# Exploring Tall Timber Design & New Code Provisions

WOODWORKS

March 12 & 14, 2025

**Presented by** John O'Donald II, WoodWorks

Rendering: CoStar Group

#### **Current State of Mass Timber Projects**

As of year-end 2024, in the US, 2,338 multi-family, commercial, or institutional projects have been constructed with, or are in design with, mass timber.



Scan this code or use the url to find the map and more details online.





**NETWORK**.org

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#### What is Tall Mass Timber?



Photo: WoodWorks Architect/Developer: oWOW

#### Does Tall Wood = High Rise?



#### Mid-Rise vs. High-Rise



#### FIGURE 6-6 Determination of high-rise building



#### Tall Mass Timber

2021 IBC Introduces 3 new tall wood construction types:

- » IV-A
- » IV-B
- » IV-C
- » Previous type IV renamed type IV-HT

BUILDING	UILDING TYPE I		TYPE II		TYPE III		TYPE IV			TYPE V		
ELEMENT	Α	В	Α	В	Α	В	Α	В	С	HT	Α	В



## Type IV-C







Monte French Design Studio Photos: Jane Messinger



#### Type IV-C Exposure Limits

All Mass Timber surfaces may be exposed

Exceptions: Shafts, concealed spaces, outside face of exterior walls







## Type IV-C Building Size Limits

In most cases, Type IV-C height allowances = Type IV-HT height allowances, but additional stories permitted due to enhanced FRR

Type IV-C area = 1.25 \* Type IV-HT area

Occupancy	# of Stories	Height	Area per Story	Building Area
A-2	6	85 ft	56,250 SF	168,750 SF
В	9	85 ft	135,000 SF	405,000 SF
Μ	6	85 ft	76,875 SF	230,625 SF
R-2	8	85 ft	76,875 SF	230,625 SF
Areas exclude pot	ential frontage inc	rease		

## **APEX PLAZA** CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

William McDonough + Partners Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Photo Prakash Patel



#### **APEX PLAZA** CHARLOTTESVILE, VA

Office building CLT panels / glulam frame & braced frames 8 stories (6 mass timber), 187,000 sqft



William McDonough + Partners Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Photo Prakash Patel

#### Type IV-B





Photo: ©Prakash Patel

Photos: Nick Johnson, Tour D Space

#### Type IV-B Exposure Limits

NC protection on some surfaces of Mass Timber 2021 IBC: 20% of ceilings or 40% of walls can be exposed 2024 IBC: 100% of ceilings or 40% of walls can be exposed

Photo: Nick Johnson, Tour D Space





## Type IV-B Building Size Limits

In most cases, Type IV-B height & story allowances = Type I-B height & story allowances

Type IV-B area = 2 \* Type IV-HT area

Occupancy	# of Stories	Height	Area per Story	Building Area	Office Assembly (12 stories)
A-2	12	180 ft	90,000 SF	270,000 SF	Residential –
В	12	180 ft	216,000 SF	648,000 SF	Mercantile (8 stories) —
Μ	8	180 ft	123,000 SF	369,000 SF	
R-2	12	180 ft	123,000 SF	369,000 SF	
Areas exclude pot	tential frontage inc	Type IV-B			

## **80M** WASHINGTON, DC

ckok Cole up hoto Ron Blu



#### **80M** WASHINGTON, DC

3 story MT vertical addition on top of existing 7 story building CLT panels / glulam frame 108,000 sqft

16 ft floor to floor



Hickok Cole Arup Photo Maurice Harrington

## Type IV-A



270 ft. (18 stories)

#### Type IV-A Exposure Limits

100% NC protection on all surfaces of Mass Timber





## Type IV-A Building Size Limits

In most cases, Type IV-A height & story allowances = 1.5 \* Type I-B height & story allowances

Type IV-A area = 3 \* Type IV-HT area

Occupancy	# of Stories	Height	Area per Story	Building Area
A-2	18	270 ft	135,000 SF	405,000 SF
В	18	270 ft	324,000 SF	972,000 SF
Μ	12	270 ft	184,500 SF	553,500 SF
R-2	18	270 ft	184,500 SF	553,500 SF



Areas exclude potential frontage increase

## 1510 Webster Oakland, CA

-

ESTIN.

oWow **DCI Engineers** Photo: Flor Projects

# **1510 Webster**

Oakland, CA



- » 16 stories mass timber, 1 level steel over two-level concrete
- » Designed with Tall Wood code provisions in the 2021 CBC
- » Mass timber with concrete cores and staircases



Photos: Flor Projects

oWow DCI Engineers

#### Tall Mass Timber in the U.S. How DID WE ARRIVE HERE?



#### 2008 – 2015: International Inspiration 8-18-Story Projects in Europe, Canada, Australia







Bygg Mesteren Naturally Wood **Fhisleton Architects** Michael Elkan Photos: Waugh T Voll Arkitekter |

#### 2015-2018: Domestic Innovation Tall Wood Building Competition, 8-Story Carbon 12 in Portland, OR









#### **CARBON12** PORTLAND, OR

First Modern Tall Mass Timber Building in the US 8 stories 42,000 sqft 1<sup>st</sup> floor retail, 7 stories of condos above

Completed in 2017



WN PROFILE

Kaiser + Path Munzing Structural Engineering Photo Andrew Pogue



Photos: ICC

















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Photo: Lendlease
# 2015-2018: Building a Code Roadmap

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#### 2018-2021: Rollout of a New Code Path **2021 IBC IBC** 270 ft. Office INTERNATIONA BUILDING CODE (18 stories) Assembly Residential 2021 Office 180 ft. Assembly Mercantile (12 stories) Residential (12 stories) 85 ft. Office (9 stories) (9 stories) Mercantile (8 stories) Residential (8 stories) Assembly Mercantile (6 stories) Type IV-A Type IV-B Type IV-C

RI. SE



## Fire Safe Implementation of Mass Timber In Tall Buildings

Research of the fire performance of CLT and Glued Laminated Timber buildings, with visible wood surfaces.

The main aim of this research project was to identify safe limits of exposed mass timber surface areas that correspond with performance criteria used for previous **U.S. Building Code** Changes.

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

#### **Compartment Fire Testing of a Two-Story Mass Timber Building**

Samuel L. Zelinka Laura E. Hasburgh Keith J. Bourne David R. Tucholsk Jason P. Quellette

### **Conservatism: ATF lab tests** based on older generation CLT adhesives

2018 ATF tests were initiated before the 2018 version of ANSI/APA PRG 320 was published and the tested CLT was not compliant with the new product standard.

Source: RISE, USDA FS FPL & AWC



Forest Products aboraton

General Technical Report

May 2018

FPI\_GTR\_247

In tall buildings, preventing fire re-growth is key.

Fire re-growth is a phenomenon in which the heat-release rate of a fire intensifies following a decay phase. Fire re-growth can be initiated when delamination occurs, as this exposes un-charred wood surfaces, thereby resulting in an influx of fuel available for consumption by the fire.





