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Principal

# Hybrid Mass Timber + Steel RISD Quad

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



# Course Description

The Quad, a new 6-story residence hall on the campus of the Rhode Island School of Design, is the first major student housing project in New England to be constructed using a hybrid cross-laminated timber and steel structural system. In this presentation, the structural engineer will provide an overview of the project—from the process used to evaluate options for the superstructure and reasons why mass timber was chosen, to the resulting code path, and aspects of the design, such as fire-resistance and differential movement, that are unique to this type of structure. The use of integrated project delivery will also be discussed, highlighting the collaboration required between design team, fabricators and on-site installation in order to achieve the project's goals.

# Learning Objectives

- Discuss code-complaint options for using hybrid mass timber structures in projects such as student residence halls.
- Highlight the evaluation criteria and ultimate reasons for choosing the structural system for the RISD Quad, with an emphasis on code-compliance, speed of construction and beauty.
- Explore aspects of design such as fire-resistance ratings and acoustic separation unique to hybrid timber and steel structures.
- Demonstrate the coordination efforts required between design team, fabricators and on-site installation in order to achieve the project's goals.

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



# RISD Quad New Residence Hall

## Key Project Challenges

- Schedule and speed
- Aggressive institution wide sustainability goals
- Adjacent concrete flat plate dormitories
- Design goal to create artist loft experience
- Interest in mass timber





Glued Laminated Timber



Structural Composite Lumber



Panelized Wood Products



Cross Laminated Timber



Dowel Laminated Timber

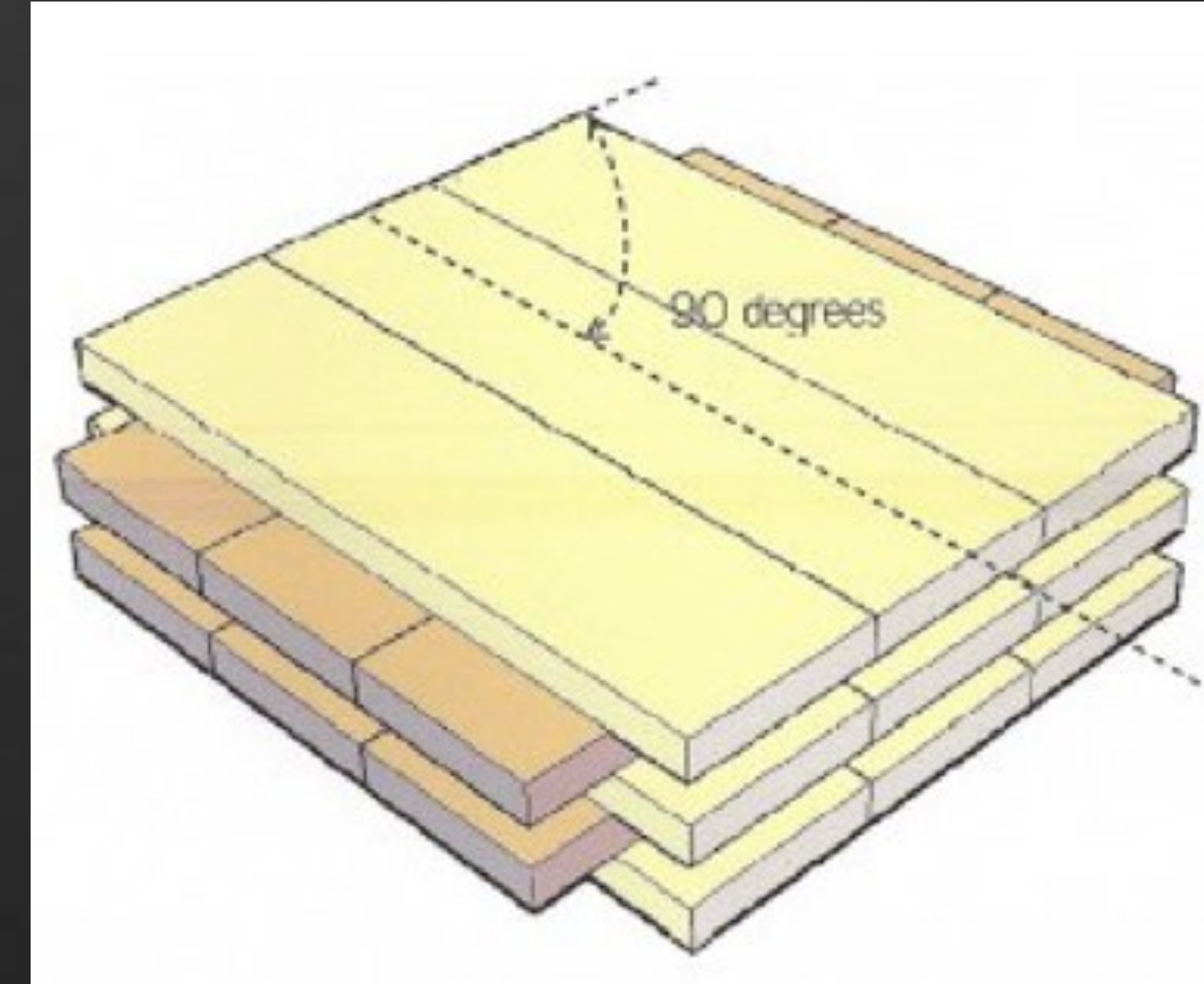
Solid Lumber





# Cross Laminated Timber

- Made with sapling lumber
- Manufactured in up to 65' lengths
- Two-way action possible
- Sequestered carbon



**3 Ply ALT**  
4.125"  
105mm



**5 Ply ALT**  
6.875"  
175mm



**7 Ply ALT**  
9.625"  
245mm



**9 Ply ALT**  
12.375"  
315mm

All heights  
assume  
NFPA 13  
sprinkler  
system

# IBC2015 Construction Types

Can use  
Mass  
Timber in  
ALL types

Occupancy	Type 1 Noncombustible		Type 3 Noncombustible/ Combustible		Type 4 Heavy Timber	Type 5 Combustible	
	A	B	A	B		A	B
A,B,R	None	180'	85'	75'	85'	70'	60'
A-2, A-3 A-4	None	12	4	4	4	3	2
B	None	12	6	4	6	4	3
R-2	None	12	5	5	5	4	3

