



# Opportunities for Wood Use in Low Rise Commercial Buildings

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Presented by  
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WoodWorks

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



## Course Description

This course is intended for designers who want to learn more about the use of wood-frame construction for low-rise retail, office and restaurant occupancies designed under the International Building Code. Topics covered include common framing systems and details, paths to code compliance and tall wall design.

## Learning Objectives

1. Review permitted applications of wood-frame construction in the International Building Code in low-rise commercial buildings, with an emphasis on retail, office and restaurant occupancies.
2. Consider detailing options for the framing of common features in low-rise commercial buildings, such as flat roofs, parapets and open front floor plans.
3. Examine code requirements pertaining to multi-occupancy buildings and different paths to compliance.
4. Evaluate opportunities for tall wall framing with wood construction and understand the design requirements for code compliance.

## Outline

- » Introduction
- » Framing System Design and Details
  - » Structural Design Compliance
  - » Wall Framing
  - » Wall Bracing
  - » Roof Framing
- » Non-Structural Requirements and Design
  - » Allowable Heights and Areas
  - » Multi-Tenant and Multi-Occupancy Buildings
  - » Fire Resistance and Detailing
- » Large Retail Project Case Study

## Outline

### ➤ Introduction

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## Why Wood?

Using wood helps reduce environmental impact  
Wood products play significant role in modern economy

Wood Costs Less

Wood is Versatile

Wood Meets Code

Wood is Durable

Wood is Renewable



Photo courtesy OFRI



The Gibson, Hummel Architects, KPFF Consulting Engineers, photo Leo A. Geis

## Carbon Benefits of Wood

- **Less energy intensive** to manufacture than steel or concrete
- **Less fossil fuel consumed** during manufacture
- **Avoid process emissions**
- Carbon **storage in forests** and **promote forest health**
- Extended carbon **storage in products**

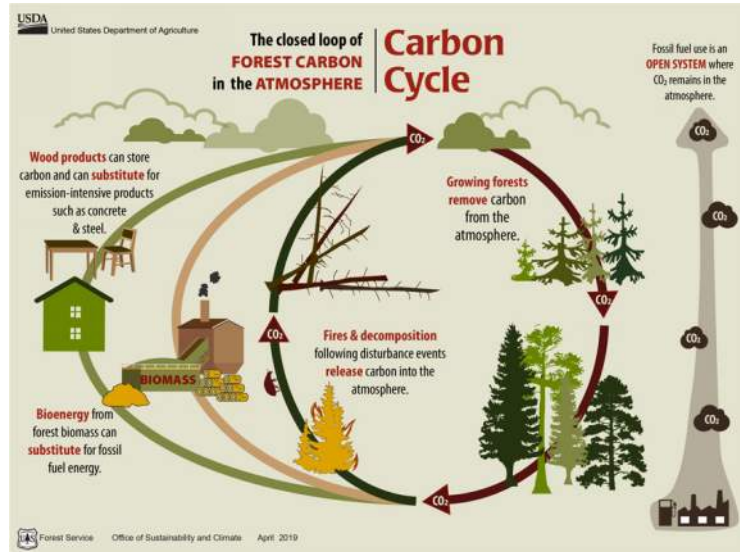


Image: USDA US Forest Service

## Herrington Recovery Center – Roger's Memorial Hospital Oconomowoc, WI



Photo: Curtis Waltz

- 3 stories; 21,000 square feet, 20 bed treatment facility
- Safe, confidential facility
- Institutional building with a **residential feel**
- Serene, spiritual environment; **biophilic** properties of wood
- LEED Silver
- **Locally available** wood products

Architect: TWP Architecture  
Structural Engineer: Pujara Wirth Torke, Inc.

## Herrington Recovery Center – Roger's Memorial Hospital Oconomowoc, WI





Photo: Tom Davenport

Architect: TWP Architecture

Structural Engineer: Pujara Wirth Torke, Inc.

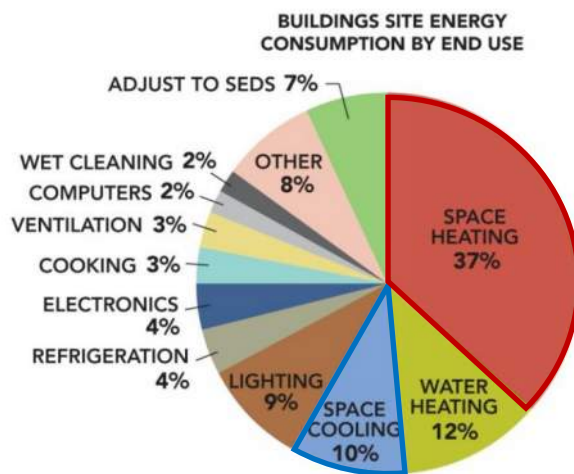
- V** **Volume of wood used:**  
9,500 cubic feet of panel and engineered wood products
- T** **U.S. and Canadian forests grow this much wood in:**  
1 minute
- C** **Carbon stored in the wood:**  
230 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>
- A** **Avoided greenhouse gas emissions:**  
480 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>
- ✓** **TOTAL POTENTIAL CARBON BENEFIT:**  
710 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>

## EQUIVALENT TO:

- Source: US EPA**  **135 cars off the road for a year**
-  **Energy to operate a home for 60 years**

Estimated by the Wood Carbon Calculator for Buildings, based on research by Sarthre, R. and J. O'Connor, 2010, A Synthesis of Research on Wood Products and Greenhouse Gas Impacts, FPLInnovations. Note: CO<sub>2</sub> on this chart refers to CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.

## Energy Use of US Buildings

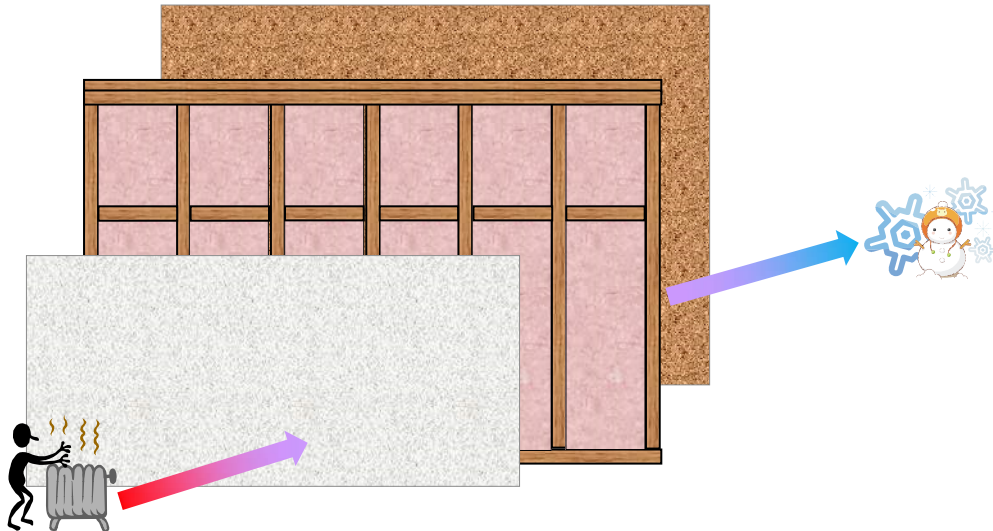


**47% of energy goes to  
HVAC Systems**

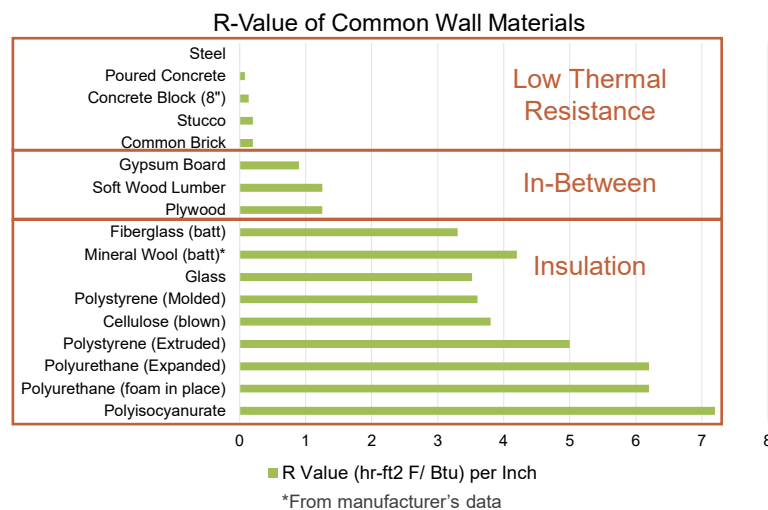
Source: US DOE Buildings Energy Data Book (2011 Data)



## Thermal Performance of Walls

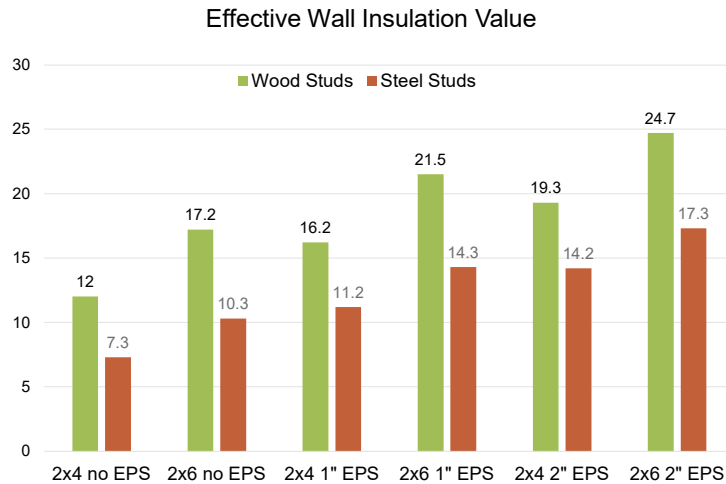


## Thermal Conductivity of Materials



Data Source: "Building Construction Illustrated" 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (2001). Ching & Adams

## Wood vs Steel Framing



Thermal Performance of Light Frame Structures-CWC, Wood Handbook – FPL USDA

Given same amount of insulation, the wood framing walls perform better.

OR

It takes more insulation to get equivalent performance out of a steel stud wall.

## Low-Rise Wood Construction



Storage Facilities  
Offices  
Medical Office Buildings  
Schools



## Wood Can Handle Common Features



## Wood Can Handle Common Features



## Wood Can Handle Common Features



## IBC Occupancy Groups

- » Assembly : Groups A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4 and A-5.
- » Business: Group B.
- » Educational: Group E.
- » Factory and Industrial: Groups F-1 and F-2.
- » High Hazard: Groups H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4 and H-5.
- » Institutional: Groups I-1, I-2, I-3 and I-4.
- » Mercantile: Group M.
- » Residential: Groups R-1, R-2, R-3 and R-4.
- » Storage: Groups S-1 and S-2.
- » Utility and Miscellaneous: Group U.

## IBC Occupancy Groups

- » **Assembly : Groups A-2**
  - » Nightclubs, Restaurants, Taverns and bars
- » **Business: Group B**
  - » Banks, barber and beauty shops, dry cleaning and laundries, professional services, etc.
- » **Mercantile: Group M**
  - » Department stores
  - » Drug stores
  - » Markets
  - » Motor fuel-dispensing facilities
  - » Retail or wholesale stores
  - » Sales rooms

## ICC Building Valuation Data

Occupancy Group	Construction Type								
	IA	IB	IIA	IIB	IIIA	IIIB	IV	VA	VB
A-2 Assembly	233	226	220	212	199	194	204	181	174
B Business	241	232	224	213	195	187	205	172	164
M Mercantile	174	167	161	153	140	136	145	121	116

Published \$ / Square Foot of Building Area

Structural Wood Framing Allowed

Source August 2021, ICC Published National Building Valuation Data  
<https://www.iccsafe.org/products-and-services/i-codes/code-development-process/building-valuation-data/>

## ICC Building Valuation Data

Occupancy Group	Construction Type		
	IIA	IIIA	Difference
A-2 Assembly	220	199	\$21/sf
B Business	224	195	\$29/sf
M Mercantile	161	140	\$21/sf

Published \$ / Square Foot of Building Area

Type IIA and IIIA construction have very similar allowable heights and areas

Is this enough to matter to you or your clients?