# PRG 320 is manufacturing & performance standard for CLT

2019 edition (referenced in 2021 IBC) added new elevated temperature adhesive performance requirements validated by fullscale and medium-scale qualification testing to ensure CLT does not exhibit fire re-growth



#### ANNEX B. PRACTICE FOR EVALUATING ELEVATED TEMPERATURE PERFORMANCE OF ADHESIVES USED IN CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER (MANDATORY)



### Change to 2024 IBC: IV-B Ceiling Exposure



24 **B** 

#### 602.4.2.2.2 Protected area.

Interior faces of *mass timber* elements, including the inside face of exterior *mass timber walls* and *mass timber roofs*, shall be protected in accordance with Section 602.4.2.2.1.

**Exceptions:** Unprotected portions of *mass timber* ceilings and walls complying with Section 602.4.2.2.4 and the following:

- 1. Unprotected portions of mass timber ceilings and walls complying with one of the following:
- 1.1. Unprotected portions of mass timber ceilings, including attached beams, limited to an area less than or equal to 100 percent of the floor area in any dwelling unitwithin a story or fire area within a story.
- 1.2. Unprotected portions of *mass timber* walls, including attached columns, limited to an area less than or equal to 40 percent of the floor area in any *dwelling unit* within a *story* or fire area within a *story*.
- 1.3. Unprotected portions of both walls and ceilings of *mass timber*, including attached columns and beams, in any *dwelling unit* or fire area and in compliance with Section 602.4.2.2.3.
- 2. *Mass timber* columns and beams that are not an integral portion of walls or ceilings, respectively, without restriction of either aggregate area or separation from one another.

### Change to 2024 IBC: IV-B Exposure Separation



602.4.2.2.4 Separation distance between unprotected *mass timber* elements.

In each *dwelling unit* or *fire area*, unprotected portions of *mass timber* walls shall be not less than 15 feet (4572 mm) from unprotected portions of other walls measured horizontally along the floor.

2024 IBC eliminates need for 15 ft separation between exposed walls and ceilings, and between portions of exposed ceilings

### **2021 IBC Allowances**





Credit: AWC

### **2024 IBC Allowances**





Credit: AWC

No separation req'd between wall & ceiling



Min. 1" thick NC protection required on mass timber floors in IV-A and IV-B. Not required in IV-C



## Change to 2024 IBC: Sequencing of NC topping install

Proponents: David Tyree, representing AWC (dtyree@awc.org); Raymond O'Brocki, AWC, representing AWC (robrocki@awc.org)

#### 2021 International Fire Code

**Revise as follows:** 

F174-21

IFC: 3303.5

**3303.5 Fire safety requirements for buildings of Types IV-A, IV-B and IV-C construction.** Buildings of Types IV-A, IV-B and IV-C construction designed to be greater than six stories above *grade plane* shall comply with the following requirements during construction unless otherwise *approved* by the *fire code official*:

- 1. Standpipes shall be provided in accordance with Section 3313.
- 2. A water supply for fire department operations, as approved by the fire code official and the fire chief.
- 3. Where building construction exceeds six stories above *grade plane* and noncombustible protection is required by Section 602.4 of the *International Building Code*, at least one layer of noncombustible protection shall be installed on all building elements on floor levels, including mezzanines, more than four levels below active mass timber construction before additional floor levels can be erected.

#### Exception Exceptions:

- 1. Shafts and vertical exit enclosures shall not be considered part of the active mass timber construction.
- 2. Noncombustible material on the top of mass timber floor assemblies shall not be required before erecting additional floor levels.

4. Where building construction exceeds six stories above *grade plane*, required exterior wall coverings shall be installed on floor levels, including mezzanines, more than four levels below active mass timber construction before additional floor levels can be erected.

Exception: Shafts and vertical exit enclosures shall not be considered part of the active mass timber construction.

# **2022 AND BEYOND: ADOPTING UPDATED CODES**

ORDINANCE NO. 32198

An ordinance amending Chapter 53, "Dallas Building Code," of the Dallas City Code by amending

Sections 202, [F] 403.3.2, 406.5.2, 504.3, 504.4, 506.2.1, 506.2.3, 506.2.4, 507.3, 507.14,

- <u>Unprotected portions of mass timber ceilings, including attached</u> beams, shall be permitted and shall be limited to an area less than or equal to 100 percent of the floor area in any dwelling unit or fire area; or
- 2. Unprotected portions of mass timber walls, including attached columns, shall be permitted and shall be limited to an area less than or equal to 40 percent of the floor area in any dwelling unit or fire area; or



# TALL MASS TIMBER CODE ADOPTIONS



# WHY ALL OF THE INTEREST?

THE

Photo: WoodWorks Architect/Developer: oWOW

### Mass Timber: Structural Warmth is a Value-Add



### Schedule Savings for Rough-In Trades Fast Construction



(mass timber)





### **Compressing the Typical Schedule**

### **Fast Construction**



Look for these potential **\$\$** schedule savings with mass timber in comparison to steel

Source: Mass Timber Cost & Design Optimization, WoodWorks<sup>2</sup>

# **Construction Impacts: Labor Availability**



# But is it cost competitive?

# Need to Consider Holistic Costs, Not Structure Only





\$/SF

Image: GBD Architects

# Risk Mitigation: Total Project Cost Analysis

#### CONSIDERATIONS:

- Ceiling Treatment
- Floor Topping
- HVAC System & Route
- Foundation Size
- Soil Improvements
- Exterior Skin Coordination
- Value of Time





### Mass Timber Comparative Life Cycle Assessment Series



Rendering tres birds



### Mass Timber Business Case Studies





\$ Costs + \$ Returns Challenges, Lessons Learned, Successes

Scan code here to download the current package



### **INTRO, Cleveland** CLEVELAND, OH







Photo Nick Johnson, Tour D Space

# INTRO

Cleveland, OH

Building Facts 115 ft tall, 9 stories total (8 mass timber) Type IV-B Multi-Family Mixed-Use Completed 2022

Developer Harbor Bay Ventures Architect Hartshorne Plunkard Architecture Engineer Forefront Engineering, Fast + Epp General Contractor Panzica Construction

#### INTRO, Cleveland: Mass Timber Development

#### **Development Overview**

- 9-story, 115' tall building
- 8 stories of CLT & glulam construction over a podium
- Strategy:
  - Create Cleveland's best, most distinctive urban living experience; a new level and bespoke brand
  - Combine best-in-city amenity package and contemporary interiors to appeal to health/ wellness & entertainment-focused young professionals

#### **Property Information**

Property timing	Completed Feb 2022
Submarket	Cleveland's Ohio City neighborhood
Construction Type	4-B over 1-A retail & parking
Site size	2.1 acres (FAR 5.5)
Gross building area	512,000 SF
Net rentable area (total)	279,000 SF