Height  
Limit

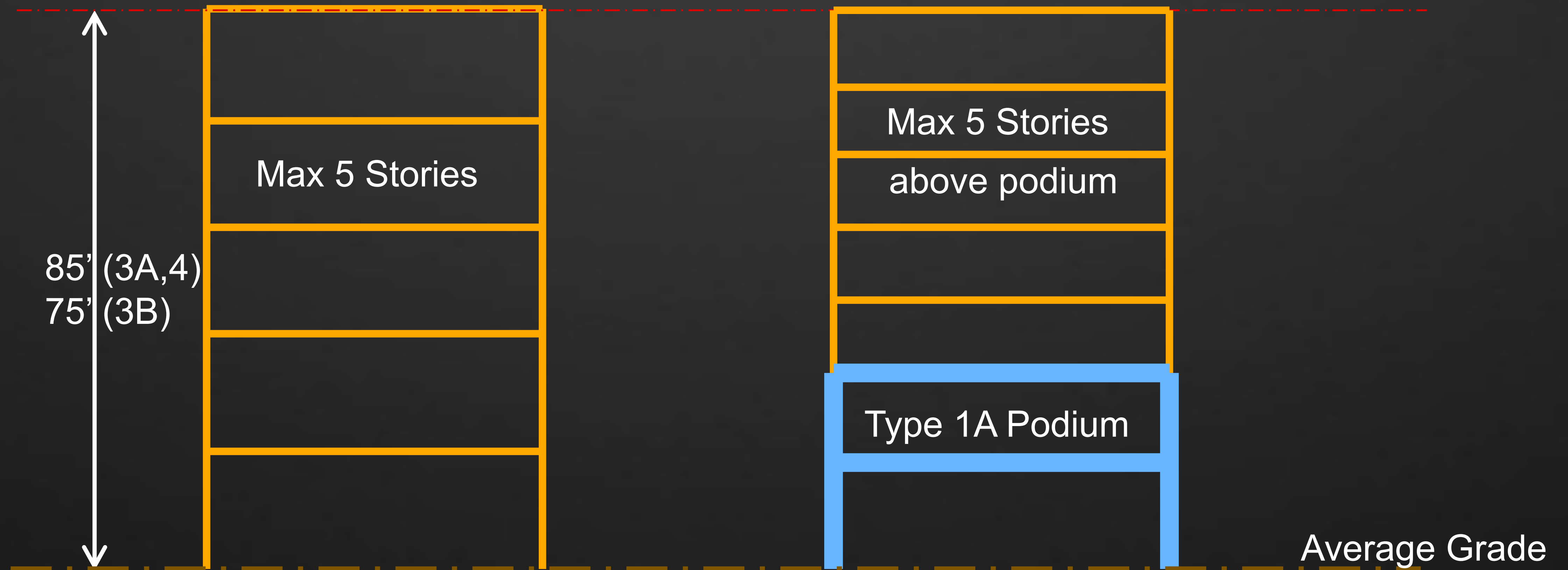
# of  
Stories

A: Interior  
structure  
fire rated

B: Interior  
mostly  
unrated



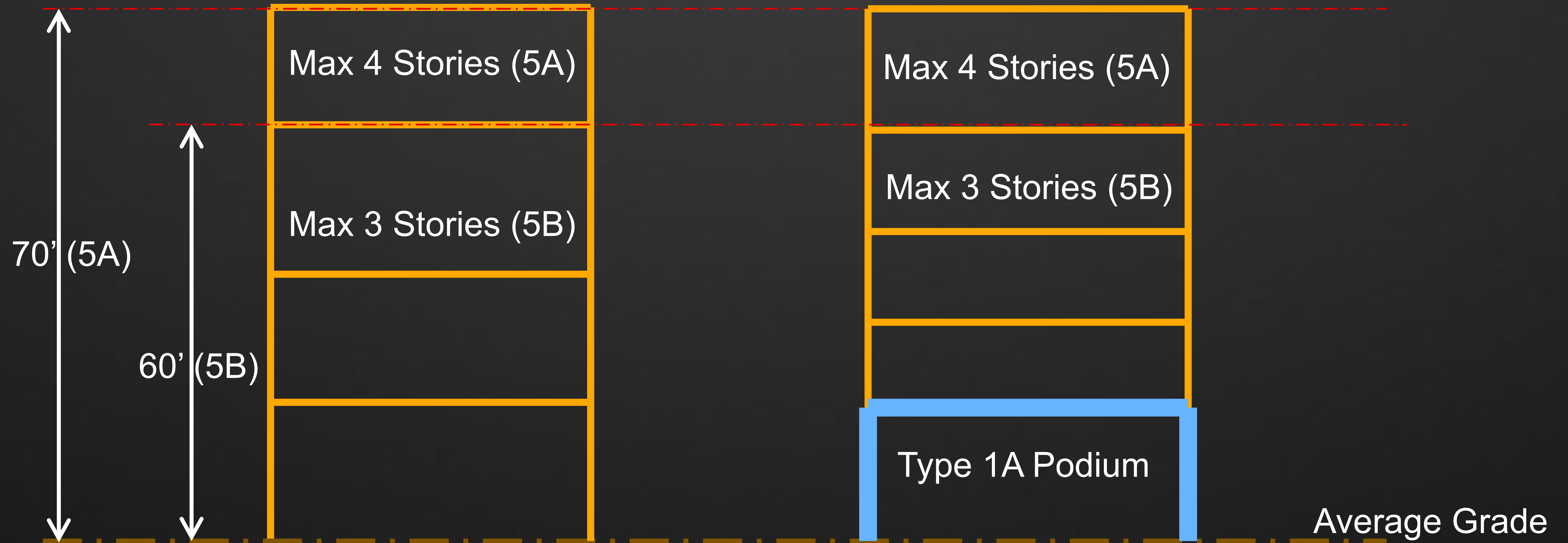
# Height Limits – Type 3 and Type 4



Residential Dormitory (R-2)



# Height Limits – Type 5



**Residential Dormitory (R-2)**



# Minimum Heavy Timber Sizes (Type 4)

Member Type	Floor Framing	Roof Framing
Column	8x8	6x6
Beam	6x10	6” minimum thickness
Floor Deck (solid or glu-lam)	4” nominal	2” nominal
Cross laminated timber	4” actual	3” nominal

TABLE 602.4 WOOD MEMBER SIZE EQUIVALENCIES					
MINIMUM NOMINAL SOLID SAWN SIZE		MINIMUM GLUED-LAMINATED NET SIZE		MINIMUM STRUCTURAL COMPOSITE LUMBER NET SIZE	
Width, inch	Depth, inch	Width, inch	Depth, inch	Width, inch	Depth, inch
8	8	6 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	7	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
6	10	5	10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
6	8	5	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
6	6	5	6	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
4	6	3	6 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>



# IBC2021 Approved New Construction Types

**Note: Limits assume sprinklers used**

Occupancy	Type 1 Noncombustible		Type 3 Noncombustible/ Combustible		Type 4 Heavy Timber <b>New Types</b>			
	A	B	A	B	A	B	C	HT
A,B,R	Unlimited	180'	85'	75'	270'	180'	85'	85'
A-2, A-3, A-4	Unlimited	12	4	4	18	12	6	4
B	Unlimited	12	6	4	18	12	9	6
R-2	Unlimited	12	5	5	18	12	8	5