Source August 2021, ICC Published National Building Valuation Data

## ICC Building Valuation Data

Occupancy Group	Construction Type		
	IIB	VA	Difference
A-2 Assembly	212	181	\$24/sf
B Business	213	172	\$33/sf
M Mercantile	153	121	\$24/sf

Published \$ / Square Foot of Building Area

Type IIB and VA construction have very similar allowable heights and areas.

An even larger difference than IIA and IIIA

Source August 2021, ICC Published National Building Valuation Data

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- » Large Retail Project Case Study

## Paths to Structural Compliance

- » IBC Chapter 16 as starting point for most structural requirements
- » IBC Chapter 23 for wood specific requirements and paths to compliance
- » ASCE 7 Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures referenced from IBC Chapter 16 for Wind and Earthquake Loading

	Path to Compliance	Reference	Approach
1	Convention Construction	IBC 2308	Prescriptive
2	AWC Wood Frame Construction Manual	IBC 2309	Prescriptive or Engineered
3	AWC National Design Specification for Wood Construction (NDS) AWC Special Design Provisions for Wind and Seismic (SPDWS)	IBC 2305 IBC 2306 (ASD) IBC 2307 (LRFD)	Engineered

## Prescriptive Methods



IBC Conventional Construction



AWC Wood Frame Construction Manual

*Both Limited to 40 psf Live loads.  
Possibly useful for 1 story Commercial Buildings*

## Engineered Design via AWC NDS and SDPWS



AWC NDS for Wood  
Members and Connections



AWC SDPWS for Wood Shear  
Walls and Diaphragms

*General Engineered  
Approach:  
Not limited in scope as  
Conventional  
Construction and WFCM*



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## Wall Framing Options

### Solid Sawn Lumber Sizes

- » 2x4 to 2x14
- » 4x, 6x and greater thickness available

### Different Species Groups Available

- » “Southern Pine” is not a single species but a group of related species which are graded together
- » Other common species groups include: Doug-Fir Larch, Hem-Fir, Spruce-Pine-Fir

### Different Grades

- » Visually Graded: #1, #2, etc
  - » Most Common
- » Machine Graded:
  - » Machine Stress Rated (MSR)
  - » Mechanical Evaluated Lumber (MEL)



Automatic Lumber Tester  
Photo: Metriguard

## Wall Framing Options

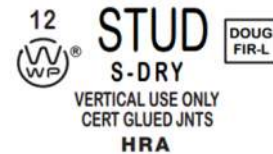
### Finger-Jointed Dimensional Lumber:

- » Structural end-gluing of shorter members
- » Technically called “End-Jointed”
- » Can be used interchangeably with solid sawn lumber of same species and grade, where approved.
  - » See IBC 2303.1.1
- » Look for grading and grade stamp by



### Variations of Finger Jointed Lumber

- » **HRA** (Heat Resistant Adhesive)
  - » Only use HRA FJ Lumber in fire rated assemblies
- » **Non-HRA** (or no HRA in stamp)
- » **Vertical Use Only** or **Stud Use Only**
  - » Bending or tension stresses only from short term loading



## Wall Framing Options

### Engineered Lumber Products

- » Laminated Strand Lumber (LSL)
- » Laminated Veneer Lumber (LVL)
- » Parallel Strand Lumber (PSL)
- » Glue Laminated Lumber (Glulam)



## Tall Walls in Low Rise



## Parameters for Engineered Stud Design

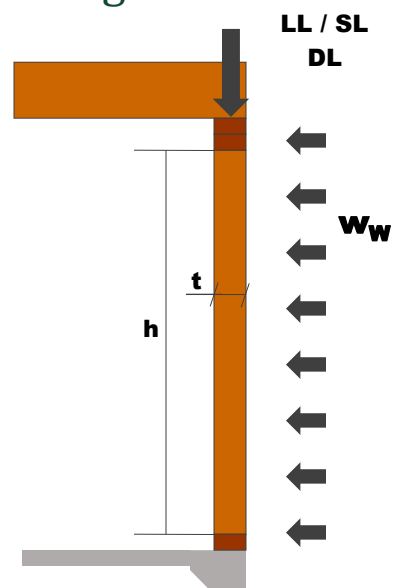
### Structure Parameters

- Design height -  **$h$**
- Stud spacing
- Wall thickness –  **$t$**

### Loading Parameters

- Dead Load -  **$DL$**
- Live and Snow Load –  **$LL/SL$**
- Wind Loads (C&C and MWFRS) –  **$w_w$**
- Any eccentricity

Deflection Criteria based on Finishes



## Exterior Wall Design Checks

- » Strength Check 1:  
Gravity + Main Lateral Force Loads
- » Strength Check 2:  
Full Components and Cladding Wind Loads
- » Deflection Check:  
Reduced Components and Cladding Wind Loads

## Strength Check 1 for Stud Design

### **Strength Check as a Vertical Load Supporting element:**

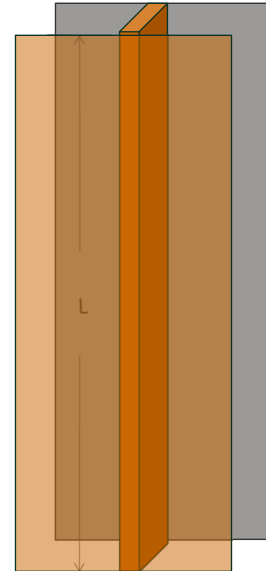
- » Apply Vertical Dead, Live, Roof and/or Snow Loads
- » Apply out-of-plane lateral loads
  - » MWFRS wind loads (ASCE 7-15 Chapter 27 or 28)
  - » Seismic wall forces (ASCE 7-15 12.11.1)
- » Apply vertical MWFRS wind or Seismic force (if any)
  - » For example: a hold-down post.
- » Combined Bending & Axial Load Check per AWC NDS
- » Use standard load combinations
  - » IBC Section 1605 or
  - » ASCE 7 Chapter 2

*Design Tip: Bottom plate crushing may govern over Stud and Post Capacities*

## Wall Sheathing Provides Weak Axis Bracing

NDS Commentary:

“Experience has shown that any code allowed thickness of gypsum board, hardwood plywood, or other interior finish adequately fastened directly to studs will provide adequate lateral support of the stud across its thickness irrespective of the type or thickness of exterior sheathing and/or finish used.”



## Design Considerations

Slenderness Limits (NDS 2018 3.7.1.4)

Max Effective Unbraced Length =  $50d$ ,  $d$  = depth in inches

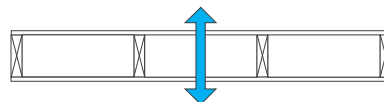
Max of  $75d$  during construction

$1\frac{1}{2}$ " depth  
6'-3" max unbraced length.  
9'-4" during construction.



Stud or column can be braced against buckling in this direction by sheathing.

$3\frac{1}{2}$ " (2x4) Max Height: 14'-7"  
 $5\frac{1}{2}$ " (2x6) Max Height: 22'-11"  
 $7\frac{1}{4}$ " (2x8) Max Height: 30'-2"



Stud or column is **not** braced against buckling in this direction by sheathing.

## Intermediate Wall Stud Blocking



## Strength Checks on Stud Design 2

### Strength Check for Components & Cladding Winds

- » No axial loading
- » **C&C transverse Wind loads only**
- » Check stud for bending and shear

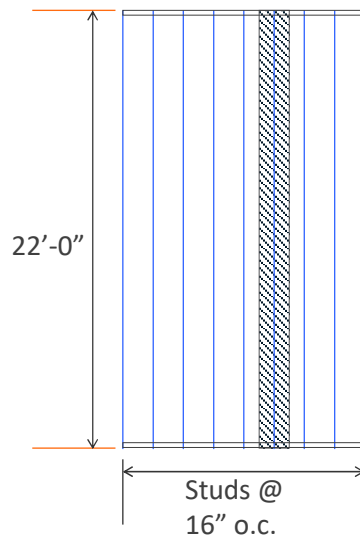
*Design Tip: Be aware of ASCE 7 Definition of Effective Wind Area to decrease the required C&C wind load*

**EFFECTIVE WIND AREA,  $A$ :** The area used to determine ( $G C_p$ ). For component and cladding elements, the effective wind area in Figs. 30.4-1 through 30.4-7, 30.5-1, 30.6-1, and 30.8-1 through 30.8-3 is the span length multiplied by an effective width that need not be less than one-third the span length. For cladding fasteners, the effective wind area shall not be greater than the area that is tributary to an individual fastener.

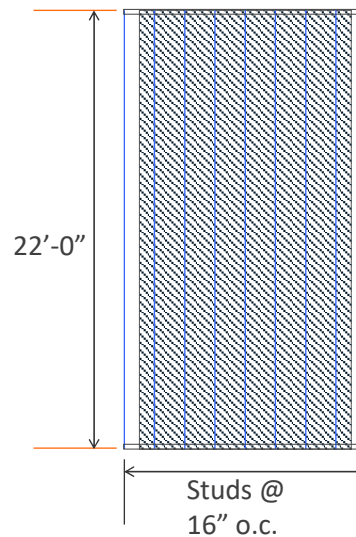


## Effective Wind Area Example

$$\text{Tributary Area} = (22)(1.33) = 29 \text{ ft}^2$$



$$\text{Effective Wind Area} = 22 * 22 / 3 = 161 \text{ ft}^2$$



## Strength Checks on Stud Design 2

### Strength Check for Components & Cladding Winds

- » No axial loading
- » C&C transverse Wind loads only
- » **Check stud bending** and shear.

*Design Tip: For bending stress check, be aware of Repetitive Use factor  $C_r$  of NDS and Wall Stud Repetitive Member Factor of SDPWS 3.1.1*

Table 3.1.1.1 Wall Stud Repetitive Member Factors	
Stud Size	System Factor
2x4	1.50
2x6	1.35
2x8	1.25
2x10	1.20
2x12	1.15

## Deflection Checks on Stud Design

### Deflection Check for Components and Cladding Winds

- » No Axial Loading
- » C&C transverse Wind load only.
- » Check out-of-plane deflection to IBC Table 1604.3 or other more stringent requirements.

*Note: This check often governs tall walls*

*Design Tip: ASCE 7 Definition of Effective Wind Area to decrease the required C&C wind load applies here.*

## Deflection Checks on Stud Design

### Deflection Check for Components and Cladding Winds

- » No Axial Loading
- » C&C transverse Wind load only.
- » Check out-of-plane deflection to IBC Table 1604.3 or other more stringent requirements.

**TABLE 1604.3**  
**DEFLECTION LIMITS<sup>a, b, c, h, i</sup>**

CONSTRUCTION	L	S or W <sup>f</sup>
Exterior walls:		
With plaster or stucco finishes	—	l/360
With other brittle finishes	—	l/240
With flexible finishes	—	l/120

## Deflection Checks on Stud Design

### Deflection Check for Components and Cladding Winds

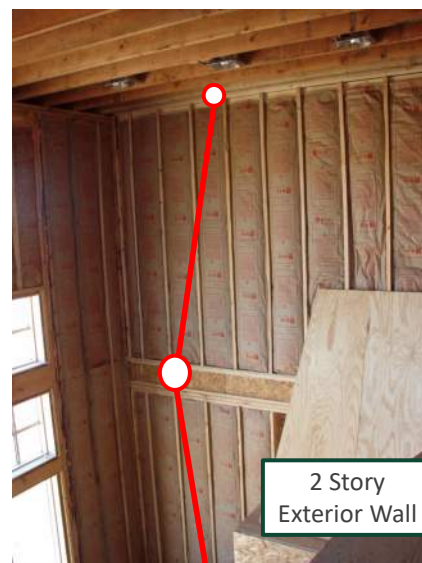
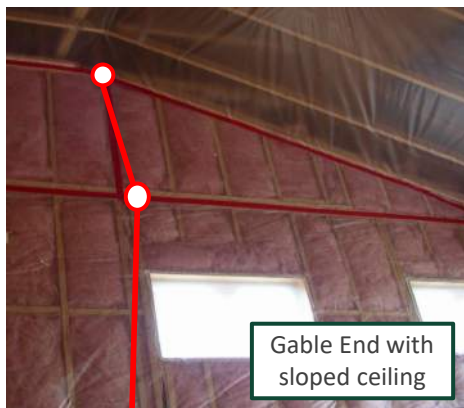
- » No Axial Loading
- » C&C transverse Wind load only.
- » Check out-of-plane deflection to IBC Table 1604.3 or other more stringent requirements.