#### INTRO, Cleveland

### **Quantitative Overview**

Costs				
Total project cost		\$147,000,000		
	-	\$494,950/ unit	_	
Land Cost		\$10,450,000	@ appraised value	
		Market Standard*	Pro Forma	Realized**
Construction costs		\$212/GSF	\$200 / GSF	\$215 / GSF
NOI				
Apartment		Market	Realized	
Rental rates				
	Studio	\$1,279	\$1,500 -\$1,750 (P.H. \$2,000)	~26% higher
	1-BR	\$1,631	\$1,675 -\$2,500 (P.H. \$5,700)	~28% higher
	2-BR	\$2,301	\$2,500 -\$5,200 (P.H. \$7,800)	~67% higher
	3-BR	\$3,334	\$8,800 -\$19,500 P.H.	~324% higher
Occupancy at stabilization		91%	98%	~7% higher
Parking Revenue		Market	Pro Forma	Realized**
Included or in addition to lease?		Additional	Additional	Additional
Rate		\$175 / lot / month	\$185 -\$200 / lot / month	\$225 -\$375 / lot / month
Retail		Market	Pro Forma	Realized**
Retail rental rates		\$30 -\$40 / RSF/YR	\$45 / RSF/YR	\$45 / RSF/YR
Rent type (e.g., NNN)		NNN & Gross	NNN	NNN
Expenses		\$7 -\$10 / RSF/YR	\$8 / RSF/YR	\$8 / RSF/YR
Tenant improvement allowance		\$40 -\$50 / RSF	\$150/RSF	\$150/RSF
Occupancy after 12 months		60% -70%	90%	75%

\*Market standard costs refer to normal cost to build for subject's use, irrespective of structural approach. \*\*Realized metrics at stabilization

\*\*\*Conversations with local building officials were held concurrent to land use entitlement approvals processes such that the overall building code review process was only slightly longer. This concurrent approach was essential given that Ohio was not adopting the 2021 IBC, so the Type 4 code path was performance-based, albeit a mirror of what other states have adopted.

Return Performance				
	Market	Pro Forma	Realized**	
Yield on cost – untrended	6.25%	7.00%	7.35%	Higher
Cap rate	4.75%	4.50%	TBD	
Value/rentable SF	\$550 / RSF	\$717/ RSF	TBD (\$800+/RSF)	Higher
Leverage	65%	65%	N/A	
Timeline				
	Date		Context/Comment	
Date of conception (first dollar spent)	Mid 2018		Mid-cycle	
Date underwriting finalized (go/no-go decision)	Mid 2019	Mid-cycle		
Date equity capital secured	N/A	Developer is equity		
Permitting duration***	3 + 6 mo.	Demolition permit first, then building permit		
GMP in place	Feb/March 2020	COVID		
Construction start	April 2020			
Duration of construction	24 months	Faster by about 2 months		
Construction completed	April 2022	Early-cycle		
Date stabilized (80% occupancy, NOI, or at pro forma or refinanced)	June 2022	Faster		

#### **Project Context**

Unparalleled leasing velocities at significant premiums

- The project was 90% leased 4 months after completion
- The premium product drives both velocity and rates with rents significantly higher than market counterparts

• Leasing velocity allowed refinancing activities to start 3 months after completion

# Unparalleled leasing velocities at significant premiums

**Disclaimer**: Information herein was provided by the developer and verified for reasonableness by a third-party expert. Market data and figures have been reviewed by an independent third party utilizing industry standard resources. For additional sources and disclaimers, see the *Basis of Information* page for this case study and the *Disclosures, Disclaimers and Confidentiality* page at the end of this case study package.

#### INTRO, Cleveland: Qualitative Overview

### **Exceptional Leasing Velocity and Premiums**

#### **Lessons Learned**

- Schedule Savings: Anticipated schedule savings not fully achieved subcontractors had not shifted approaches
- Critical paths: Exterior cladding system required multiple subcontractors & erection did not keep up w/ speed of timber structure; faster (unitized) skin would be better

#### Challenges

- International shipping: Issues during COVID delayed delivery; assurances compromised by lowest cost bid
- Moisture Protection: Laborious repairs required due to insufficient water management

#### Successes

- Fast lease-up: 60% pre-leased & stabilized after 4 months
- **Premiums**: Achieved rent premiums in market



### Quantitative Overview

Costs			
Total project cost	\$130,000,000		
	\$501,930/ unit	_	
Land	\$6,250,000	@ appraised value	
	Market Standard*	Pro Forma**	Realized***
Construction costs (normalized wo/COVID)	\$200/GSF	\$190/GSF	\$190/GSF****
NOI			
Apartment	Market	Realized***	
Rental rates			
1-BR	\$1,850	\$2,046	~11%% higher
2-BR	\$3,500	\$3,956	~13% higher
3-BR	\$5,500	\$8,551	~55% higher
Occupancy at stabilization	95%	54%	Property still in lease up
Parking Revenue	Market	Pro Forma**	Realized***
In addition to lease	\$175	\$185	\$175
Retail	Market	Pro Forma**	Realized***
Retail rental rates	\$25 / RSF/YR	\$21/RSF/YR	\$TBD/ COVID
Rent type (e.g., NNN)	Modified Gross	NNN	TBD
Tenant improvement allowance	Varies	\$86 / SF	\$TBD / SF
Occupancy after 12 months	Varies	100%	TBD%
Market rental r	ates for anartments	courced from a CoStar report d	ated September 20°

Market rental rates for apartments sourced from a CoStar report dated September 2022

 $* Market \ standard \ costs \ refer \ to \ normal \ cost \ to \ build \ for \ subject's \ use, \ irrespective \ of \ structural \ approach$ 

\*\*Pro forma dated early 2020

\*\*\*Realized metrics as of October 2022

\*\*\*\*Average unit size is larger than the market contributing to lower cost per square foot. Mass timber was a slight premium. A longer iterative design process proved beneficial in maximizing efficiencies, thereby driving down costs to make mass timber competitive.

Return Performance			
	Market	Pro Forma**	Realized***
Yield on cost – untrended	6.00%	5.85%	TBD / on track
Cap rate (mkt vs. appraisal subject conclusion)	5.00%	4.70%	TBD
Value per unit	\$500,000	\$594,000	TBD / on track
Leverage	65%	70%	50%
Mezzanine leverage	15%	15%	20%

Timeline		
	Date	Context/Comment
Date of conception (first dollar spent)	April 2018	Mid cycle
Date underwriting finalized (go/no-go decision)	May 2020	Mid cycle
Date equity capital secured	June 2020	Late cycle
Permitting duration	6 months	Longer (started early & ran concurrent w/design)
GMP in place	July 2020	
Construction start	Aug 2020	
Duration of construction (anticipated without delays)	22 months	Faster (by 4 months)
Duration of construction (realized w/ delays)	24 months	Delays due to COVID + Suez Canal obstruction
Construction completed	Aug 2022	Two phases of completion: July 15 & Aug 31
Date stabilized (80% occupancy, NOI, or at pro forma or refinanced)	TBD	Projected June 2023

#### Project Context

#### Economic case made by demand

- Lease up velocity averaging 20 units/month is better than the market's typical average of 14 units/month (per the appraisal) and better than the pro forma expectations
- Superior luxury product with minimal comps in Milwaukee market

#### Above-market absorption

### What's the 'Sweet Spot' for Tall Mass Timber?

### **Depends on many factors:**

- Project Use
- Site Constraints
- Local Zoning & FAR Limitations
- Budget
- Client Objectives for Sustainability, Exposed Timber
- And More...