**Height Limit**

**# of Stories**

**Type 1A podium can be used to extend story limit**



# IBC2021 Approved New Construction Types



**All wood must be covered with fire resistant material**

**Some wood may be exposed, all wood must have rating**

**All wood may be exposed, but must have 2 hour rating**



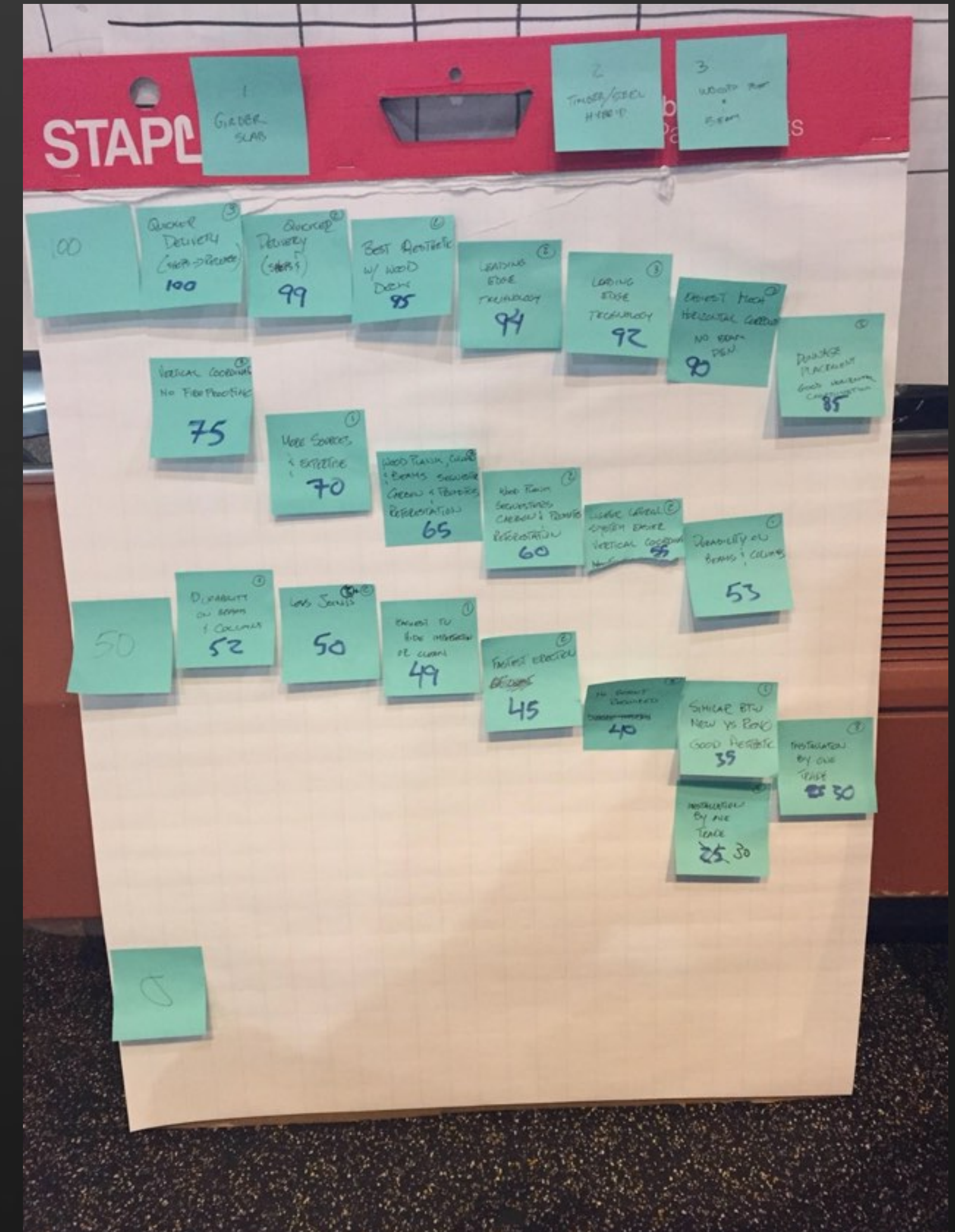
# Choosing by Advantages

## Options

- Girder-slab (precast concrete with steel)
- All glued laminated timber frame and decking
- Steel-CLT hybrid

## Key Factors

- Speed of construction
- Sustainability
- Aesthetic “look and feel”
- Cost
- Span and depth of members





