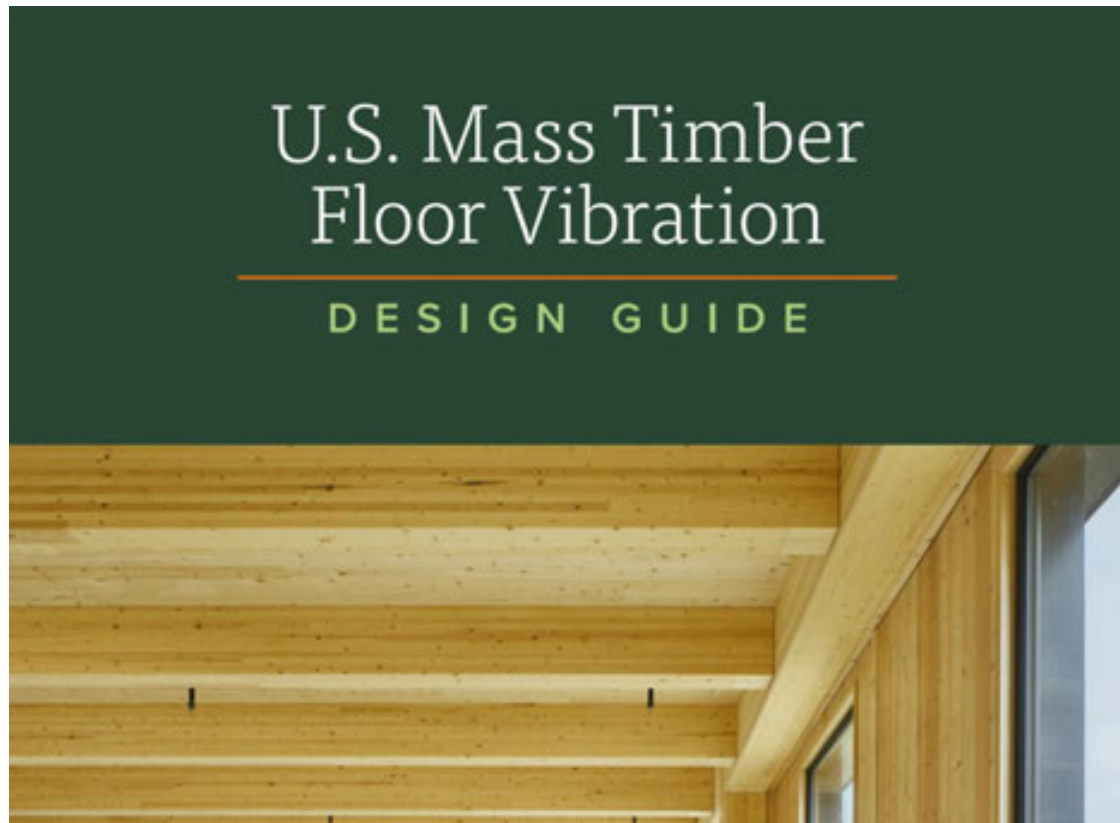


First Tech Credit Union, Hillsboro, OR  
12x32 Grid, One-Way Beams  
5-ply (5.5") CLT  
Image: Swinerton

# New Mass Timber Floor Vibration Guide

Worked office, lab and residential Examples

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



# Outline

- » Key Early Design Decisions
- » Construction Types
- » Fire Design
- » Structural Grid
- **Connections**
- » Penetrations & Firestopping
- » MEP Layout and Integration
- » Lateral Systems
- » Acoustics



# Connections

Many ways to demonstrate connection fire protection:  
calculations, prescriptive NC, test results, others as approved by AHJ



Photo: John Stamets



Photo: Josh Partee

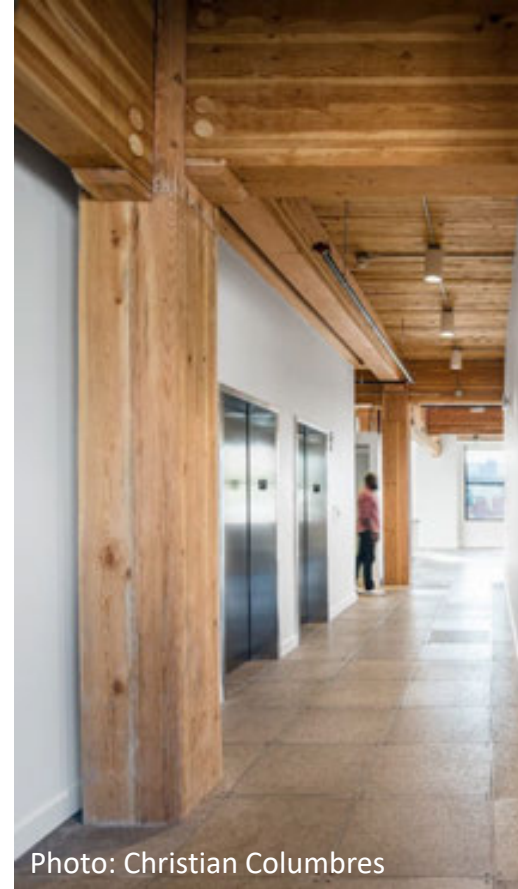


Photo: Christian Columbres

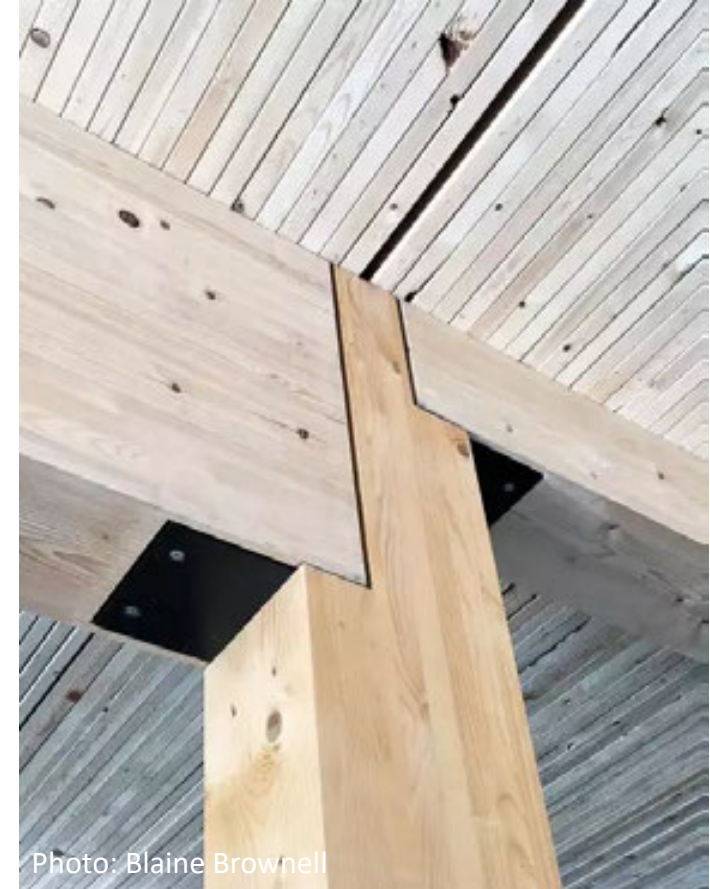
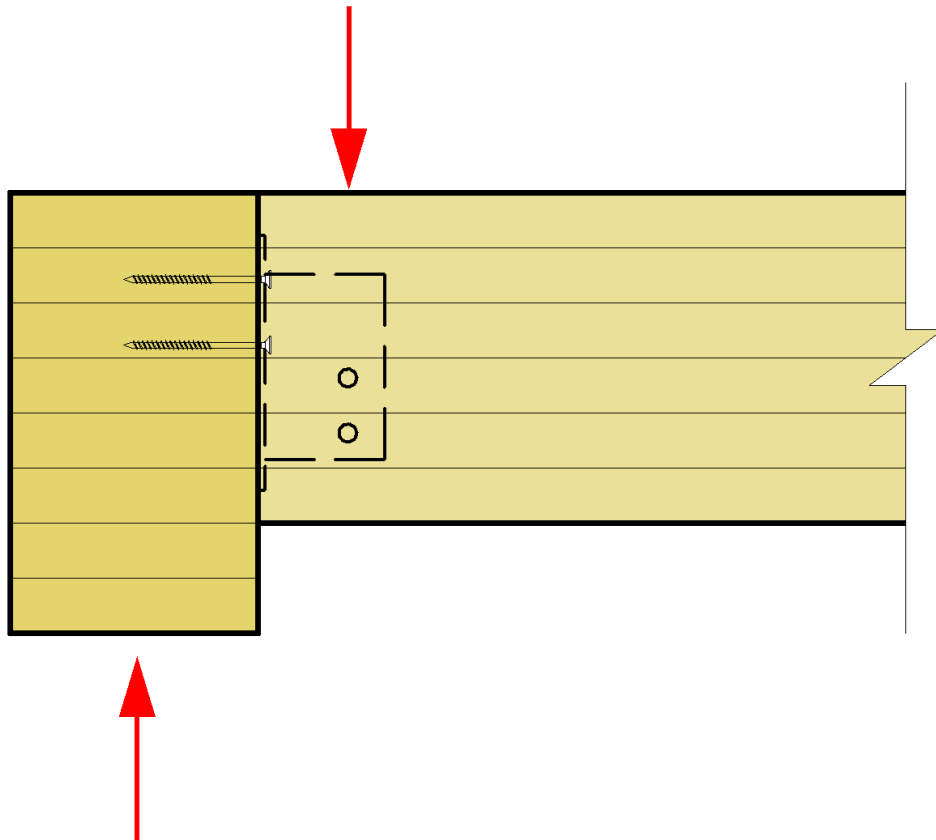


Photo: Blaine Brownell

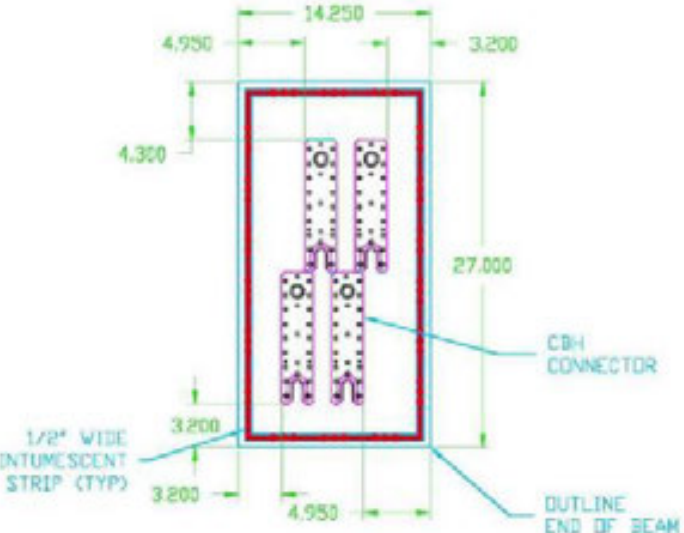
# Connections

Steel hangers/hardware fully concealed within a timber-to-timber connection is a common method of fire protection



# Connections

Connection FRR and beam reactions could impact required beam/column sizes



Photos: Simpson Strong-Tie

Photo: LEVER Architecture

# Connections

Member to member bearing also commonly used, can avoid some/all steel hardware at connection



# Connections

Member to member bearing also commonly used, can avoid some/all steel hardware at connection



**Style of connection also impacts and is impacted by grid layout and MEP integration**



# Connections

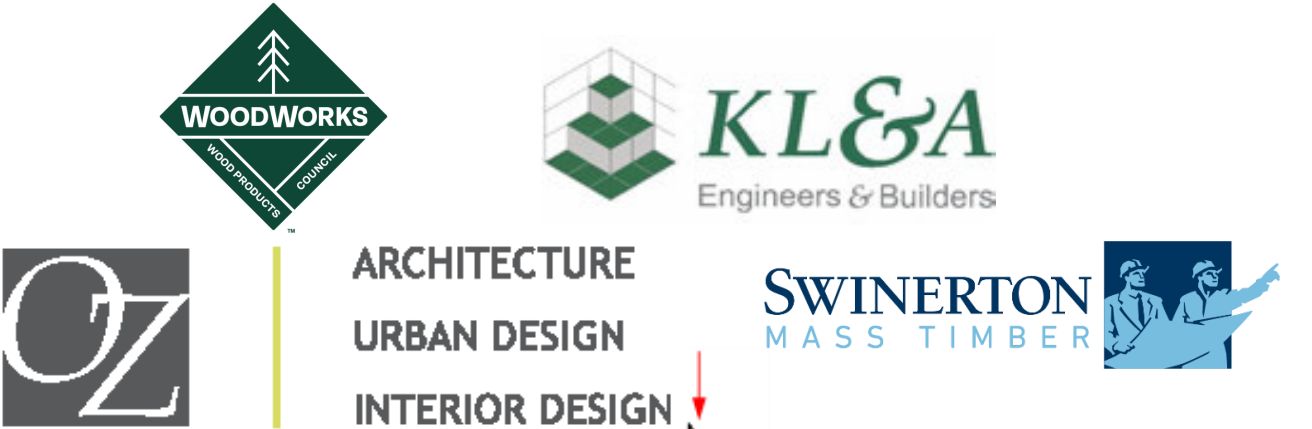
Other connection design considerations:

- » Structural capacity
- » Shrinkage
- » Constructability
- » Aesthetics
- » Cost



# Mass Timber Connections Index

A library of commonly used mass timber connections with designer notes and information on fire resistance, relative cost and load-carrying capacity.

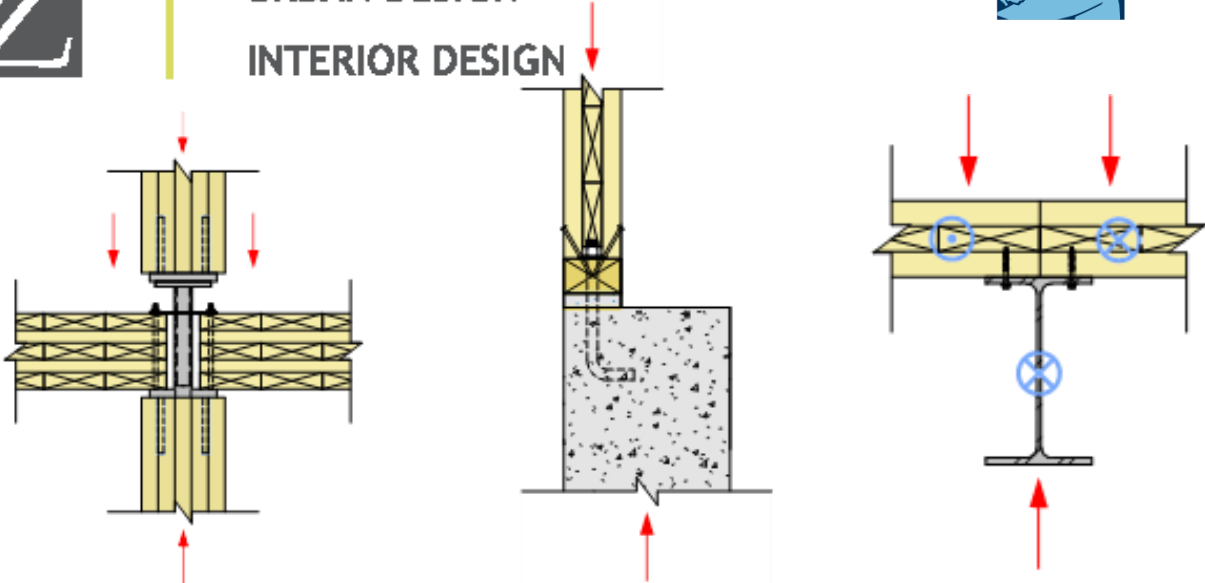


**WOODWORKS**  
WOOD PRODUCTS COUNCIL

**KL&A**  
Engineers & Builders

**SWINERTON**  
MASS TIMBER

ARCHITECTURE  
URBAN DESIGN  
INTERIOR DESIGN



# Outline

- » Key Early Design Decisions
- » Construction Types
- » Fire Design
- » Structural Grid
- » Connections
- » Penetrations & Firestopping
- **MEP Layout and Integration**
- » Lateral Systems
- » Acoustics



