

# Considerations for Mass Timber in Defense Construction Projects

Moderator: Marc Jones, P.E. – VP Electrical Engineering, Professional Engineering Consultants (PEC)

Speakers:

- Zach Bowden, P.E. – Structural Team Lead, PEC
- Karen Gesa, P.E. - Technical Director, WoodWorks
- Pete Stynoski, Ph.D., Research Civil Engineer, US Army ERDC

May 14, 2024, 1:30 p.m.



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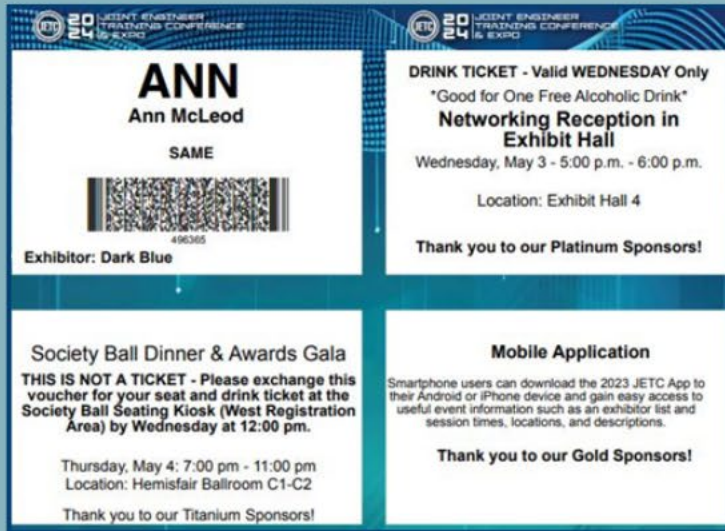
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# MODERATOR



Marc Jones, P.E.  
PEC  
VP Electrical Engineering

## Fun Facts

- I'm a Kansas State Wildcat and Kansas City Chiefs fan.
- I love to vacation anywhere in the mountains.
- My hobbies include woodworking, gardening and A/V systems.

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# SPEAKER



Zach Bowden, P.E.  
PEC  
Structural Team Lead

## Fun Facts

- Host of Structural Engineering podcast.
- Currently training for a 50k run.

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# SPEAKER



**Karen Gesa, P.E.**  
WoodWorks  
Technical Director

## Fun Facts

- I have a flower farm in northern Virginia
- I'm a horse person and used to enjoy hunter/jumper before I got all old
- I have had many different foster and rescue animals including a mammoth mule

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# SPEAKER



Pete Stynoski, Ph.D.

US Army ERDC

Research Civil Engineer

## Fun Facts

- Racecar designer, mechanic, and driver
- Rode four of the seven Giga Coasters
- Visited North Korea
- Superpower: Learning

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*Live Content Slide*

**Poll: Have you been involved with the design of a mass timber structure?**

# What is Mass Timber?



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CLT



GLT



NLT



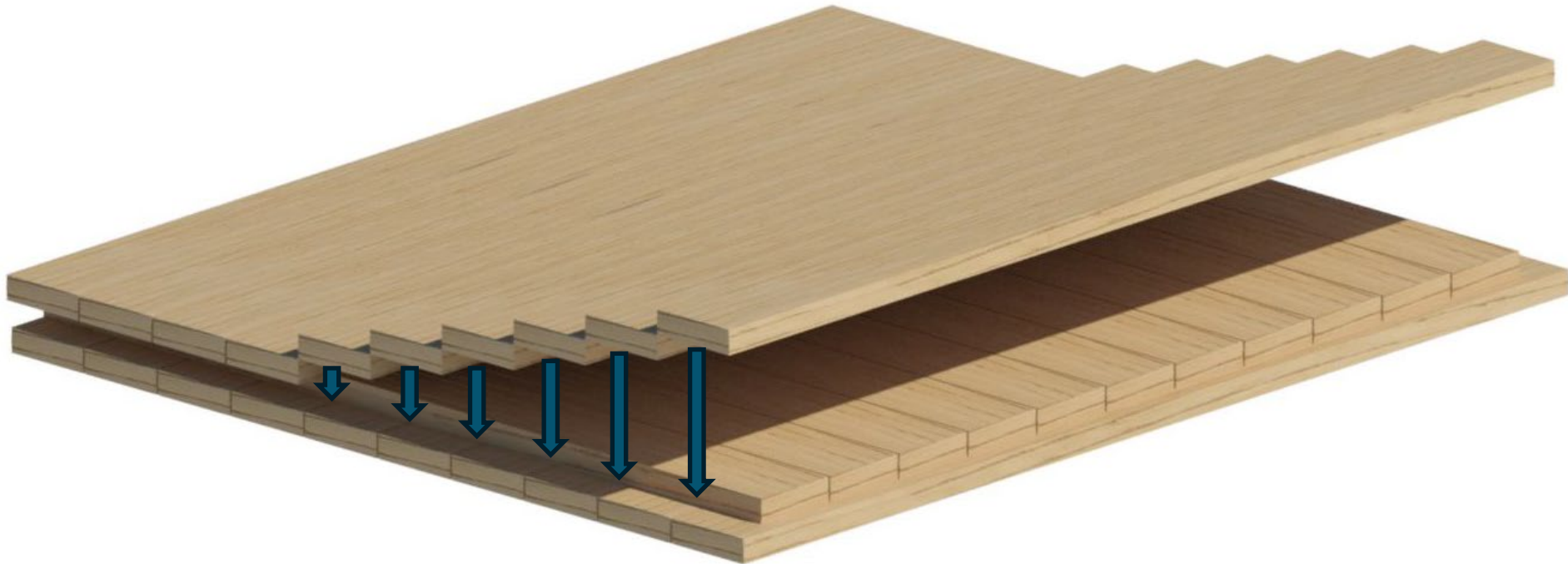
DLT

Source: StructureCraft



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# Design of Mass Timber?



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# Panel Size and Efficiencies

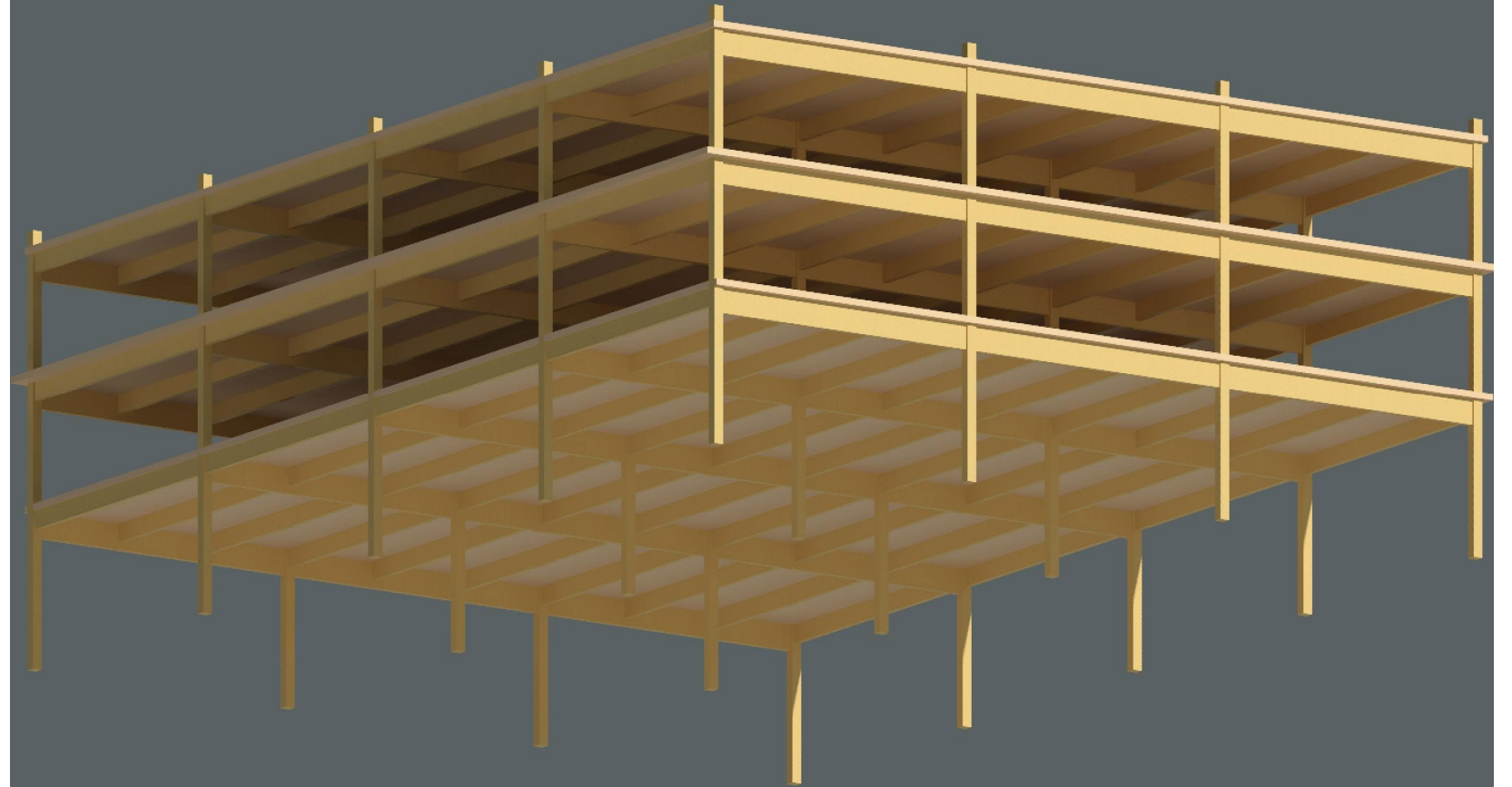
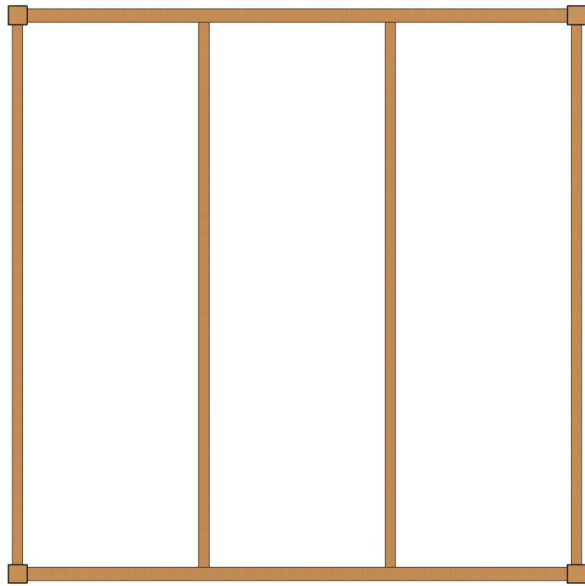
- 8 - 12 ft wide X 40 - 60 ft long
- Grid spacing
- Limit waste
- Framing types