### **But Some General Trends Could Be:**

80 M Street, SE, Washington, DC Photo: Hickok Cole | Architect: Hickok Cole

# **Type IV-C Tall Mass Timber**

#### Example R-2, Type IV-C Building



Not Likely to Utilize Podium Due to Overall Building Height Limit (85 ft) Relative to # of Timber Stories (8)

Same Overall Building Height Limit as IV-HT (85 ft) but higher Fire-Resistance Ratings Req'd

3 Additional Stories Permitted Compared to IV-HT

All Timber Exposed

# **Type IV-B Tall Mass Timber**

Timber, R-2: 12 Stories

123,000 SF max per floor

369,000 SF bldg.

(areas noted) assume no frontage increase)

Multi-Story Type IA Podium



### Example Mixed-Use, Type IV-B Building

Likely to Utilize Podium Due to Overall Building Height Limit (180 ft) Relative to # of Timber Stories (12)

Same Fire-Resistance Ratings Req'd as IV-C But Limitations on Timber Exposed

### 4 Additional Stories Permitted Compared to IV-C

Limited Timber Exposed

# **Type IV-A Tall Mass Timber**

Timber, R-2: 18 Stories 184,500 SF Roof max per floor to 553,500 SF Ð Grad bldg. £ (areas noted 70 assume no frontage  $\sim$ increase) Multi-Story Type IA

Podium



### Example Mixed-Use, Type IV-A Building

Likely to Utilize Podium Due to Overall Building Height Limit (270 ft) Relative to # of Timber Stories (18)

Higher Fire-Resistance Ratings Req'd than IV-B For Primary Frame

### 6 Additional Stories Permitted Compared to IV-B

No Exposed Timber Permitted

# **2022 AND BEYOND: PROJECTS RISING**

Photo: Harbor Bay Real Estate Advisors, Image Fiction | Architect: Hartshorne Plunkard Architecture
# **11 E Lenox** Boston, MA

Monte French Design Studio H+O Structural Engineers Photo Jane Messinger

at all.

TTELENØX



**11 E Lenox** 

Boston, MA

43,000 sf, 7 stories wood Type III-A with code modifications Multi-Family Completed 2023



**WBLCA** 

Monte French Design Studio H+O Structural Engineers Photo Jane Messinger

## Heartwood Seattle, WA

atelierjones LLC DCI Engineers Image: atelierjones LLC



### Heartwood

Seattle, WA

atelierjones LLC DCI Engineers Image: atelierjones LLC

66,000 sf, 8 stories Type IV-C Workforce Housing MT / CLT Wood construction: 1 day per floor Completed 2023







### MINNESOTA PLACES PORTLAND, OR

Wright Architecture

8 stories total 7 stories of mass timber Type IV-C 72 Affordable Housing Units 54,000 sqft



# TIMBERVIEW PORTLAND, OR

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Access Architecture DCI Engineers Photo Access Architecture



### TIMBERVIEW

PORTLAND, OR

- » 8 Stories
- » Type IV-C
- » 105 Affordable Housing Units



Access Architecture DCI Engineers Photo Access Architecture



### 2057 SW PARK APARTMENTS PORTLAND, OR

12 stories

Type IV-B

Affordable Housing

Tahran Architecture & Planning





## **Baker's Place**

Madison, WI

304,800 sf, 15 stories total (12 mass timber) Type IV-B Multi-Family Passive House

**WN** PROFILE

Angus-Young Michael Green Architecture Equilibrium Consulting Photo Michael Green Architecture

## Ascent Milwaukee, WI

VILLEN DEFENSE

1.1.114

HE CON

Korb + Associates Architects Thronton Tomasetti Photo: C.D. Smith Construction



### **Ascent** Milwaukee, WI

493,000 sf, 25 stories total (19 mass timber) Type IV-HT with code modifications Multi-Family Completed 2022



BUSINESS CASE STUDY

WOOD DESIGI AWARD WINNER

Korb + Associates Architects Thronton Tomasetti Photo: VRX Media Group

## Outline

### » Tall Wood Introduction

### > Lateral Systems in Tall Wood

- » Connections in Tall Wood
- » Penetrations in Tall Wood
- » Sealants at Mass Timber Panel Edges
- » Joints and Intersecting Elements
- » Fire Safety During Construction
- » Acoustical Design

### INTRO – Cleveland, OH

### Concrete Core Shear Walls



### Carbon12 – Portland, OR

**Buckling-Restrained Braced Frame** 



Photos: Marcus Kauffmann, ODF

### Ascent – Milwaukee, WI

### **Concrete Core Shear Walls**





Photos: Korb + Associates, Thornton Tomasetti

### Brock Commons – Vancouver, BC

**Concrete Core Shear Walls** 



### Future Potential Lateral System for Tall Wood

Mass Timber Rocking Shear Walls





ELEVATION - POST-TENSIONED ROCKING WALL (STATIC STATE)

Image: KPFF

## **Considerations for Lateral Systems**

**Prescriptive Code Compliance Concrete Shear Walls Steel Braced Frames** CLT Shear Walls (65 ft max) **CLT Rocking Walls** 

**2021 SDPWS ASCE 7-22** 

7-16

**Minimum Design Loads and** Associated Criteria for **Buildings and Other Structures** 











WOOD COUNCIL

SIL ......

## **Considerations for Lateral Systems**

Connections to concrete core

- » Tolerances & adjustability
- » Drag/collector forces









PLAN VIEW

PLAN VIEW

## **Considerations for Lateral Systems**

Connections to steel frame

- » Tolerances & adjustability
- » Ease of installation





## Shaft Enclosures in Tall Timber

- » When can shaft enclosures be MT?
- » What FRR requirements exist?
- » If shaft enclosure is MT, is NC required?



### Tall Wood Shaft Enclosures





	IV-A	IN-R	IV-C
Exit & Hoistway Enclosures	Up to 12 Stories or 180 ft: MT protected with 2 layers 5/8" type X gyp (if 2 HR req'd) or 3 layers 5/8" type X gyp (if 3 HR req'd) both sides Above 12 Stories or 180	NC or MT protected with 2 layers 5/8" type X gyp (IBC 2021 602.4.2.6) both sides	NC or MT protected with 1 layer 5/8" type X gyp (IBC 602.4.3.6) both sides
E&H Enclosures FRR	ft: Noncombustible shafts (IBC 2021 602.4)		

1 \ /

2 HR (not less than FRR of floor assembly penetrated, IBC 713.4)

### Shaft Enclosure Design in Tall Timber

#### TECHNICAL BRIEF



#### Shaft Wall Requirements in Tall Mass Timber Buildings

#### Richard McLain, PE, SE • Senior Technical Director • Tall Wood, WoodWorks

The 2021 International Building Code (IBC) introduced three new construction types—Type IV-A, IV-B and IV-C—which allow tall mass timber buildings. For details on the new types and their requirements, see the WoodWorks paper, *Tall Wood Buildings in the 2021 IBC – Up to 18 Stories of Mass Timber.*<sup>†</sup> This paper builds on that document with an in-depth look at the requirements for shaft walls, including when and where wood can be used.