# MEP Layout & Integration

Set Realistic Owner Expectations About Aesthetics

- » MEP fully exposed with MT structure, or limited exposure?
- » Also consider acoustic impacts of MEPPF routing



# MEP Layout & Integration

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

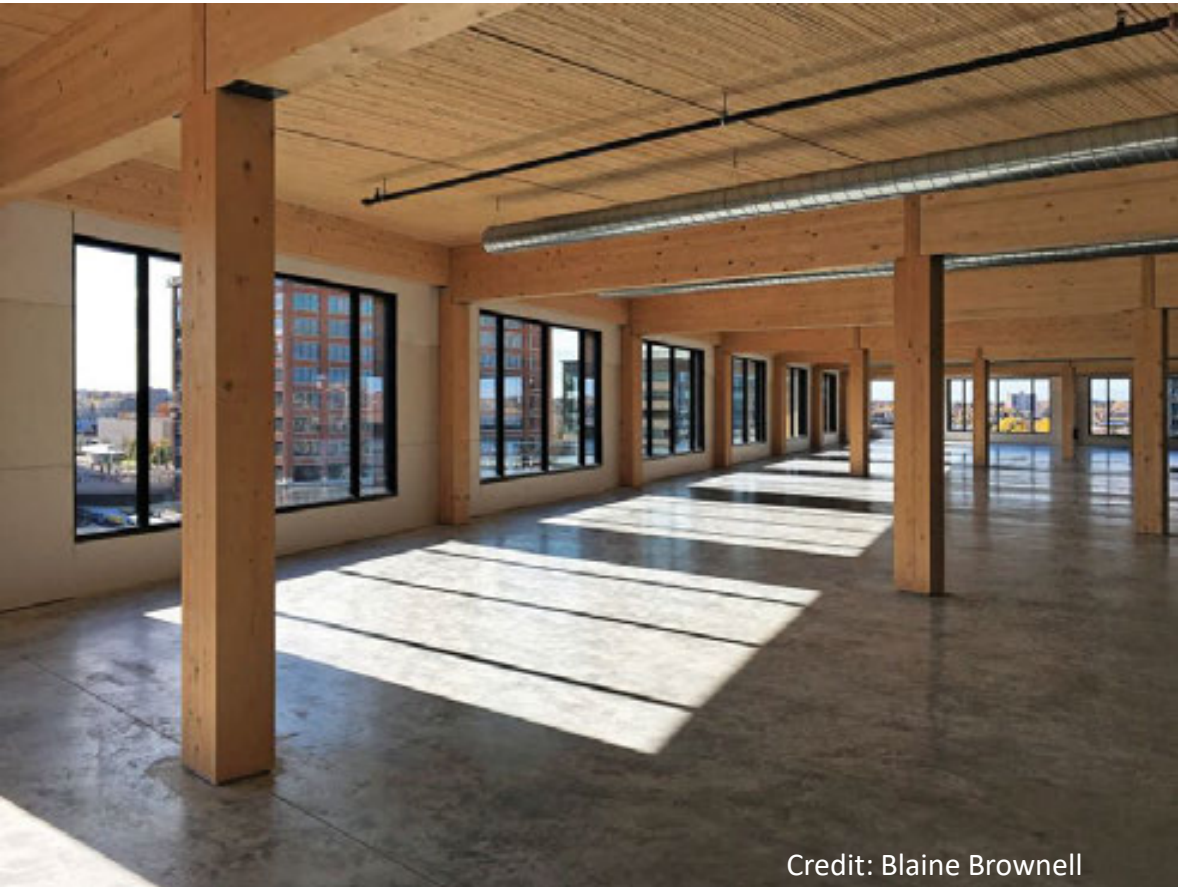
Credit: WoodWorks



# MEP Layout & Integration

Smaller grid bays at central core (more head height)

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



Credit: Blaine Brownell

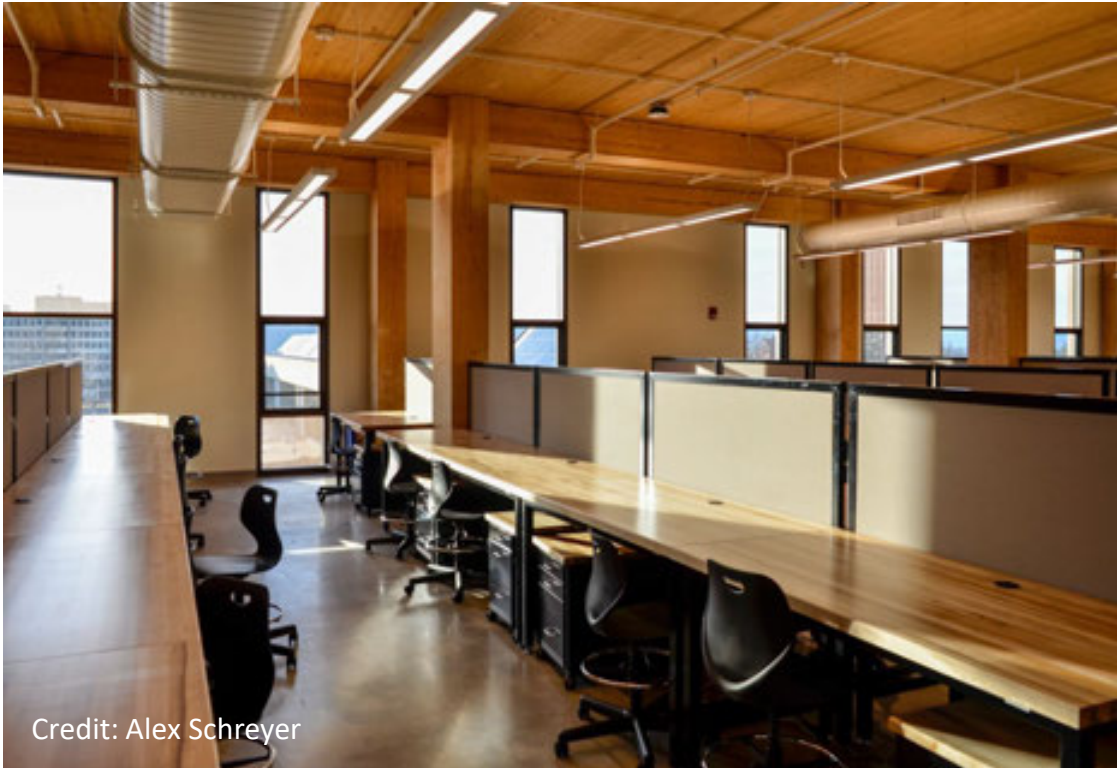


Credit: WoodWorks

# MEP Layout & Integration

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

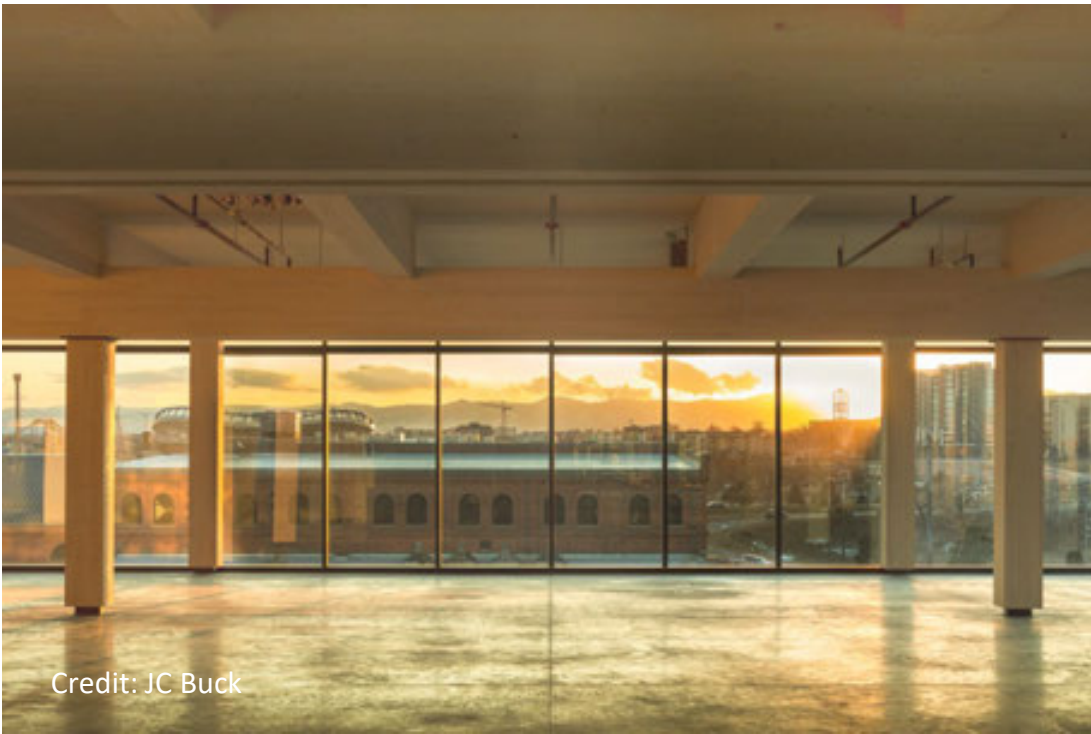
- » Requires more coordination (penetrations)
- » Bigger impact on structural capacity of penetrated members
- » Minimal impact on head height



# 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)
- » Acoustic impacts (usually thinner topping req'd)



**RAF**



**NON-RAF**

# MEP Layout & Integration

In raised access floor (RAF) above MT

- » Impact on head height
- » Concealed space code provisions



# Outline

- » Key Early Design Decisions
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- » MEP Layout and Integration
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- » Acoustics



# Lateral System Choices

Concrete Shear walls



Credit: Hacker Architects

# Lateral System Choices

## Steel Braced Frame



Photos: Marcus Kauffmann, ODF



# Lateral System Choices

## Wood-Frame Shear walls



Credit: KL&A Engineers & Builders

# Lateral System Choices

MT Shear walls



# Lateral System Choices

## MT Rocking Shear walls



Photo: WoodWorks

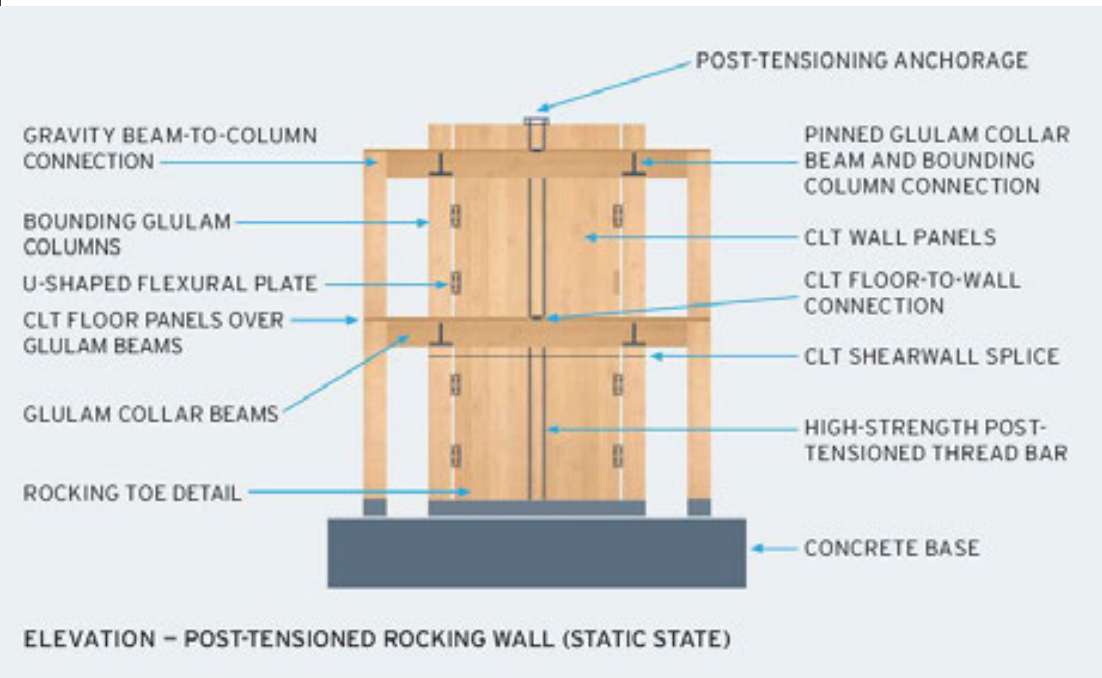


Image: KPFF

# Lateral System Choices

## Timber Braced Frame



# Lateral System Choices

## Prescriptive Code Compliance

Concrete Shear walls



Steel Braced Frames



Light Wood-Frame Shear walls



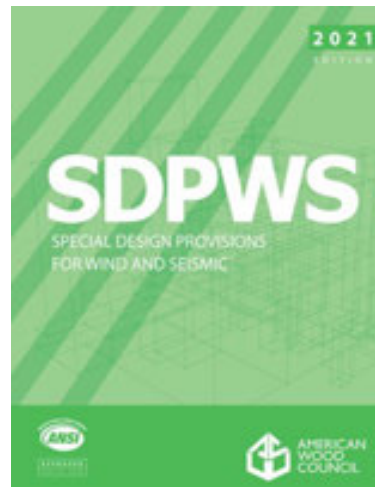
CLT Shear walls



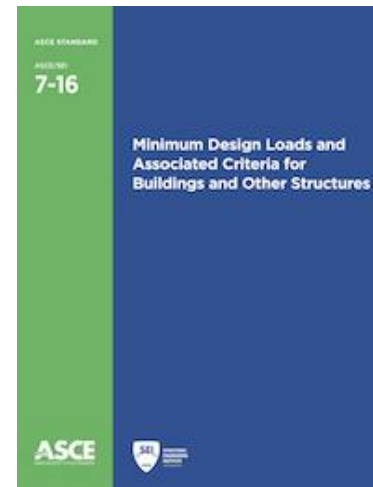
CLT Rocking Walls



Timber Braced Frames



2021 SDPWS  
ASCE 7-22



# Outline

- » Key Early Design Decisions
- » Construction Types
- » Fire Design
- » Structural Grid
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- » MEP Layout and Integration
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- Acoustics

# Acoustics & Sound Control

Consider Impacts of:

- » Timber & Topping Thickness
- » Panel Layout
- » Gapped Panels
- » Connections & Penetrations
- » MEP Layout & Type