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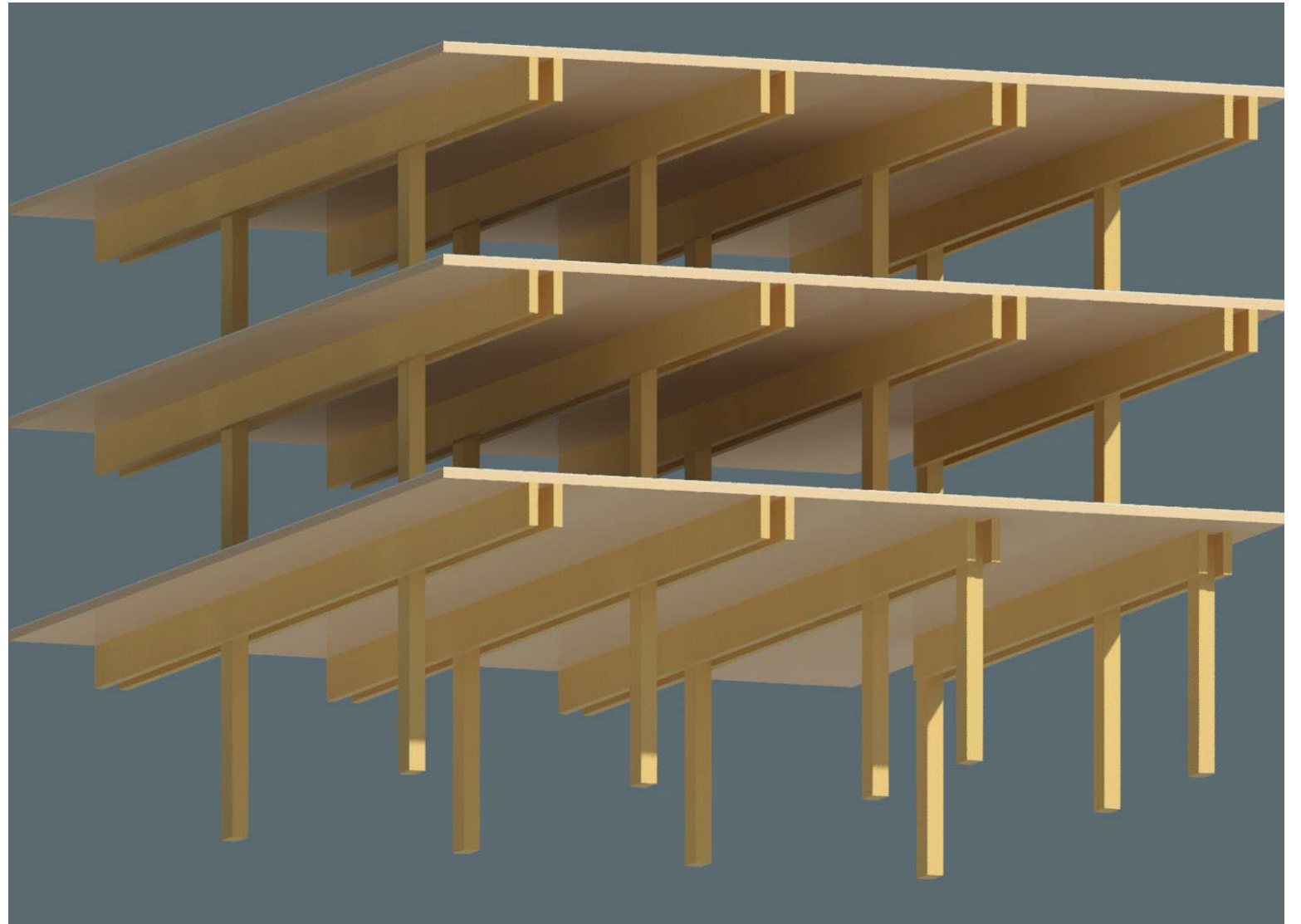
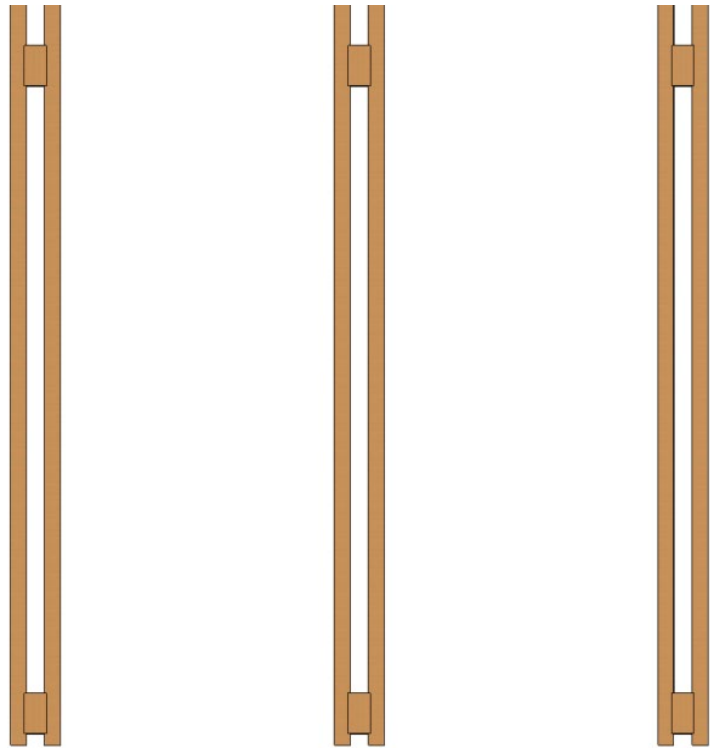
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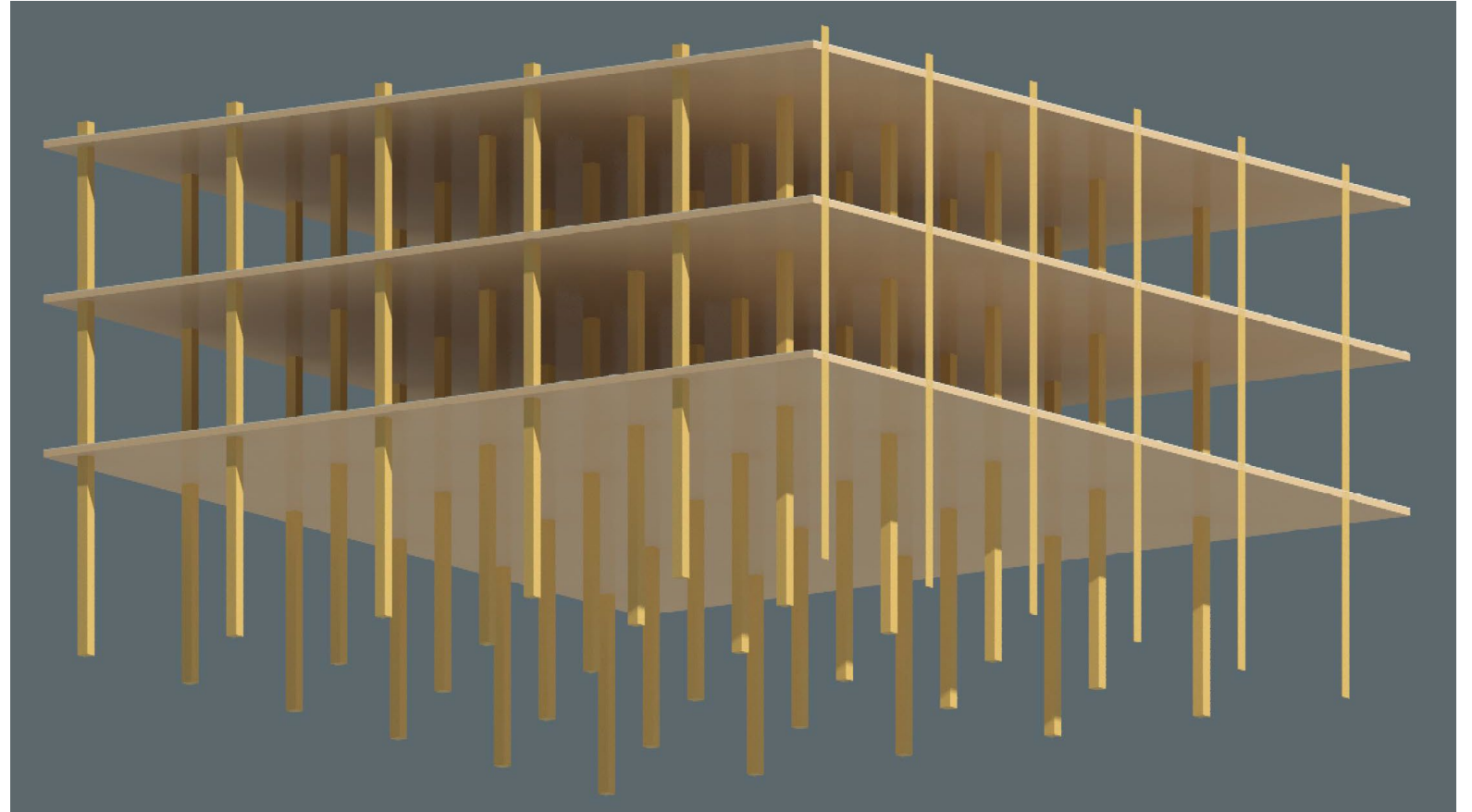
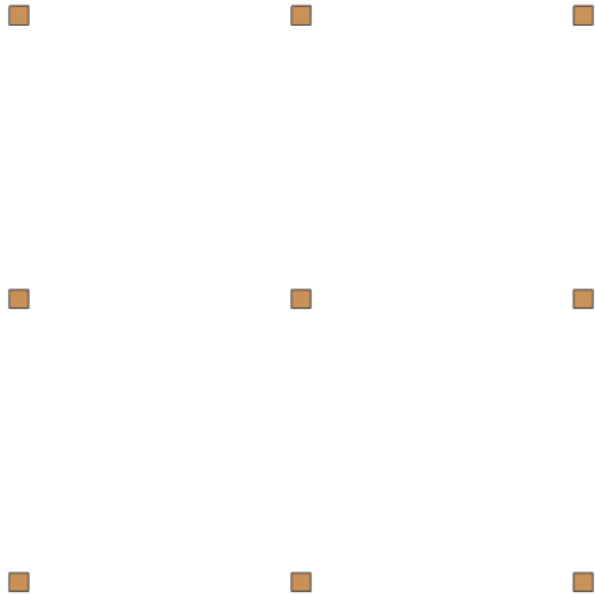
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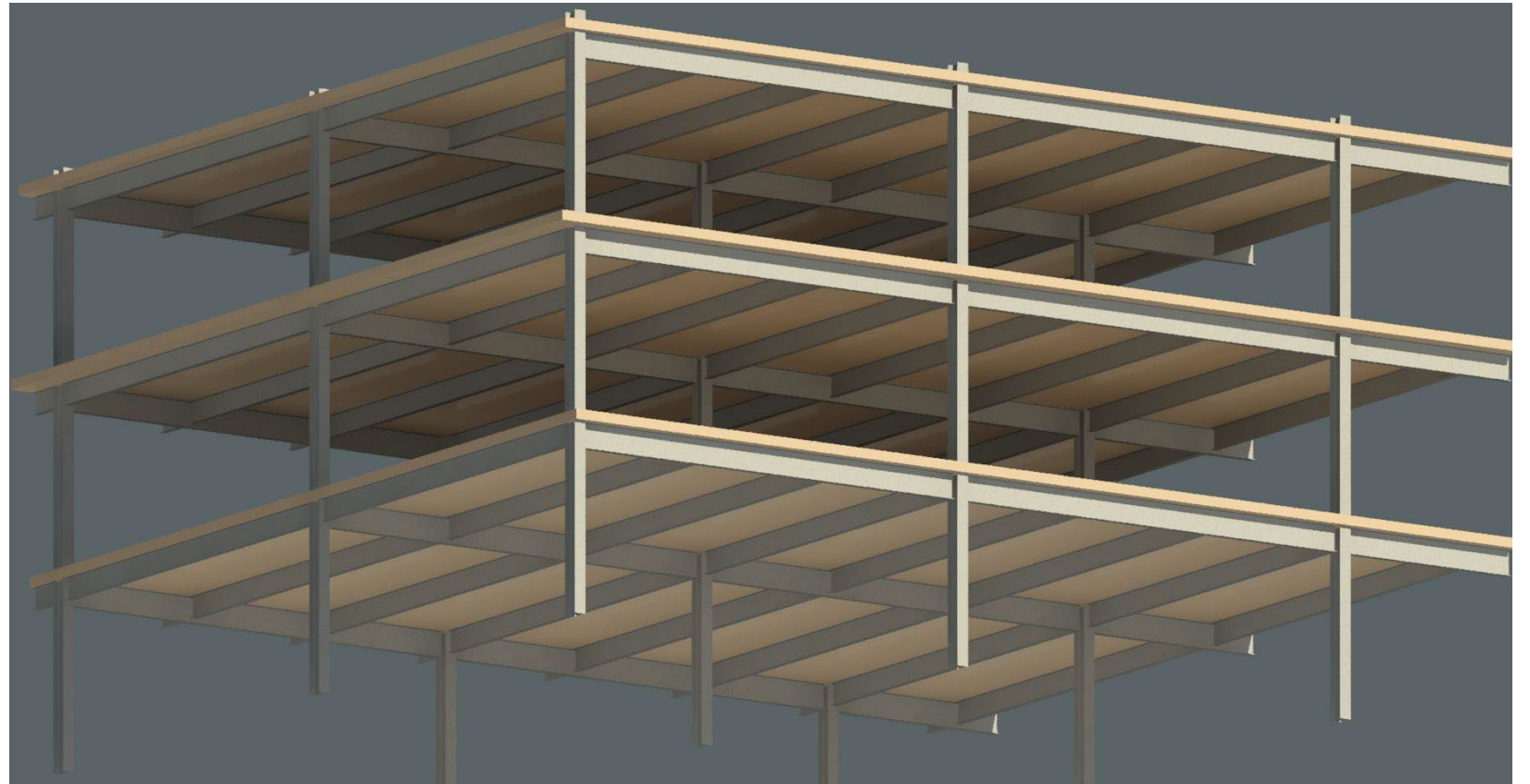
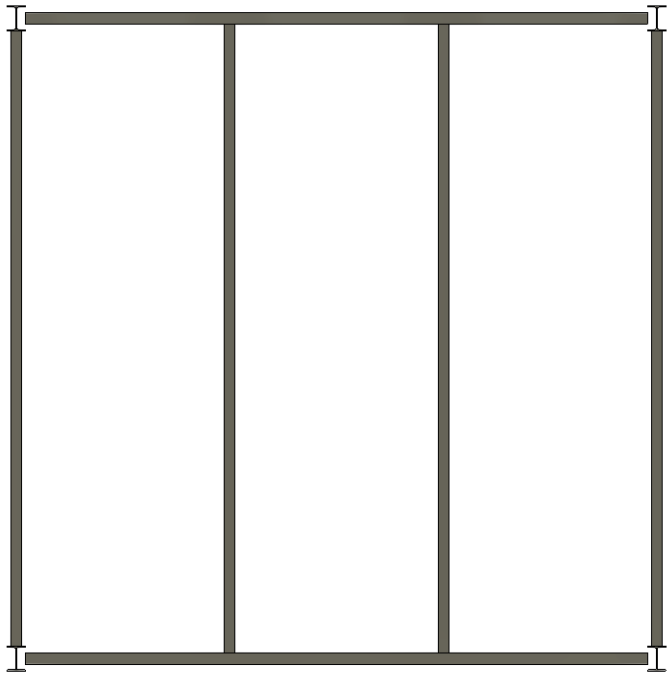
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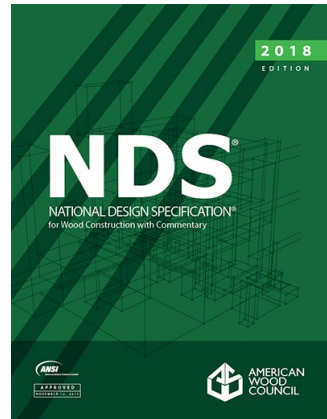
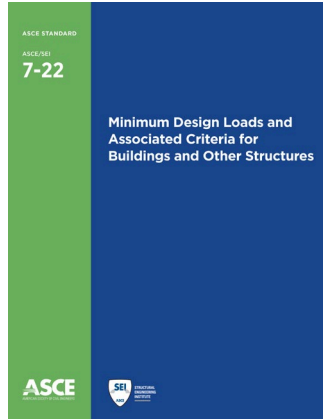
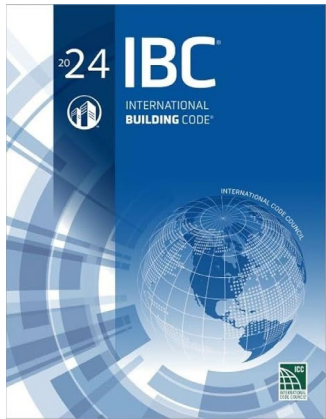