# IPD – Pull Plan Scheduling

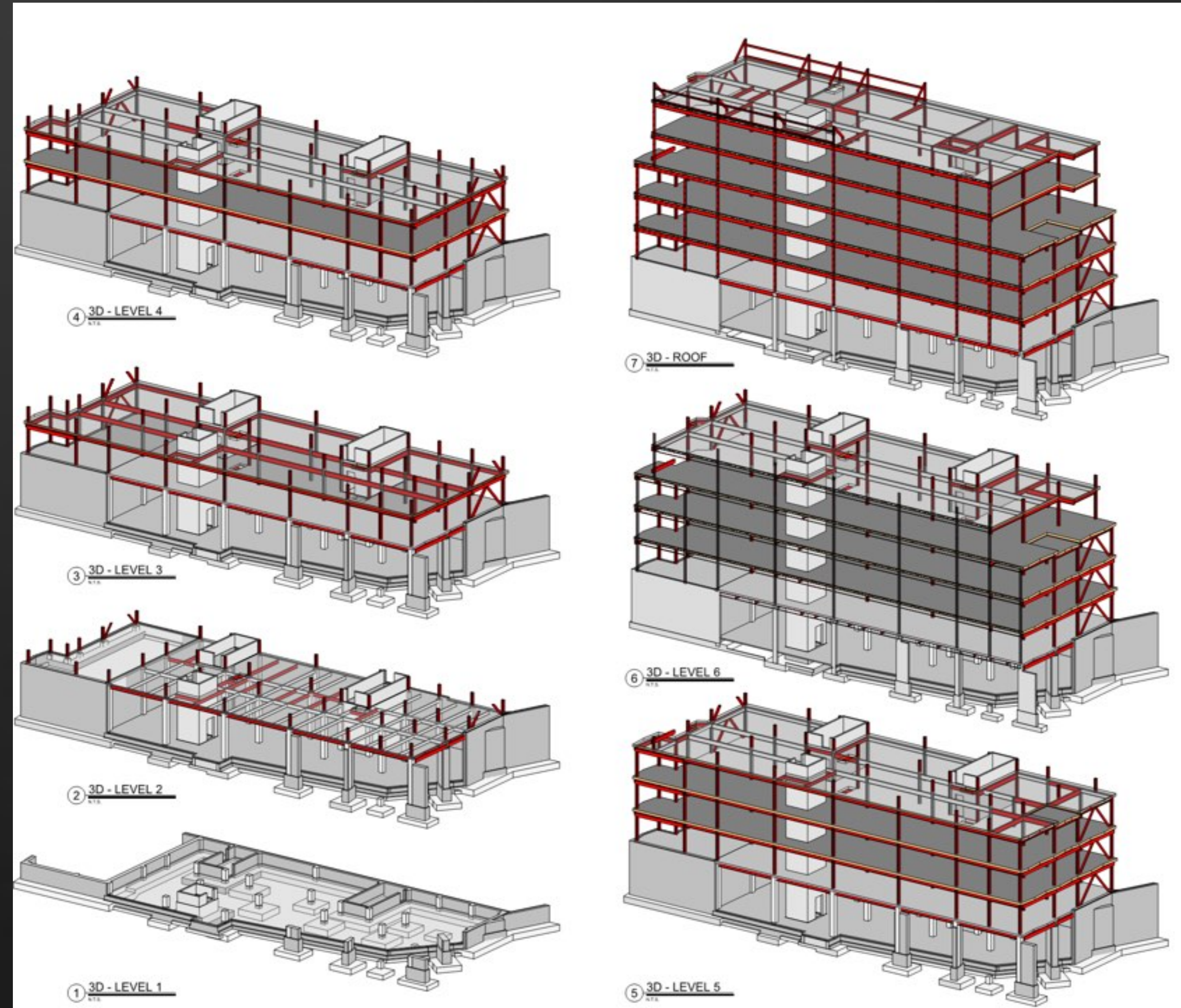




# Overview: Hybrid CLT-Steel Construction

## Features

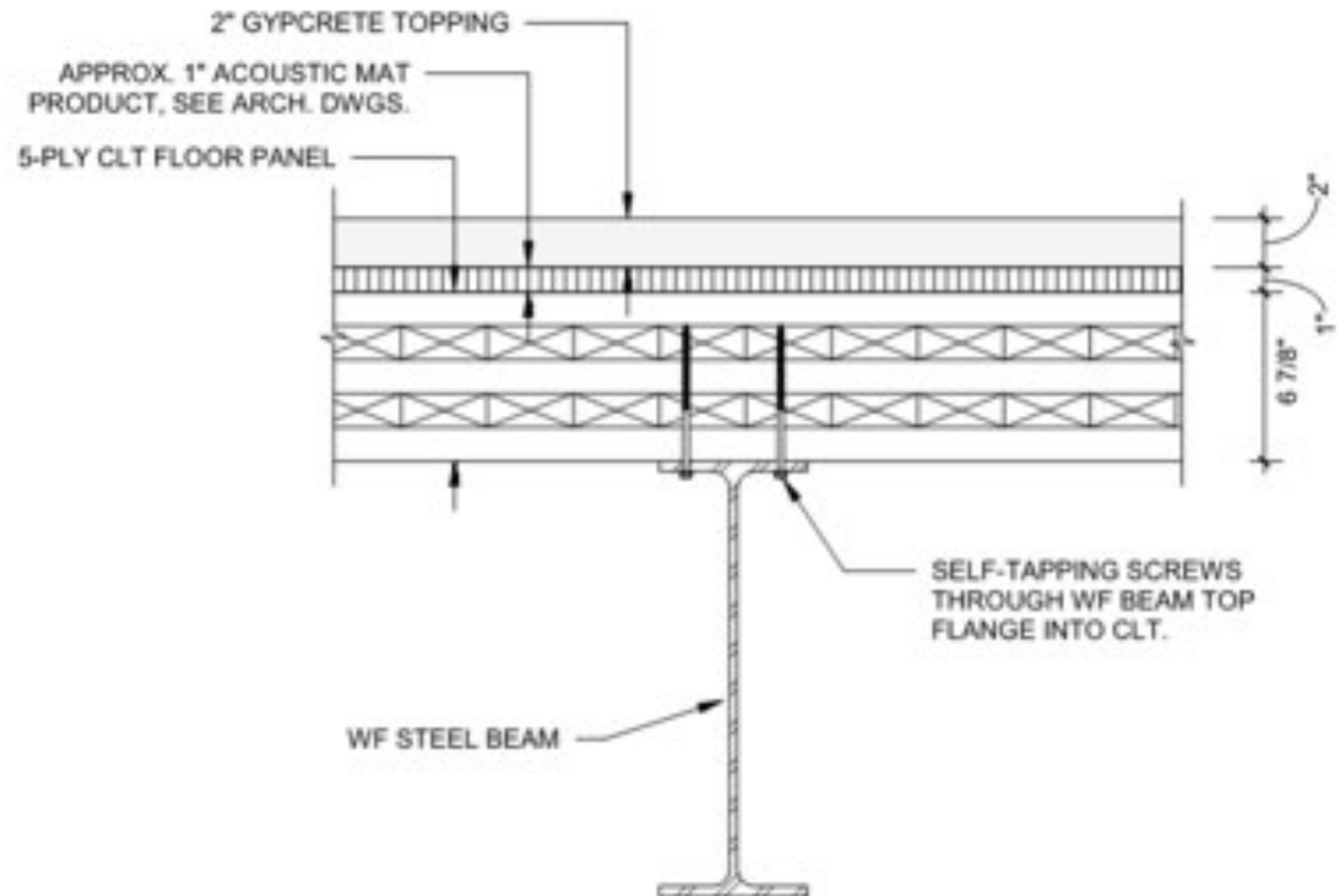
- Steel frame with CLT slabs
- One-way CLT panels – entire building width
- Construction Type
  - Type 1A construction – Below Lvl 2
  - Type 3B construction – Above Lvl 2
- Exposed CLT ceilings
- Topping slab and acoustic isolation mat for sound isolation





# Floor Assembly – Acoustic Separation

- IBC 2015 Sound Transmission (1207)
  - Sound Transmission Class  $\geq 50$
  - Impact Insulation Class  $\geq 50$
- Final Assembly (USG Products):
  - USG Levelrock SAM-N25 Ultra – Sound Attenuation Mat
  - USG Levelrock Sound Reduction Board
  - USG Levelrock 3500 Floor Underlayment (2" min thickness)