Credit: Rothoblaas

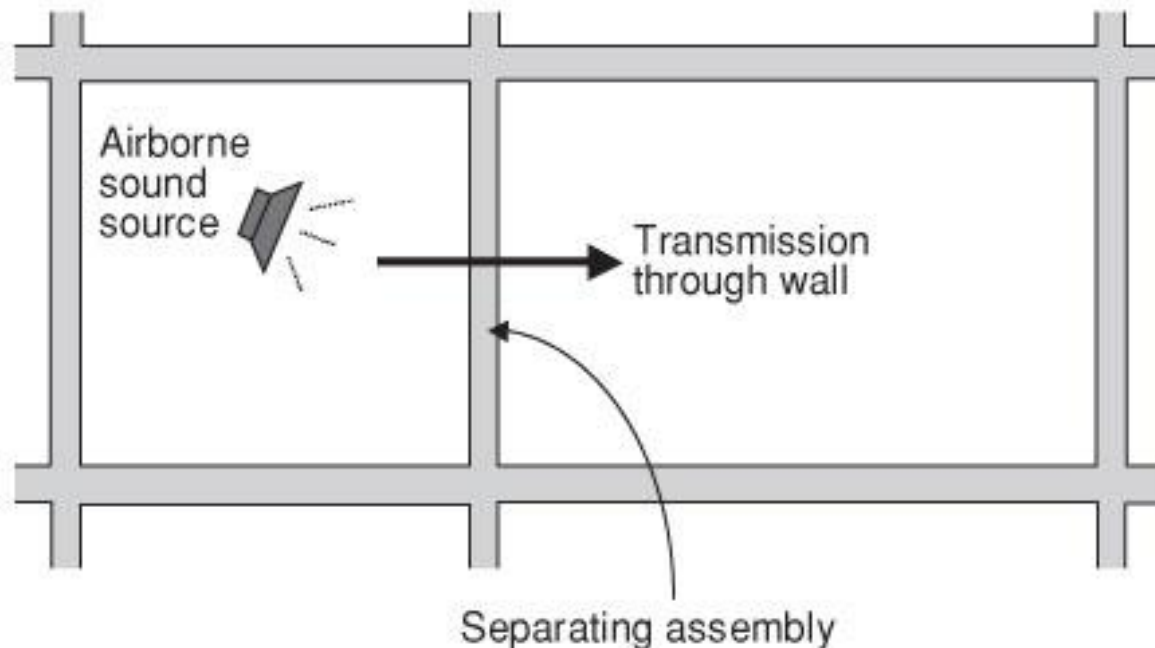


# Acoustics & Sound Control

## 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

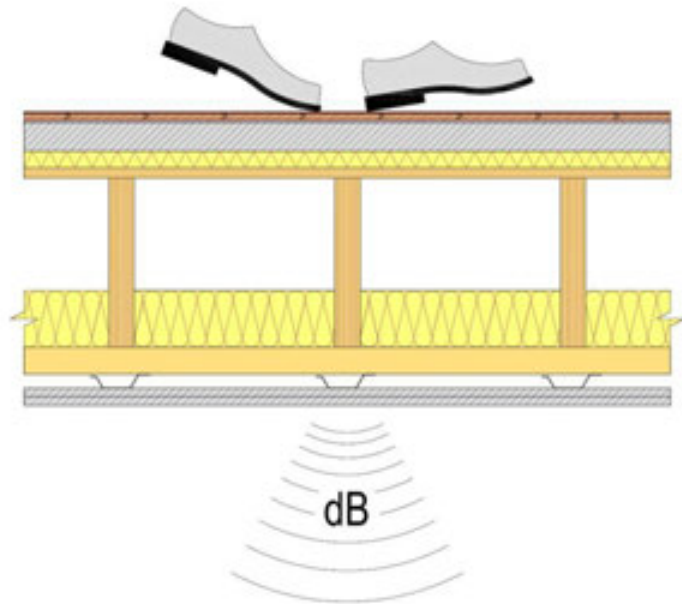


# Acoustics & Sound Control

## 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



# Acoustics & Sound Control

Code requirements only address residential occupancies:

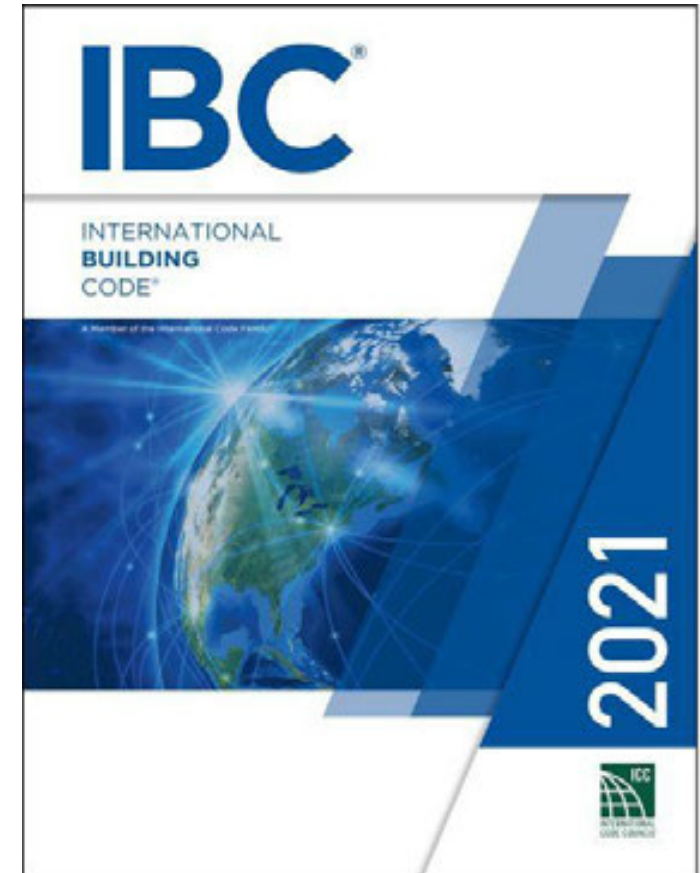
For unit to unit or unit to public or service areas:

Min. STC of 50 (45 if field tested):

» Walls, Partitions, and Floor/Ceiling Assemblies

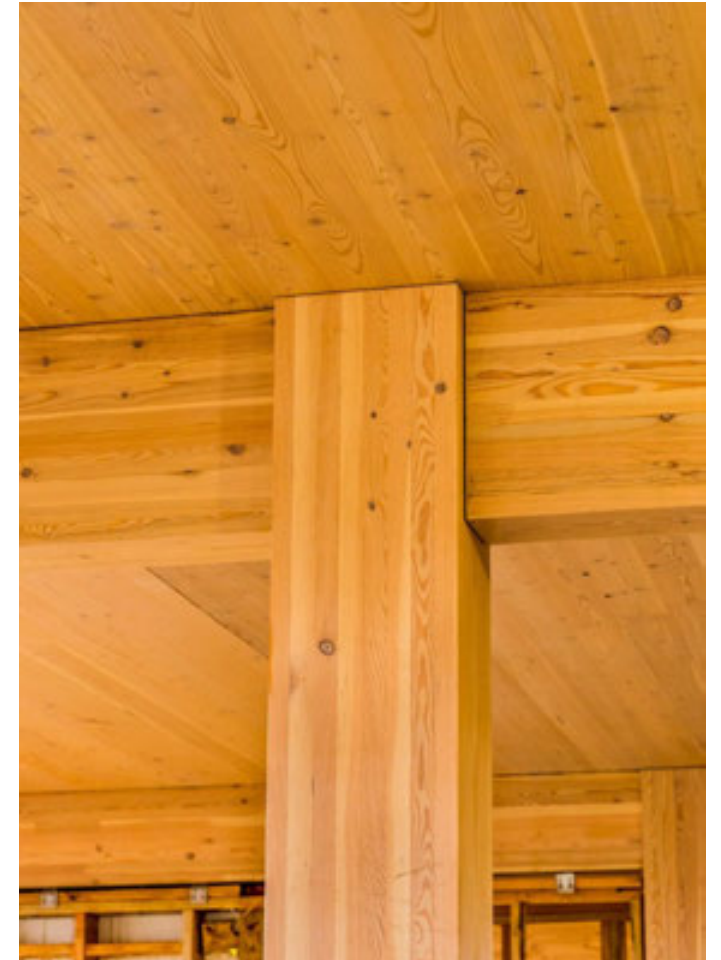
Min. IIC of 50 (45 if field tested) for:

» Floor/Ceiling Assemblies



# Acoustics & Sound Control

MT: Structure Often is Finish



# Acoustics & Sound Control

But by Itself, Not Adequate for Acoustics



T3 Minneapolis  
Architect: MGA | Michael Green Architecture, DLR Group  
Structural Engineer: Magnusson Klemencic Associates  
Design Assist + Build: StructureCraft

# Acoustics & Sound Control

**TABLE 1:**

**Examples of Acoustically-Tested Mass Timber Panels**

| Mass Timber Panel                         | Thickness                                   | STC Rating                          | IIC Rating |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| 3-ply CLT wall <sup>4</sup>               | 3.07"                                       | 33                                  | N/A        |
| 5-ply CLT wall <sup>4</sup>               | 6.875"                                      | 38                                  | N/A        |
| 5-ply CLT floor <sup>5</sup>              | 5.1875"                                     | 39                                  | 22         |
| 5-ply CLT floor <sup>4</sup>              | 6.875"                                      | 41                                  | 25         |
| 7-ply CLT floor <sup>4</sup>              | 9.65"                                       | 44                                  | 30         |
| 2x4 NLT wall <sup>6</sup>                 | 3-1/2" bare NLT<br>4-1/4" with 3/4" plywood | 24 bare NLT<br>29 with 3/4" plywood | N/A        |
| 2x6 NLT wall <sup>6</sup>                 | 5-1/2" bare NLT<br>6-1/4" with 3/4" plywood | 22 bare NLT<br>31 with 3/4" plywood | N/A        |
| 2x6 NLT floor + 1/2" plywood <sup>2</sup> | 6" with 1/2" plywood                        | 34                                  | 33         |

Source: Inventory of Acoustically-Tested Mass Timber Assemblies, WoodWorks<sup>7</sup>

# Acoustics & Sound Control

Regardless of the structural materials used in a wall or floor ceiling assembly, there are 3 effective methods of improving acoustical performance:

1. Add mass
2. Add noise barriers
3. Add decouplers

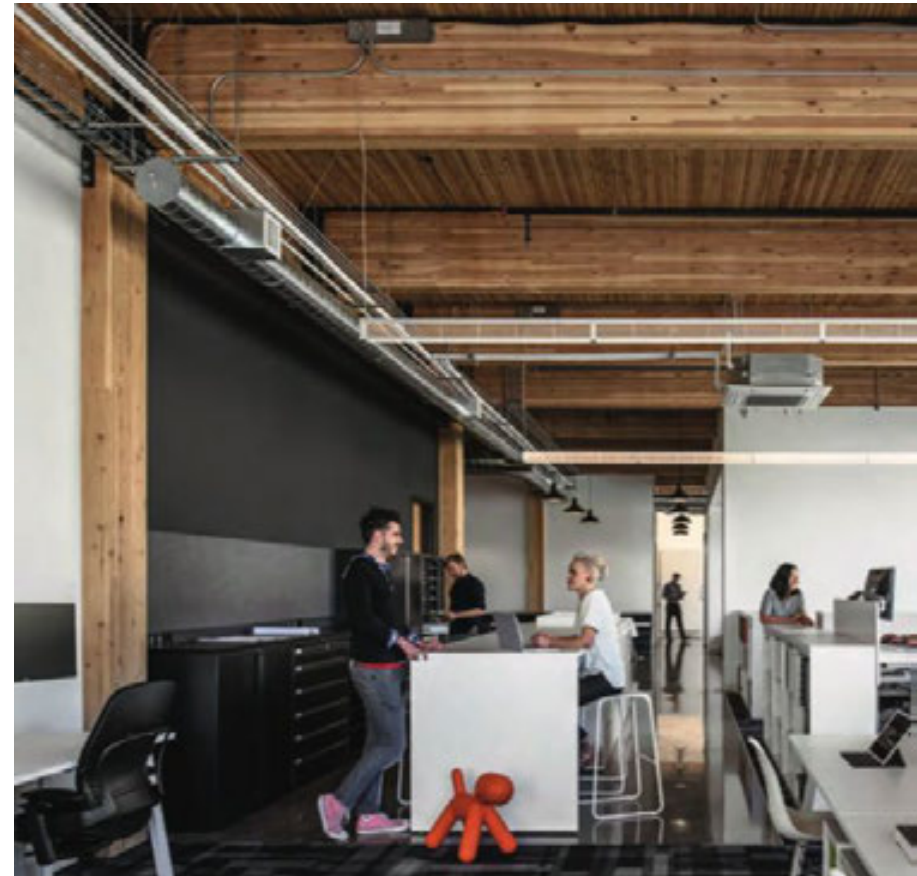


Image credit: Christian Columbres

# Acoustics & Sound Control



Concrete Slab:

6" Thick

80 PSF

STC 53



CLT Slab:

6-7/8" Thick

18 PSF

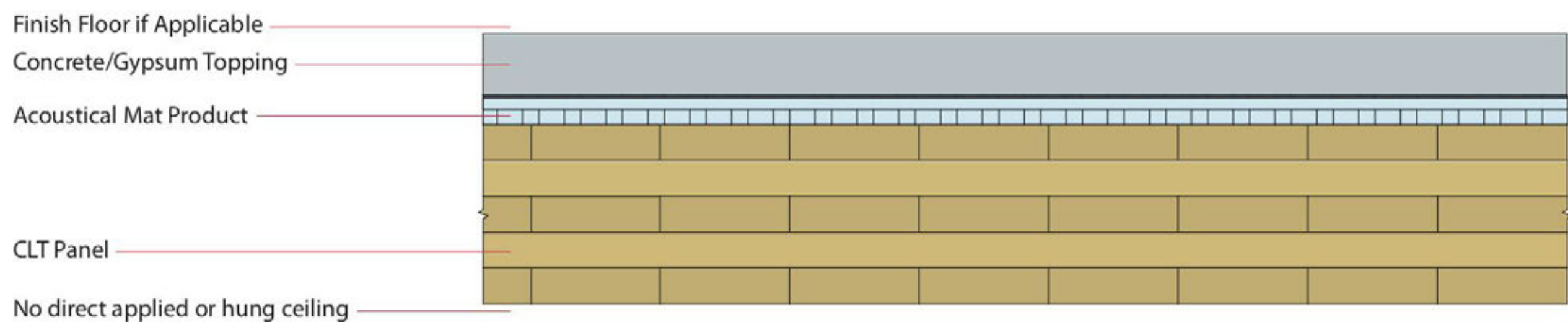
STC 41



# Acoustics & Sound Control

There are three main ways to improve an assembly's acoustical performance:

1. Add mass
2. Add noise barriers
3. Add decouplers



# Acoustics & Sound Control

There are three main ways to improve an assembly's acoustical performance:

1. Add mass
2. Add noise barriers
- 3. Add decouplers

Acoustical Mat:

- » Typically roll out or board products
- » Thicknesses vary: Usually  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to 1"+



# Acoustics & Sound Control

Acoustical floor underlayments



Photo: AcoustiTECH<sup>10</sup>

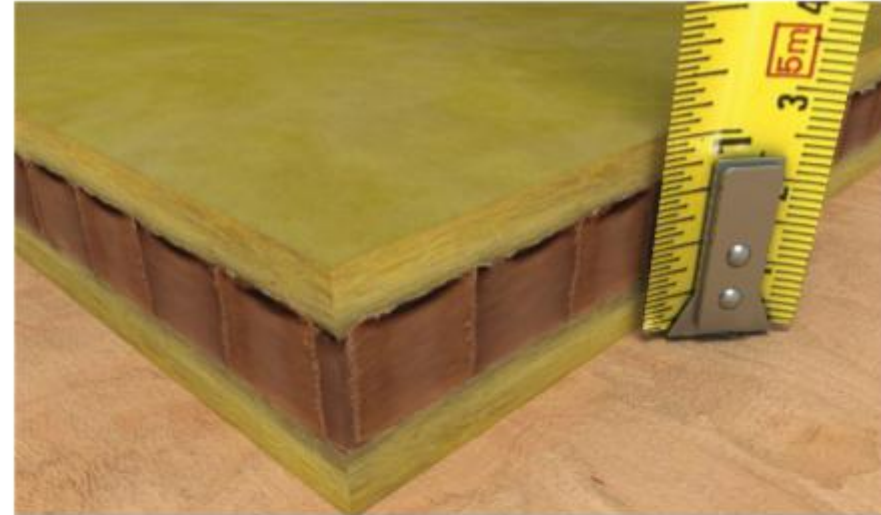


Photo: Kinetics Noise Control, Inc.,<sup>11</sup>



Photo: Maxxon Corporation

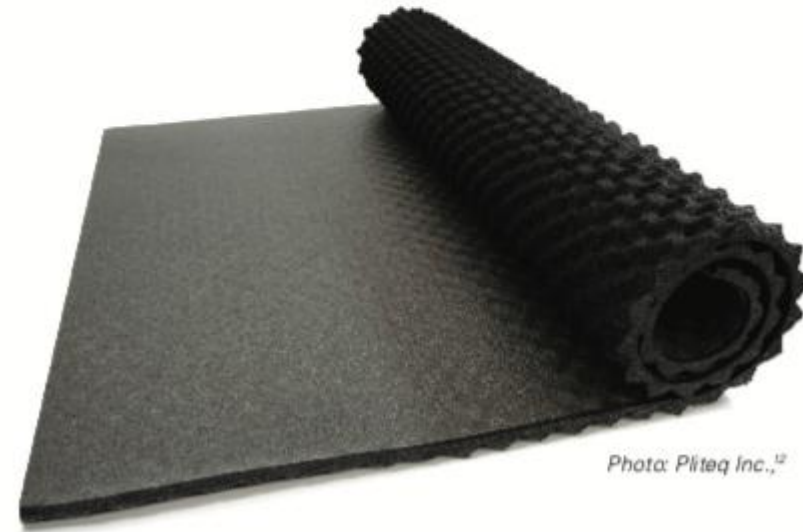


Photo: Pliteq Inc.,<sup>12</sup>

# Acoustics & Sound Control

Common mass timber floor assembly:

- » Finish floor (if applicable)
- » Underlayment (if finish floor)
- » 1.5" to 4" thick concrete/gypcrete topping
- » Acoustical mat
- » WSP (if applicable)
- » Mass timber floor panels



# Acoustics & Sound Control

## Solutions Paper



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

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

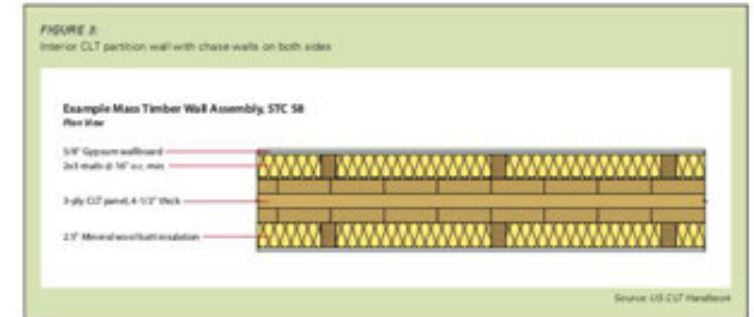


T3 Minneapolis  
Architect: MGA (Michael Green Architecture), DLR Group  
Structural Engineer: Magnusson Klemencic Associates  
Design Assist: Built Structures

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.