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# Where to start?



## STRUCTURAL GLUED LAMINATED TIMBER

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## CROSS-LAMINATED TIMBER

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# Mechanical / Electrical / Plumbing



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Source: Charles Judd



Source: Alex Schreyer





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# Seismic Considerations



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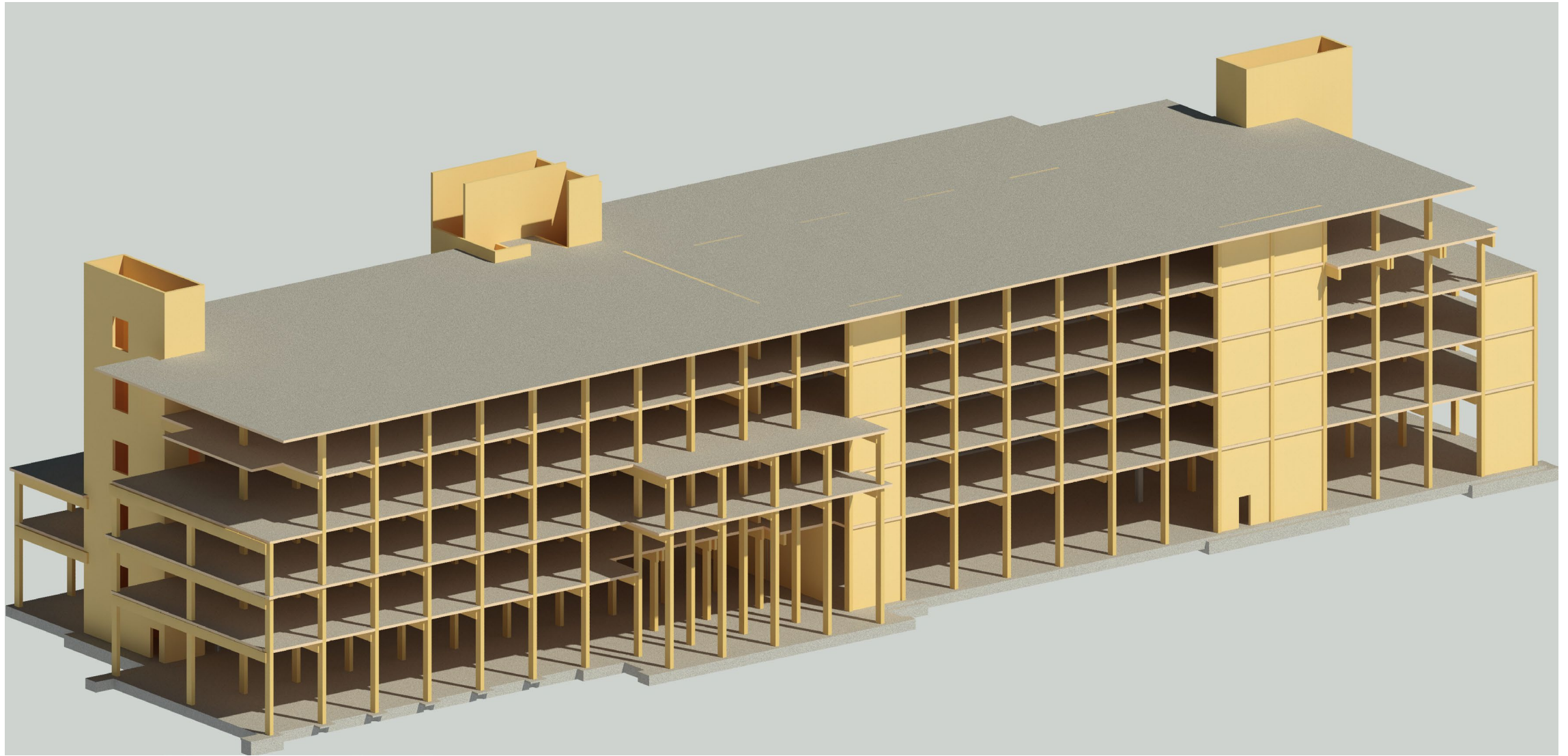
# Codified Systems

- Concrete shearwalls (R = 2 - 8 )
- Steel braced frame (R = 3 - 8)
- Light framed wood shear walls (R= 6.5 - 7)
- Steel moment frames (R = 3 - 8)
- Mass timber shearwalls ( R = 1.5 - 4)



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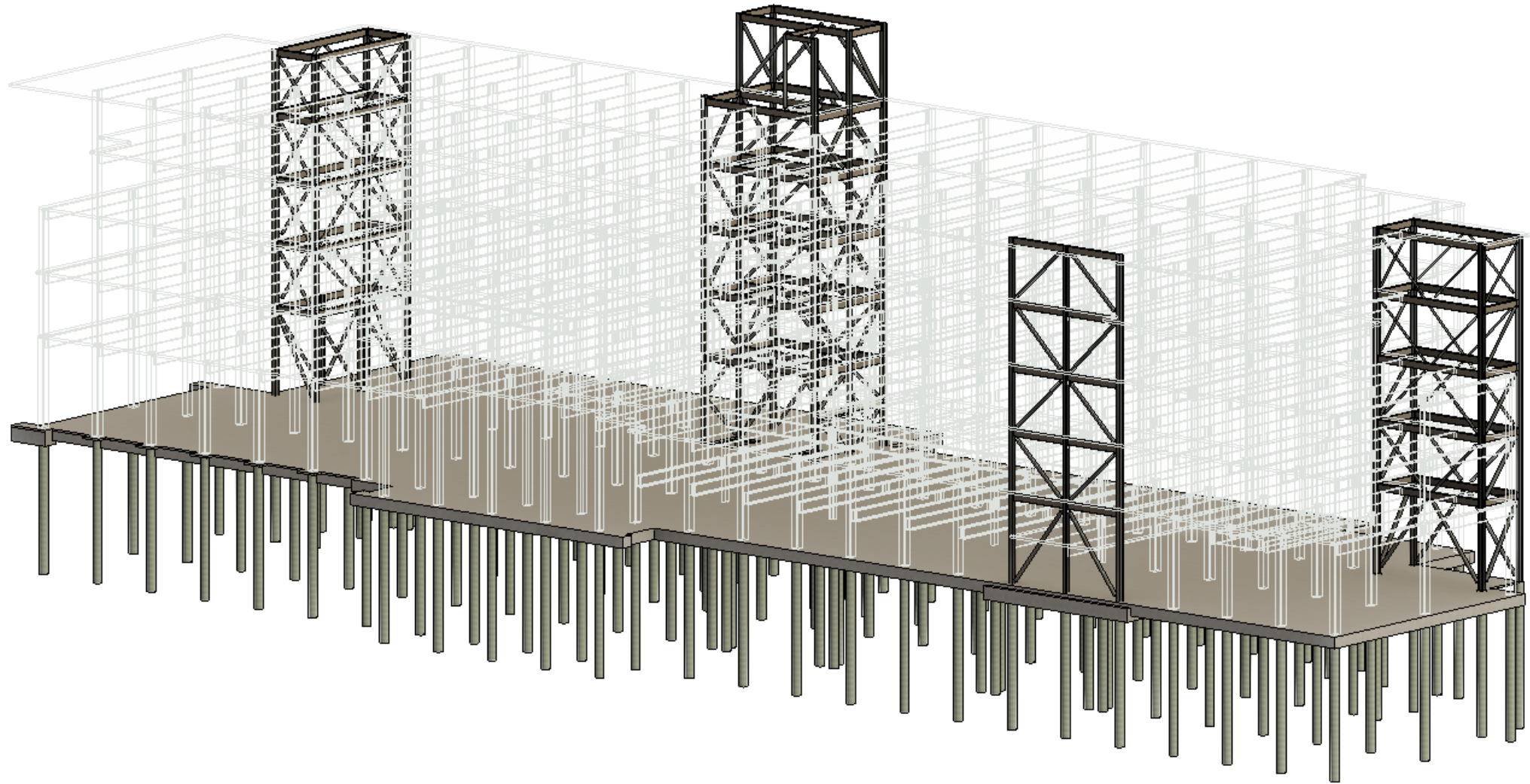
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80 M Street SE, Washington, DC | Photo: Hickok Cole | Architect: Hickok Cole



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**Poll: What is the main barrier keeping you from designing a mass timber project?**

# Code & Mass Timber



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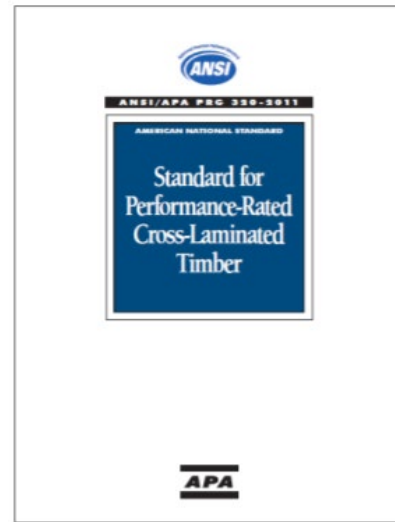
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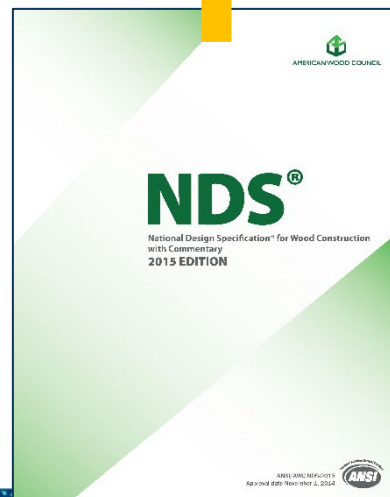
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# Model Building Code Acceptance