*Design Tip: Change in SDPWS 2015 referenced from IBC 2015 allows application of Wall Stud Repetitive Factor to Stud STIFFNESS. See SDPWS 3.1.1*

Table 3.1.1.1 Wall Stud Repetitive Member Factors	
Stud Size	System Factor
2x4	1.50
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## Can this Exterior Wall Pass Deflection Check?

“Hinge Point” creates a structural weakness in the wall



## Can this Exterior Wall Pass Deflection Check?

Solution = Continuous Studs



## Tall Walls in Office

Atlanta, GA

2-Story, 12,000 sf office bldg.

≈20ft tall

2x6 SYP #2 at high entry



## Tall Walls in Restaurant

Emeryville, CA  
24'+ tall  
2x8 Doug Fir



## Tall Walls in Retail

Large Diamond Retailer  
Murfreesboro, TN  
22' tall 2x8 Pre-Fabricated





## Small Retail Building – Northern CA



## Small Retail Building – Northern CA

Flat Roof with:

- » WSP Sheathing
- » 2x Sub-Purlins
- » Glulam Purlins
- » Glulam Beams

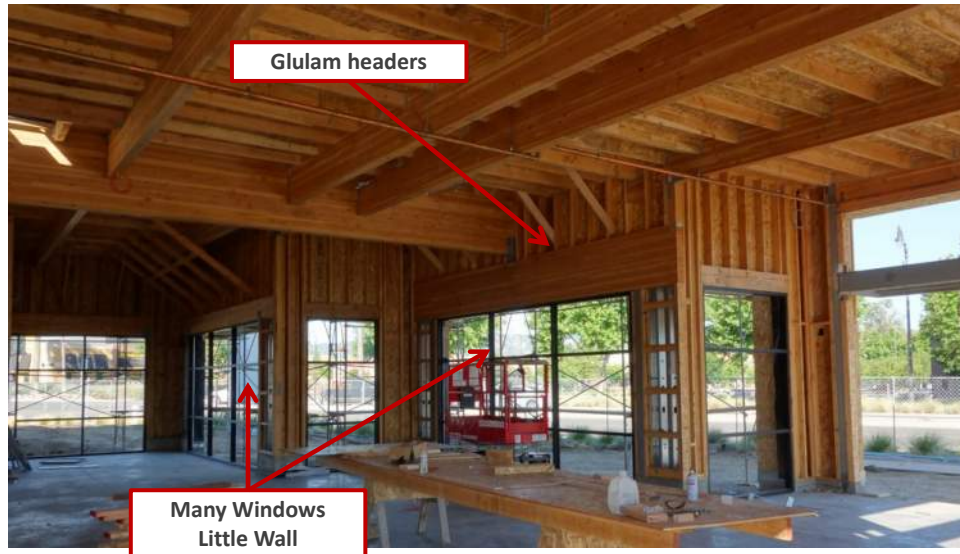
20 ft 2x6 DF walls

- » Interior
- » Exterior





## Small Retail Building – Northern CA



## Small Retail Building – Northern CA



## Retail Building – Berlin Vermont

4,500 sf



## Retail Building – Berlin Vermont

### Roof Construction:

- » Metal Plate Connected Monoslope Wood Roof Trusses
- » 6' Deep at Front, 4.5' at Back, 50' Span, 24" o.c.
- » Wood Structural Panels
- » 2x6 @ 16" o.c. Bearing Walls & Shear Walls– 13' Tall
- » Structural Steel Open Front Frame



## Retail Building – Berlin Vermont

Front Canopy and Façade



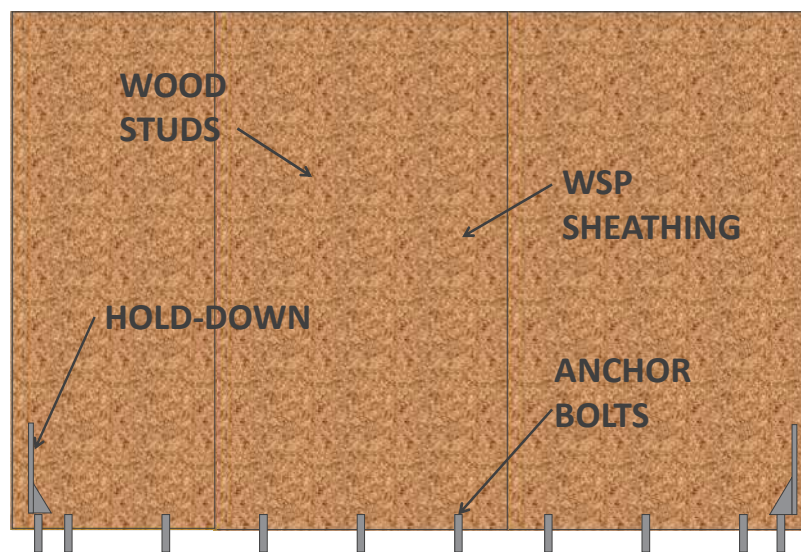
## Retail Building – Berlin Vermont



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## Anatomy of Wood Sheathed Shear Walls





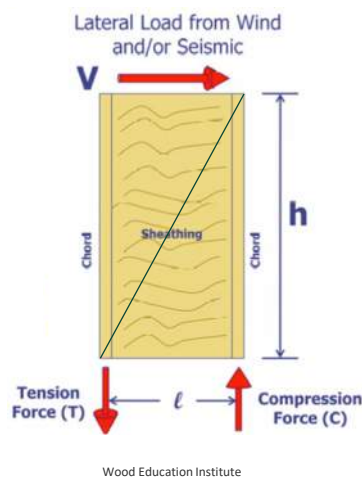
## Lateral Load Capacity



*Tip: Nailed Wood Shear Wall Allowable Capacities in IBC 2009 and earlier versions. Not in IBC 2012+. Nominal capacity in SDPWS*

**AWC SDPWS**  
Provides details and capacities of these types of nailed wood shear walls

## Shear Wall Requirements in AWC SDPWS



**Table 4.3.4 Maximum Shear Wall Aspect Ratios**

Shear Wall Sheathing Type	Maximum h/b, Ratio
Wood structural panels, unblocked	2:1
Wood structural panels, blocked	3.5:1 <sup>1</sup>
Particleboard, blocked	2:1
Diagonal sheathing, conventional	2:1
Gypsum wallboard	2:1 <sup>2</sup>
Portland cement plaster	2:1 <sup>2</sup>
Structural Fiberboard	3.5:1 <sup>3</sup>

*3:5:1 max aspect ratio for blocked Wood Structural Panel Shear Wall. Reduction in Capacity when greater than 2:1*

# Shear Wall Requirements in AWC SDPWS

Capacities in SDPWS are **Nominal** values. Not ASD

**SDPWS 2021**

**Single Nominal Value**

**Divide Nominal Values by 2.0 for ASD Wind and by 2.8 for ASD Seismic**

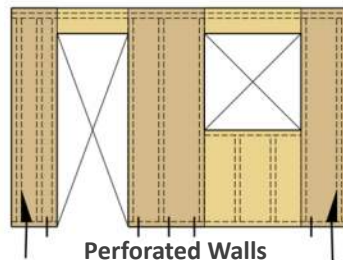
**Multiply Nominal Values by 0.8 for LRFD Wind and 0.5 for ASD Seismic**

**Table 4.3A Nominal Unit Shear Capacities for Sheathed Wood-Frame Shear Walls <sup>1,3,6</sup>**

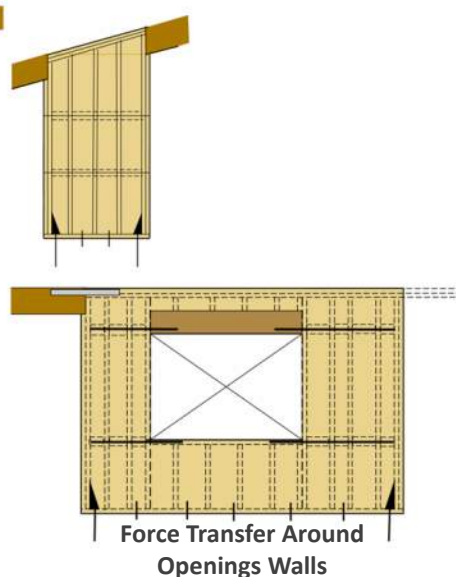
Wood-based Panels <sup>4</sup>									
Sheathing Material	Minimum Nominal Panel Thickness (in.)	Minimum Nail Bearing Length in Framing Member or Blocking, $\ell_n$ (in.)	Nail Type & Size <sup>9</sup> Length (in.) x Shank diameter (in.) x Head diameter (in.)	Panel Edge Nail Spacing (in.)					
				6		4		3	
				$V_n$ (plf)	$G_n$ (kips/in.)	$V_n$ (plf)	$G_n$ (kips/in.)	$V_n$ (plf)	$G_n$ (kips/in.)
				OSB PLY		OSB PLY		OSB PLY	
Wood Structural Panels - Structural I <sup>4,5</sup>	5/16	1-1/4	6d common nail (2 x 0.113 x 0.266) <sup>8</sup>	560	13	10	840	18	13
	3/8 <sup>2</sup>	1-3/8	8d common nail (2-1/2 x 0.131 x 0.281) <sup>8</sup>	645	19	14	1010	24	17
	7/16 <sup>2</sup>			715	16	13	1105	21	16
	15/32	1-1/2	10d common nail (3 x 0.148 x 0.312) <sup>8,10</sup>	785	14	11	1205	18	14
	5/16	1-1/4	6d common nail	950	22	16	1430	29	20
				1860	36	22	2435	51	28
	5/16	1-1/4	6d common nail	505	13	9.5	755	18	12
				980	24	14	1260	37	18

## Engineered Shear Wall Types

Solid or Segmented Walls



Perforated Walls



Force Transfer Around Openings Walls

## Why Use Force Transfer Around Openings?



## Why Use Force Transfer Around Openings?





## Open Front & Narrow Walls



## Prefabricated Shear Wall Options

Proprietary Products with Evaluation Reports  
Different Material Options



Metal Panel  
Hardy Frame



Metal Panel  
Simpson Strong-Tie



Wood Panels  
Simpson Strong-Tie

*The primary benefit is to have lateral force resistance where a 3:5 to 1 aspect ratio shear wall does not fit.*

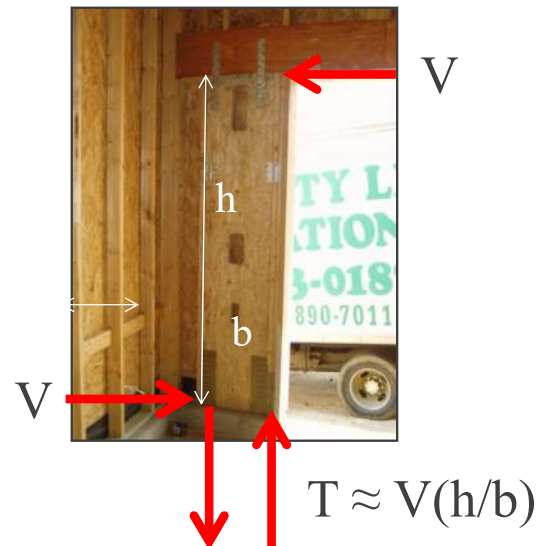
## Using Prefabricated Shear Walls

### Considerations:

- » Drift compatibility with other walls sharing load
- » Large hold-down forces
- » Foundation Anchorage Coordination
- » Sizes range from 12"->24" wide to 6.5'->20' tall