[http://www.woodworks.org/wp-content/uploads/wood\\_solution\\_paper-MASS-TIMBER-ACOUSTICS.pdf](http://www.woodworks.org/wp-content/uploads/wood_solution_paper-MASS-TIMBER-ACOUSTICS.pdf)



#### 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 3.0" has an STC rating of 33.<sup>1</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



Acoustical isolation strips

Photo: Function

# Acoustics & Sound Control



**Acoustic Testing of CLT and G Assemblies**  
*Nordic Engineered Wood*  
 Report No. A1-008253.1  
 19 August 2016

NIC CRC CONSTRUCTION

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL CANADA

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

### CLT (CROSS LAMINATED TIMBER)

| ID  | Insulation        | Resilient Channel | Cabling                           | Drywall | Min. Topping Depth | Sound Mat      | Sound Rating |    |                | Maximum St. Fire Rating |
|-----|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|----|----------------|-------------------------|
|     |                   |                   |                                   |         |                    |                | STC          | IC | Test Number    |                         |
| 1   | 2" XPS Insulation | No                | Suspended Ceiling w/ 1/2" Drywall | 5/8"    | Acoustic1          | STC            | 54 F10C      | IC | 11-07-00-00-10 | R1.0                    |
|     |                   |                   |                                   |         |                    | Floor Covering | STC          | IC | Test Number    |                         |
|     |                   |                   |                                   |         |                    | STC            | 54 F10C      | IC | 11-07-00-00-10 |                         |
|     |                   |                   |                                   |         |                    | Floor Covering | STC          | IC | Test Number    |                         |
| STC | 54 F10C           | IC                | 11-07-00-00-10                    |         |                    |                |              |    |                |                         |

**Intertek** Architectural Testing

F5006.11-113-11-RP  
 ACOUSTICAL PERFORMANCE TEST REPORT  
 ASTM E 99 AND ASTM E 492

Rendered to  
**PLATEQ INC.**

Series/Model: Vintage Floors Wood Flooring on Pileq GonicMat™ RSTR2 over Insulation System - Pileq GonicMat™ FF50 Rubber Underlayment

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

Overall Size: 3023 mm by 3032 mm (119" by 140")

STC 58  
 IC 59

Summary -  
 Insulation in Mid-rise Wood Buildings

Report No: A1-004377.2

**Intertek** Test Quality Assured

## 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 NLT

SPECIMEN TYPE  
 Nail Laminated Timber - 152 mm

REPORT NUMBER  
 0483.04-113-11-R1

TEST DATE  
 10/11/18

ISSUE DATE REVISD DATE  
 11/16/18 11/30/18

RECORD RETENTION END  
 10/11/20

PAGES  
 12

DOCUMENT CONTROL  
 ATI 00629 (03/21/18)  
 RTTOS-R-AMMR-7-04-2844  
 © 2017 INTERTEK

Test Specimen Identification:  
 Floor Topping: 12.7 mm (0.5") Vintage Floors Wood Flooring  
 Floor Underlayment: 1 mm (0.04") Pileq GonicMat™ RSTR2 Rubber Underlayment  
 Subfloor Topping: 101.6 mm (4") Concrete Slab  
 Subfloor Underlayment (Top Layer): 24.8 mm (0.98") Pileq GonicMat™ FF21 Rubber Underlayment  
 Subfloor Underlayment (Bottom Layer): 24.8 mm (0.98") Pileq GonicMat™ FF21 Rubber Underlayment  
 Floor Mat: 175 mm (6.89") Nordic Wood Products X-LAM Cross Laminated Timber

Reference should be made to Intertek-ATI Report F5006.11-113-11 for complete test specimen description. This page alone is not a complete report.

100 Derby Court  
 York, PA 17405  
 www.intertek.com  
 www.intertek.com/building  
 Tel: 717.764.7700  
 Fax: 717.764.4129

# Acoustics & Sound Control

## Inventory of Acoustically Tested Mass Timber Assemblies



Following is a list of mass timber assemblies that have been acoustically tested as of April 5, 2024. 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>

### Contents:

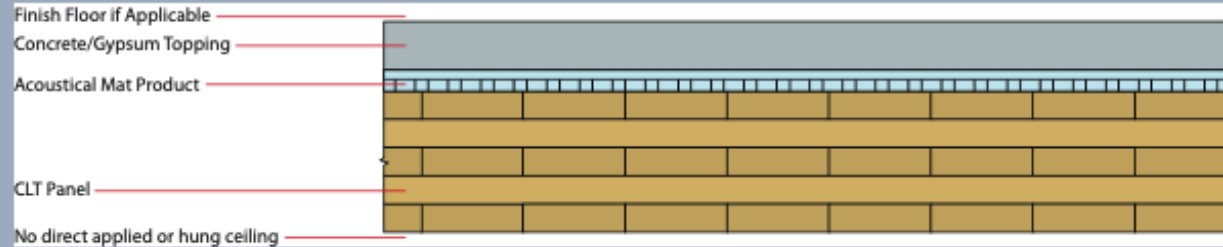
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<http://bit.ly/mass-timber-assemblies>

# Acoustics & Sound Control

## Inventory of Tested Assemblies

**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 |
|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------|
|                    | 1-1/2" Gyp-Crete®       | Maxxon Acousti-Mat® 3/4                        | None                     | 47 <sup>2</sup> ASTC | 47 <sup>2</sup> AIIC | 1      |
|                    |                         |                                                | LVT                      | -                    | 49 <sup>2</sup> AIIC |        |
|                    |                         |                                                | Carpet + Pad             | -                    | 75 <sup>2</sup> AIIC |        |
|                    |                         |                                                | LVT on Acousti-Top®      | -                    | 52 <sup>2</sup> AIIC |        |
|                    |                         | Maxxon Acousti-Mat® ¾ Premium                  | Eng Wood on Acousti-Top® | -                    | 51 <sup>2</sup> AIIC |        |
|                    |                         |                                                | None                     | 49 <sup>2</sup> ASTC | 45 <sup>2</sup> AIIC |        |
|                    |                         |                                                | LVT                      | -                    | 47 <sup>2</sup> AIIC |        |
|                    |                         |                                                | LVT on Acousti-Top®      | -                    | 49 <sup>2</sup> AIIC |        |
| CLT 5-ply (6.875") |                         | 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     |
|                    |                         |                                                | Carpet + Pad             | 45 <sup>6</sup>      | 67 <sup>6</sup>      | 60     |
|                    |                         |                                                | Ceramic Tile             | 50 <sup>6</sup>      | 46 <sup>6</sup>      | 61     |
|                    |                         | 1-1/2" Levelrock®                              | None                     | 45 <sup>6</sup>      | 42 <sup>6</sup>      | 15     |
|                    |                         |                                                | LVT                      | 48 <sup>6</sup>      | 44 <sup>6</sup>      | 16     |

# Keys to Mass Timber Success:

Know Your WHY

Design it as Mass Timber From the Start

Leverage Manufacturer Capabilities

Understand Supply Chain

Optimize Grid

Take Advantage of Prefabrication & Coordination

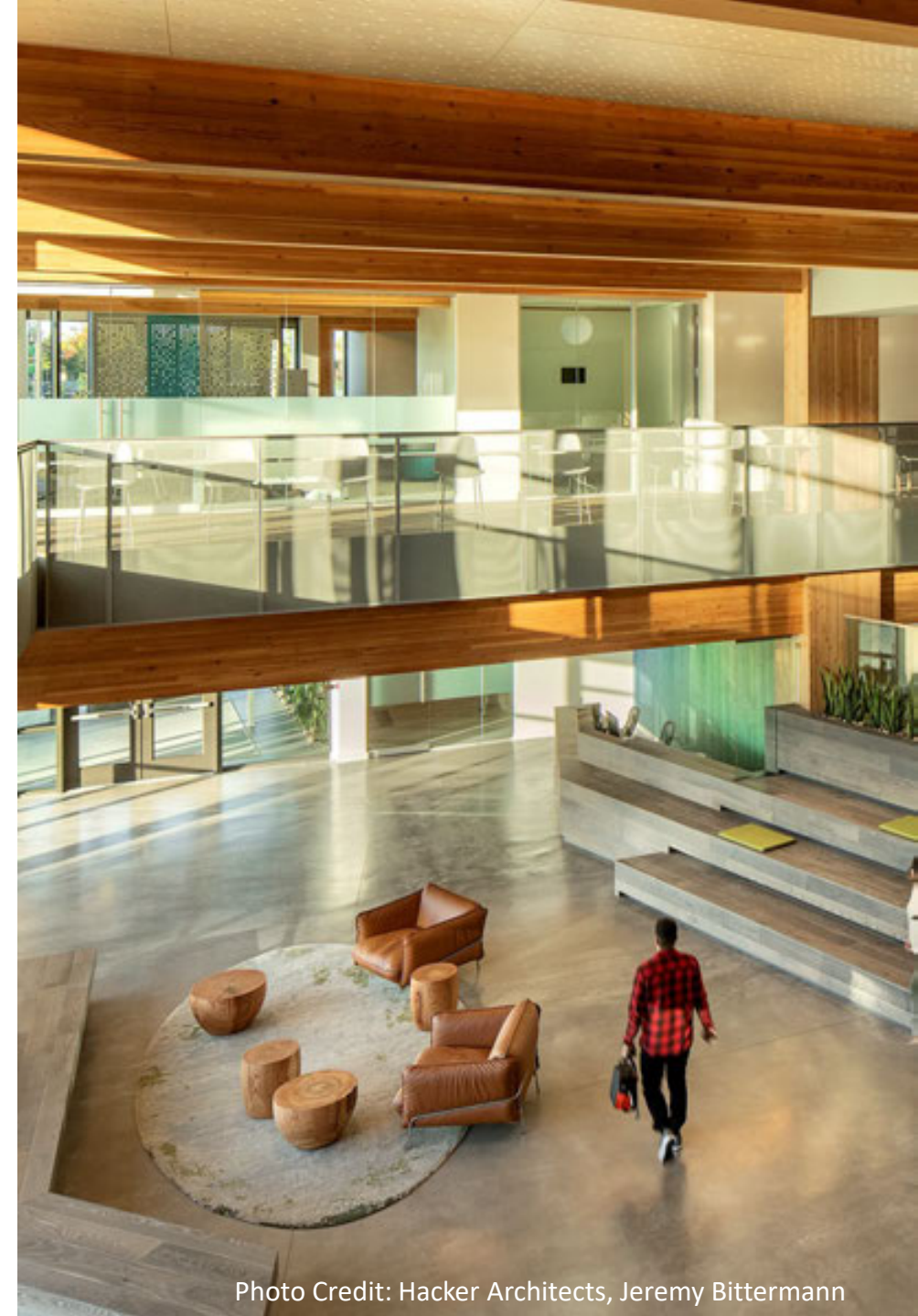
Expose the Timber

Discuss Early with AHJ

Work with Experienced People

Let WoodWorks Help for Free

Create Your Market Distinction



# Mass Timber Construction: Costing & Construction Management



Kate Carrigg, PE



Photo: Structurlam

# Construction Management Program



Jason Reynolds, MBA, DBIA



Brandon Brooks, MBA, PMP





# Partner Training Centers



-  Hardware Manufacturer
-  United Brotherhood of Carpenters
-  Ironworkers International
-  University Partners
-  Training Centers

<https://www.woodworks.org/>





# Interested in building with mass timber? Ask us anything.

## FREE PROJECT SUPPORT • EDUCATION • RESOURCES

Nationwide support for general contractors, erectors, and trades relating to multi-family and commercial mass timber buildings

- » Preconstruction
- » Delegated design
- » Moisture management
- » Procurement
- » Connections
- » Project education
- » Cost drivers
- » Scheduling
- » Protection and remediation
- » Installer training
- » MEPF Integration
- » Hybrid details
- » Case studies





## How to Successfully Cost Manage a Mass Timber Project

Cost-Estimating Considerations for General Contractors



Apex Plaza  
William McDonough + Partners / Hourigan

**A determining factor in the success of a mass timber project—and whether it goes forward at all—is the general contractor's ability to provide informed cost estimates from the earliest stage of design.** However, unlike other materials, there isn't a hundred years of tradition and shared experience to guide budgeting, cost management, and competitive procurement, or readily available cost benchmarking.

This paper is intended to bridge that gap with guidance for minimizing whole project costs and maximizing the value of mass timber projects. It has been written with an emphasis on cross-laminated timber (CLT) and glue-laminated timber (glulam), but applies generally to all mass timber materials. Follow these steps to more confidently cost plan your next wood building.

This paper was developed collaboratively with a design and construction professional who specializes in mass timber construction and has worked on multiple projects for general contractors. Costs, percentages and other values are based on their experience and may differ for other projects.