#### Shaft Enclosure Requirements in the 2021 IBC

A shaft is defined in Section 202 of the 2021 IBC as "an enclosed space extending through one or more stories of a building, connecting vertical openings in successive floors, or floors and roof." Therefore, shaft enclosure requirements apply to stairs, elevators, and mechanical/electrical/plumbing (MEP) chases in multi-story buildings. While these applications may be similar in their fire design requirements, they tend to differ in terms of their assemblies, detailing, and construction constraints.

Shaft enclosures are specifically addressed in IBC Section 713. However, because shaft enclosure walls must be constructed as fire barriers per Section 713.2, many shaft wall requirements reference provisions for fire barriers found in Section 707.

#### **Allowable Shaft Wall Materials**

Provisions addressing materials permitted in shaft wall construction can be found in both the shaft enclosures section (713.3) and fire barriers section (707.2) of the code. These sections state that fire barriers can be constructed of any material permitted by the building's type of construction. One of the baseline requirements for tall wood structures utilizing construction Types IV-A, IV-B, or IV-C is that they be constructed of either mass timber or noncombustible materials (or a combination thereof).



A relatively new category of wood products, mass timber can encompass well known and widely used products such as glued-laminated timber (glulam) and nail-laminated timber (NLT), as well as newer panelized products such as cross-laminated timber (CLT). The definition of mass timber adopted for the 2021 IBC is:

Structural elements of Type IV construction primarily of solid, built-up, panelized or engineered wood products

## Outline

- » Tall Wood Introduction
- » Lateral Systems in Tall Wood

### Connections in Tall Wood

- » Penetrations in Tall Wood
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- » Acoustical Design

In Construction Types IV-A, IV-B & IV-C, building elements are required to be FRR as specified in IBC Tables 601 and 602.

Connections between these building elements must be able to maintain FRR no less than that required of the connected members.



## **16.3 Wood Connections**

Wood connections, including connectors, fasteners, and portions of wood members included in the connection design, shall be protected from fire exposure for the required fire resistance time. Protection shall be provided by wood, fire-rated gypsum board, other approved materials, or a combination thereof.

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





### Fire Resistance of Connections

**2304.10.1 Connection fire resistance rating.** Fire resistance ratings in Type IV-A, IV-B, or IV-C construction shall be determined by one of the following:

- 1. Testing in accordance with Section 703.2 where the connection is part of the fire resistance test.
- 2. Engineering analysis that demonstrates that the temperature rise at any portion of the connection is limited to an average temperature rise of 2500 F (1390 C), and a maximum temperature rise of 3250 F (1810 C), for a time corresponding to the required fire resistance rating of the structural element being connected. For the purposes of this analysis, the connection includes connectors, fasteners, and portions of wood members included in the structural design of the connection.





Many ways to demonstrate connection fire protection:

calculations, prescriptive NC, test results, others as approved by AHJ



2017 Glulam Beam to Column Connection Fire Tests under standard ASTM E119 time-temperature exposure







Photo: ARUP/SLB

### **Fire Test Results**

Test	Beam	Connector	Applied Load	FRR
1	8.75" x 18" (222mm x 457mm)	1 x Ricon S VS 290x80	3,905lbs (17.4kN)	1hr
2	10.75" x 24" (273mm x 610mm)	Staggered double Ricon S VS 200x80	16,620lbs (73.9kN)	1.5hrs
3	10.75" x 24" (273mm x 610mm)	1 x Megant 430	16,620lbs (73.9kN)	1.5hrs

### Tall Mass Timber Inspections

Wood Connection Coverings for Fire-Resistance

**110.3.5** <u>Type IV-A, IV-B, and IV-C</u> connection protection inspection. In buildings of Type IV-A, IV-B, and IV-C Construction, where connection fire resistance ratings are provided by wood cover calculated to meet the requirements of Section 2304.10.1, inspection of the wood cover shall be made after the cover is installed, but before any other coverings or finishes are installed.



Inspection of Wood Coverings

### Tall Mass Timber Special Inspections

### Table is only required for Type IV-A, IV-B, and IV-C

#### TABLE 1705.5.3 REQUIRED SPECIAL INSPECTIONS OF MASS TIMBER CONSTRUCTION

Туре	Continuous Special Inspection	Periodic Special Inspection
1. Inspection of anchorage and connections of mass timber construction to timber deep foundation systems.		×
2. Inspect erection of mass timber construction		X
3. Inspection of connections where installation methods are required to meet design loads		
<u>3.1. Threaded fasteners</u>		
3.1.1. Verify use of proper installation equipment.		X
3.1.2. Verify use of pre-drilled holes where required.		X
3.1.3. Inspect screws, including diameter, length, head type, spacing, installation angle, and depth.		×
3.2. Adhesive anchors installed in horizontal or upwardly inclined orientation to resist sustained tension loads	X	
3.3. Adhesive anchors not defined in 3.2.		X
3.4. Bolted connections		X
3.5. Concealed connections		X

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### **Penetration Fire Protection**

Although not a new code requirement or specific to tall wood, more testing & information is becoming available on firestopping of penetrations through MT assemblies





### **Penetration Fire Protection**

# Most firestopping systems include combination of fire safing (eg. noncombustible materials such as mineral wool insulation) plus fire caulk


#### **Penetration Fire Protection**

#### Firestop systems tests on Mass Timber Contact WoodWorks for information

#### SOUTHWEST RESEARCH INSTITUTE

8220 CULEBRA ROAD 78238-5166 + P.O. DRAWER 26510 78228-0510 + SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, USA + (210) 684-5111 + WWW.SWRI ORG

CHEMISTRY AND CHEMICAL ENGINEERING DIVISION

FIRE TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT WWW.FIRE.SWRI.ORG



The

#### FIRE RESISTANCE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF A PENETRATION FIRESTOP SYSTEM TESTED ACCORDANCE WITH ASTM E814-13A, IN STANDARD TEST METHOD FOR FIRE TESTS OF PENETRATION FIRESTOP SYSTEMS

FINAL REPORT **Consisting of 18 Pages** 

SwRI® Project No. 01.21428.01.001a Test Date: September 30, 2015 Report Date: October 22, 2015

Prepared for:

American Wood Council 222 Catoctin Circle SE Leesburg, VA 20175

FIRE PERFORMANCE OF FIRESTOPS DOORS IN MASS TIMBER ASSEMBLI	S, PENETRATIONS, AND FIRE ES	GHL CONSULTANTS LTD	409 GRAMVILLE STREET, BUTE 850 VARCOURTE, BC VIC 17 CANADA P 604 689 4459 F 604 689 4459 www.ght.ca Hister of ABC Certificate of Practice		
Lindsay Ranger <sup>1</sup> , Christian Dagenais <sup>1</sup> , Conroy	Lum <sup>1</sup> , Tony Thomas <sup>1</sup>				
		FIRESTOPPING TEST WITNESS REPORT			
ABSTRACT: Integrity and continuity must be maintained prevent passage of hot gases or increased temperature on the are introduced into mass timber systems, are susceptible to timber fire separation have been investigated. Many of the t accordance with CAN/ULC-S115, which would be required tall wood buildings. Construction details are outlined which of	for fire separations required to provide fire resistance to unexposed side. Vulnerable locations, where gaps or holes to fire spread. Service and closure penetrations in a mass fire stop systems were able to achieve 1-½ hr F-ratings, in for 2-hr fire resistance rated assemblies, such as for use in ensure adequate fire performance of these penetrations.	for NORDIC STRUCTURES			
KEYWORDS: Firestop, through-penetrations, fire rated buildings, fire resistance	door, mass timber, cross-laminated timber, tall wood				
1 INTRODUCTION	construction, as well as in several alternative solution				
Many tall wood buildings using mass timber are planned	building designs.				
or are currently being designed for construction around the world. A few have been built in Canada, including an 18 storey cross-laminated timber (CLT) and glulam building in British Columbia. The prescriptive	Although the general fire performance of CLT is now well documented, there are still several details tha warrant further investigation to ensure adequate fire safety levels are met and a number of options are				
requirements in the National Building Code of Canada (NBCC) [1] do not (yet) permit the construction of wood	available for designers to use. Generating test results fo generic assemblies will reduce the need for testing to be	Prepared for			
buildings taller than six stories, however an alternative solutions approach can be used to demonstrate equivalent performance to prescriptive acceptable	completed on an individual construction project basis which will help ease the approvals process, and expedite widespread adoption of tall wood buildings.	Nordic Structures 1100 av des Canadiens-de-Montreal Montreal, QC H3B 2S2			

#### **Penetration Fire Protection**

#### Inventory of Fire Tested Penetrations in MT Assemblies

#### Table 3: North American Fire Tests of Penetrations and Fire Stops in CLT Assemblies



CLT Panel	Exposed Side Protection	Pen etrating Item	Penetrant Centered or Offset in Hole	Firestopping System Description	F Rating	T Rating	Stated Test Protocal	Source	Testing Lab
3-ply (78mm 3.07*)	None	1.5° diameter data cable bun ch	Cen tere d	3.5 in diameter hole. Mineral wool was installed in the lin. annular space around the data cables to a total depth of approximately 2 – 5/64 in. The remaining lin. annular space from the top of the mineral wool to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	1 hour	0.5 hour	CANULC S115	26	In tert ek March 30, 2016
3-ply (78mm 3.07*)	None	2* copper pipe	Cen tere d	4.375 in diameter hole. Pipe wrap was installed around the copper pipe to a total depth of approximately 2 – 5/64in. The remaining lin. an nular space starting at the top of the mineral wool to the top of the floor as sembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	1 hour	N.A.	CANULC S115	26	In tert ek March 30, 2016
3-ply (78mm 3.07*)	None	2.5* sch ed. 40 pipe	Centered	4.92 in diameter hole. Pipe wrap was installed around the schedule 40 pipe to a total depth of approximately 2 – 5/64 in. The remaining 1 in . annular space starting at the top of the pipe wrap to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	1 hour	NA.	CANULC S115	26	In tert ek March 30, 2016
3-ply (78mm 3.07*)	None	6" cast iron pipe	Centered	8.35 in diameter hole. Mineral wool was installed in the lin. annular space around the cast iron pipe to a total depth of approximately 2 – 5/64 in. The remaining lin. annular space starting at the top of the pipe wrap to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS- One Max caulking.	l hour	N.A.	CANULC S115	26	In tert ek March 30, 2016
3-ply (78mm 3.07*)	None	Hilti 6 in drop in device. System No.: F-B-2049	Centered	9.01" diameter hole. Mineral wool was installed in the 1 – 1/4in. annular space around the drop-in device to a total depth of approximately 1 – 7/64in and the remaining 1 in. annular space from the top of the mineral wool to the top edge of the 9 – 1/64in. hole in the CLT was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	1 hour	0.75 hour	CANULC S115	26	In tert ek March 30, 2016
5-ply CLT (131 mm 5.16*)	None	1.5* diameter data cable bunch	Centered	3.5" diameter hole. Mineral wool was installed in the 1 in. annular space around the data cables to a total depth of approximately 4 – 5/32 in. The remaining 1 in. annular space from the top of the mineral wool to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	2 hours	1.5 hours	CANULC SI15	26	In tert ek March 30, 2016
5-ply CLT (131mm 5.16*)	None	2 * copper pipe	Centered	4.375 in diameter hole. Pipe wrap was installed around the copper pipe to a total depth of approximately 4 – 5/32 in. The remaining 1 in. annular space starting at the top of the mineral wool to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	2 hours	N.A.	CANULC S115	26	In tert ek March 30, 2016
5-ply CLT (131 mm 5.16*)	None	2.5* sch ed. 40 pip e	Cen tere d	4.92 in diameter hole. Pipe wrap was installed around the schedule 40 pipe to a total depth of approximately 4 – 5/32 in. The remaining 1 in. an nular space starting at the top of the pipe wrap to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	2 hours	0.5 hour	CANULC S115	26	In tert ek March 30, 2016
5-ply CLT (131mm 5.16*)	None	6" cast iron pipe	Centered	8.35 in diameter hole. Mineral wool was installed in the lin. annular space around the cast iron pipe to a total depth of approximately 4 - 5/32 in. The remaining lin. annular space starting at the top of the pipe wrap to the top of the floor assembly was filled with Hilti FS- One Max caulking.	2 hours	N.A.	CANULC S115	26	In tert ek March 30, 2016
5-ply CLT (131 mm 5.16*)	None	Hilti 6 in drop in device.System No.: F-B-2049	Centered	9.01" diameter hole. Mineral wool was installed in the 1 – 1/4in. annular space around the drop-in device to a total depth of approximately 1 – 7/64in and the remaining lin. annular space from the top of the mineral wool to the top edge of the 9 – 1/64in. hole in the CLT was filled with Hilti FS-One Max caulking.	2 hours	1.5 hours	CANULC S115	26	In tert ek March 30, 2016
5-ply (175mm6.875*)	None	1 ° nominal PVC pipe	Centered	4.21 in diameter with a 3/4 in plywood reducer flush with the top of the slab reducing the opening to 2.28 in. Two wraps of Hilti CP 648-E W45/1-3/4" Firestop wrap strip at two locations with a 30 gauge steel sleeve which extended from the top of the slab to 1 in below the slab. The first location was with the bottom of the wrap strip flush with the bottom of the steel sleeve and the second was with the bottom of the wrap strip 3 in. from the bottom of the slab. The void between the steel sleeve and the CLT and between the steel sleeve and pipe at the top was filled with Roxul Safe mineral wool leaving a 3/4 in deep void at the top of the assembly. Hilti FS-One Max. Intumescent Firestop Scalant was applied to a depth of 3/4 in on the top of the assembly between the plywood and steel sleeve as well as the steel sleeve and pipe.	2 hours	2 hours	ASTM E8 14	24	QAI Laboratories March 3, 2017

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- » Acoustical Design





Photos: ARUP

#### 703.9 Sealing of adjacent mass timber elements.

In buildings of Type IVA, IVB, and IVC construction, sealant or adhesive shall be provided to resist the passage of air in the following locations:

- At abutting edges and intersections of mass timber building elements required to be fire resistance-rated
- 2. At abutting intersections of mass timber building elements and building elements of other materials where both are required to be fire resistance-rated.