*Tip: Cast-in-place anchorage to concrete needed.*

*Don't expect post-installed concrete anchors to work.*

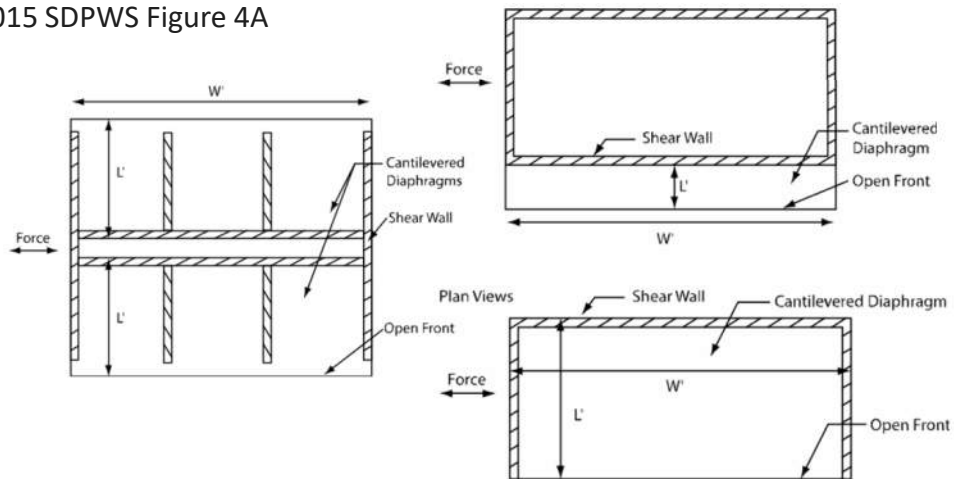


## Small Retail Building – Northern CA



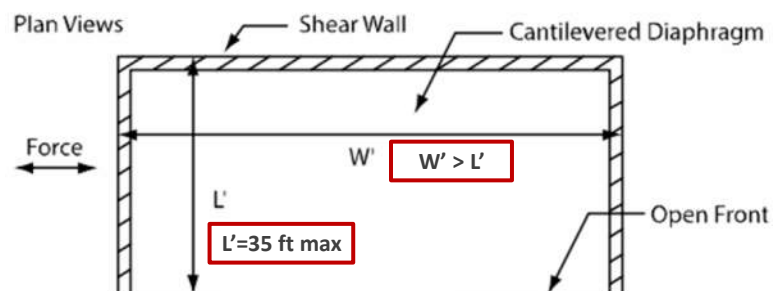
## Open Front Structures

2015 SDPWS unifies Cantilever Diaphragms and Open Front Structures  
2015 SDPWS Figure 4A



## Open Front Structures

SDPWS allow Open Front Structures... provide certain important requirements are met.



Possible **1-Story** Open-Front Structure in SDPWS 2015 & 2021

## Outline

- » Introduction
- » Framing System Design and Details
  - » Structural Design Compliance
  - » Wall Framing
  - » Wall Bracing
  - » Roof Framing
- » Non-Structural Requirements and Design
  - » Allowable Heights and Areas
  - » Multi-Tenant and Multi-Occupancy Buildings
  - » Fire Resistance and Detailing
- » Large Retail Project Case Study

## Common Roof Framing Options



## Metal Plated Wood Truss

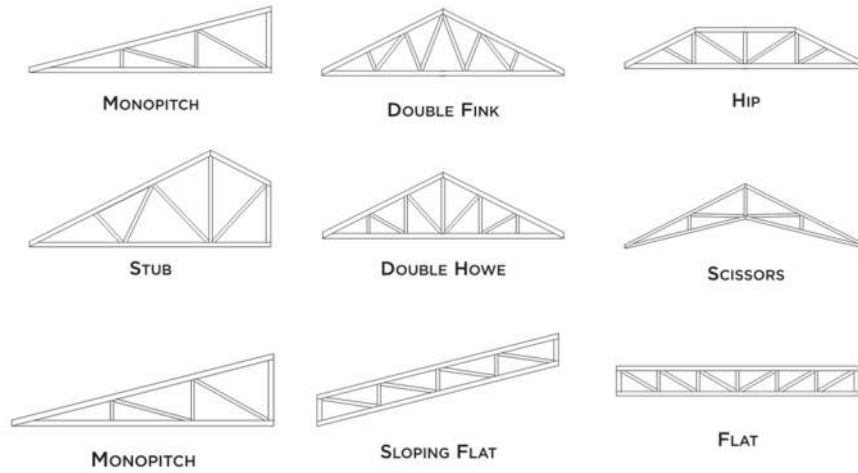


## Metal Plated Wood Truss





## Truss Configurations



## Exposed Timber Trusses

T&G Deck over Timber Trusses



Berlin Shopping Mall, Berlin VT

## Exposed Timber Trusses

90ft Span Concealed  
Connector Timber Truss



## Exposed Timber Trusses

67' Span Glulam Trusses



Whole Foods Market, Atlanta, GA



## Metal Plated Trusses over Exposed Timber Trusses



Shenandoah Social Center

Photo courtesy D. Remy & Co.

## I-Joist Roof Framing

- » Flat or Sloped Roofs
- » Vaulted Ceiling Possibilities



Havens Elementary, Photo courtesy RedBuilt



Strip Mall Building

## Large Flat Roof Systems



## Creating Open Floor Space

Grid dimensions in low rise commercial buildings are often a deciding factor when determining structural systems. Accommodation of large, open floor plans with a minimal number of columns is required

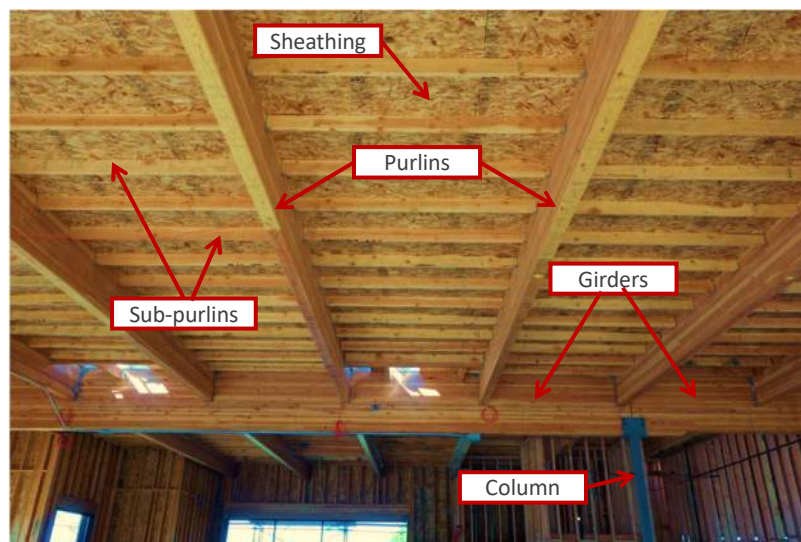
Common Grid Dimensions: 25'x30' to 45'x50' and larger



Photo: Myers-Company.com



## Anatomy of a Large Flat Roof



## Different Flat Roof Framing Systems

Girder	Purlin	Sub-Purlin	Sheathing
Glulam	Glulam @ 8' to 10' o.c.	2x	WSP
Glulam	Trusses @ 4' to 10' o.c.	2x	WSP
Glulam	Trusses @ 16" to 48" o.c.	None	WSP
Glulam	I-Joists @ 16" to 48" o.c.	None	WSP
Glulam	Glulam @ 4' to 10' o.c.	None	T&G Decking
Glulam	Glulam @ 8'+ o.c.	None	Mass Timber Panels: Cross-Laminated Timber Nail-Laminated Timber Etc.

*Architectural Grade Exposed Wood Options*

## Material Connection to Nature (visual)

### Biophilic Pattern

- Wood is a natural material – timber is sourced from trees in our forests.
- Exposing natural materials provides a connection to nature in this biophilic pattern



First Tech Credit Union  
Hacker



## Material Connection to Nature (non-visual)

### Biophilic Pattern

Other sensory connections to nature:

- Soft feel of wood – might this contribute to this biophilic pattern?
- Smell of wood in offices- might this contribute to this biophilic pattern?
- Smell of wood has surprised some designers who didn't consider it in design



## Biophilic Design Patterns

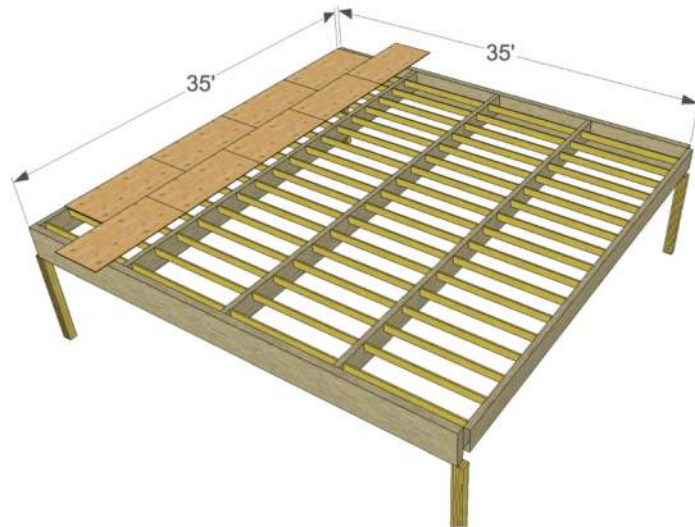
### Nature in the Space

	Pattern	Stress Reduction	Cognitive Performance	Emotion, Mood & Preference
Nature in the Space	Visual Connection w/ Nature	✓	✓	✓
	<b>Non-Visual Connection w/ Nature</b> (smell, touch)	✓	✓	✓
	Non-Rhythmic Sensory Stimuli	✓	✓	
	Thermal & Airflow Variability	✓	✓	✓
	Presence of Water	✓	✓	✓
	Dynamic & Diffuse Light	✓		
	<b>Connection w/ Natural Systems</b>			✓

Source: Terrapin Bright Green: 14 Patterns of Biophilic Design, 2014

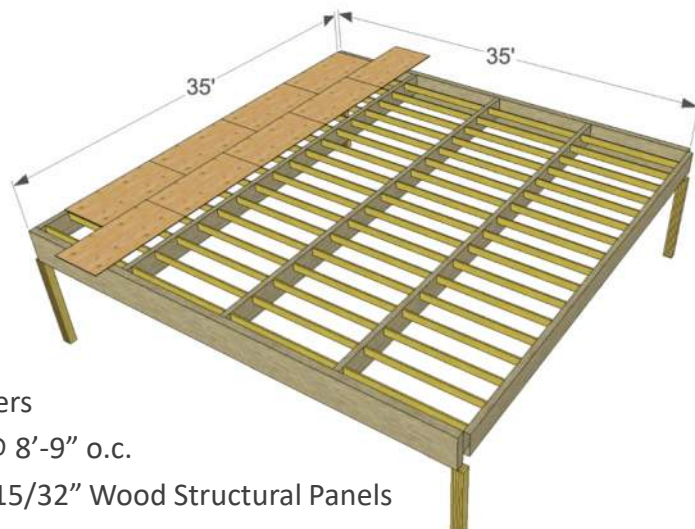
## Example Roof Framing System

15 psf Roof DL  
20 psf Roof Live Load



## Example Roof Framing System

15 psf Roof DL  
20 psf Roof Live Load



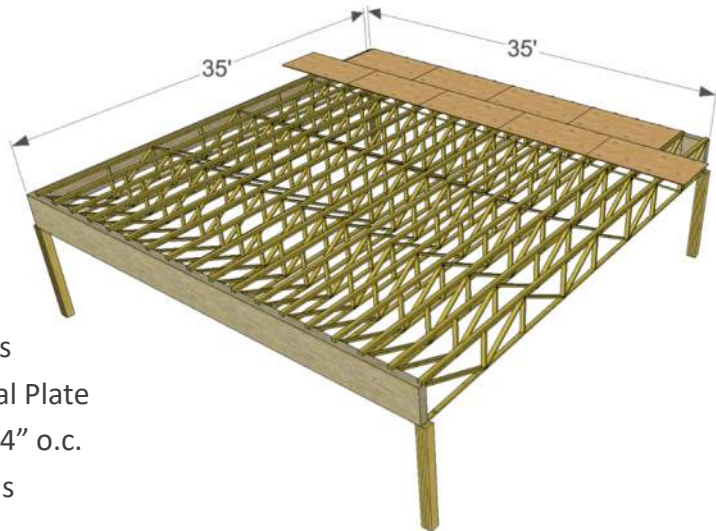
6-3/4"x31-1/2" Glulam Girders  
5-1/8"x21" Glulam Purlins @ 8'-9" o.c.  
2x8 @ 24" o.c. Sub-Purlins, 15/32" Wood Structural Panels