### Step 1: Do Your Homework

- Vet Potential Subcontractors
- Determine the Procurement Model
- Procurement Models

### Step 2: Establish a Reliable Pre-Design Budget

- Basic Timber Pricing Dynamics
- Provide this Information for Better Supply Pricing
- Insights for Better Budgeting
- Choose Your List of Bidders
- Adjust Budgets for Other Trades Impacted by Timber

### Step 3: Manage Project Costs (not covered)

### Timber Bidding Package – Bidding Checklist (not covered)

# Step 1: Do Your Homework

## Factors Influencing Cost Estimation

**Design Complexity:** High impact on material and labor costs

### **Material Availability:**

- Regional differences in availability and pricing
- Understand which suppliers and subcontractors are appropriate for your project and how best to use them

**Procurement Model:** Can impact the timber package price by as much as 30%—or more than 5% of total project hard costs

# Understanding Cost Impacts of Construction Type

## Pre-Design Budget Example

### 4-story building on college campus

- Mostly Group B occupancy, some assembly (events) space
- NFPA 13 sprinklers throughout
- Floor plate = 7,700 SF
- Total Building Area = 23,100 SF

### Impact of Assembly Occupancy Placement:

Owner originally desires events space on top (4th) floor

- Requires Construction **Type IIIA**

If owner permits moving events space to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

- Could use **Type IIIB**

# Understanding Cost Impacts of Construction Type

## Pre-Design Budget Example

4-story building on college campus

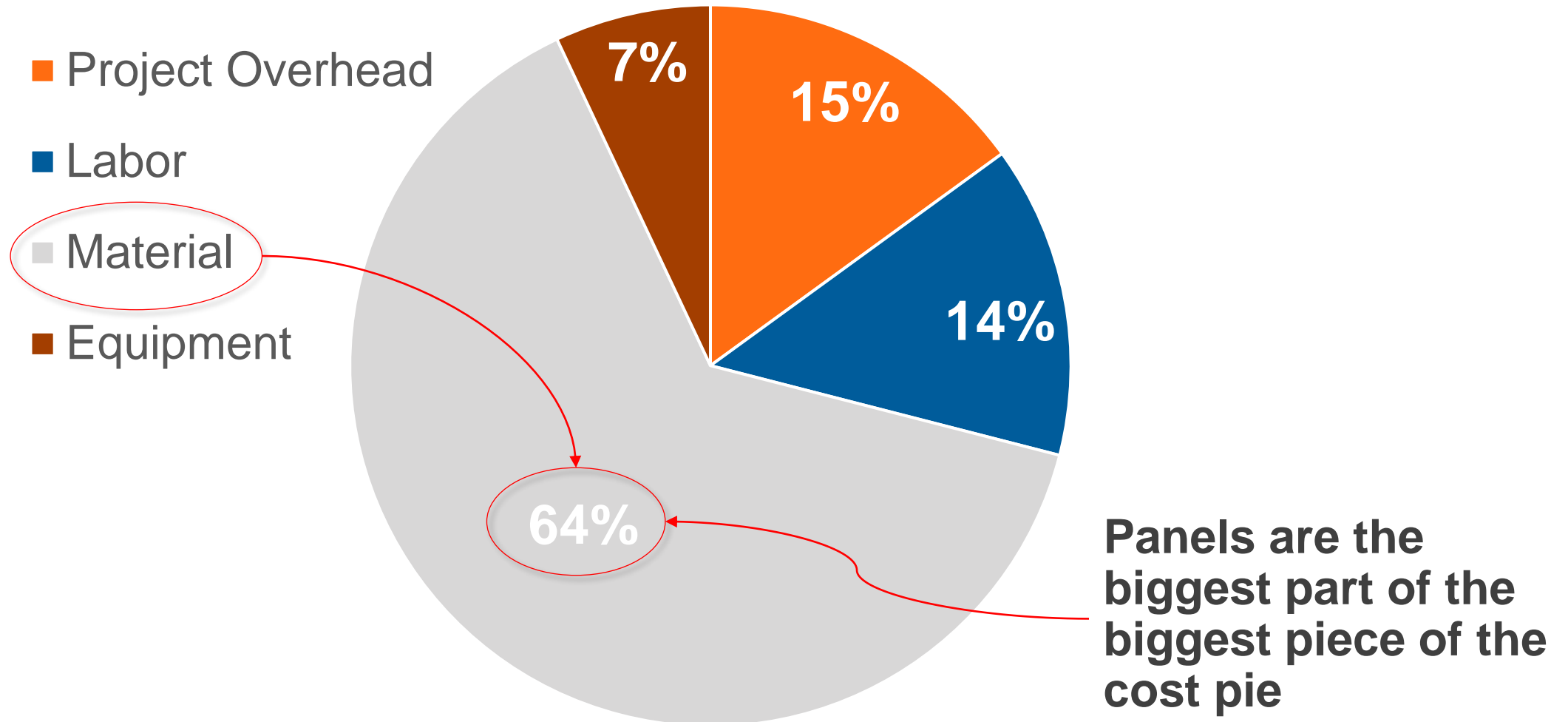
### Cost Impact of Assembly Occupancy Placement:

| Location of Event Space              | 4th Floor             | 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Construction Type                    | III-A                 | III-B                 |
| Assembly Group                       | A-3                   | A-3                   |
| Fire Resistive Rating                | 1-Hr                  | 0-Hr                  |
| Connections                          | Concealed             | Exposed               |
| CLT Panel Thickness                  | 5-Ply                 | 3-Ply                 |
| <b><u>Superstructure Cost/SF</u></b> | <b><u>\$65/SF</u></b> | <b><u>\$53/SF</u></b> |

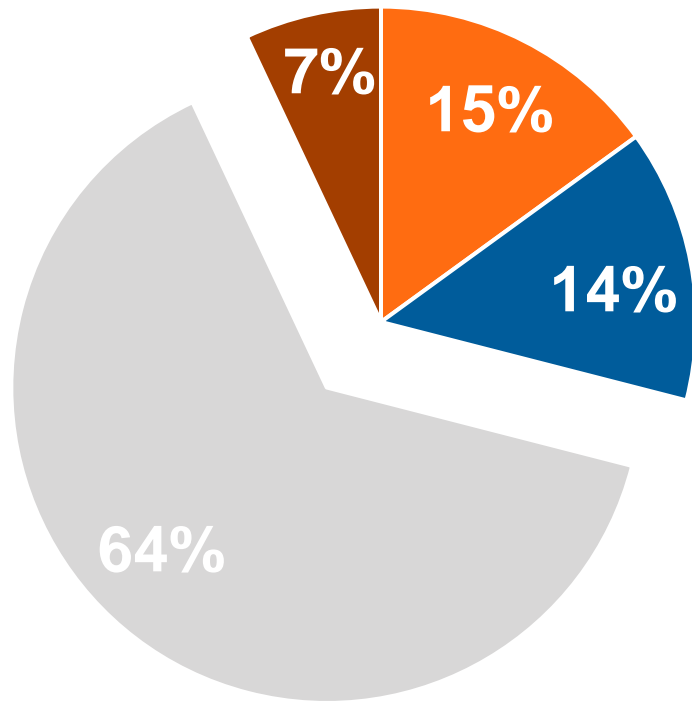


The Canyons / Kaiser+Path, Cantena Consulting Engineers / Photo Jeremy Bittermann

# Anatomy of a Turnkey Mass Timber Package



# Material (Direct Cost)



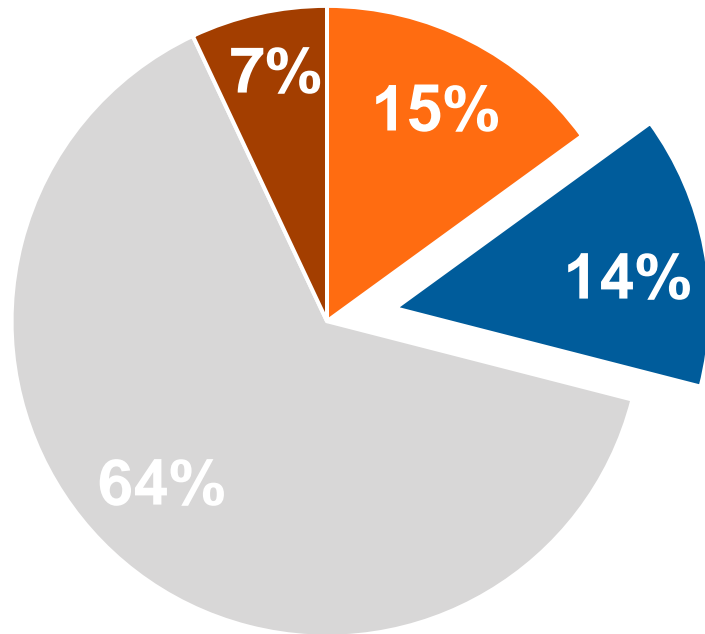
Turnkey Mass Timber Package



or



# Labor (Direct Cost)



Turnkey Mass Timber Package



Photo: Swinerton

# Fabrication and Connection Considerations

- » Factory vs. field
- » Tolerances
- » Connection classes
- » Fire resistance
- » Inspections



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

Leers Weinzapfel Associates / Equilibrium  
Consulting / Simpson Gumpertz & Heger  
(EOR) / Suffolk Construction  
*Photo Alex Schreyer*



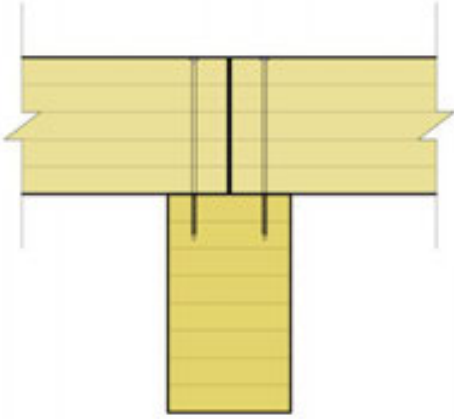
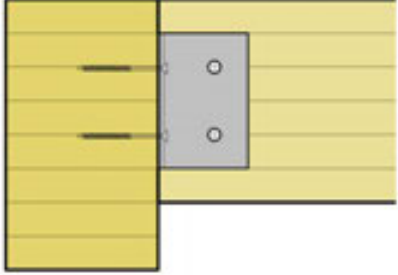

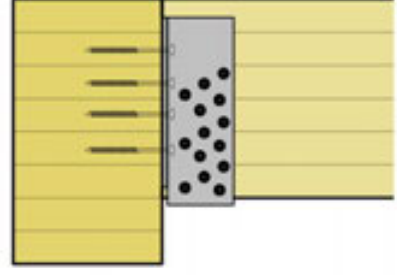
## WoodWorks Index of Mass Timber Connections

*A compilation of connections  
used in mass timber construction*

Platte Fifteen / OZ Architecture / KL&A Engineers & Builders  
Photo Alan Ferrin

<https://www.woodworks.org/resources/index-of-mass-timber-connections/>

# Connection Classes and *Fire Ratings*

| Connection class   | Class 1                                                                            | Class 2                                                                            | Class 3                                                                             | Class 3                                                                             |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fire resistance    | May be inherently fire resistant according to NDS calculations                     | Requires additional protection to meet fire-rating requirements                    | Tested fire-resistance rating (as specified by manufacturer)                        | Requires additional protection to meet fire-rating requirements                     |
| Connection example |  |  |  |  |
|                    | Beam Bears on Girder*                                                              | Beam Connected to Girder with Steel Angles*                                        | Beam Connected to Girder with Concealed Face-Mounted Knife Plate Connector*         | Beam Connected to Girder with Proprietary Hanger*                                   |

\*Table 8 in the *Index*



Developed by Woodworks  
in collaboration with  
Alex Lega, PE, SE  
PCS Structural Solutions

## Construction Quality Assurance on Mass Timber Projects: Inspection and Observation

### Considerations for project teams developing inspection and observation plans

Quality assurance for mass timber projects involves many considerations, which can create a learning curve for teams new to these materials. For example, in addition to code-required inspections that apply to almost any project, mass timber projects benefit from other types of inspections—but it can be challenging to find information on what they entail. While inspection standards and methods have long been codified for other structural materials (including other types of wood construction), mass timber is relatively new to the United States. And although mass timber projects are subject to many of the existing inspection requirements, the 2021 International Building Code (IBC) was the first version to include requirements specific to these materials.

This paper explores inspection considerations for mass timber projects, including special inspections and structural observations, and how to effectively communicate the requirements and review the results. It is intended to provide a basis for conversation that helps teams comply with the building code and develop Construction Documents (CDs) specific to the project by reviewing their approaches to construction quality assurance.

This publication references the 2024 IBC, but most references are identical in the 2021 code.

#### Inspections Performed by the Building Official

The building official, or Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), performs a set of inspections focused on the administration and enforcement of the building code. These are not the same as special inspections and undertaking one type does not preclude the other. Provisions for building official inspections are included in IBC Section 110 and apply to most projects, regardless of structural material. Section 110.1 notes:

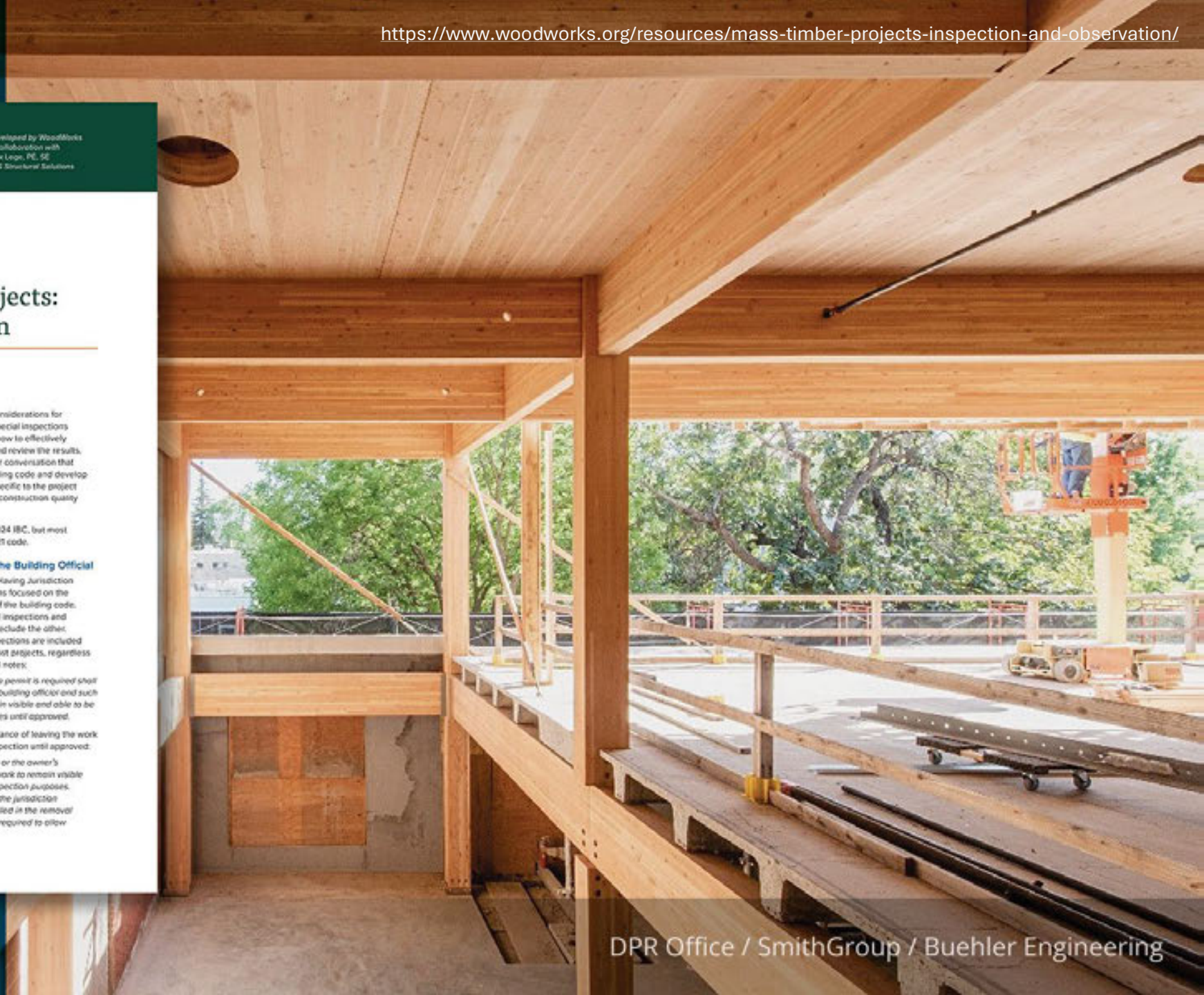
*Construction or work for which a permit is required shall be subject to inspection by the building official and such construction or work shall remain visible and able to be accessed for inspection purposes until approved.*

This section also notes the importance of leaving the work in a condition that allows easy inspection until approved:

*It shall be the duty of the owner or the owner's authorized agent to cause the work to remain visible and able to be accessed for inspection purposes. Whether the building official nor the jurisdiction shall be liable for expense entailed in the removal or replacement of any material required to allow inspection.*



The Beam on Farmer / RSP Architects / PK Associates



# Step 1: Do Your Homework

## Factors Influencing Cost Estimation

**Design Complexity:** High impact on material and labor costs

### **Material Availability:**

- Regional differences in availability and pricing
- Understand which suppliers and subcontractors are appropriate for your project and how best to use them

**Procurement Model:** Can impact the timber package price by as much as 30%—or more than 5% of total project hard costs

# Step 1: Do Your Homework

## Vet Potential Subcontractors

- Which products do you manufacture vs. which do you supply?
- What services do you typically provide?
- What is the ideal project for your company?
- What is your lead time?