PRG-320



NDS



2015 International Building Code

# TALL MASS TIMBER

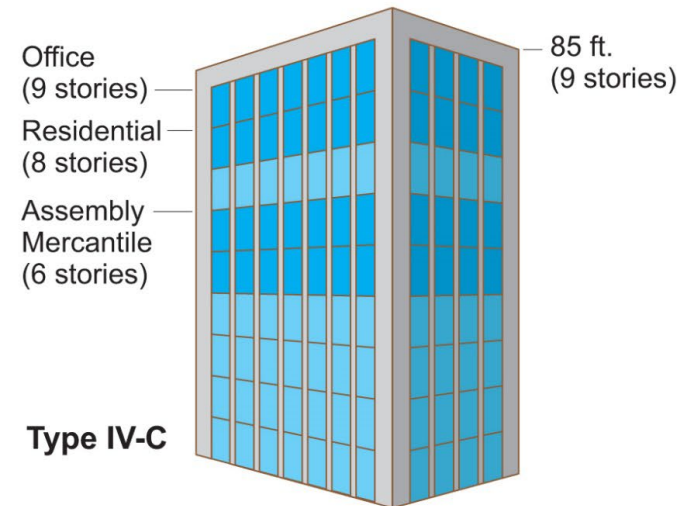
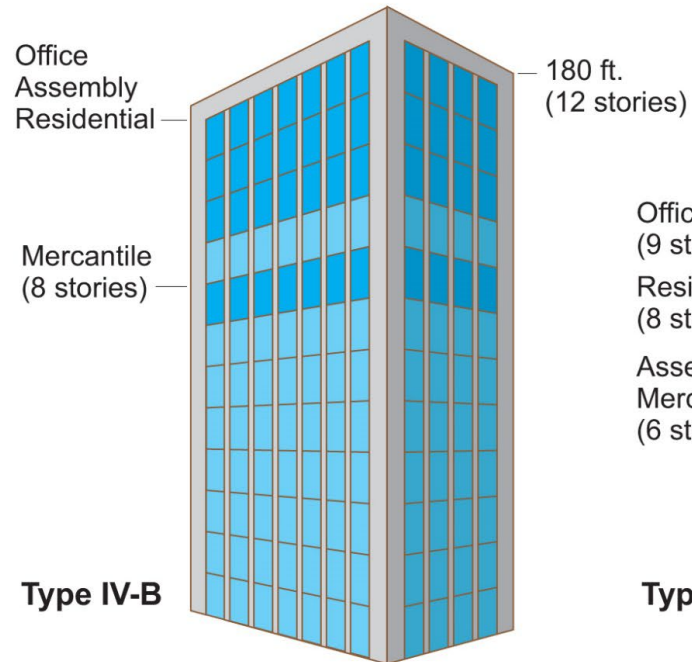
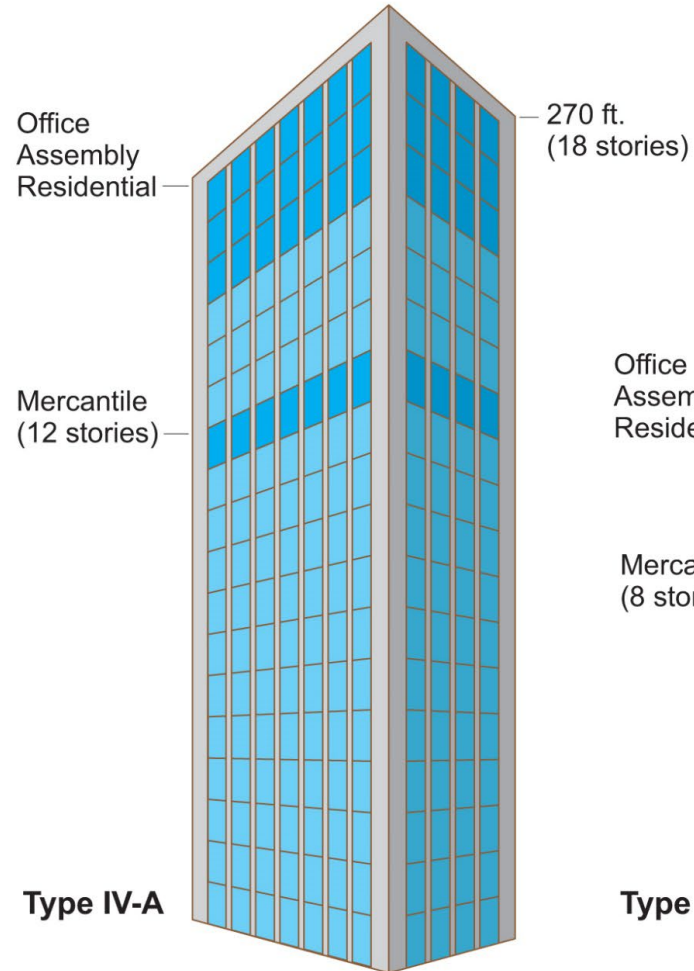
**2021 IBC Introduces 3 new tall wood construction types:**

**IV-A, IV-B, IV-C**

**Previous type IV renamed type IV-HT**

BUILDING ELEMENT	TYPE I		TYPE II		TYPE III		TYPE IV				TYPE V	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	C	HT	A	B

# Tall Mass Timber: Up to 18 Stories in Construction Types IV-A, IV-B or IV-C



# Fire Resistance



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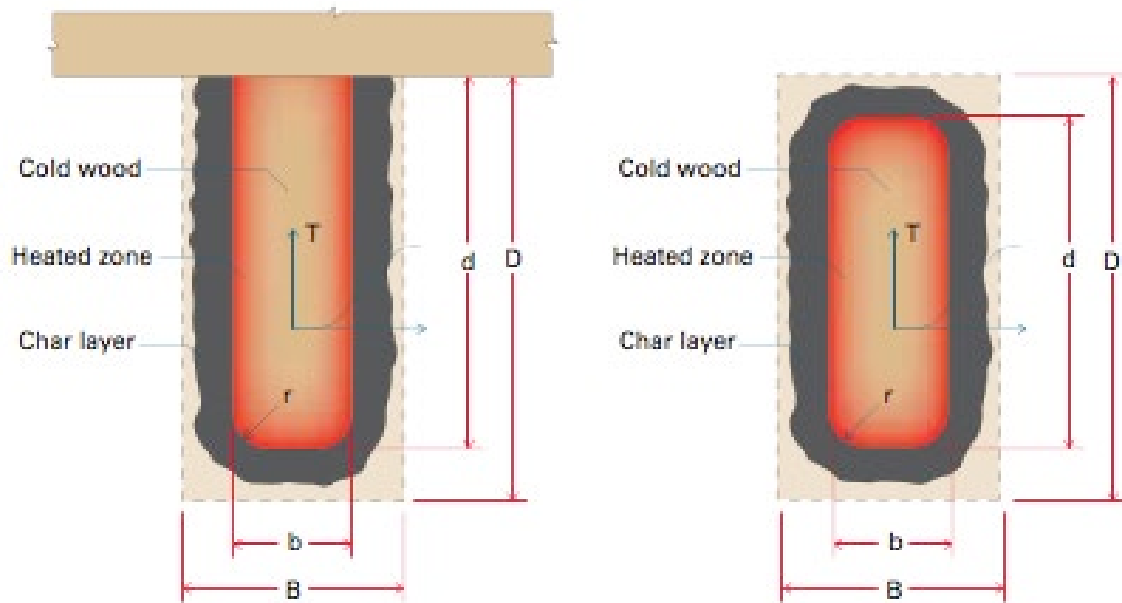
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Mass Timber's Fire-Resistive Performance is Well-Tested, Documented and Recognized via Code Acceptance



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

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

Source: AWC's NDS



# Inventory of Fire Tested MT Assemblies



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

Mass Timber Panel	Manufacturer	CLT Grade or Timber Grade	Ceiling Protection	Panel Connection	Floor Topping	Load Rating	Fire Resistance Achieved (Hours)	Source	Testing Lab
3-ply CLT (114mm 4.488 in)	Nordic	SPF 1650 Fb 1.5E MSR x SPF #3	2 layers 1/2" Type X gypsum	Half-Lap	None	Reduced 36% Moment Capacity	1	1 (Test 1)	NRC Fire Laboratory
3-ply CLT (105mm 4.133 in)	Structurlam	SPF #1/#2 x SPF #1/#2	1 layer 5/8" Type X gypsum	Half-Lap	None	Reduced 75% Moment Capacity	1	1 (Test 5)	NRC Fire Laboratory
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	E1	None	Topside Spline	2 staggered layers of 1/2" cement boards	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2	2	NRC Fire Laboratory March 2016
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	E1	1 layer of 5/8" Type X gypsum under Z-channels and furring strips with 3 5/8" fiberglass batts	Topside Spline	2 staggered layers of 1/2" cement boards	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2	5	NRC Fire Laboratory Nov 2014
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	E1	None	Topside Spline	3/4 in. proprietary gypcrete over Maxxon acoustical mat	Reduced 50% Moment Capacity	1.5	3	UL
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	E1	1 layer 5/8" normal gypsum	Topside Spline	3/4 in. proprietary gypcrete over Maxxon acoustical mat or proprietary sound board	Reduced 50% Moment Capacity	2	4	UL
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	E1	1 layer 5/8" Type X gyp under Resilient Channel under 7 7/8" I-Joists with 3 1/2" Mineral Wool between Joists	Half-Lap	None	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2	21	Intertek 8/24/2012
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Structurlam	E1M5 MSR 2100 x SPF #2	None	Topside Spline	1-1/2" Maxxon Cyp-Grete 2000 over Maxxon Reinforcing Mesh	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2.5	6	Intertek, 2/22/2016
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	DR Johnson	V1	None	Half-Lap & Topside Spline	2" gypsum topping	Loaded, See Manufacturer	2	7	SwRI (May 2016)
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Nordic	SPF 1950 Fb MSR x SPF #3	None	Half-Lap	None	Reduced 59% Moment Capacity	1.5	1 (Test 3)	NRC Fire Laboratory
5-ply CLT (175mm 6.875")	Structurlam	SPF #1/#2 x SPF #1/#2	1 layer 5/8" Type X gypsum	Half-Lap	None	Unreduced 101% Moment Capacity	2	1 (Test 6)	NRC Fire Laboratory
7-ply CLT (245mm 9.65")	Structurlam	SPF #1/#2 x SPF #1/#2	None	Half-Lap	None	Unreduced 101% Moment Capacity	2.5	1 (Test 7)	NRC Fire Laboratory
5-ply CLT	Smartlam	SL-V4	None	Half-Lap	1/2" plywood with 8d nails	Loaded,	2	12	Western Fire Center

<https://www.woodworks.org/resources/inventory-of-fire-resistance-tested-mass-timber-assemblies-penetrations/>

# Market Drivers



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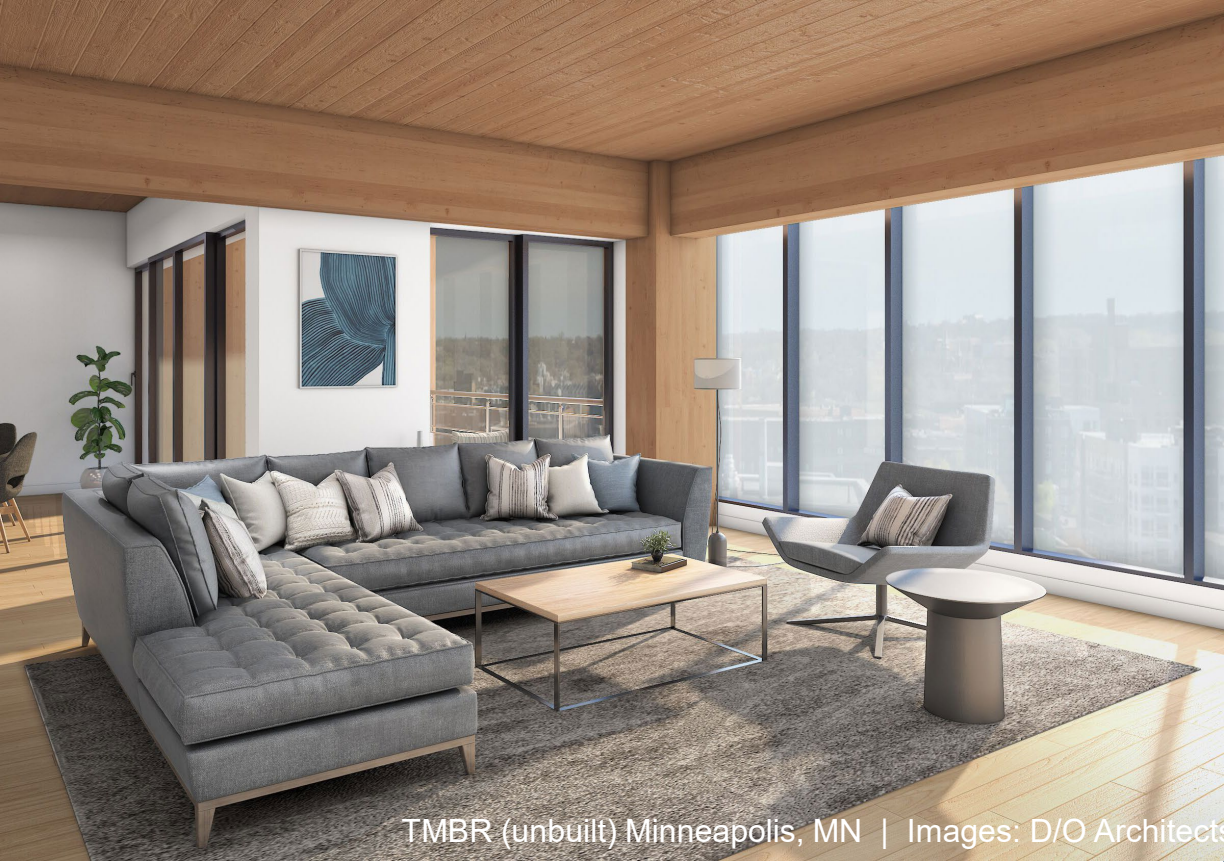