## Example Roof Framing System



## Example Roof Framing System

15 psf Roof DL  
20 psf Roof Live Load



6-3/4"x31-1/2" Glulam Girders  
3'-0" Deep Prefabricated Metal Plate  
Connected Wood Trusses @ 24" o.c.  
15/32" Wood Structural Panels



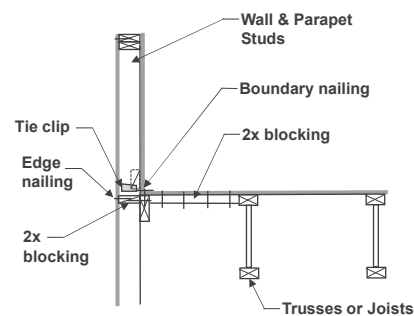
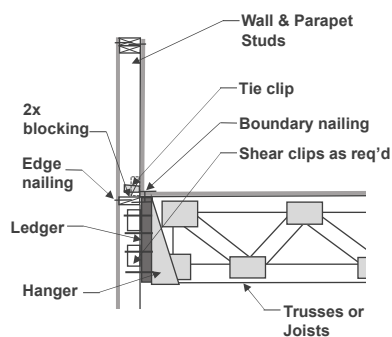
## Example Roof Framing System

15 psf Roof DL  
20 psf Roof Live Load

6-3/4"x31-1/2" Glulam Girders  
5-1/8"x21" Glulam Purlins @ 8'-9" o.c.  
HT/Mass Timber Decking Options: NLT, CLT, GLT, 3x T&G



## Parapet Framing Options



**Tall Stud Parapet Style**

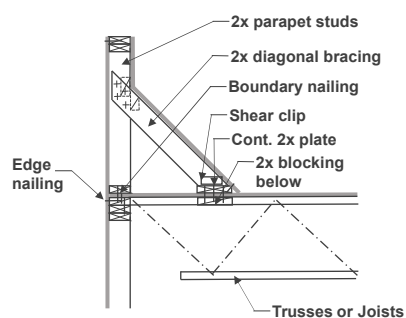
## Parapet Wall Example

- » Sporting Good Retailer
- » Dinuba, CA
- » 17' to top of roof
- » 22' to top of parapet
- » 2x6 DF
- » Used with hybrid panelized roof

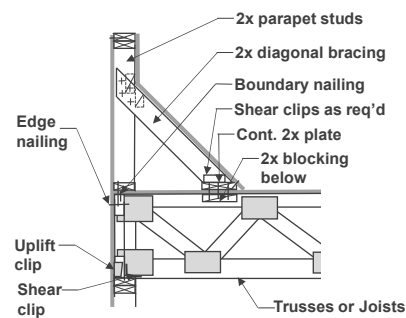


Pelton Engineering

## Parapet Framing Options



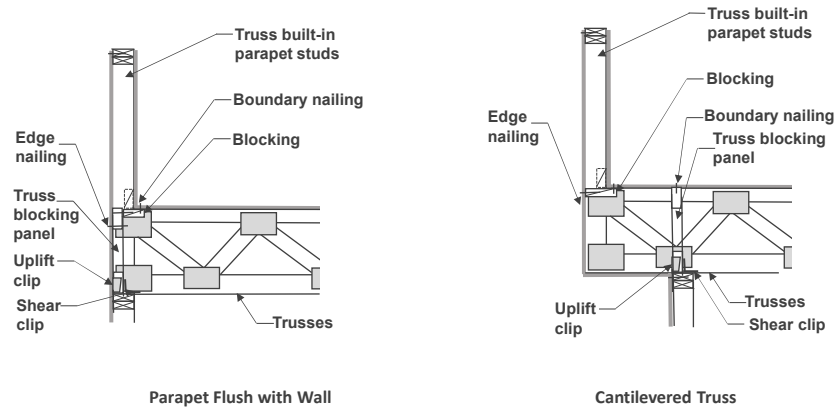
Top Flange Hanger Style



Platform Framing Style

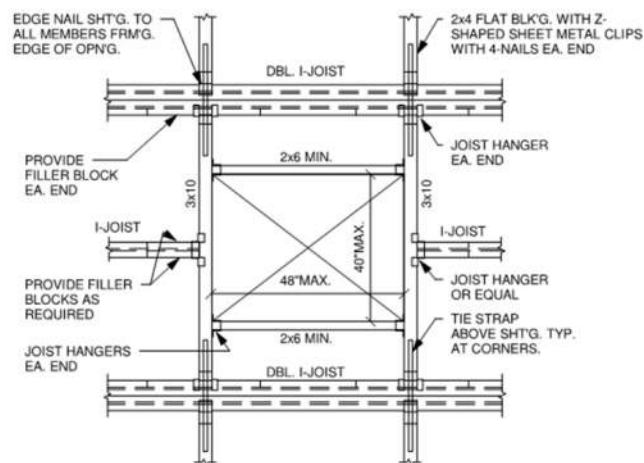
### Built-Up Parapet Style

## Parapet Framing Options



### Parapet in Truss Style

## Flexible Detailing for Roof Openings



[www.woodworks.org/cad-revit/](http://www.woodworks.org/cad-revit/)  
for example details

## Layton Petro Mart, Greenfield, WI



Photos by Arquitectura

Commercial Wood Design Award 2009  
Arquitectura Inc. – Milwaukee, WI

## Layton Petro Mart, Greenfield, WI



Photo: Arquitectura, Inc.

## Fast Food Restaurant

- » 2x6 wall studs
- » 10' tall walls + 3' Parapet
- » Brick and Stone Cladding



## Fast Food Restaurant

Roof Construction:

- » Metal Plate Connected Wood Roof Trusses
- » 36" Deep, 34' Spans, 32" o.c.





## Wood in Retail Design

Restaurant

- » Murfreesboro, TN
- » Completed July, 2015



## Restaurant – Brewery Chain

Roof Construction

- » Wood Structural Panels Sheathing
- » Composite Wood-Steel Open Web Trusses
- » Glulam Beams
- » 2x6 Bearing Walls



## Wood in Retail Design



## Restaurant – Brewery Chain

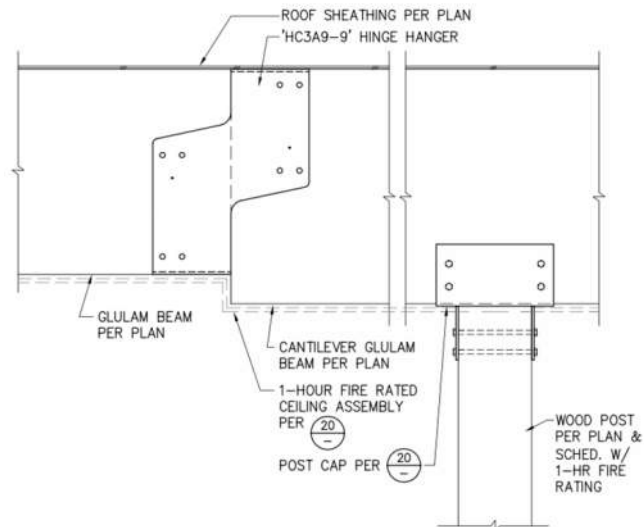
Blocked Roof Diaphragm for Higher Capacity



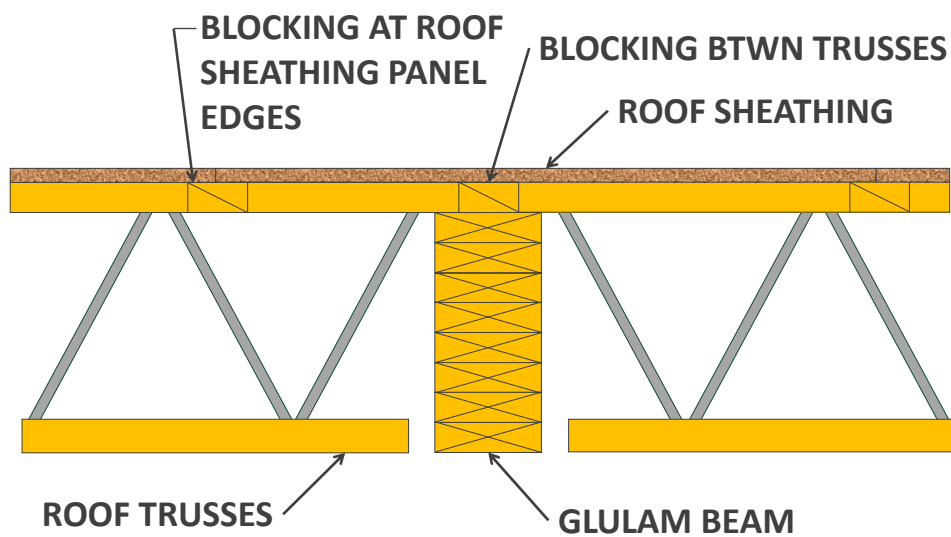


## Retail Store: Gravity Framing System

### Glulam Roof Beam Connection Details



## Roof Framing Detail



## Wood in Retail Design

Fast Food Restaurant in Provo, UT



## Fast Food Restaurant

Building Construction

- » Wood Structural Panels & T&G Decking Sheathing
- » Composite Wood-Steel Open Web Roof Trusses & Solid Sawn Rafters
- » Glulam Beams
- » PSL & Built-Up Solid Sawn Columns
- » 2x6 Bearing Walls & Shear Walls



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## Height and Areas Code Analysis

Question:

For the building program, including occupancies and size, what Construction Types are allowed by the Building Code?