# Mass Timber Construction

## Know your supply chain

- » Manufacturers - different species, grades and maximum panel/beam sizes
- » Trucking logistics and cost
- » Manufacturer specific CNC capabilities
- » 3<sup>rd</sup> party fabricators can have additional CNC capabilities

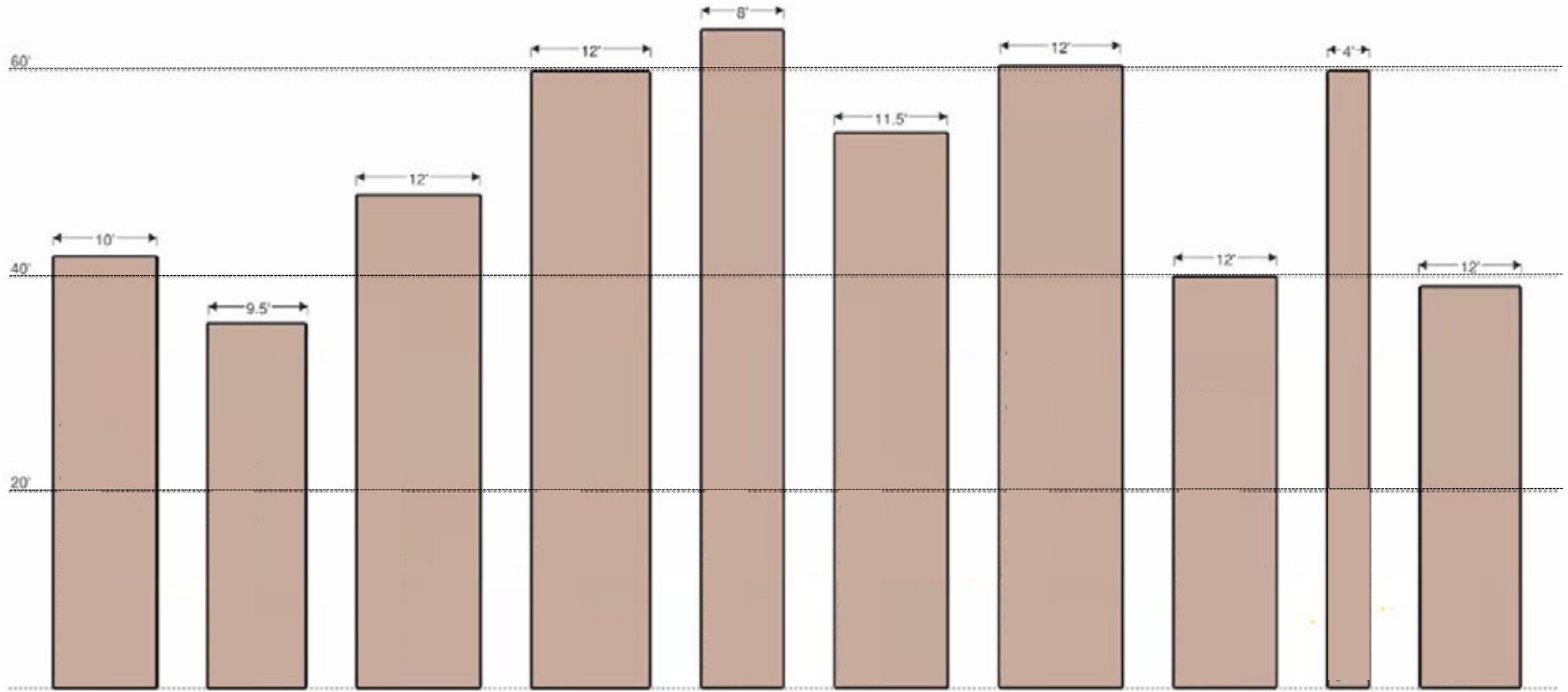


Photo: DR Johnson

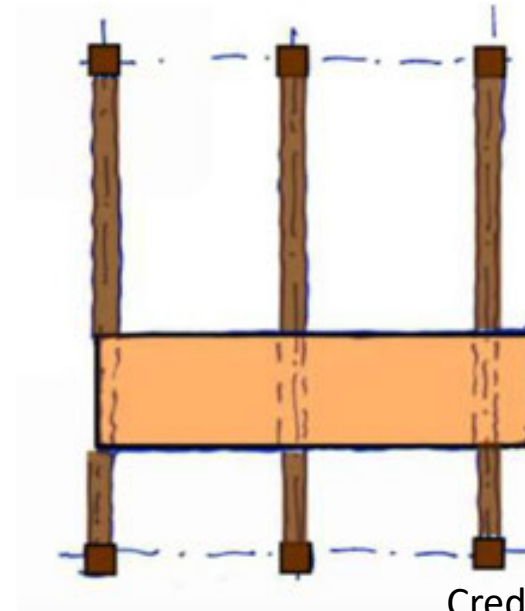
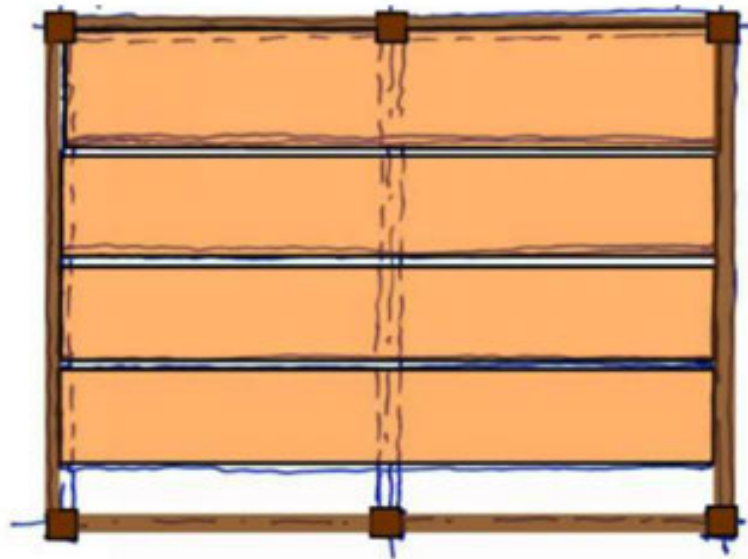
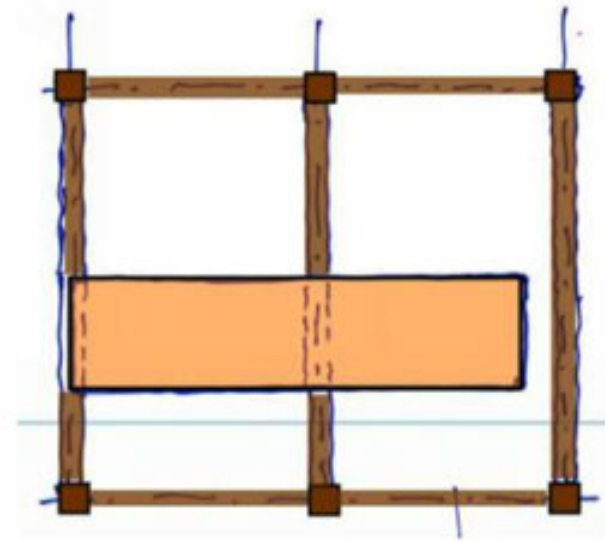
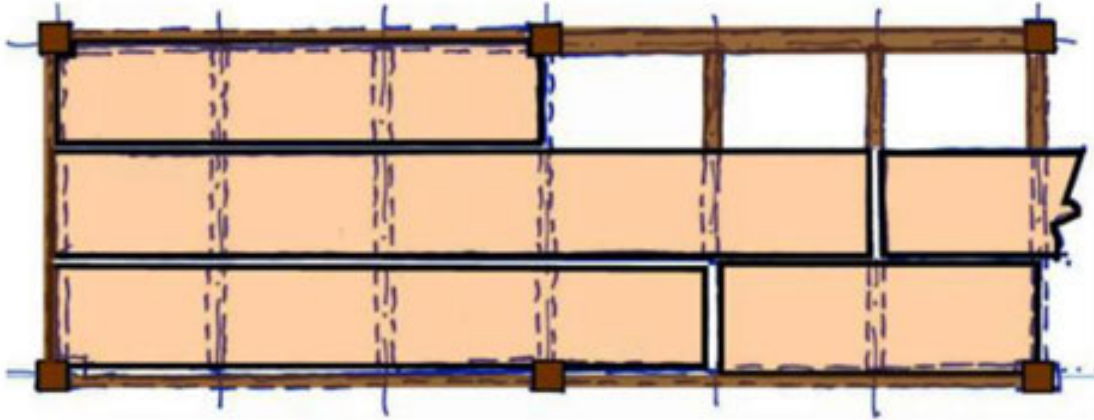


Photo: Sauter Timber

# Understand Manufacturer's Capabilities



Credit: TimberLab



Credit: Tanya Luthi, Entuitive

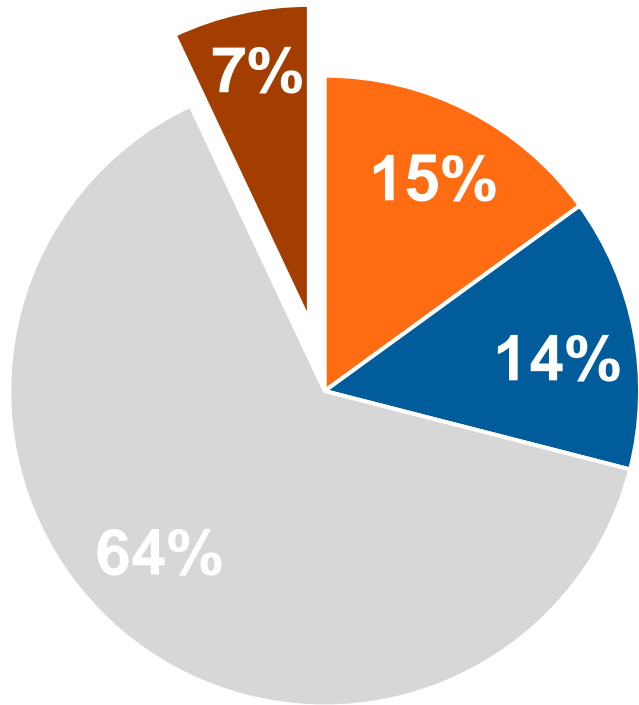
## Understand Manufacturer's Capabilities

# Mass Timber Construction

- » Staging areas
- » Cranes



# Equipment (Direct Cost)



Turnkey Mass Timber Package

Source: Swinerton



Photo: Swinerton



Photo: Alex Schreyer

# Step 1: Do Your Homework

## Factors Influencing Cost Estimation

**Design Complexity:** High impact on material and labor costs

**Material Availability:**

- Regional differences in availability and pricing
- Understand which suppliers and subcontractors are appropriate for your project and how best to use them

**Procurement Model:** Can impact the timber package price by as much as 30%—or more than 5% of total project hard costs

# Step 1: Do Your Homework

## Procurement Models

### **Installer Furnish and Install**

- Single contract between GC and installer; installer supplies material and installation

### **Manufacturer Furnish and Install**

- Single contract between GC and manufacturer; manufacturer subcontracts installer

### **Furnish and Install Separately**

- GC procures material direct from manufacturer; separate contract with installer