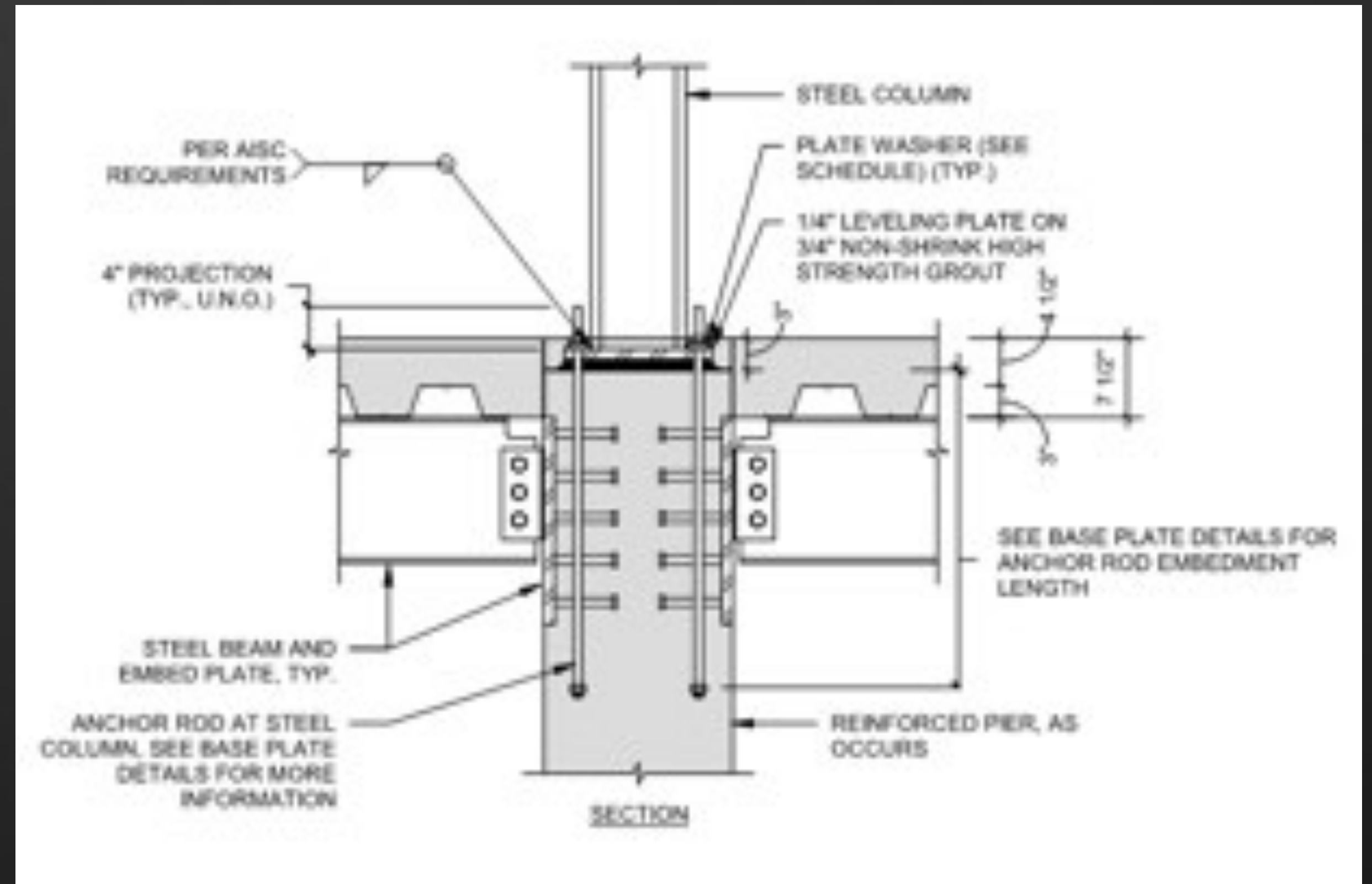


**TYPICAL CLT FLOOR ASSEMBLY DETAIL**



# Fire Rating of Columns at Transition

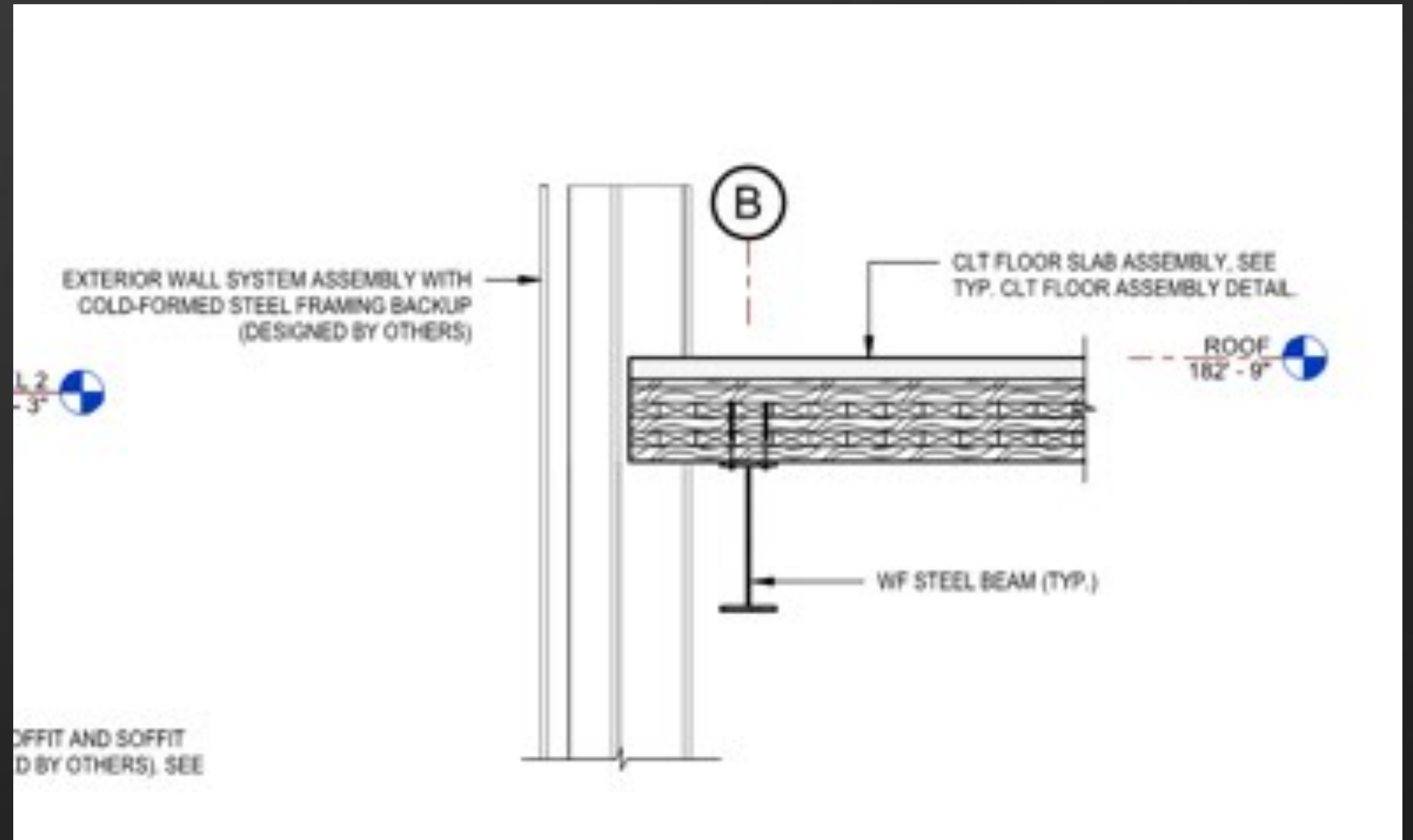
- IBC 2015 Requirements (704.2)
  - Entire column protected for full height
  - Must extend to TOP of column
- Podium transition
  - 3 hour rating required
  - Extend piers to top of rated slab system