Answer:

Determined by Heights and Areas Code analysis

## Heights and Areas – IBC 2018 Table 503

GROUP		TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION								
		TYPE I		TYPE II		TYPE III		TYPE IV	TYPE V	
		A	B	A	B	A	B	HT	A	B
	HEIGHT (feet)	UL	160	65	55	65	55	65	50	40
		STORIES(S) AREA (A)								
M	S A	UL UL	11 UL	4 21,500	2 12,500	4 18,500	2 12,500	4 20,500	3 14,000	1 9,000
R-1	S A	UL UL	11 UL	4 24,000	4 16,000	4 24,000	4 16,000	4 20,500	3 12,000	2 7,000
R-2	S A	UL UL	11 UL	4 24,000	2 12,500	4 18,500	2 12,500	4 20,500	3 12,000	2 7,000
R-3	S A	UL UL	11 UL	4 24,000	2 12,500	4 18,500	2 12,500	4 20,500	3 12,000	2 7,000
R-4	S A	UL UL	11 UL	4 24,000	2 12,500	4 18,500	2 12,500	4 20,500	3 12,000	2 7,000
S-1	S A	UL UL	11 UL	4 48,000	2 26,000	3 17,500	2 17,500	4 25,500	3 14,000	1 9,000
S-2 <sup>b, c</sup>	S A	UL UL	11 UL	5 79,000	3 39,000	4 26,000	3 26,000	5 38,500	4 21,000	2 13,500
U <sup>c</sup>	S A	UL UL	5 35,500	4 19,000	2 8,500	3 14,000	2 8,500	4 18,000	2 9,000	1 5,500

*Normal Calculated Allowable Heights and Area  
one route to an answer.  
Don't overlook Unlimited Area Route*

## Unlimited Area Buildings

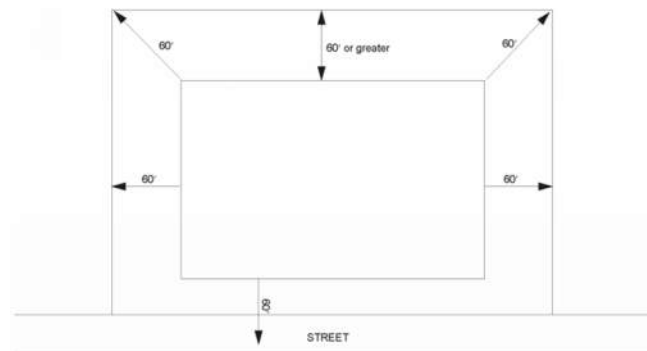
IBC Section 507 gives Unlimited Area Building routes for Type III, IV and/or V Construction for the following occupancies:

Assembly  
Education  
Business  
Factory  
Mercantile  
Storage



## Unlimited Area Buildings

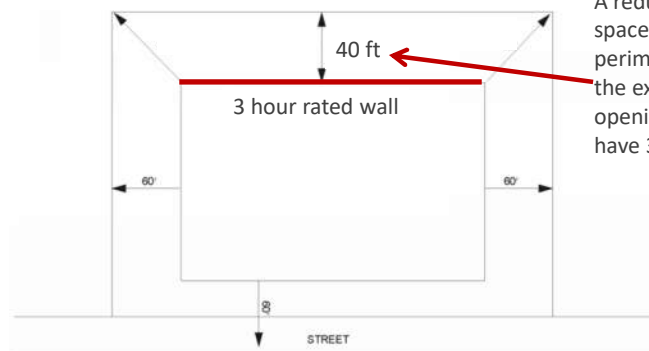
Provisions for unlimited area buildings rely on open space surrounding building (IBC 507)



REQUIRED SEPARATION FOR UNLIMITED AREA BUILDINGS

## Unlimited Area Buildings

Provisions for unlimited area buildings rely on open space surrounding building (IBC 507)



A reduction to 40 feet open space of up to 75% of perimeter is allowed provided the exterior wall and openings at reduced frontage have 3-hour ratings

REQUIRED SEPARATION FOR UNLIMITED AREA BUILDINGS



## Unlimited Area Building Route 1

B F M and S Occupancies can have **unlimited area** for **any construction type** provided:

- » Two stories or less above grade plane
- » Equipped with automatic sprinklers
- » See IBC 507.4



Photo Steve Fareham- Creative Commons

## Unlimited Area Buildings

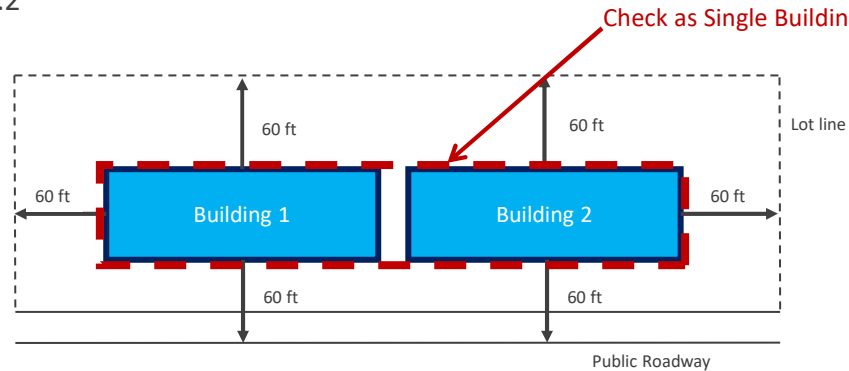
Can these buildings meet the open space provision to qualify for Unlimited Area?



Photo Steve Fareham- Creative Commons

## Unlimited Area Building(s)?

IBC 507.2 Commentary: Two unlimited area buildings **on the same lot** must be separated by 60 feet [or 40 feet if Section 507.2.1 is used] unless they are treated as a single building under the provisions of Section 503.1.2



## Construction Types

### Allowable Building Area

IBC 2018 Table 506.2

TABLE 506.2  
ALLOWABLE AREA FACTOR ( $A_f$  = NS, S1, S13R, S13D or SM, as applicable) IN SQUARE FEET<sup>a</sup>

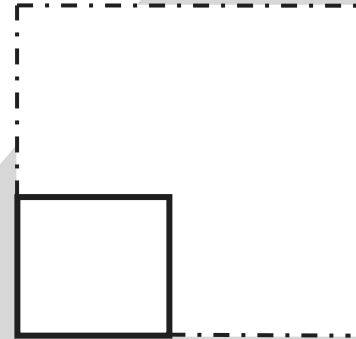
OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	SEE FOOTNOTES	TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION								
		TYPE I		TYPE II		TYPE III		TYPE IV	TYPE V	
		A	B	A	B	A	B	HT	A	B
A-1	NS	UL	UL	15,500	8,500	14,000	8,500	15,000	11,500	5,500
	S1	UL	UL	62,000	34,000	56,000	34,000	60,000	46,000	22,000
	SM	UL	UL	46,500	25,500	42,000	25,500	45,000	34,500	16,500
B	NS	UL	UL	37,500	23,000	28,500	19,000	36,000	18,000	9,000
	S1	UL	UL	150,000	92,000	114,000	76,000	144,000	72,000	36,000
	SM	UL	UL	112,500	69,000	85,500	57,000	108,000	54,000	27,000
E	NS	UL	UL	26,500	14,500	23,500	14,500	25,500	18,500	9,500
	S1	UL	UL	106,000	58,000	94,000	58,000	102,000	74,000	38,000
	SM	UL	UL	79,500	43,500	70,500	43,500	76,500	55,500	28,500

# Allowable Story Area

IBC 2018 Table 506.2

## Floor Area Increase

Buildings equipped throughout with an NFPA 13 sprinkler system can be increased **300% (single story buildings)** or **200% (multi-story buildings)** over nonsprinklered conditions



# Allowable Story Area

Provides base (non-sprinklered) & increased areas

IBC 2018 Table 506.2

TABLE 506.2<sup>a, b</sup>  
ALLOWABLE AREA FACTOR (A, = NS, S1, S13R, or SM, as applicable) IN SQUARE FEET

OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION	SEE FOOTNOTES	TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION								
		TYPE I		TYPE II		TYPE III		TYPE IV	TYPE V	
		A	B	A	B	A	B	HT	A	B
R-1	NS <sup>d, b</sup>	UL	UL	24,000	16,000	24,000	16,000	20,500	12,000	7,000
	S13R									
	S1	UL	UL	96,000	64,000	96,000	64,000	82,000	48,000	28,000
	SM	UL	UL	72,000	48,000	72,000	48,000	61,500	36,000	21,000

\*\*Can still increase these areas by the Frontage Factor of Section 506.3

**NS** = Buildings not equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system

**S1** = Buildings a maximum of one story above grade plane equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 (NFPA 13)

**SM** = Buildings two or more stories above grade plane equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 (NFPA 13)

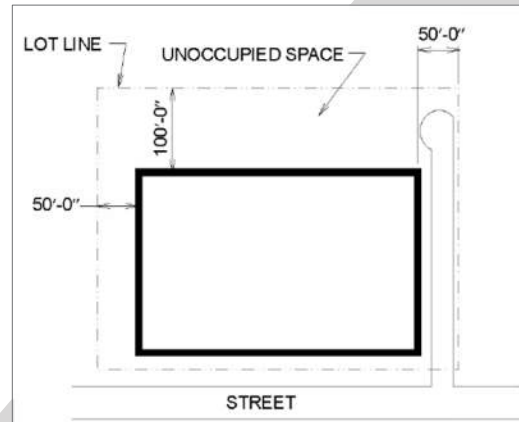
**S13R** = Buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.2 (NFPA 13R)

## Fire Department Access

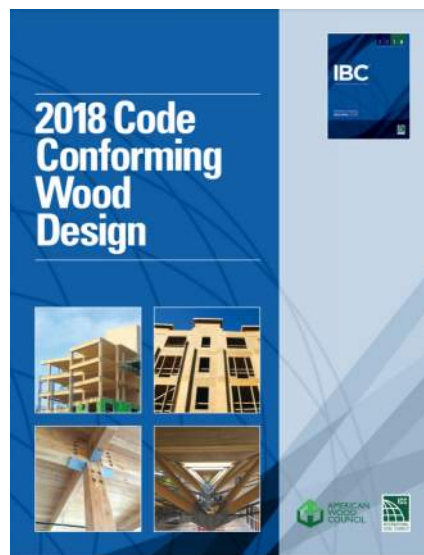
IBC 506

### Frontage

Frontage provides access to the structure by fire service personnel, a temporary refuge area for occupants as they leave the building in a fire emergency and a reduced exposure to and from adjacent structures. Larger building area possible with certain amount of frontage



## AWC Code Conforming Wood Design

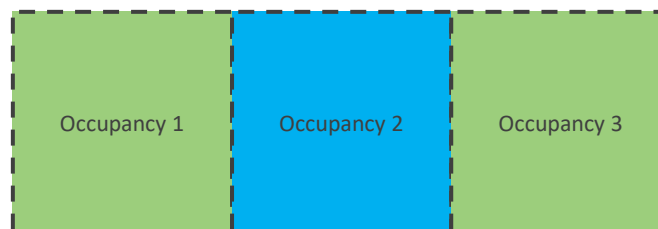


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## Multi-Tenant Buildings

Lead to mixed occupancy buildings





## Code Sections Related to Multiple Occupancies

- » Incidental Uses (509)
- » Accessory occupancies (508.2)
- » Non-Separated occupancies (508.3)
- » Separated Occupancies (508.4)
- » Separate Buildings (503.1)
- » Covered and Open Malls (402)

Outside scope of  
presentation

## Incidental Uses (IBC 509)

- » Ancillary function associated with an Occupancy
- » Pose GREATER risk than the Occupancy
- » Examples:
  - » Laundry room over 100 square feet.
  - » Refrigerant machinery room
  - » Incinerator room
  - » Furnace room
  - » Boiler room



## Incidental Uses (IBC 509)

- » Not more than 10% of area of story
- » Have fire separation, smoke separation and/or sprinkler systems per Table 509 and Section 509.4
- » **NOT classified as a different occupancy.**
- » **Allowable Building Area and Height per main Occupancy**

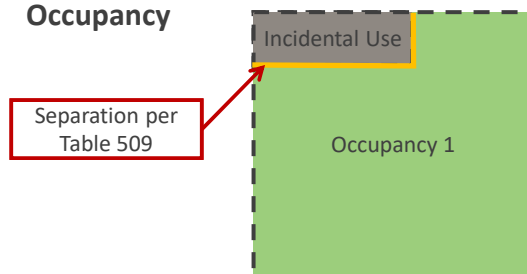


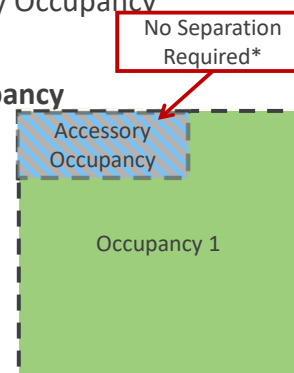
Photo Sean Hackbarth/Flickr

## Accessory Occupancies (508.2)

- » Ancillary to the main Occupancy
- » Accessory Area not greater than:
  - » 10% of the main Occupancy on same floor
  - » IBC 506 "NS" Allowable Area limit of Accessory Occupancy
- » No separation between occupancies required\*
- » **Allowable Building Area and Height per main Occupancy**