### **GC Self-Perform**

### **Design-Build Subcontract**

# Procurement Logic for Scheduling

Shop drawings, Planning, Fabrication, Delivery

Mass  
Timber  
Installation

Nov

Dec

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

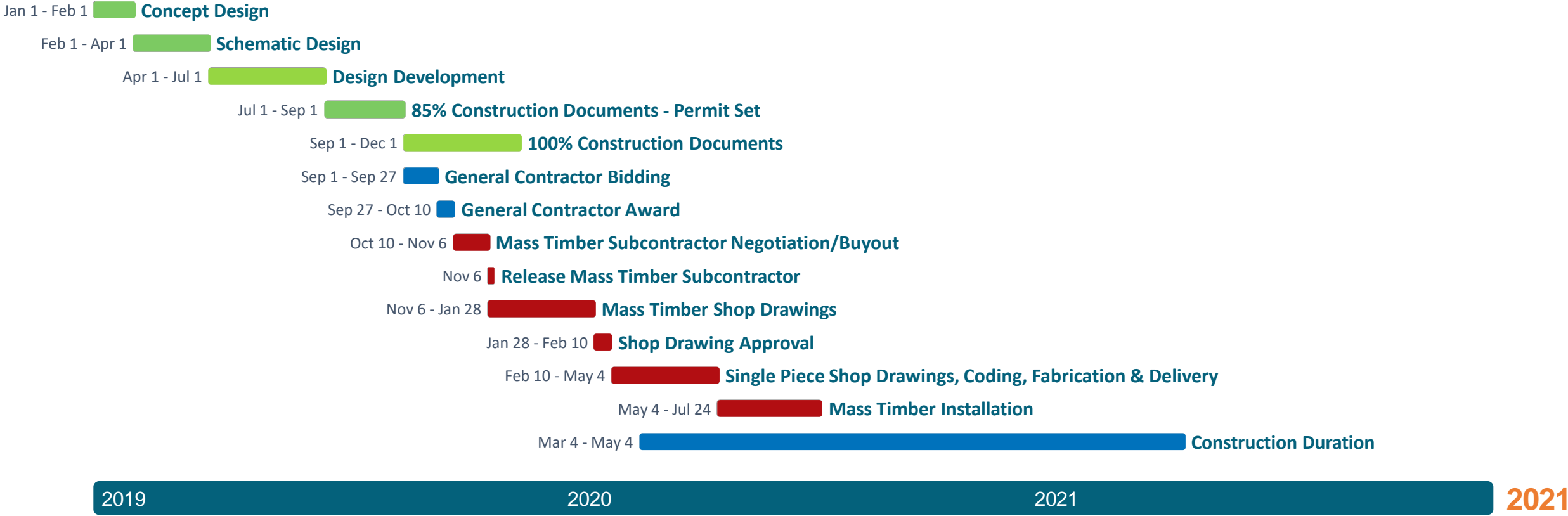
Sep

Source: Swinerton

Example 6 Story Type IIIA Project

# Procurement Approach Determines Schedule

## Example 6 Story Type IIIA Project



Source: Swinerton

# Design-Bid-Build Procurement

# Procurement Approach Determines Schedule

## Example 6 Story Type IIIA Project



Source: Swinerton

# Design-Build/Design-Assist Procurement

# Early Move-In for Rough-In Trades.



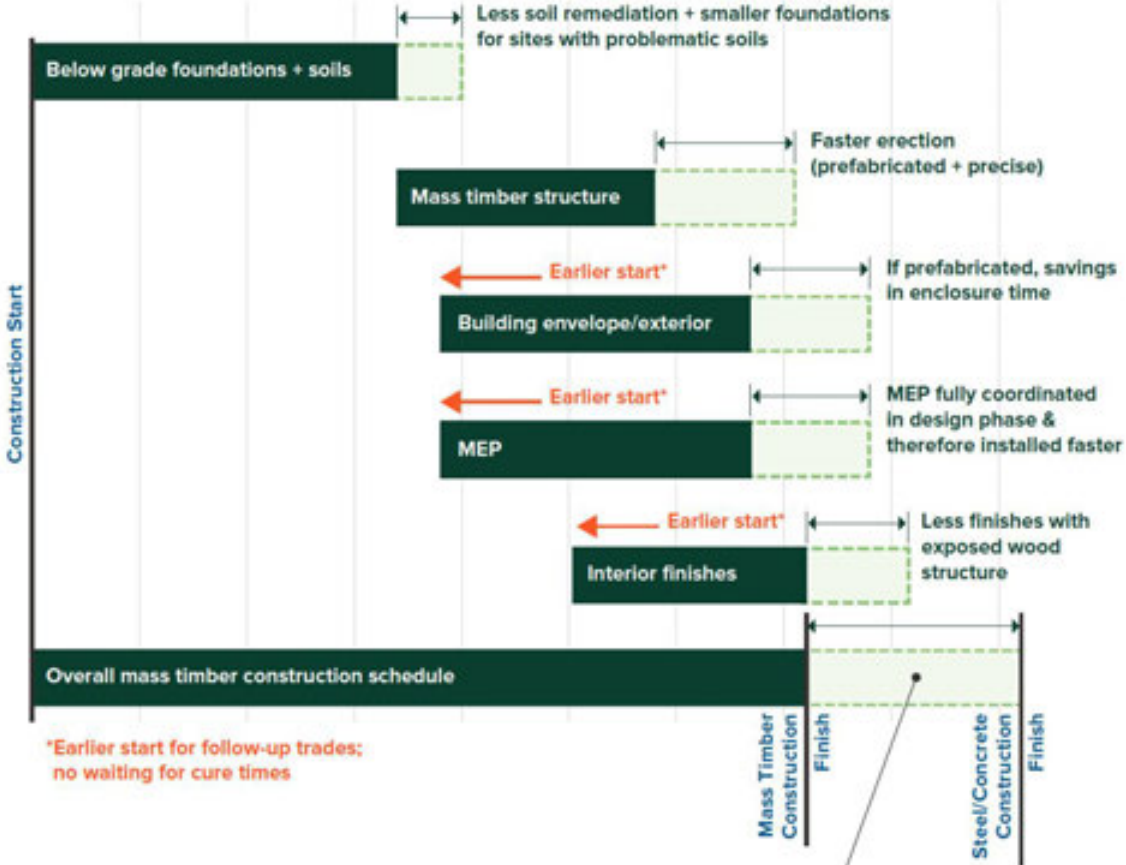
Photos: Swinerton



# Procurement Approach Determines Schedule

## Compressing the Typical Construction Schedule with Mass Timber <sup>13, 15, 16</sup>

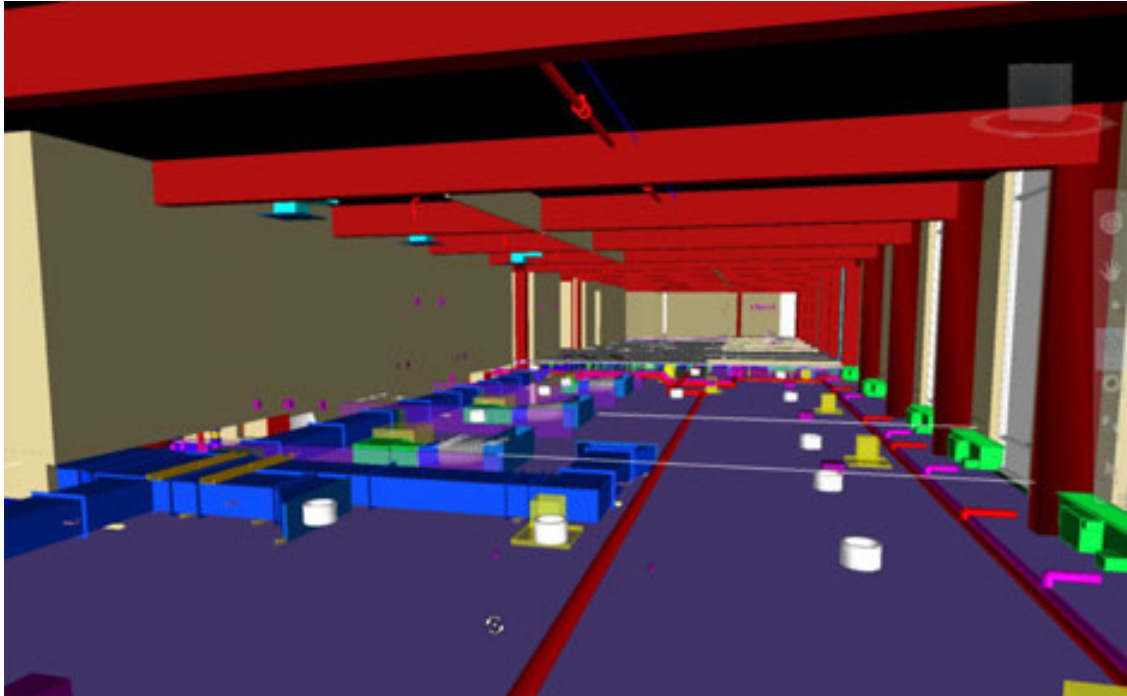
Look for these potential schedule savings in comparison to steel and concrete



### Up to 25% schedule savings

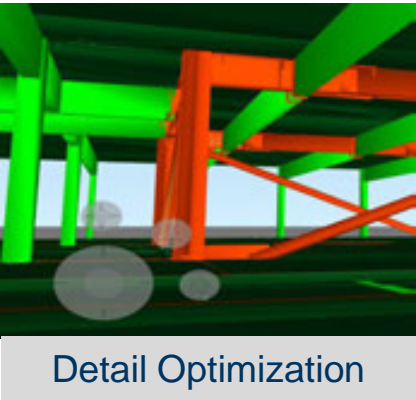
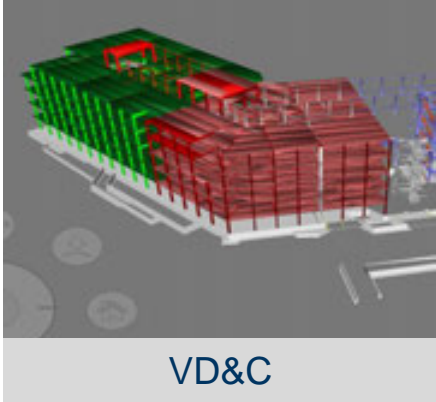
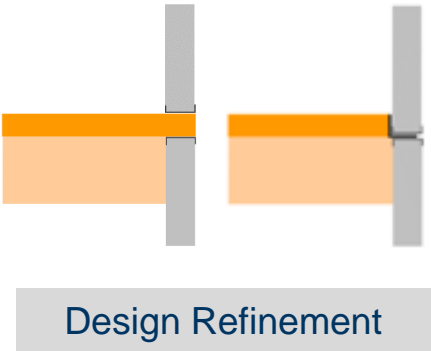
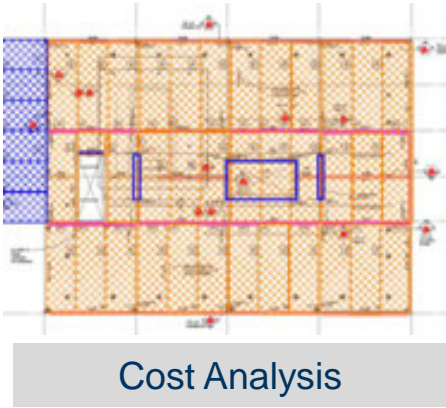
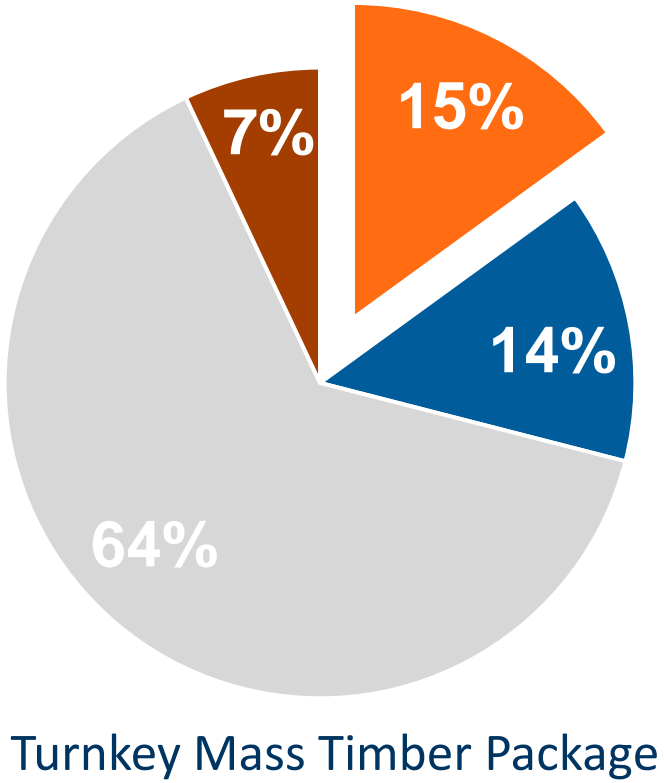
- = Less carrying costs
- + Less GC overhead
- + Ability to lease/occupy sooner

# Embracing BIM for Fabrication



Photos: Swinerton

# Project Overhead



Photos: Swinerton

# Schedule Impacts: Hybrid Structures



# Step 2: Establish a Reliable Pre-Design Budget

## Choose Your List of Bidders

- Good to have three or four qualified/interested bidders to cover both supply and installation scopes if not being bid together
- Not every project is the right fit for every supplier or installer and producing a good bid takes time
- It is important to have a flexible specification to meet the design team's intentions.

# Step 2: Establish a Reliable Pre-Design Budget

**Provide this Information for Better Supply Pricing**

- Components that will be timber
- Grid size and structural typology
- Elements that will be exposed and their fire ratings
- Appearance grade requirements
- Local sourcing and/or forest certification requirements

# Step 2: Establish a Reliable Pre-Design Budget

## Insights for Better Budgeting

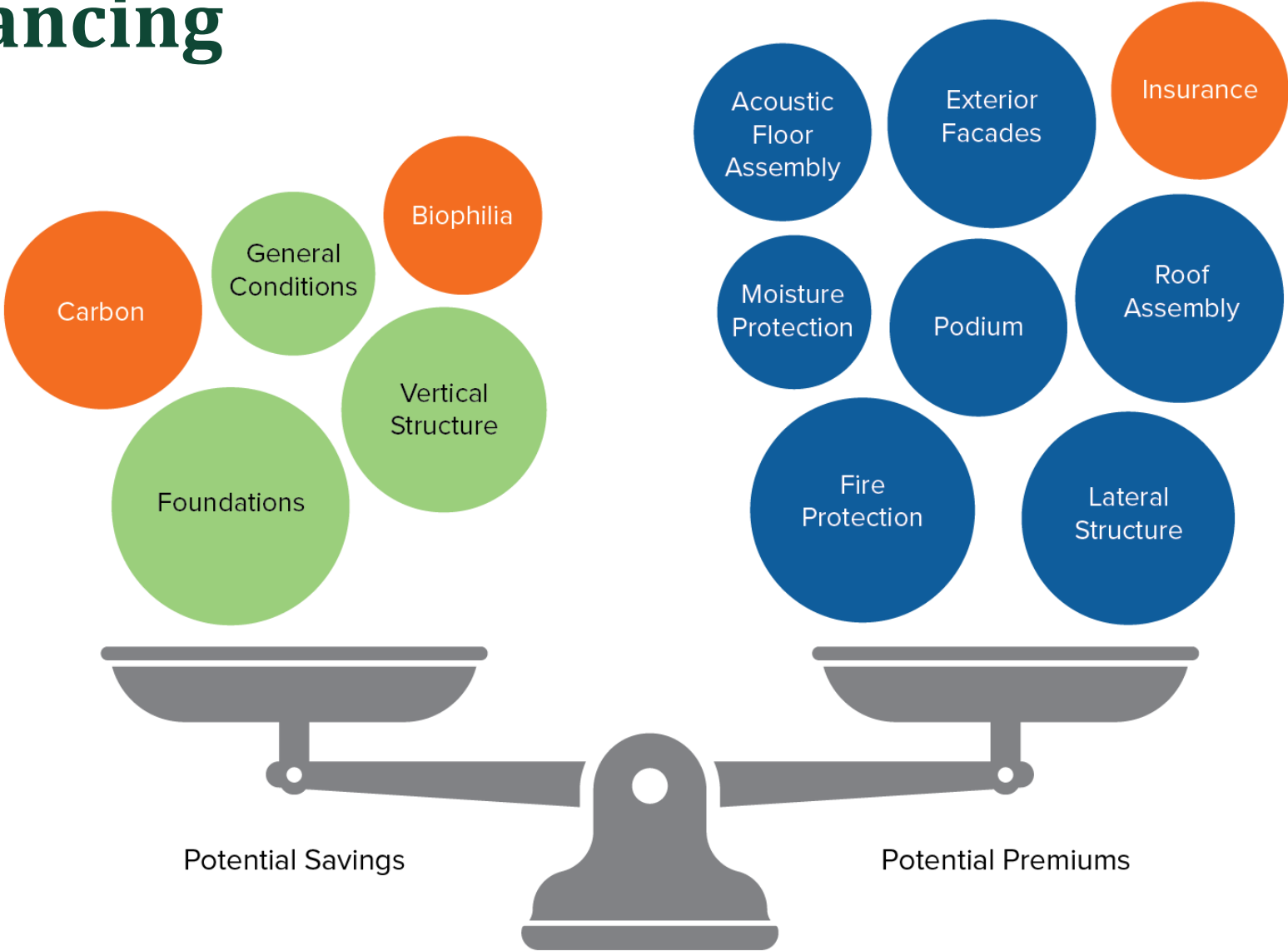
Important to Ask Manufacturers and Suppliers What is Included (and Excluded) from Costs they Provide

| Pricing Breakdown               |                    |                                  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Concept/Schematic Design        | Design Development | Bidding                          |
| Timber Supply Package           | CLT                | Floor/roof panels                |
|                                 |                    | Wall panels                      |
|                                 |                    | Stair package                    |
|                                 |                    | Visual grade                     |
|                                 |                    | Temporary sealants               |
|                                 |                    | Factory-applied membranes        |
|                                 |                    | Predrilling/marking              |
|                                 | Glulam             | Beams                            |
|                                 |                    | Columns                          |
|                                 |                    | Blocking/stair package           |
|                                 |                    | Architectural finish             |
|                                 |                    | Certification premium            |
|                                 | Hardware           | Connectors                       |
|                                 |                    | Preassembly                      |
|                                 |                    | Fasteners and splines            |
|                                 |                    | Hardware shipping                |
|                                 | Logistics          | CLT shipping                     |
|                                 |                    | Glulam shipping                  |
|                                 |                    | Temporary storage                |
|                                 | Other              | Project management/design assist |
| Fabrication model/shop drawings |                    |                                  |

|              |                     |                             |
|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Installation | Labor and equipment | Schedule duration           |
|              |                     | Crew size                   |
|              |                     | On-site moisture management |
|              | Crane               | Size                        |
|              |                     | Duration                    |
|              | Staging yard        | Duration                    |
| Taxes        |                     |                             |

*Items in green are not typically included in early pricing; develop separate budgets if needed*

# Mass Timber Construction Cost Balancing





## How to Successfully Cost Manage a Mass Timber Project

Cost-Estimating Considerations for General Contractors



Apex Plaza  
Wilson McDermott + Partners / Hourigan

A determining factor in the success of a mass timber project—and whether it goes forward at all—is the general contractor's ability to provide informed cost estimates from the earliest stage of design. However, unlike other materials, there isn't a hundred years of tradition and shared experience to guide budgeting, cost management, and competitive procurement, or readily available cost benchmarking.

This paper is intended to bridge that gap with guidance for minimizing whole project costs and maximizing the value of mass timber projects. It has been written with an emphasis on cross-laminated timber (CLT) and glue-laminated timber (glulam), but applies generally to all mass timber materials. Follow these steps to more confidently cost plan your next wood building.