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# Tall Mass Timber: Structural Warmth is a Value-Add



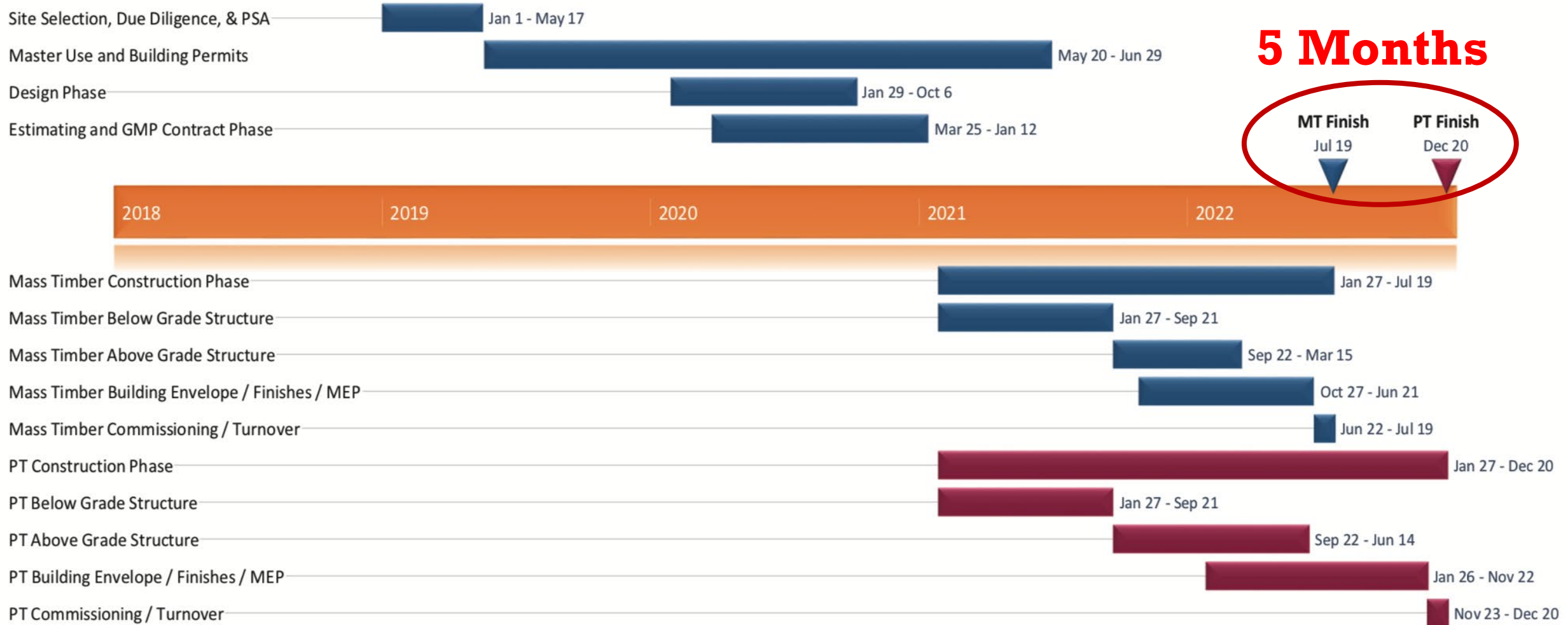
TMBR (unbuilt) Minneapolis, MN | Images: D/O Architects

# Construction Impacts: Labor Availability



Photo: Lendlease

# Construction Impacts: Schedule



## ESTIMATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF WOOD USE



Volume of wood products used:  
2,233 cubic meters of CLT and Glulam



U.S. and Canadian forests grow this much wood in:  
6 minutes



Carbon stored in the wood:  
1,753 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



Avoided greenhouse gas emissions:  
679 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>



Total potential carbon benefit:  
2,432 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>

## THE ABOVE GHG EMISSIONS ARE EQUIVALENT



511 cars off the road for a year



Energy to operate a home for 222 years

*\*Estimated by the Wood Carbon Calculator for Buildings, based on research by Sathre, R. and J. O'Connor, 2010, A Synthesis of Research on Wood Products and Greenhouse Gas Impacts, FPIInnovations (this relates to carbon stored and avoided GHG).*

*\*CO2 in this case study refers to CO2 equivalent*

# Mass timber appeal

## Reduced embodied carbon

Brock Commons, Vancouver, BC





# Mass Timber Appeal

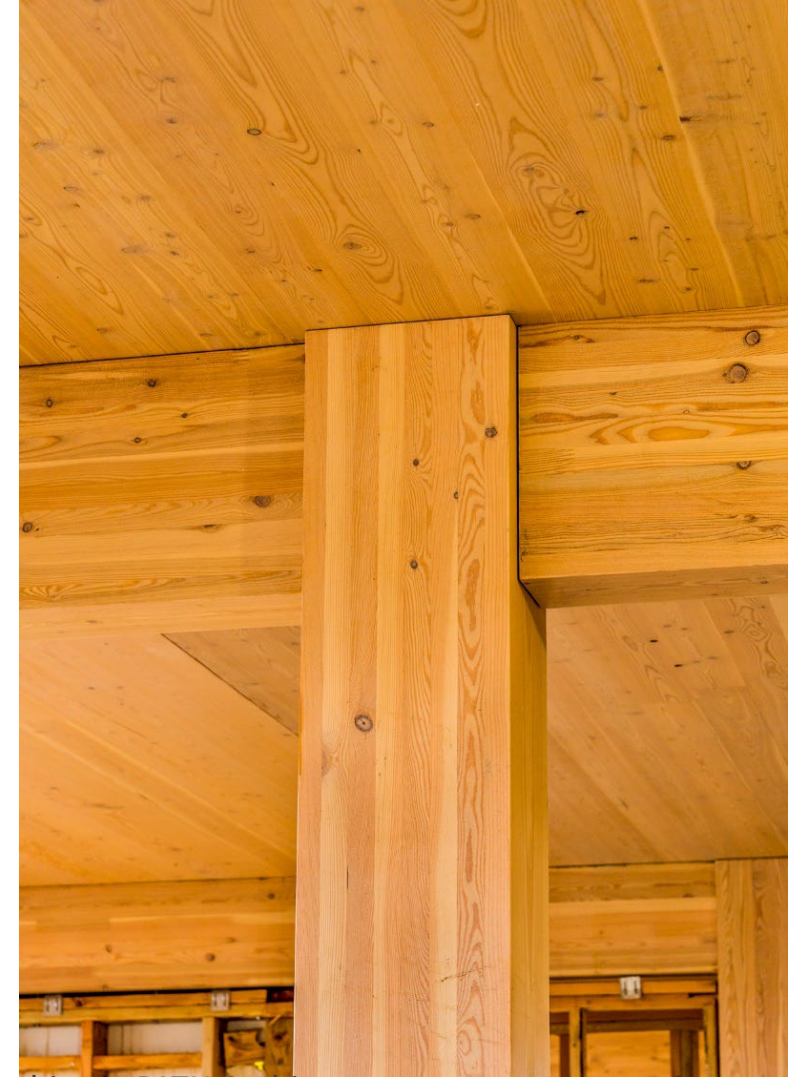
MATERIAL MASS

75% lighter weight than concrete





# Mass Timber: Structure Often is Finish



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

PUBLIC REPORT



New York City Public Schools  
Mass Timber Design Feasibility Study

Submitted to:



NYC School Construction Authority  
30-30 Thomson Avenue  
Long Island City, NY 11101

Prepared by:



EME Group  
550 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10018

December 20, 2023

SPACE SAVINGS DUE TO USE OF MT	TYPE III-A*	TYPE IV-HT
GLT Columns	457.21	457.21
Exterior CLT Walls (Type IV-HT only)		325.50
Typical Classroom CLT Partitions	168.04	168.04
SPACE PENALTY DUE TO USE OF MT		
2-Hr and/or Acoustical CLT Partitions	-829.32	-674.27
TOTAL CHANGE IN USABLE GSF	-204.06	276.49
Percentage Change (from 40,510 GSF)	-0.5%	0.7%

\*See notes under *Code Clarifications* section above

*Table 3. Space Savings of Mass Timber Construction at Addition*

<http://www.nycsca.org/Design/NYC-Green-Schools-Guide#GSG-Reference-Materials-154>



## PUBLIC REPORT

# New York City Public Schools Mass Timber Design Feasibility Study

Submitted to:



NYC School Construction Authority  
30-30 Thomson Avenue  
Long Island City, NY 11101

Prepared by:



EME Group  
550 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10018

December 20, 2023

The following MT elements take up less space than their baseline counterparts:

- Exposed GLT columns vs. baseline reinforced concrete columns with GWB furring
- Classroom-to-classroom CLT partitions vs. baseline GWB stud walls
- Exterior CLT walls vs. baseline exterior stud walls (Type IV-HT construction only)

The following MT elements take up more space than on baseline counterpart:

- 2-hour rated and/or acoustical CLT partitions vs. baseline GWB rated stud walls
- This is one of the reasons why EME recommends the use of the baseline GWB stud wall design for 2-hr FRR and/or acoustical partitions instead of their CLT versions, in both the Type III and Type IV construction scenarios.

# Candlewood Suites, AL

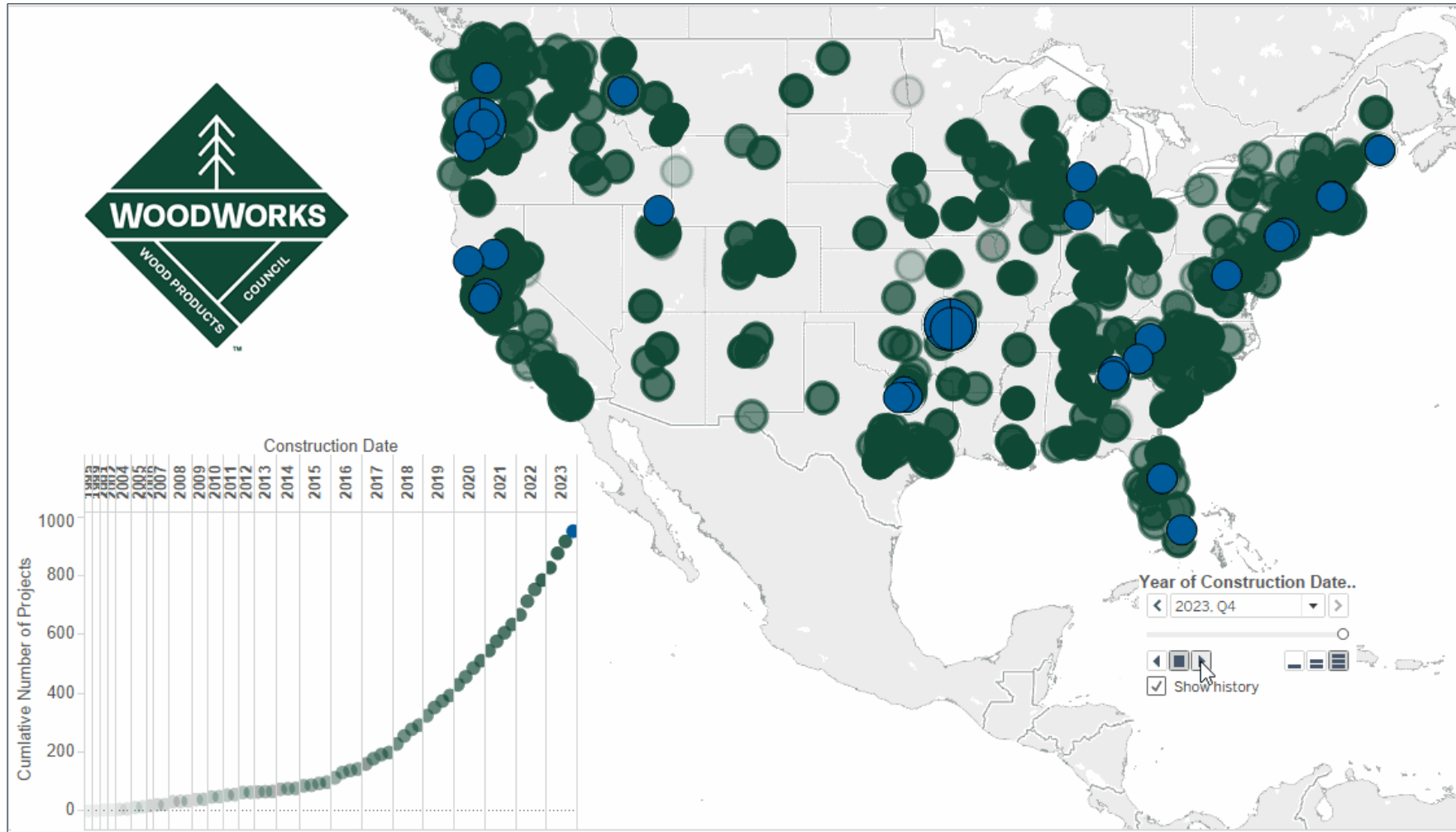
- Built by Lendlease
- 4-story hotel built on a military base pre-2018 using CLT floors, walls and roof
- CLT not considered conventional construction – so needed to meet blast and progressive collapse requirements
- Completed 37 percent faster than similar hotels
- Built with 44 percent fewer person-hours than similar hotels