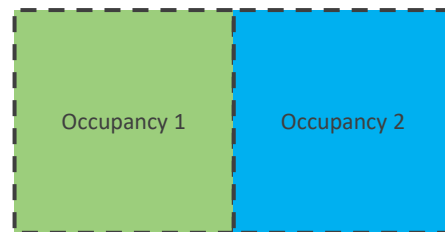
\*Hazardous occupancies require separation

\*Residential separations per Section 420 still apply



## Non-Separated Occupancies (508.3)

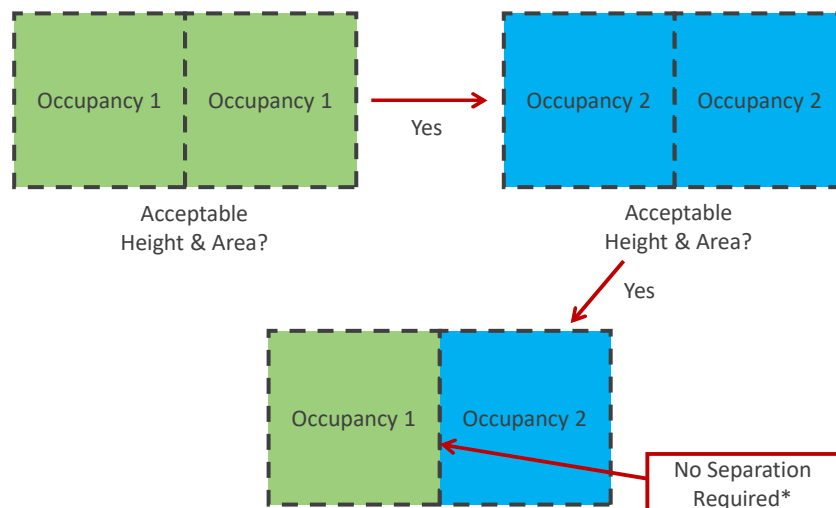
- » Most restrictive requirements of all occupancies apply for:
  - » Fire Protection Systems (Chapter 9)
  - » Allowable Height and Area
- » Other requirements for each portion based upon occupancy of that portion
- » No separation between occupancies required\*



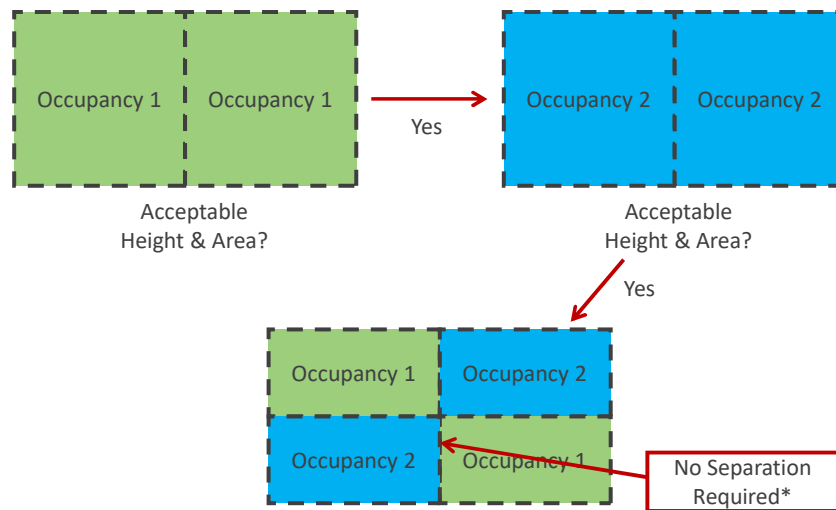
\*Hazardous occupancies require separation.

\*Residential separations per Section 420 still apply

## Non-Separated Occupancies (508.3)



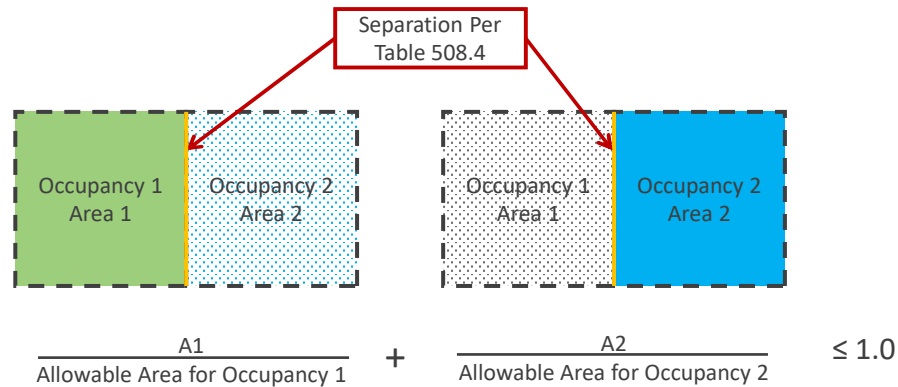
## Non-Separated Occupancies (508.3)



## Separated Occupancies (508.4)

- » Requirements of code for each portion based upon occupancy of that portion
- » Allowable Height of each occupancy based upon construction type and occupancy
- » Allowable Area of each story
  - » Sum of actual area over allowable area of each occupancy  $\leq 1.0$

## Separated Occupancies (508.4)



Check Performed for each Story.  
Separation by Fire Barriers and Horizontal Assemblies

## Separated Occupancies (508)

Separation by *Fire Barriers* and *Horizontal Assemblies* required per Table 508.4

OCCUPANCY	A, E		I-1*, I-3, I-4		I-2		R*		F-2, S-2*, U		B*, F-1, M, S-1	
	S	NS	S	NS	S	NS	S	NS	S	NS	S	NS
A, E	N	N	1	2	2	NP	1	2	N	1	1	2
I-1*, I-3, I-4	—	—	N	N	2	NP	1	NP	1	2	1	2
I-2	—	—	—	—	N	N	2	NP	2	NP	2	NP
R*	—	—	—	—	—	—	N	N	1 <sup>c</sup>	2 <sup>c</sup>	1	2
F-2, S-2*, U	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N	N	1	2
B*, F-1, M, S-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N	N
H-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
H-2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
H-3, H-4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
H-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

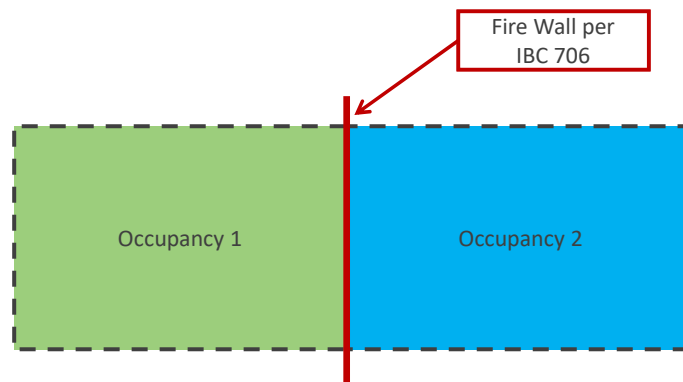
Table 508.4 (Abbreviated)

**NP = Not Permitted, N = No Separation Required**



## Separate Buildings

Each portion of a building separated by one or more **fire walls** shall be considered to be a separate building



## Heights and Areas Calculator

IBC H&A Calculator available from App Stores for Windows, iOS and Android

**Heights and Areas**  
American Wood Council

Install

5.0 ★ Average  
1 Rating

App-based approach to calculating maximum heights and areas for buildings of various occupancies and fire protection based on 2006...

**Screenshots**

**Description**

Wood construction offers distinct design options typically not found in a single structural material. It is inexpensive, readily available, easy to work with, strong and adaptable. The economic, environmental and efficiency advantages account for more buildings being constructed of wood than any other structural material.

The Heights and Areas (H&A) Calculator is a joint effort of the American Wood Council, International Code Council, and the National Fire Protection Association.

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## Fire Resistance Ratings – IBC Table 601

Building Element	Type III		Type IV	Type V	
	A	B	HT	A	B
Primary Structural Frame	1	0	HT	1	0
Exterior Bearing Walls*	2	2	2	1	0
Interior Bearing Walls	1	0	1/HT	1	0
Exterior Nonbearing walls*	Varies per Fire Separation Distance – See IBC Table 602				
Interior Nonbearing walls	0	0	See IBC section 602.4.6	0	0
Floors	1	0	HT	1	0
Roofs	1	0	HT	1	0

\* See IBC Table 602 for Exterior wall Fire Resistance Rating modifications due to Fire Separation Distance

AC0

## Fire Resistance Rating – IBC Table 601

**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 <sup>d</sup>	B	A <sup>d</sup>	B	HT	A <sup>d</sup>	B
Roof construction and secondary members (see Section 202)	1 <sup>1/2</sup> , <sup>b</sup> <sub>2</sub>	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

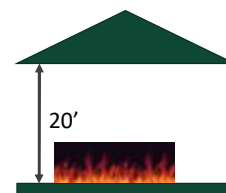
- b. Except in Group F-1, H, M and S-1 occupancies, fire protection of structural members shall not be required, including protection of roof framing and decking where every part of the roof construction is 20 feet or more above any floor immediately below. Fire-retardant-treated wood members shall be allowed to be used for such unprotected members.
- c. In all occupancies, heavy timber shall be allowed where a 1-hour or less fire-resistance rating is required.

AC0

## Table 601 Footnotes – “b”

Fire protection of structural members shall not be required, where every part of the roof construction is 20 feet or more above any floor immediately below.

- » FRT wood allowed in Roofs of Such Type I and II buildings



Except in group F-1, H, M, and S-1 occupancies

## Slide 206

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**ACO** Footnotes should be updated for most current IBC provisions.

Ashley Cagle, 2023-08-18T16:42:31.280

## Slide 207

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**ACO** Footnotes should be updated for most current IBC provisions.

Ashley Cagle, 2023-08-18T16:42:50.387

## Table 601 Footnotes – “c”

Heavy Timber roof can be used where fire rating is 1hr or less

- » Applies to any type of construction except Type IA



**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 <sup>d</sup>	B	A <sup>d</sup>	B	HT	A <sup>d</sup>	B
Roof construction and secondary members (see Section 202)	1 <sup>1/2</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

## Sources of Fire Rated Assemblies and Components

### Commonly Approved Sources:

- » American Wood Council's DCA3: Fire-Rated Wood-Frame Wall and Floor/Ceiling Assemblies
- » APA's Document W305 – Fire-Rated Systems.
- » SBCA's Metal Plate Connected Wood Truss Handbook – Section 17 Fire Performance of Trusses
- » Underwriters Laboratory Fire Rated Listing

***An “UL Assembly” listed by the Underwriters Laboratory is only ONE of MANY routes to compliance with fire ratings.***



## Outline

- » Introduction
- » Framing System Design and Details
  - » Structural Design Compliance
  - » Wall Framing
  - » Wall Bracing
  - » Roof Framing
- » Non-Structural Requirements and Design
  - » Allowable Heights and Areas
  - » Multi-Tenant and Multi-Occupancy Buildings
  - » Fire Resistance and Detailing
- Large Retail Project Case Study

## Retail Store Design

- » 55,000 sf chain grocery store in northern CA
- » Originally designed and built with steel and masonry
- » WoodWorks commissioned structural re-design with wood framing
- » Comparing original to wood re-design, WoodWorks commissioned cost estimate & LCA studies