# CLT in Exterior Wall Assembly

- IBC 2015 Requirements (602.4)
  - Allowed in walls with 2 hour rating or less
  - Must be protected on exterior surface

























# Constructability Considerations

## Key Issues

- Mix of trades – wood and steel erector
- Fasteners chosen for speed
- Most holes field drilled – simplifies coordination
- Diaphragm design using spline connectors







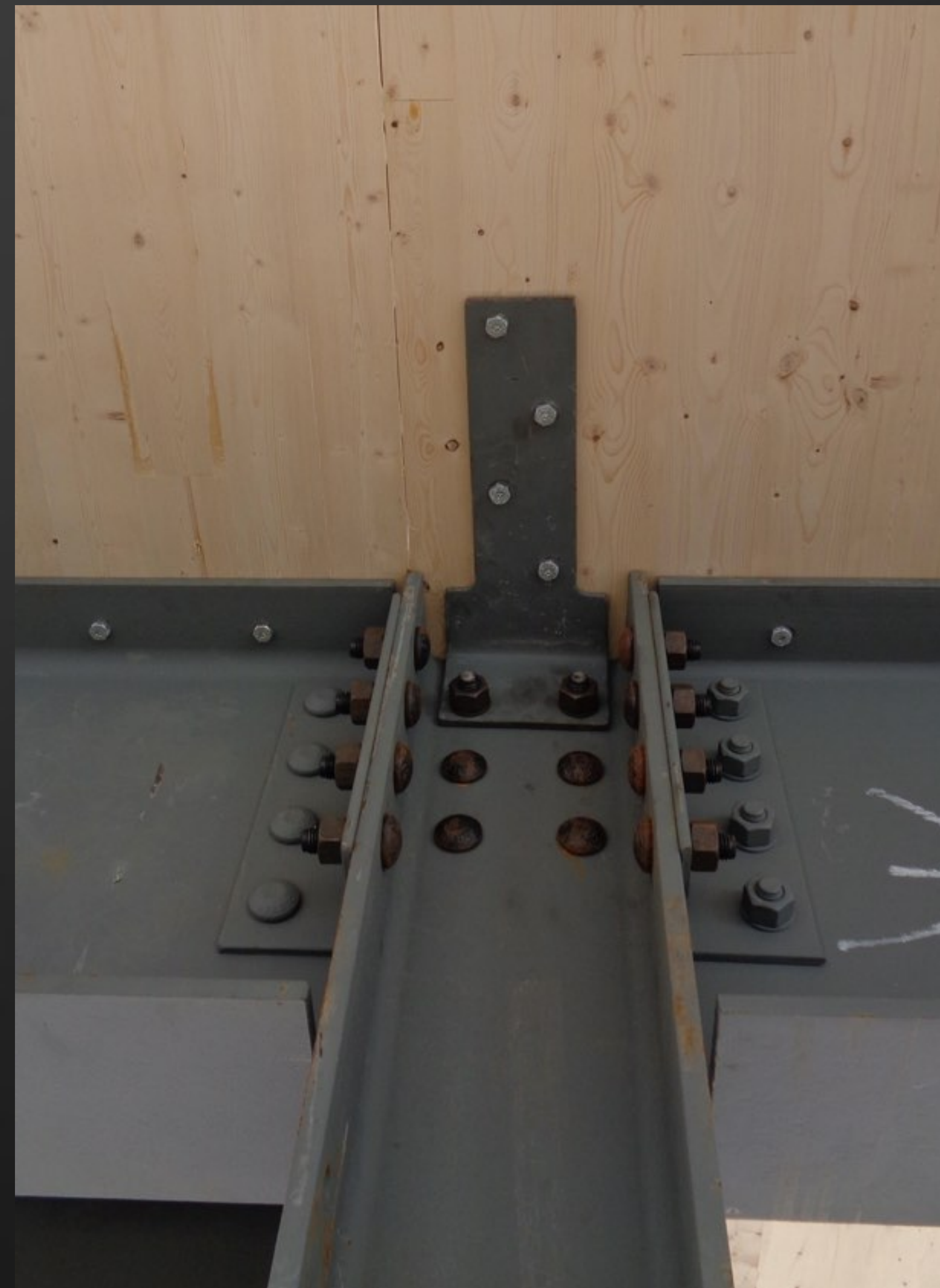
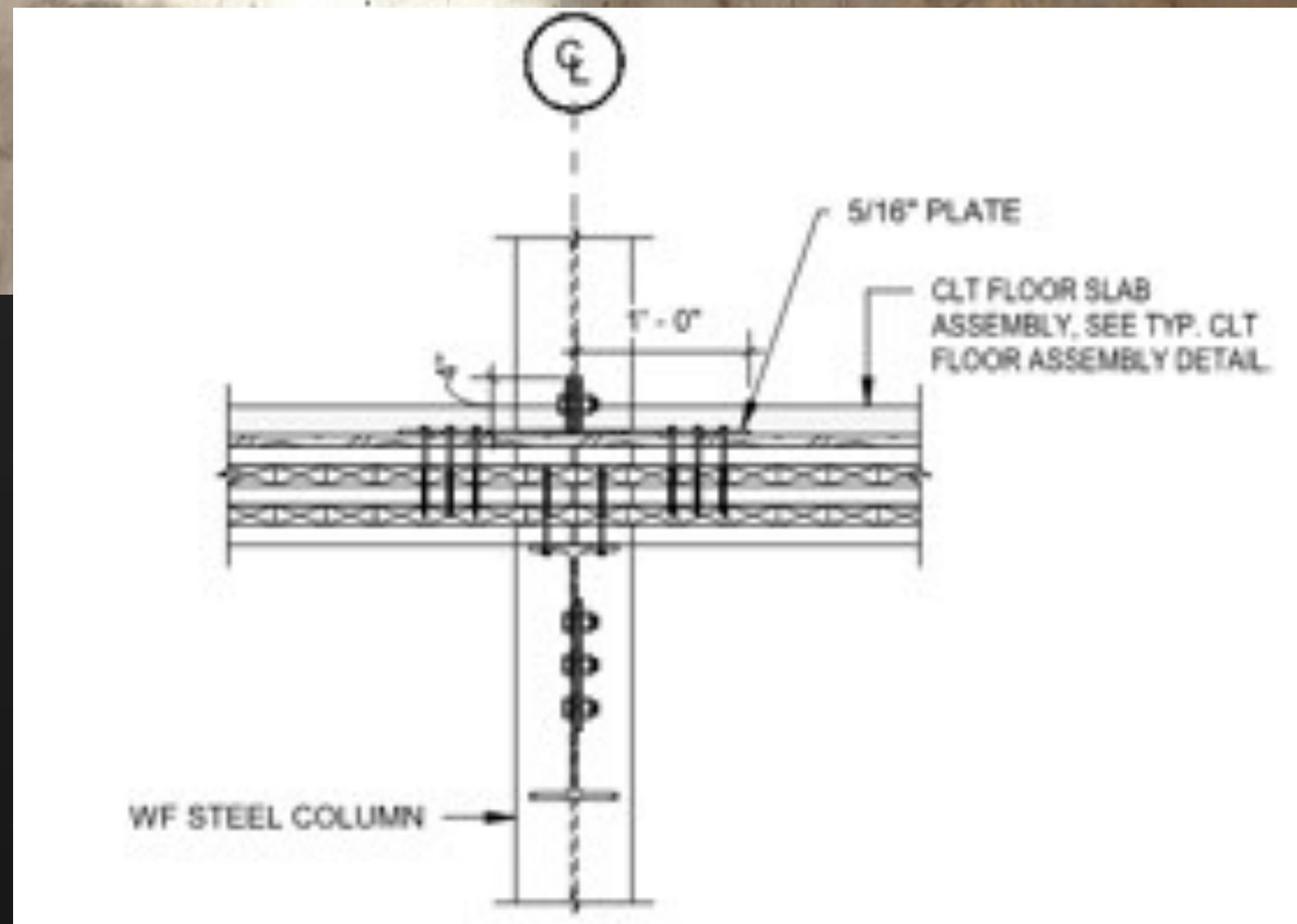
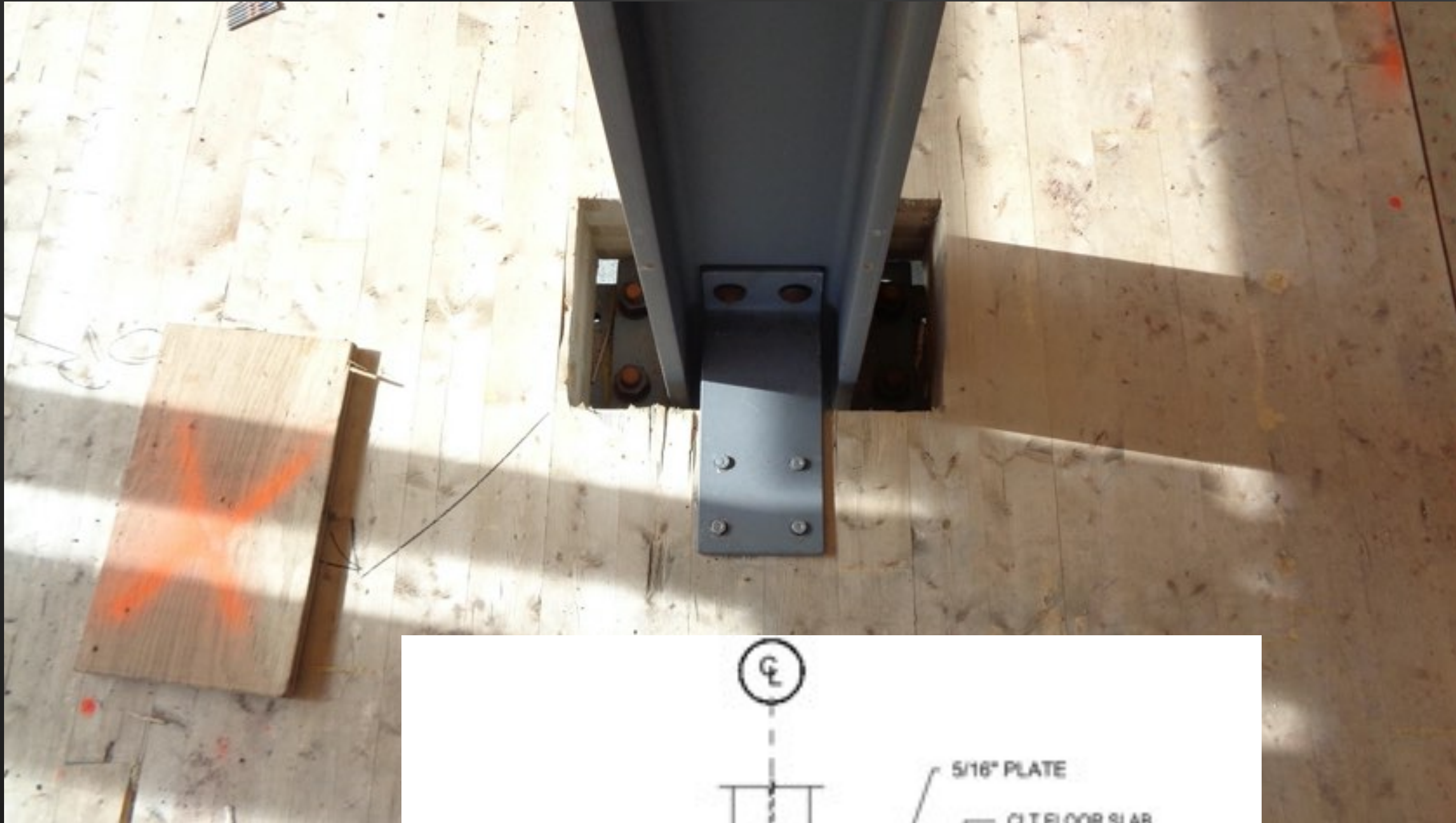