Sealants shall meet the requirements of ASTM C920 (elastomeric joint sealants). Adhesives shall meet the requirements of ASTM D3498 (gap filling construction adhesives, i.e. not fire caulk).

Exception: Sealants or adhesives need not be provided where they are not a required component of a fire resistance- rated assembly.



Several MT fire tested assemblies have successfully been completed w/o adhesives/sealants at abutting panel edges

2021 IBC will require periodic special inspections of adhesive/sealant installation (when required to be installed)



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# Joints & Intersecting Elements

Section 202 Definitions

Joint. The opening in or between adjacent assemblies <u>that is created due to building</u> <u>tolerances, or is designed to allow independent</u> <u>movement of the building</u> in any plane caused by thermal, seismic, wind or any other loading.

Considerations:

- » Is wall, beam and slab rated?
- » Required to prevent smoke passage?
- » Not a tall timber specific item, applicable to all mass timber construction



### Joints & Intersecting Elements

Not a tall timber specific item, applicable to all mass timber construction



Source: Hilti

## Joints & Intersecting Elements

#### Section 715 Joints and Voids

#### 715.3 Fire-resistance-rated assembly intersections.

Joints installed in or between fire-resistance-rated walls, floors or floor/ceiling assemblies and roofs or roof/ceiling assemblies shall be protected by an approved fire-resistant joint system designed to resist the passage of fire for a time period not less than the required fire-resistance rating of the wall, floor or roof in or between which the system is installed.

#### 715.3.1 Fire test criteria.

Fire-resistant joint systems shall be tested in accordance with the requirements of either ASTM E1966 or UL 2079.

Not a tall timber specific item, applicable to all mass timber construction. Firestop manufacturers should be consulted for specific solutions.

## **Occupancy Separation**

Protection of MT used for occupancy separation

#### Addition to IBC 508.4.4.1 requires:

Mass timber elements serving as fire barriers or horizontal assemblies to separate occupancies in Type IV-B or IV-C construction shall be separated from the interior of the building with a minimum of ½" gypsum board or a noncombustible equivalent.



### **Incidental Use Separation**

Protection of MT used for incidental use separation

#### New section 509.4.1.1 requires:

Where Table 509 specifies a fire- resistance-rated separation, mass timber elements serving as fire barriers or a horizontal assembly in Type IV-B or IV-C construction shall be separated from the interior of the incidental use with a minimum of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " gypsum board or a noncombustible equivalent.



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#### > Fire Safety During Construction

» Acoustical Design

New code provisions in International Fire Code (IFC) address construction fire safety of tall wood buildings

**3308.4 Fire safety requirements for buildings of Types IV-A, IV-B, and IV-C construction.** Buildings of Types IV-A, IV-B, and IV-C construction designed to be greater than six stories above grade plane shall meet the following requirements during construction unless otherwise approved by the fire code official.

- 1. Standpipes shall be provided in accordance with Section 3313.
- 2. A water supply for fire department operations, as approved by the fire chief.



Photo: Structurlam

#### IFC 3313 Standpipe Requirements

#### SECTION 3313 STANDPIPES

#### 3313.1 Where required.

In buildings required to have standpipes by Section 905.3.1, not less than one standpipe shall be provided for use during construction. Such standpipes shall be installed prior to construction exceeding 40 feet (12 192 mm) in height above the lowest level of fire department vehicle access. Such standpipe shall be provided with fire department hose connections at accessible locations adjacent to usable stairways. Such standpipes shall be extended as construction progresses to within one floor of the highest point of construction having secured decking or flooring.

#### 3313.2 Buildings being demolished.

Where a building is being demolished and a standpipe is existing within such a building, such standpipe shall be maintained in an operable condition so as to be available for use by the fire department. Such standpipe shall be demolished with the building but shall not be demolished more than one floor below the floor being demolished.

#### 3313.3 Detailed requirements.

Standpipes shall be installed in accordance with the provisions of Section 905.

Exception: Standpipes shall be either temporary or permanent in nature, and with or without a water supply, provided that such standpipes comply with the requirements of Section 905 as to capacity, outlets and materials.

IFC 3308.4 Cont'd

- 3. Where building construction exceeds six stories above grade plane, at least one layer of noncombustible protection where required by Section 602.4 of the International Building Code shall be installed on all building elements more than 4 floor levels, including mezzanines, below active mass timber construction before erecting additional floor levels.
- 4. Where building construction exceeds six stories above grade plane required exterior wall coverings shall be installed on all floor levels more than 4 floor levels, including mezzanines, below active mass timber construction before erecting additional floor level.







Figure 1

Examples of Protection During Construction For Mass Timber Buildings Greater Than 6 Stories Above Grade Plane

Credit: ICC



#### The Mass Timber Insurance Playbook <sup>U.S. Edition</sup>

#### A guide to insuring mass timber buildings





WOODWORKS

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#### Acoustical Design

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





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





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



STC	What can be heard
25	Normal speech can be understood quite easily and distinctly through wall
30	Loud speech can be understood fairly well, normal speech heard but not understood
35	Loud speech audible but not intelligible
40	Onset of "privacy"
42	Loud speech audible as a murmur
45	Loud speech not audible; 90% of statistical population not annoyed
50	Very loud sounds such as musical instruments or a stereo can be faintly heard; 99% of population not annoyed.
60+	Superior soundproofing; most sounds inaudible

## Mass Timber Acoustical Design

Mass Timber: Structure Often is Finish







Photos: Baumberger Studio/PATH Architecture/Marcus Kauffman | Architect: Kaiser + PATH

#### TABLE 1:

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

Mass Timber Panel	Thickness	STC Rating	IIC Rating	
3-ply CLT wall⁴	3.07"	33	N/A	
5-ply CLT wall⁴	6.875"	38	N/A	
5-ply CLT floor⁵	5.1875"	39	22	
5-ply CLT floor⁴	6.875"	41	25	
7-ply CLT floor⁴	9.65"	44	30	
2x4 NLT wall <sup>6</sup>	3-1/2" bare NLT 4-1/4" with 3/4" plywood	24 bare NLT 29 with 3/4" plywood	N/A	
2x6 NLT wall <sup>6</sup>	5-1/2" bare NLT 6-1/4" with 3/4" plywood	22 bare NLT 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>

# Acoustical Detailing

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

# Acoustical Detailing

What does this look like in typical wood-frame construction:

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

![](_page_135_Figure_5.jpeg)

Mass timber has relatively low "mass"

Recall the three ways to increase acoustical performance:

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

![](_page_136_Picture_6.jpeg)

Image credit: Christian Columbres

![](_page_137_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_137_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_137_Figure_3.jpeg)

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

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

Finish Floor if Applicable		 	 		 	
Concrete/Gypsum Topping	_					
Acoustical Mat Product —	-					
	Ļ			x		
CLT Panel		 I				
No direct applied or hung ceiling						

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 ¼" to 1"+

![](_page_139_Picture_8.jpeg)

Acoustical floor underlayments

![](_page_140_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_140_Picture_3.jpeg)

Photo: Kinetics Noise Control, Inc.,"

![](_page_140_Picture_5.jpeg)

Photo: Maxxon Corporation

![](_page_140_Picture_7.jpeg)

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

![](_page_141_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_142_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Solutions Paper**

![](_page_143_Picture_2.jpeg)

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

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

![](_page_143_Picture_5.jpeg)

The growing availability and code acceptance of mass timber—i.e., large solid wood panel products such as cross-laminated timber (LT) and laminated timber (ALT)—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 of most building types.