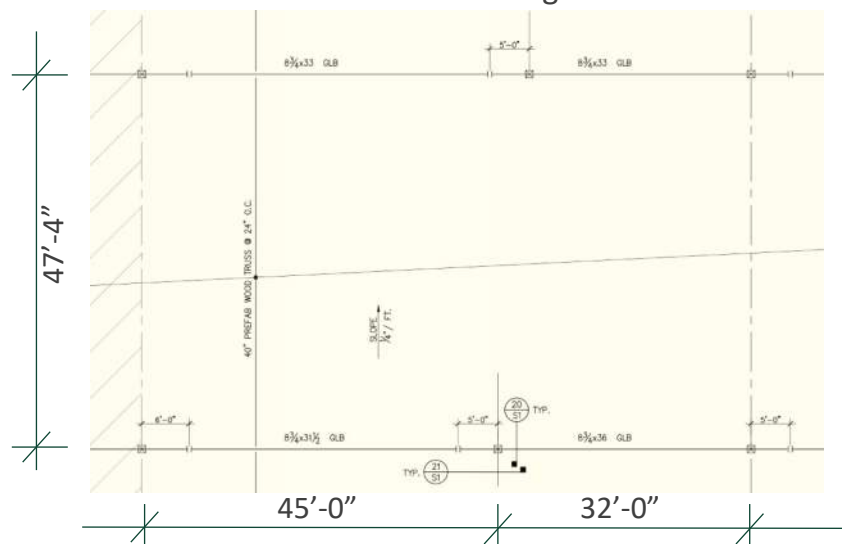
## Big Cost Savings for Retail Store

- » Original Steel & Masonry Building: \$4.49 M
- » Wood Building: \$3.5 M
- » Nearly **\$1 M Savings** – 22% Savings - \$18/sf Savings

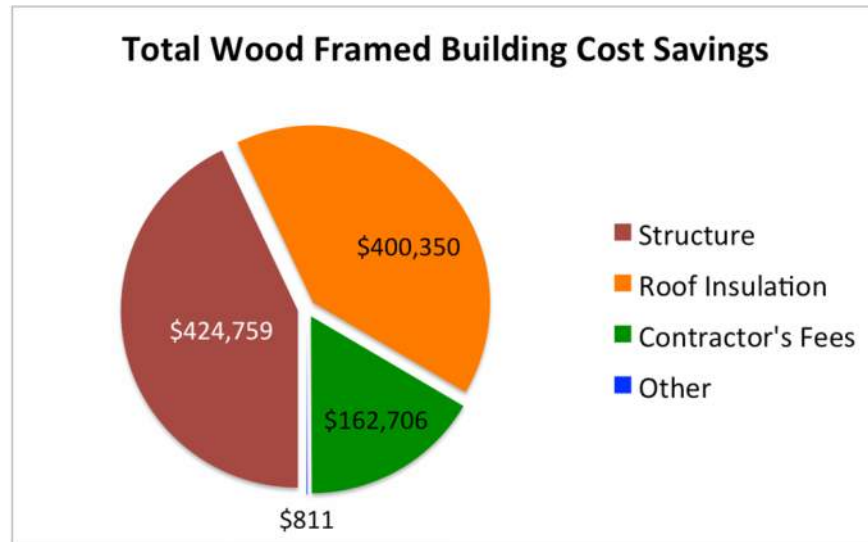


## Retail Store: Gravity Framing System

### Partial Roof Framing Plan



## Cost Savings Factor: Structure



## Cost Savings Factor: Roof Insulation

- » Original Steel & Masonry Building: 4.5" Extruded Polystyrene (XPS) Rigid Insulation on Top of Steel Roof Deck. R-22. **Cost = \$783,000**
- » Wood Building: 5.5" Fiberglass Batts Between Roof Trusses. R-22. **Cost = \$383,000**
- » **Roof Insulation Savings of \$400,000**



Source: Owens Corning



Source: Networkx

## Cost Savings Factor: Structure



Source: Canadian Wood Council

## Cost Savings Factor: Structure

Total Structure Cost Savings for Wood Building = \$425,000

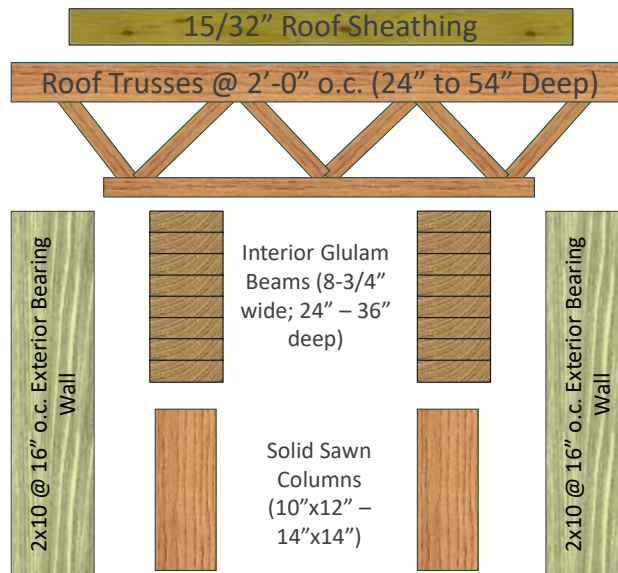


Source: APA



Source: LP Building Products

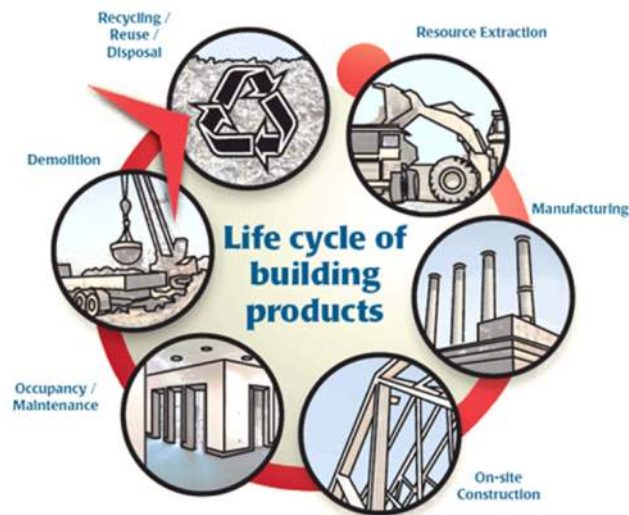
## Retail Store: Gravity Framing System



## Cost Savings Factor: Structure

Category	Steel Bldg Element	Wood Bldg Element	Wood Bldg Cost Savings
Roof Beams	Open web steel joist girders	Glulam Beams	<u>\$164k</u>
Roof Decking	1-1/2" Steel Deck	15/32" Sheathing	<u>\$114k</u>
Columns	HSS Columns	Solid Sawn Columns	<u>\$107k</u>
Primary Roof Framing	Open web steel joists	Prefab Trusses	<u>\$66k</u>
Wall Framing	6" metal studs & 8" masonry	2x10 @ 16" o.c.	<u>\$54k</u>
Ceiling	N.A.	5/8" gyp & RC	<u>\$80k Extra</u>
Total Wood Structure Cost Savings			<u>\$425k</u>

## Life Cycle Assessment



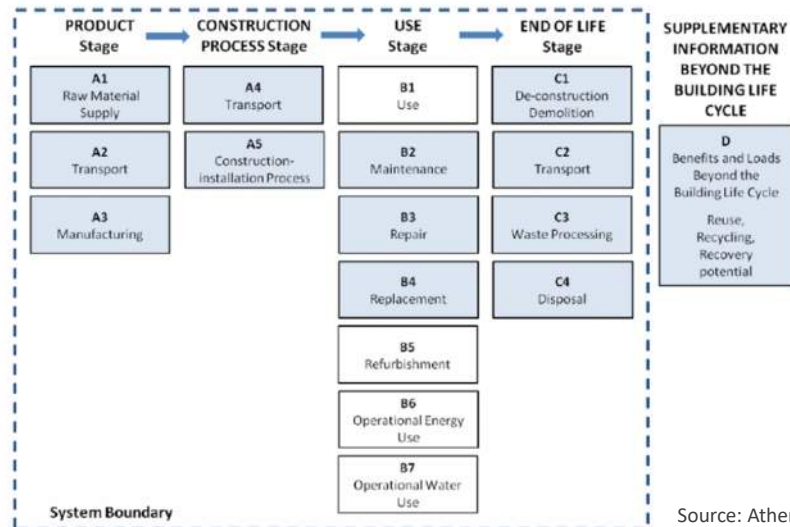
Source: Athena Sustainable Materials Institute

## Life Cycle Assessment

- » Measures the environmental impacts of materials, assemblies or buildings over their entire lives—from extraction or harvest of raw materials through manufacturing, transportation, installation, use, maintenance and disposal or recycling.
- » Allows design professionals to compare different building designs based on their environmental impacts and make informed choices about the materials they use.

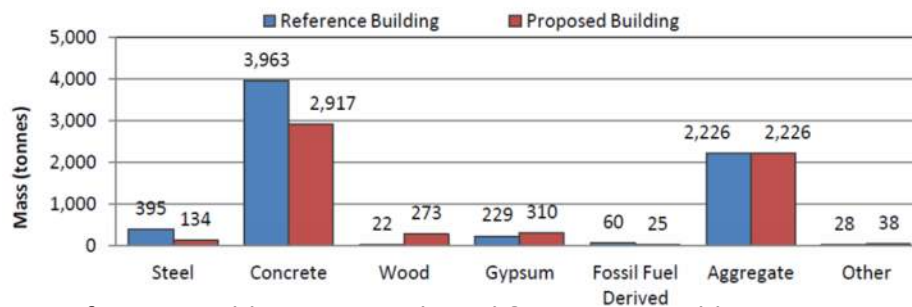


## Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)



## Retail Store: LCA Comparison

**Life Cycle Product Use Mass Comparison  
by Building Product Type**



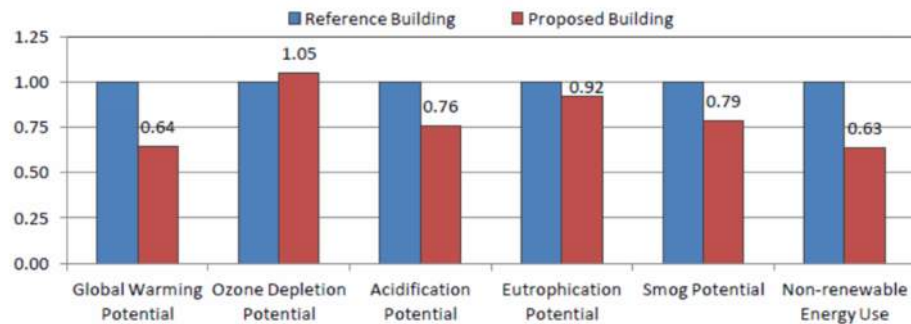
Reference Building = Original Steel & Masonry Building

Proposed Building = Wood Building

Source WoodWorks Case Study "Big Box Retail: Wood Saves Nearly \$1 million" available at <http://www.woodworks.org/wp-content/uploads/Big-Box-Retail-Wood-vs-Steel-Oct-2015.pdf>

## Retail Store: LCA Comparison

### LCA Results Comparison – Raw Materials through Demolition/Disposal



Reference Building = Original Steel & Masonry Building

Proposed Building = Wood Building

Source WoodWorks Case Study "Big Box Retail: Wood Saves Nearly \$1 million" available at  
<http://www.woodworks.org/wp-content/uploads/Big-Box-Retail-Wood-vs-Steel-Oct-2015.pdf>

## Additional Resources

American Wood Council Publications: [www.awc.org](http://www.awc.org)

National Design Specification (NDS) for Wood Construction

Special Design Provisions for Wind and Seismic (SDPWS)

Wood Frame Construction Manual (WFCM)

Code Conforming Wood Design Series

Force Transfer Around Openings Paper by APA

[www.apawood.org/Data/Sites/1/documents/technicalresearch/seaoc-2015-ftao.pdf](http://www.apawood.org/Data/Sites/1/documents/technicalresearch/seaoc-2015-ftao.pdf)

Metal Plated Wood Trusses:

Structural Building Components Association. [www.SBCIndustry.com](http://www.SBCIndustry.com)

Big Box Retail Design Case Study:

[www.woodworks.org/wp-content/uploads/Big-Box-Retail-Wood-vs-Steel-Oct-2015.pdf](http://www.woodworks.org/wp-content/uploads/Big-Box-Retail-Wood-vs-Steel-Oct-2015.pdf)

## Questions? Ask us anything.



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901 East Sixth, Thoughtbarn-Delineate Studio, LeapStructures, photo Casey Dunn



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