*This paper was developed collaboratively with a design and construction professional who specializes in mass timber construction and has worked on multiple projects for general contractors. Costs, percentages and other values are based on their experience and may differ for other projects.*





# U.S. Mass Timber Construction Manual



The Soto / Hixon Properties  
BOKA Powell  
Photo: StructureCraft

# Material Protection

- » Moisture
- » UV rays
- » Damage



## Ascent

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

# Managing Moisture: Mass Timber Guide

- » Start early
- » Evaluate risks
  - » climate & season
  - » water mgmt. during construction
  - » exposure duration
  - » shipping & storage
- » Prepare construction phase moisture management plan



# 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

# Expert Tips: MT Coatings

- » Protective treatments vs. finishes
  - » Protective undercoat typically applied in shop
  - » Additional coats for protection and beauty



Expert Tips

## Architectural Finishes and Mass Timber: A Primer

*Covers coatings and how to choose them, protective treatments vs. finishes, best practices for protecting wood in situ, and maintenance cycles*



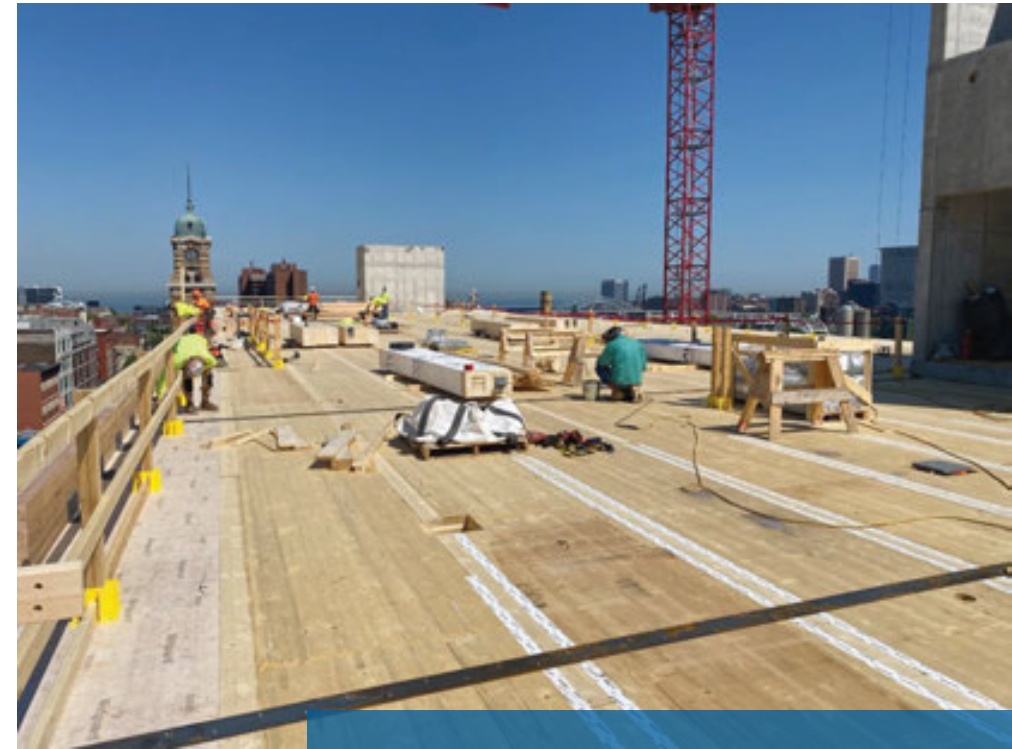
Adidas North American Headquarters / LEVER Architecture / photo Jeremy Bittermann

# Transportation & Storage



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

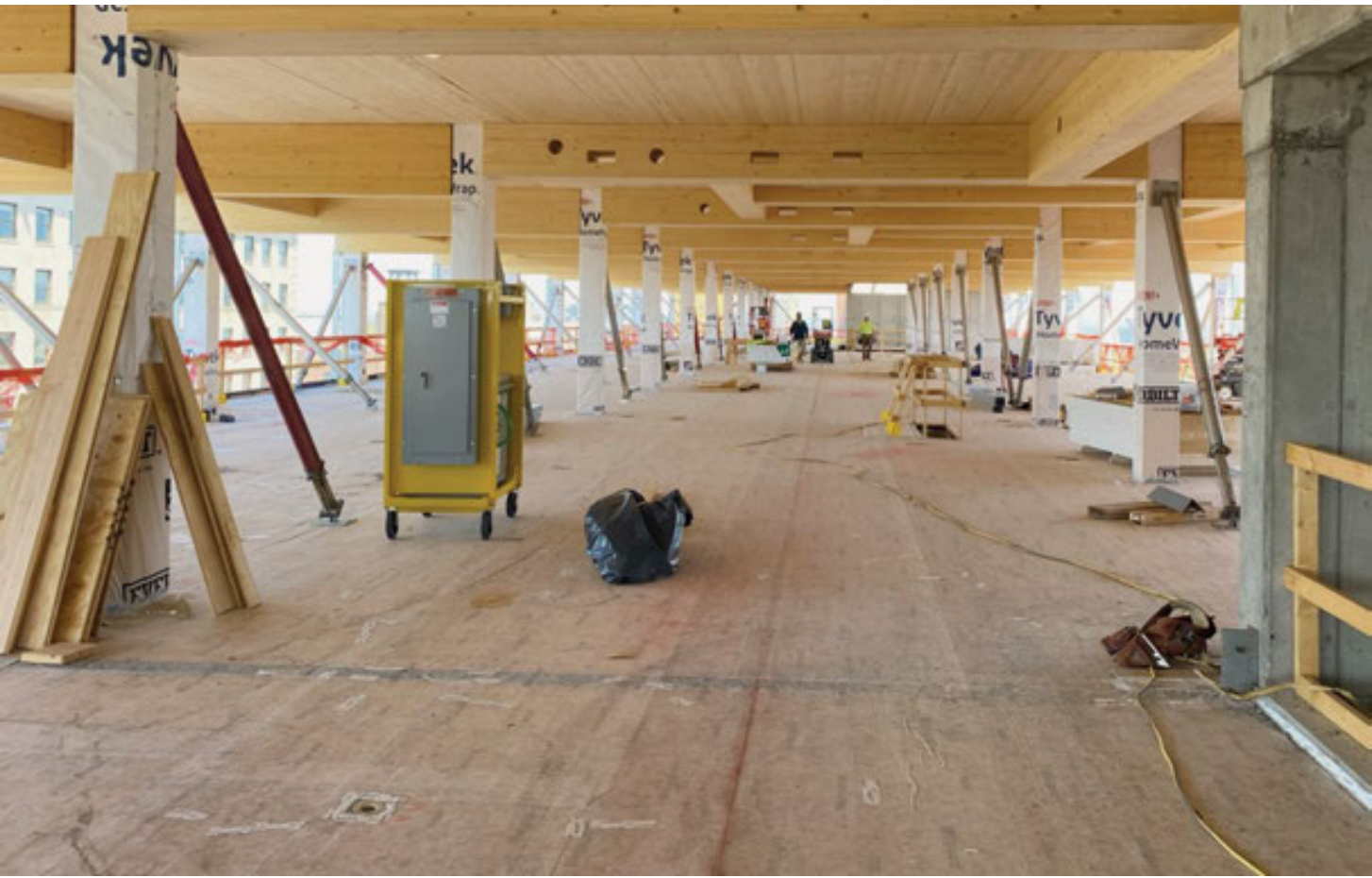
# Panel Joint Treatment



## INTRO

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

# Coverings



INTRO / Photos WoodWorks



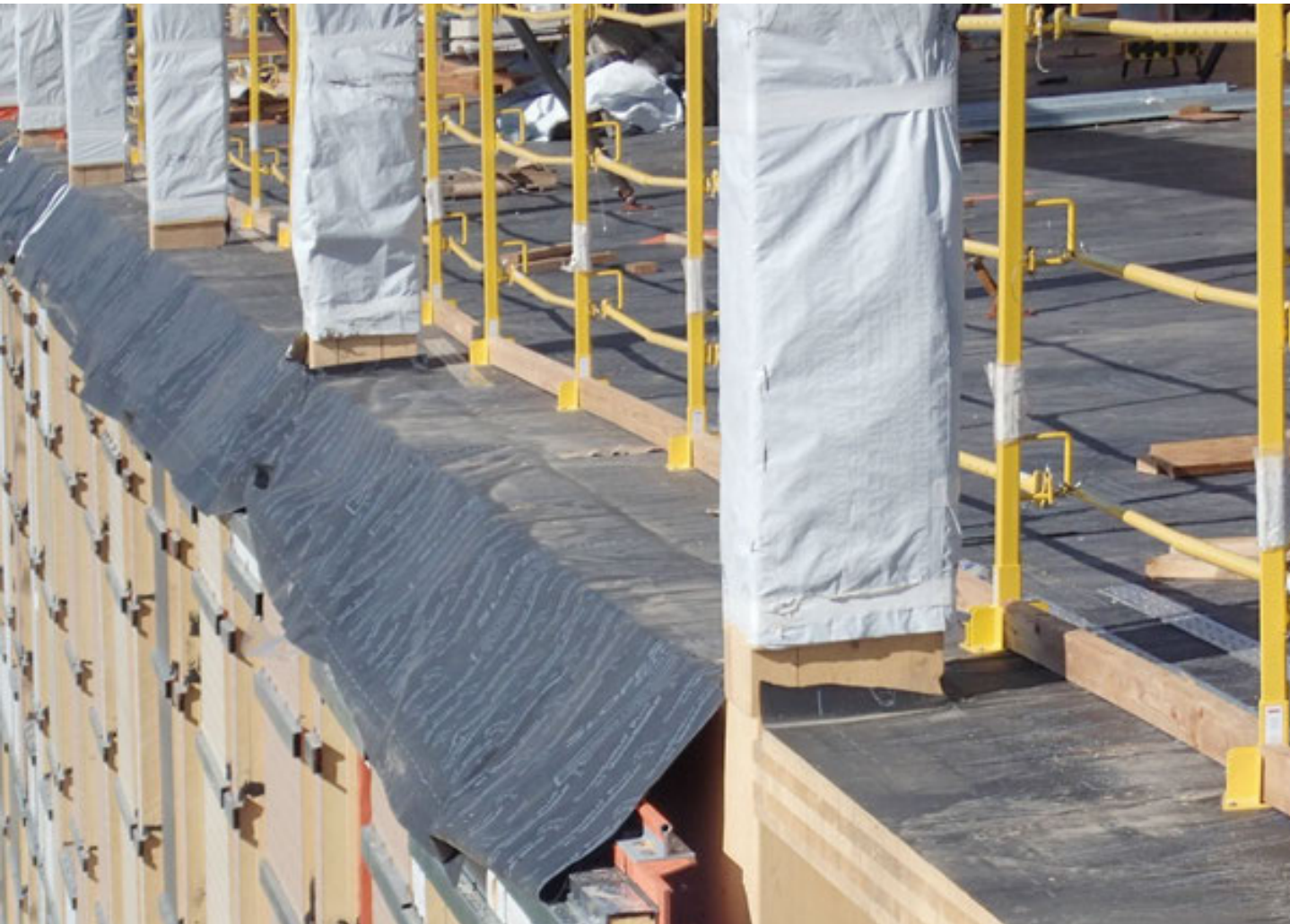
Membranes can be spray-applied, sheet product (adhesive or non), or board/sheathing product.



# 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.*

# 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

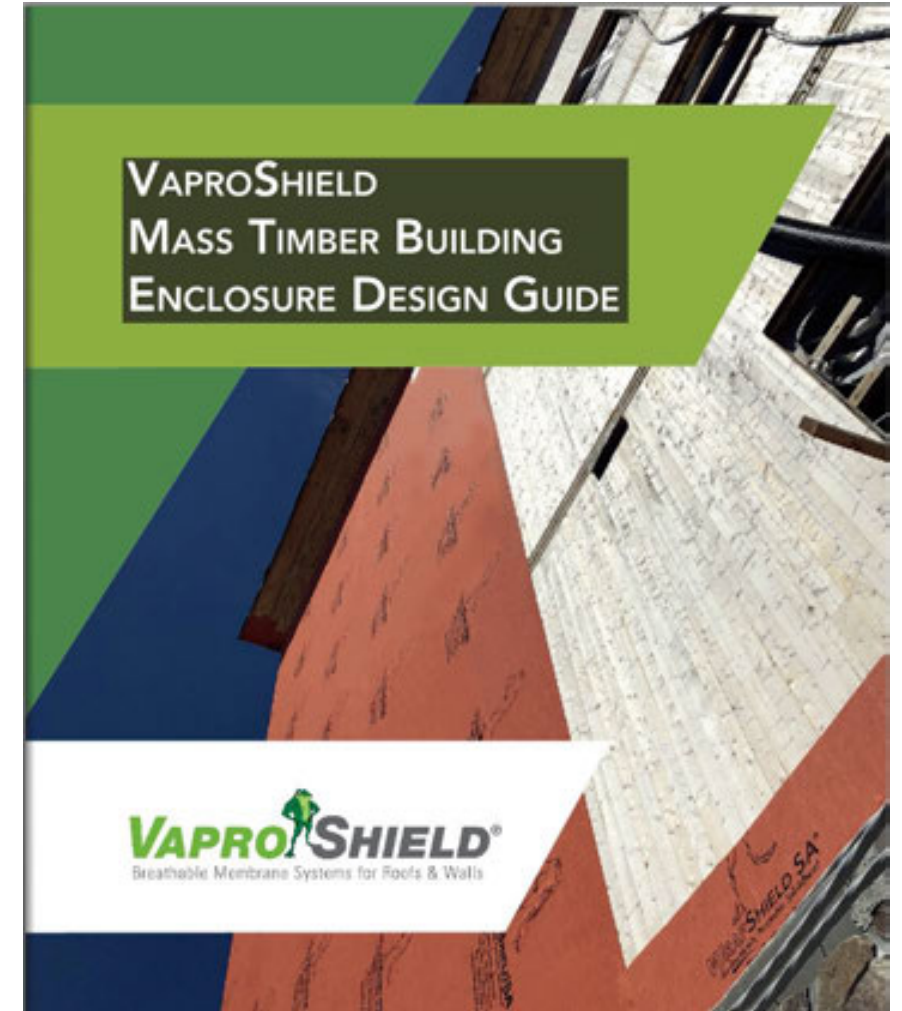
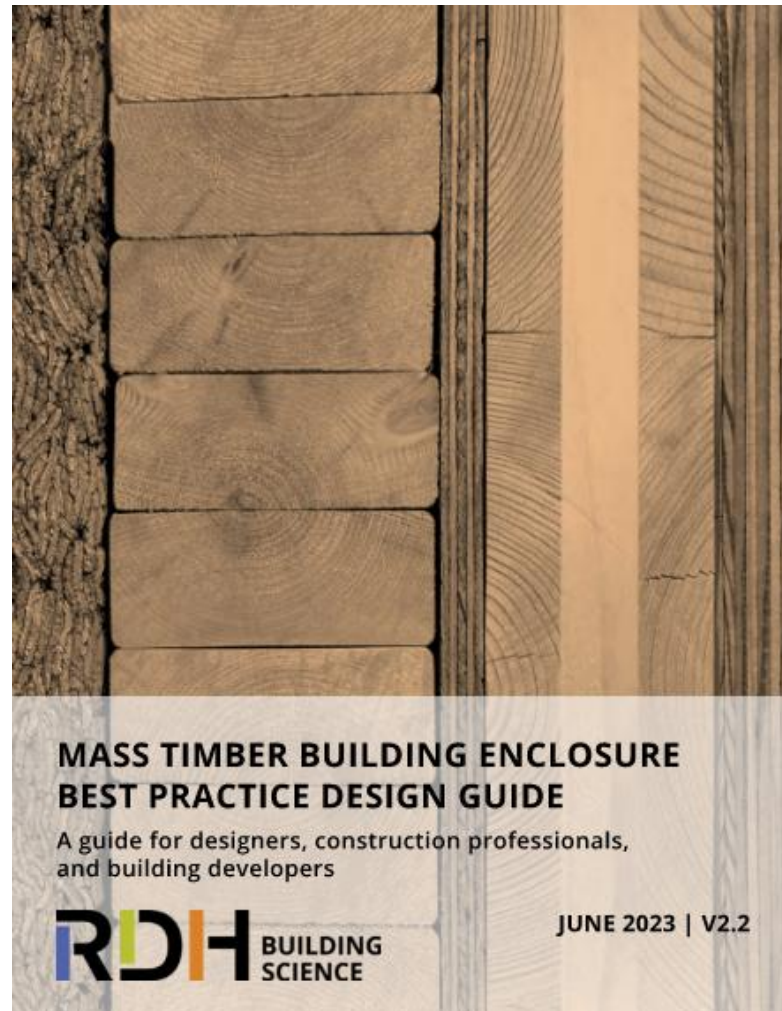
The best way to minimize exposure to moisture is to close in the project quickly.



# Building Envelope: Mass Timber Detailing Guides

WoodWorks provides structural details on our website. However, those don't consider control layers of the building envelope.

These are two great guides with example building envelope details for mass timber.



# QUESTIONS?

This concludes The American  
Institute of Architects Continuing  
Education Systems Course

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