#### 

#### 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 3.07" has an STC rating of 33.4 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 crossorientation 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

are the interview of the inproving acoustical performance noted above, these strips act as decouplers. With airtight connections, there are and penetrations, there is a much greater chance that the acoustic performance of a mass timber building will meet expectations.

![](_page_143_Picture_18.jpeg)

http://www.woodworks.org/wpcontent/uploads/wood solution paper-MASS-TIMBER-ACOUSTICS.pdf

Photos: Rothoblaas
#### Mass Timber Acoustics

Table 1: CLT Floor Assemblies with Concrete/Gypsum Topping, Ceiling Side Exposed							
	Finish Floor Concrete/G Acoustical / CLT Panel – No direct a	if Applicable					
CLT Panel	Concrete/Gypsum Topping	Acoustical Mat Product Between CLT and Topping	Finish Floor	STC1	IIC1	Source	
	1-1/2" Gyp-Crete*	Maxxon Acousti-Mat® 3/4	None LVT Carpet + Pad LVT on <u>Acousti</u> -Top <sup>®</sup> Eng Wood on <u>Acousti</u> - Top <sup>®</sup>	47 <sup>2</sup> ASTC - - - -	47 <sup>2</sup> AIIC 49 <sup>2</sup> AIIC 75 <sup>2</sup> AIIC 52 <sup>2</sup> AIIC 51 <sup>2</sup> AIIC	1	
CLT 5-ply (6.875")		Maxxon Acousti-Mat <sup>®</sup> ¾ Premium	None LVT LVT on <u>Acousti</u> -Top®	49 <sup>2</sup> ASTC - -	45 <sup>2</sup> AIIC 47 <sup>2</sup> AIIC 49 <sup>2</sup> AIIC		
	1-1/2" Levelrock <sup>®</sup> Brand 2500	USG SAM N25 Ultra	None LVT LVT Plus Eng Wood Carpet + Pad	45 <sup>6</sup> 48 <sup>6</sup> 48 <sup>6</sup> 47 <sup>6</sup> 45 <sup>6</sup> 50 <sup>6</sup>	39 <sup>6</sup> 47 <sup>6</sup> 49 <sup>6</sup> 47 <sup>6</sup> 67 <sup>6</sup> 46 <sup>6</sup>	15 16 58 59 60	
		Soprema® Insonomat	Vone LVT LVT Plus Eng Wood Carpet + Pad Ceramic Tile	45 <sup>6</sup> 48 <sup>6</sup> 48 <sup>6</sup> 47 <sup>6</sup> 45 <sup>6</sup> 50 <sup>6</sup>	40 <sup>-</sup> 42 <sup>6</sup> 44 <sup>6</sup> 47 <sup>6</sup> 45 <sup>6</sup> 71 <sup>6</sup>	15 16 58 59 60 61	
		USG SAM N75 Ultra	None LVT LVT Plus Eng Wood	45 <sup>6</sup> 48 <sup>6</sup> 48 <sup>6</sup> 47 <sup>6</sup>	48 <sup>-</sup> 38 <sup>6</sup> 47 <sup>6</sup> 49 <sup>6</sup> 49 <sup>6</sup>	15 16 58 59	

## **Tall Mass Timber Acoustics**

Table 2: Impact of Direct Applied Ceiling Gypsum and Dropped Ceiling on Mass Timber Floor Panels<sup>7</sup>

Base Assembly (top to b	ottom)	Base assembly plus 2 layers direct	Base assembly plus 2 layers	
		applied 5/8" gyp on underside of	direct applied gyp plus dropped	
		mass timber	ceiling	
1" poured gypsum,	STC 50	STC 52	STC 63	
acoustical mat, 5-ply CLT	IIC 40	IIC 46	IIC 60	
LVT, 1" poured gypsum,	STC 51	STC 52	STC 63	
acoustical mat, 5-ply CLT	IIC 43	IIC 48	IIC 63	
2" concrete, acoustical	STC 52	STC 59	Not tested	
mat, 5-ply CLT	IIC 46	IIC 52		
LVT, 2" concrete,	STC 53	STC 58	Not tested	
acoustical mat, 5-ply CLT	IIC 52	IIC 55		

Base Assembly Exposed Timber With Direct Applied Ceiling Gyp With Direct Applied Ceiling Gyp & Dropped Ceiling



#### Woodworks.org > Learn > Mass Timber / CLT > Tall Mass Timber



# **Tall Mass Timber**

Code opportunities and requirements, FAQs, project examples and resources for teams interested in tall timber projects.

#### Learn More $\ominus$

#### www.woodworks.org/learn/mass-timber-clt/tall-mass-timber/

#### **Technical Design Guidance from WoodWorks**



**Solution Papers** 

#### Tall Wood Buildings in the 2021 IBC – Up to 18 Stories of Mass Timber

Looking for information on the tall wood provisions in the 2021 International Building Code? This paper summarizes the provisions as well as the background and research that supported their adoption.



Demonstrating Fire-Resistance Ratings for Mass Timber Elements in Tall Wood Structures Solution Papers



Shaft Wall Requirements in Tall Mass Timber Buildings Solution Papers



Concealed Spaces in Mass Timber and Heavy Timber Structures Solution Papers



Acoustics and Mass Timber: Room-to-Room Noise Control Solution Papers



Fire Design of Mass Timber Members: Code Applications, Construction Types and Fire Ratings Solution Papers

#### **Answers to Tall Mass Timber FAQs**

# 5. How are design teams leveraging tall mas timber code provisions to maximize the amount of timber exposure?

Follow this link for an article that discusses how teams are utilizing the new code provisions to enhance the appearance of their tall mas timber structures with exposed timber framing.

# 6. I've heard that the 2024 IBC will allow 100% timber ceiling exposure in type IV-B, up to 12 stories tall. Is that code language finalized?

Yes, the 2024 IBC will include new code changes, which have been approved and will be incorporated, which allow timber ceiling exposure in Type IV-B construction up to 100%. The new code language as it will read in the 2024 IBC is available <u>here</u>. Several jurisdictions such as the City of Denver, City of Dallas, State of Oregon and State of Washington are already in the process of incorporating these new timber exposure limits in their building codes, and several design teams are looking to utilize the new limits in project-specific discussions with their local building officials. Reach out to your local WoodWorks <u>Regional Director</u> to see how projects in your area can approach these design topics.

#### **Articles and Expert Tips**



#### Tall Mass Timber Trends and Exposed Timber Allowances

Recent code changes and jurisdictional approvals provide for greater areas of exposed mass timber.

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**Expert Tips** 



#### **Filter by Tall Mass Timber Projects**



# **Questions?** Ask us anything.



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901 East Sixth, Thoughtbarn-Delineate Studio, Leap!Structures, photo Casey Dunn