<https://www.woodworks.org/resources/construction-advantages-sell-hotel-developer-on-mass-timber/>

# Current State of Mass Timber Projects

Through 2023 2,035 mass timber projects in design or have been constructed in the US



# Sustainability



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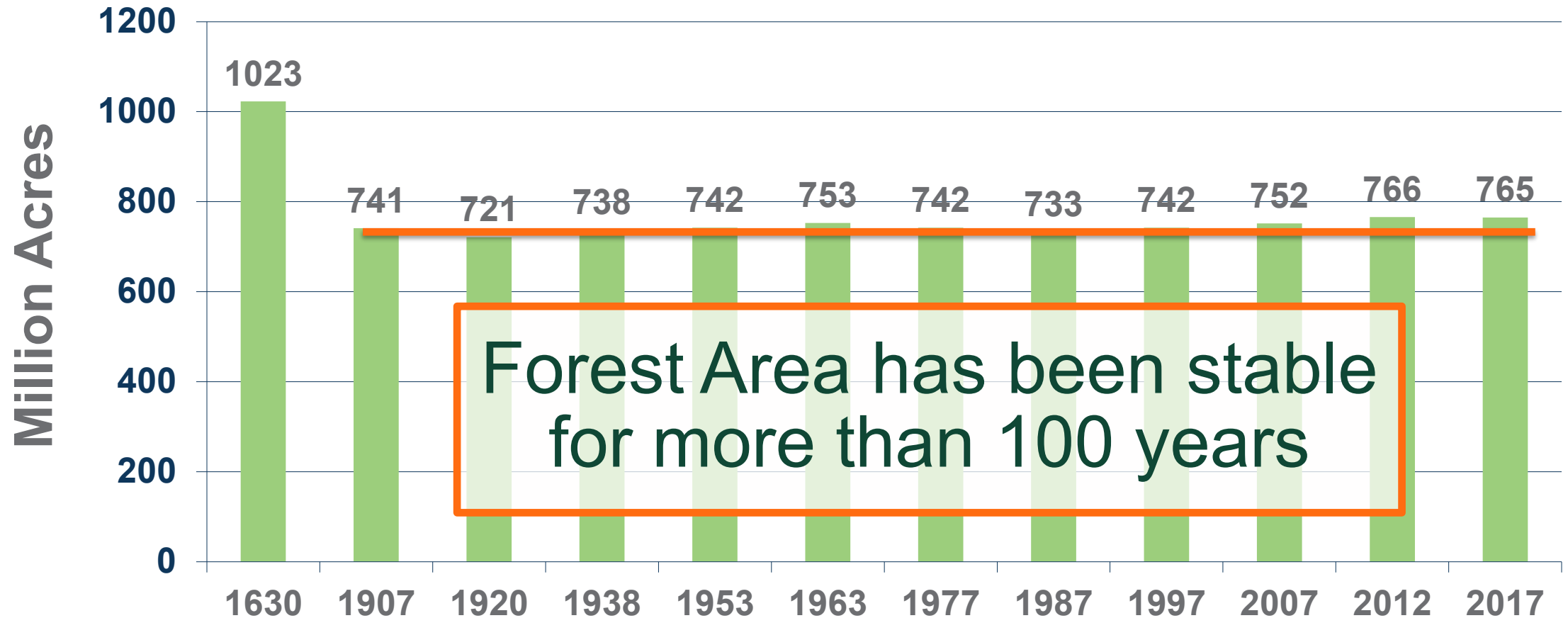
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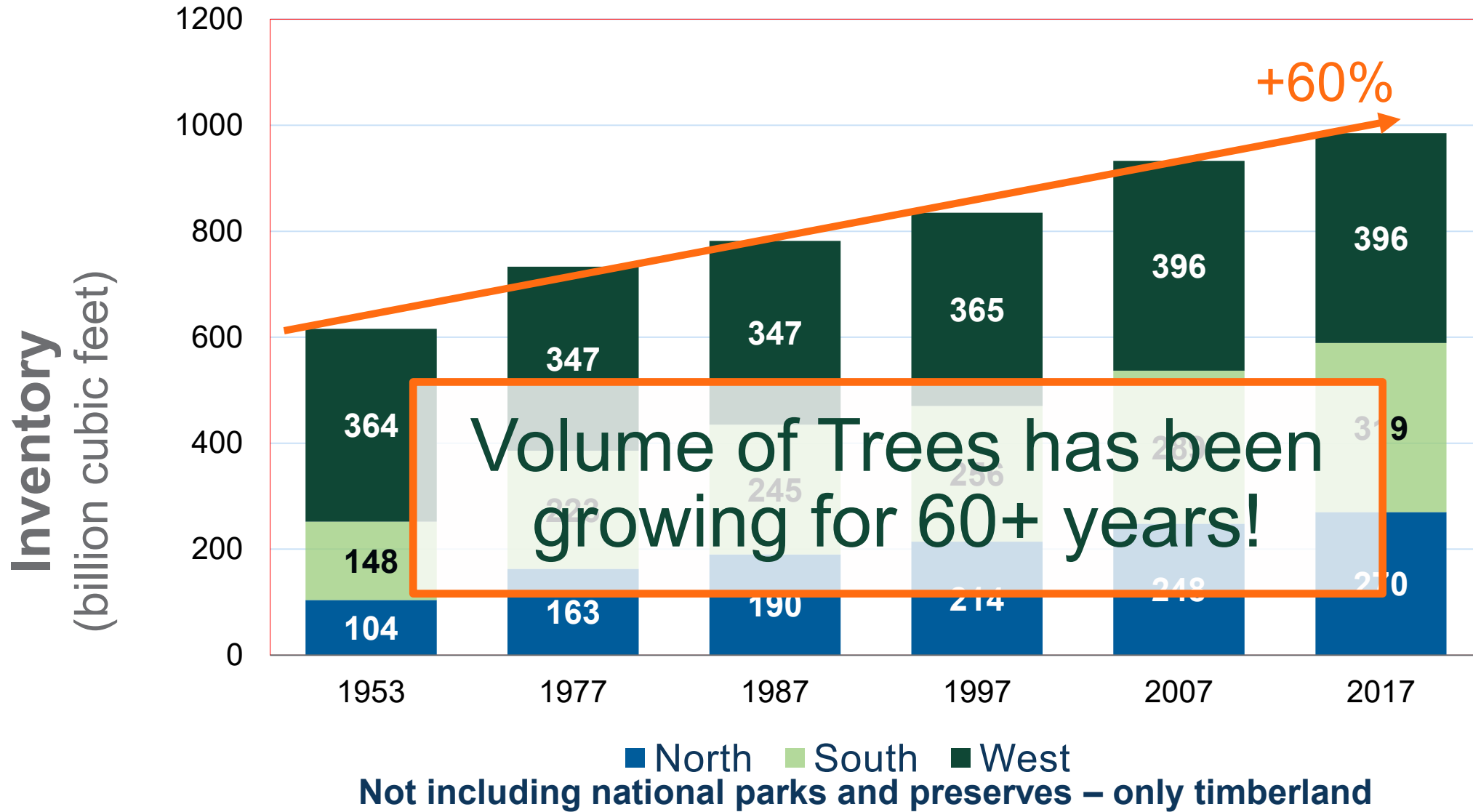
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# U.S. Forest Land:

Forest Area in the United States 1630 – 2017



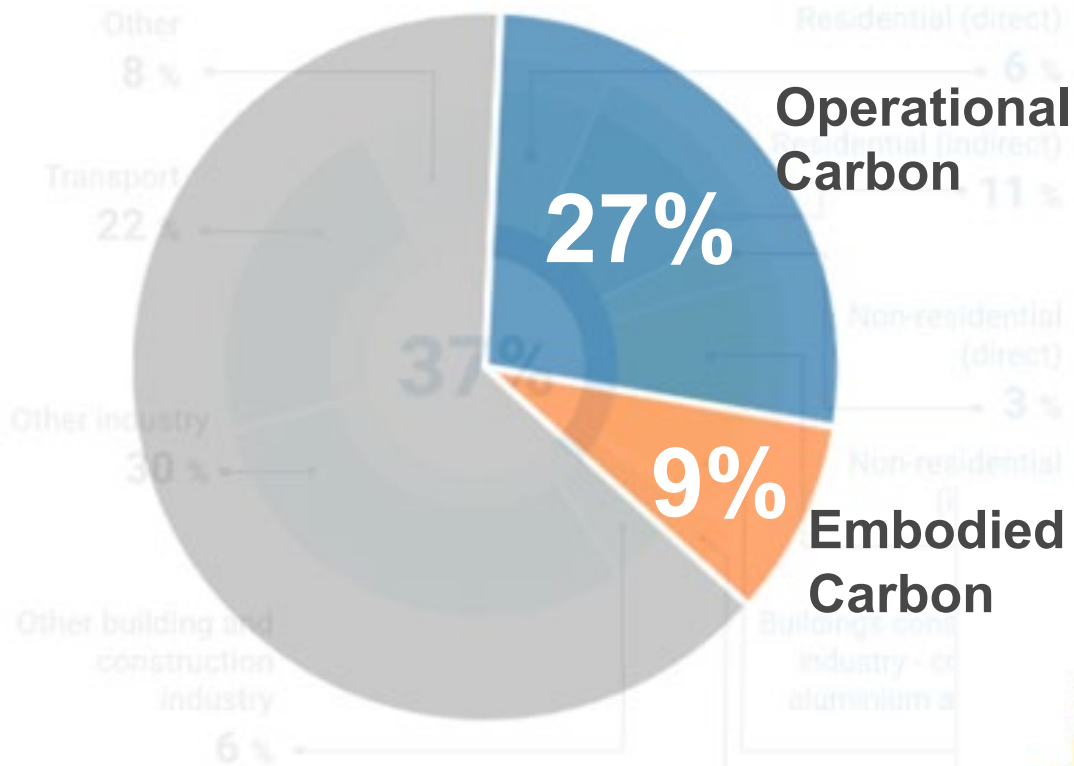
# State of our Forests: US Timber Volume on Timberland





# New Buildings & Carbon Dioxide Emissions

## Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions by Sector



Adapted from: UN environment programme  
Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction

Buildings generate **36%** of annual carbon dioxide emissions

Operational carbon: **27%**

Embodied carbon: **9%**



Embodied Carbon

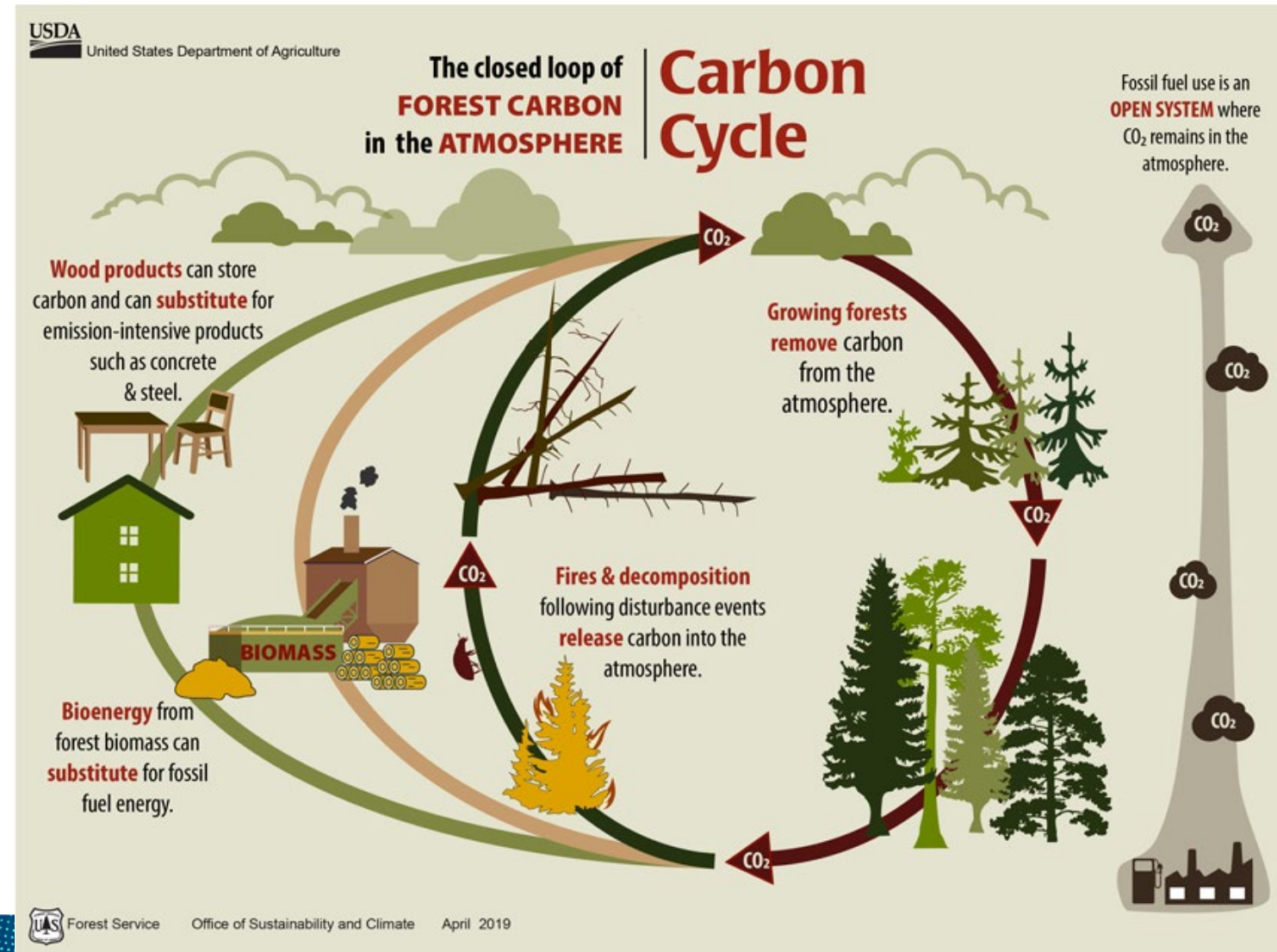
Manufacture, transport and installation of construction materials

Operational Carbon

Building Energy Consumption

# Carbon Benefits of Wood

- **Lower embodied carbon** compared to other common building materials
- **Less fossil fuel consumed** during manufacture
- **Avoid process emissions**
- Extended carbon **storage in products**
- **Carbon sequestration** in forests
- Promotes **forest health**



# Platte Fifteen

Denver's First CLT  
Commercial Office Building  
Puts Sustainability  
to Work

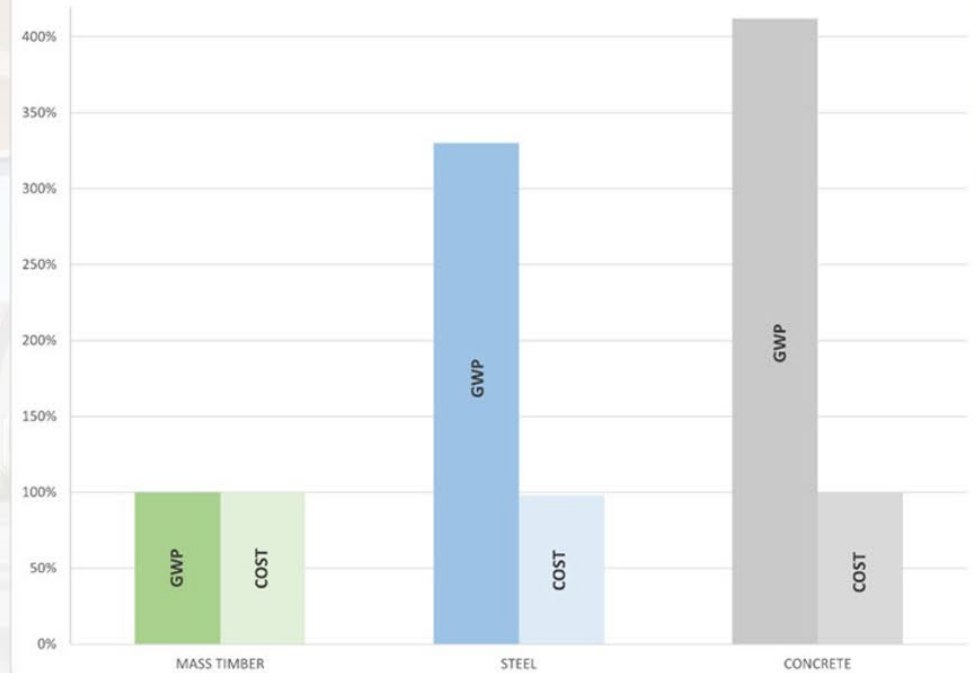


## PROJECT DETAILS

**LOCATION:**  
Denver, Colorado

**SIZE:**  
Five stories; 150,418 square feet

STRUCTURAL SYSTEM GWP AND WHOLE BUILDING COST (%)



Source: Platte Fifteen Life Cycle Assessment  
<https://www.woodworks.org/resources/platte-fifteen-life-cycle-assessment/>

Rendering: Hickok Cole Architects



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# Structural System GWP and Whole Building Cost (%)

GWP = Global Warming Potential

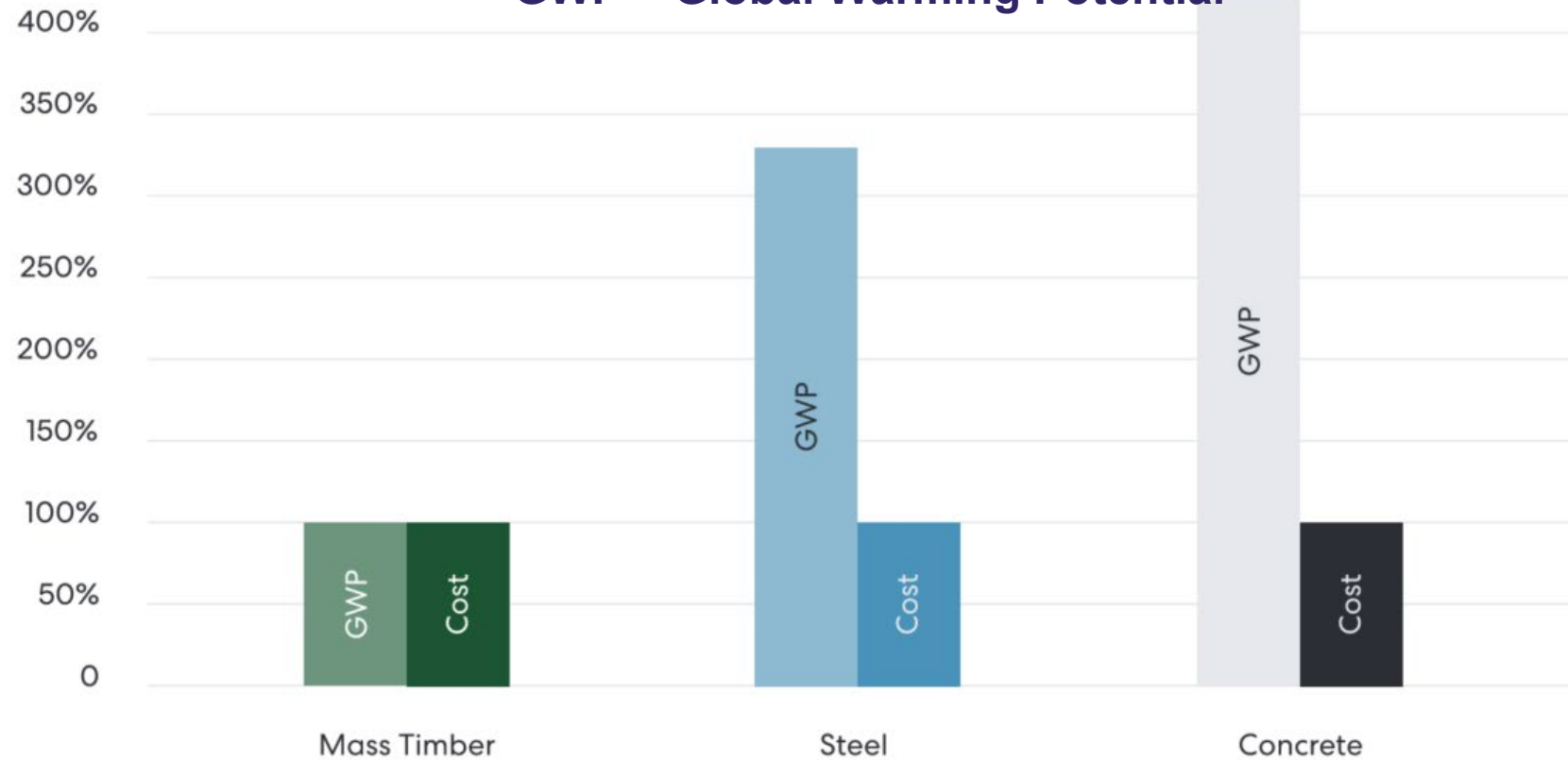


Figure 15. Comparison of the structural system GWP above the level two podium slab and the whole building cost of the three systems.

Source: Platte Fifteen Life Cycle Assessment  
<https://www.woodworks.org/resources/platte-fifteen-life-cycle-assessment/>

# Protective Design



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["SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS"](https://www.linkedin.com/company/society-of-american-military-engineers)

# Protective Design Applied Research for Mass Timber

## Blast

WoodWorks Blast Testing  
ISIEMS Test on 7-Ply CLT Panel  
USACE PDC CLT Shock Tube Testing  
U of Ottawa CLT Shock Tube Testing  
WoodWorks NLT Shock Tube Testing