# All field connections bolted





# Weak Axis Column Bracing at Floors





# Unframed openings in floors



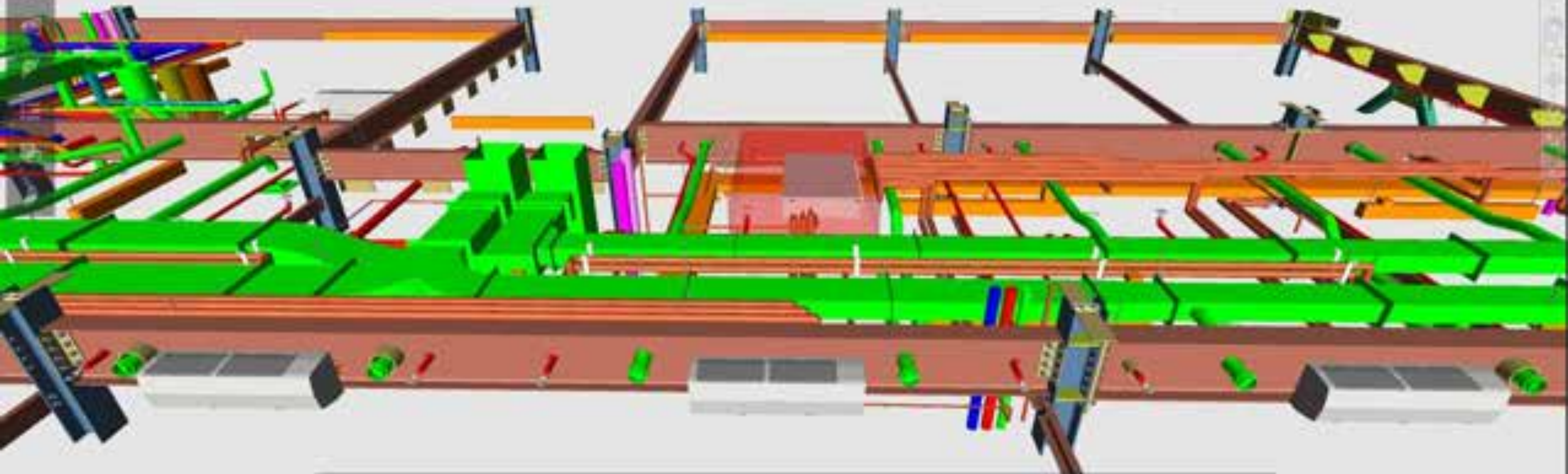


# Coordination of MEP systems





Early steel release (10/18), all utilities exposed in corridors with no ceilings, > 400 beam penetrations, **0 penetrations added in the field.**



Utilities include sprinklers, refrigerant lines (3-pipe VRF), condensate lines, supply and exhaust ducts (ERV), roof drains and overflows, domestic plumbing and sewerage, lighting and electrical, IT with conduit and cable trays, etc.



# Finished student bedrooms





# Exterior Skin Construction





# Exterior Skin Construction





# Exterior Skin Construction





# Lessons Learned

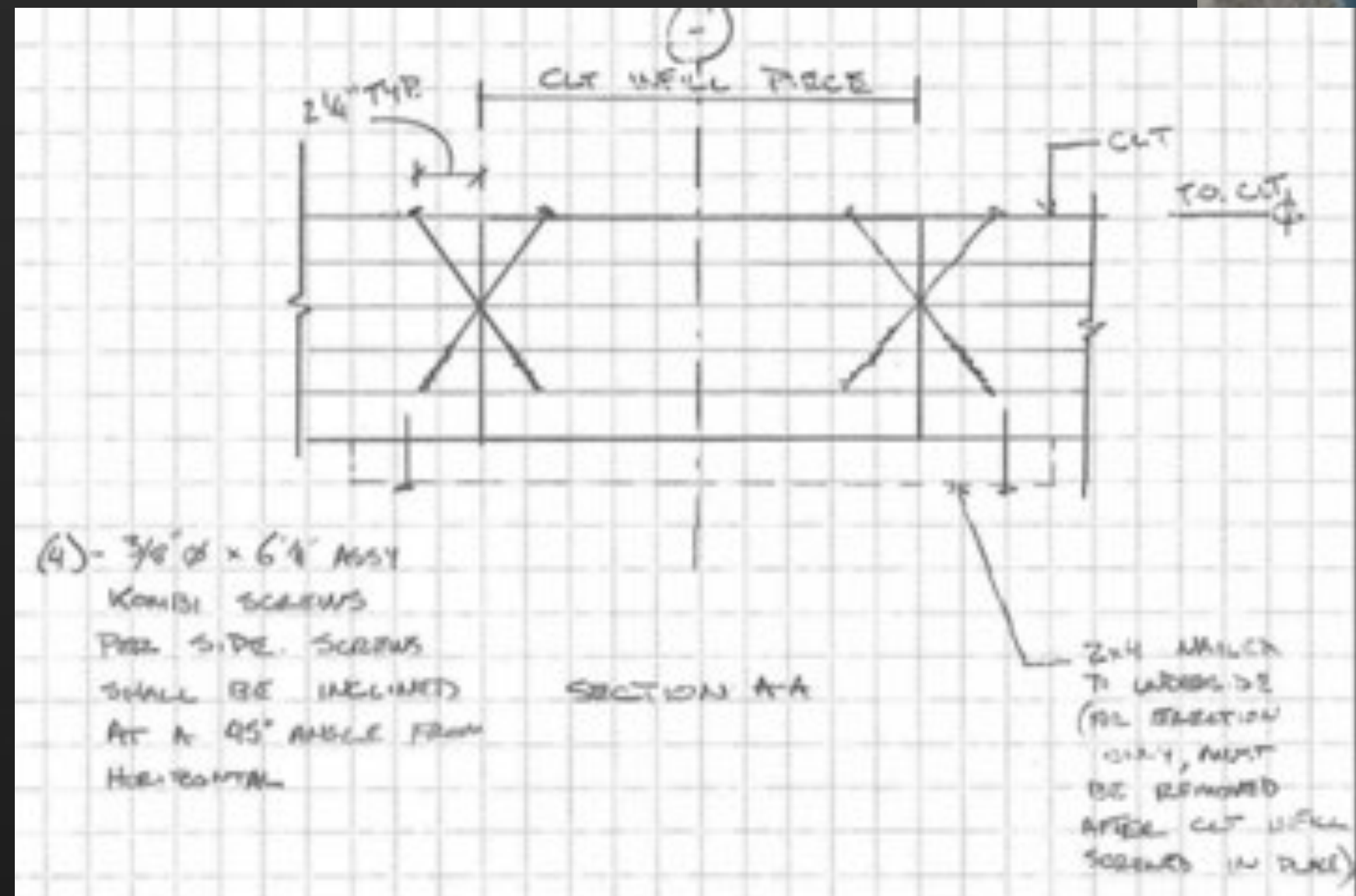






Photo by John Horner





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This concludes The American Institute of Architects  
Continuing Education Systems Course  
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