## Ballistic

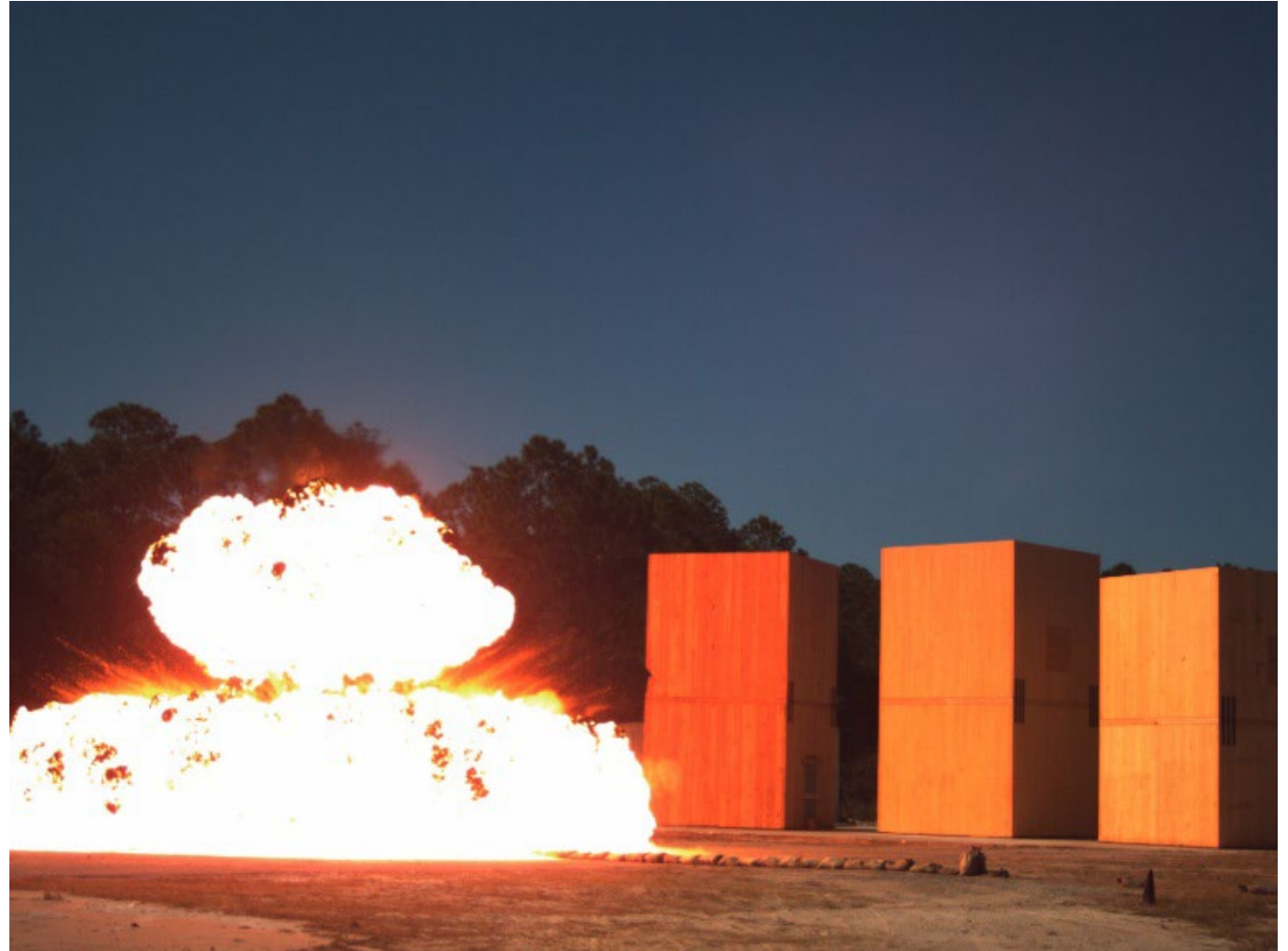
Georgia Tech Ballistic Testing  
Reinforced CLT Development  
Ballistic Testing  
Quasi-Static Full-Size Panel Testing

## Forced Entry

DOS Forced Entry Test

## Progressive Collapse

Updates to the UFC 4-023-03 to include mass timber currently underway



*Live Content Slide*

**Poll: How many Mass Timber DoD structures have you designed, built, operated from, or slept in?**

# Drivers

## (or Administrative Leadership Style)

- FY22 NDAA Sec. 2861 [*Sustainable Materials Pilot Projects*]
- EO 14008 [*Tackling the Climate Crisis*]
- EO 14057 [*Decarbonization of the Federal Economy*]
  - Buy Clean Task Force
- DODD 4715.21 [*Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience*]
- Joint Concept for Contested Logistics (JCL or JCCL)
  - Diversify Class IV (construction materials) supply chains
- Economic (LCCA) vs Environmental (LCI or LCA) factors
  - Proliferation of the Environmental Product Declaration (EPD)



# Three Distinct Opportunities

## *Near-term and Mid-term goals:*

- ✓ ECB directing consideration of Mass Timber
- Training and Guidance via Woodworks
- Criteria Change Request to update penetration equation (UFC 4-023-07)
- Progressive collapse experiments
- Custom reinforcement for signature reduction and max performance



**‘Light Frame’  
Designed for  
Disassembly**

**Anti-Terrorism /  
Force Protection**



**MILCON**

5 CLT hotels operational via  
Privatization of Army Lodging (PAL)  
[Redstone, Drum, JBLM, Jackson]



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®

# ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

No. 2023-14

Issuing Office: CECW-EC

Issued: 20 Sep 23

Expires: 20 Sep 25

**SUBJECT:** Mandatory Consideration of Mass Timber in Army Military Construction (MILCON) and Civil Works Vertical Construction Projects

**CATEGORY:** Directive and Policy

- “...consider at least one option where mass timber is a substantial structural component...”
- “For example, the high bay areas of fire stations, hangars, and tactical equipment maintenance facilities may not be practical ... however, the administrative portions of these facilities may.”
- “... justifications detailing why a mass timber structural system was or was not selected for the project must be included in the project Design Analysis...”
- “...if Mass Timber increases square footage beyond a Standard Design GSF limitation, the increase must be coordinated with the applicable COS...”



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# LendLease – CLT Privatized Army Lodging

Redstone, Mar 2016



JBLM, Oct 2019

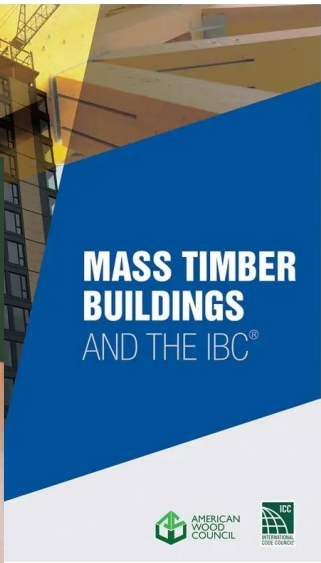
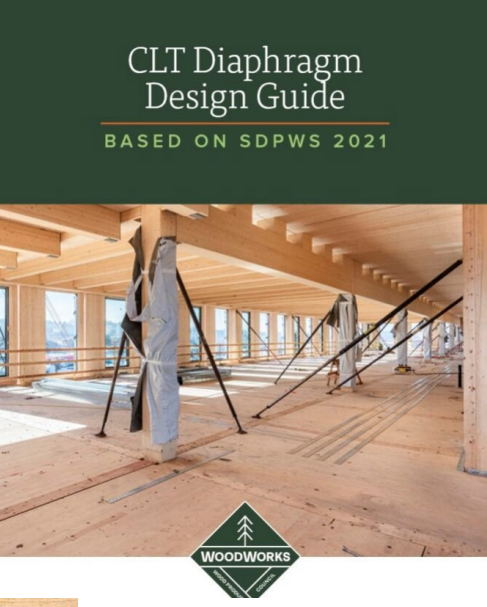


Drum, Nov 2018



Jackson, Oct 2020 & Jun 2021

# Background



## UNIFIED FACILITIES GUIDE SPECIFICATIONS

References are in agreement with UMRL dated January 2024  
\*\*\*\*\*


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DIVISION 06 - WOOD, PLASTICS, AND COMPOSITES

SECTION 06 18 00

GLUED-LAMINATED CONSTRUCTION

**W | N** WOODWORKS INNOVATION NETWORK  [Project Map](#) [Manufacturers & Suppliers](#) [People & Companies](#)

 FEDERAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

[ABOUT FEMP](#)

[SERVICES](#)

[REQUIREMENTS REPORT](#)

## Discover mass timber & light-frame projects

and connect with their project teams

# Building Life Cycle Cost Programs

**Department of Defense**

**Potential Usage in Military Construction of Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT)**

**A Next Generation Mass Timber Construction System**

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# National Standards, Local Codes

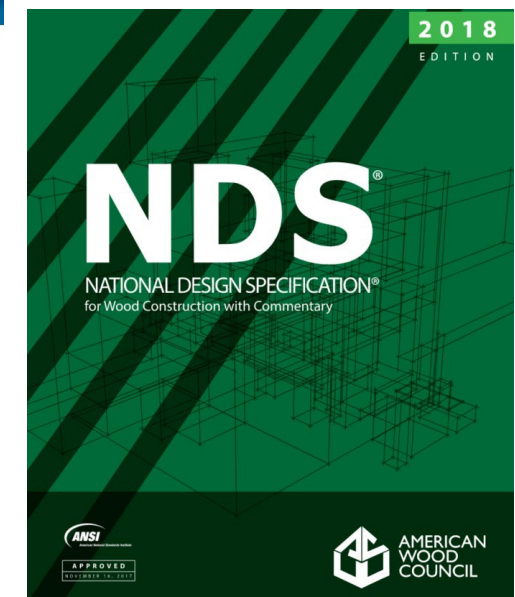
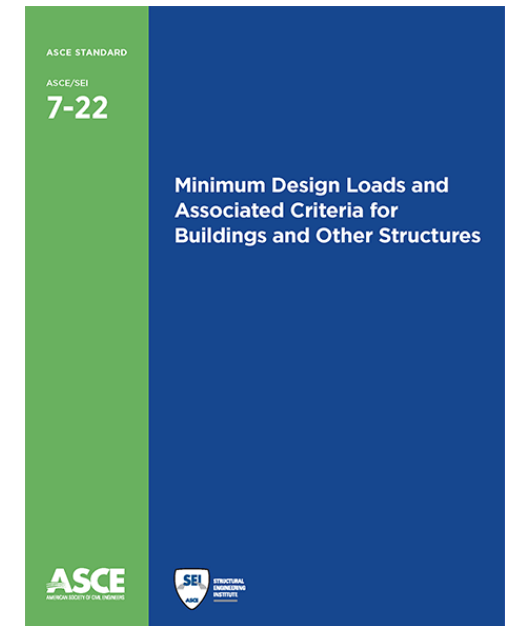
- ASCE 7-22 Chapter 12 Seismic Response
  - R Value modification
  - Higher Seismic Demand AND Less Efficient System
- IBC 2021 Revamped CLT Information in Chapter 6 Building Types
  - Unknown unknowns drive Type III-B
- NDS/AWC Special Design Provisions for Wind and Seismic
- Capacity Based Design for Shear Walls
  - Impact in Seismic Design Category C and D regions



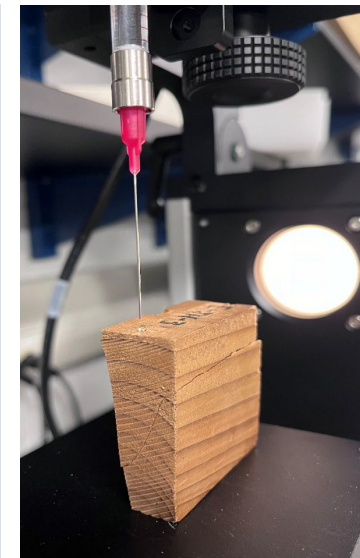
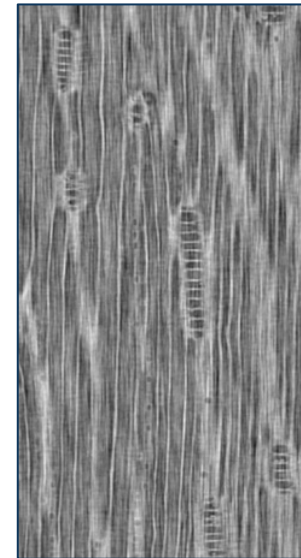
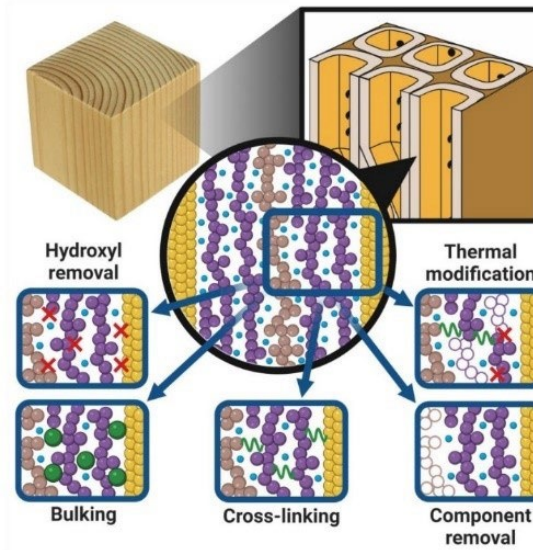
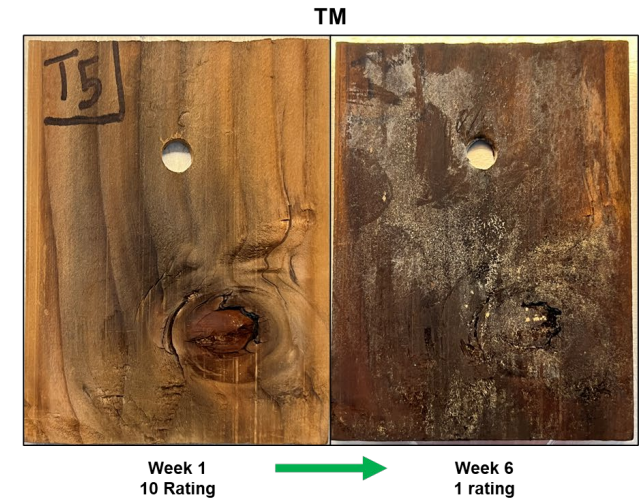
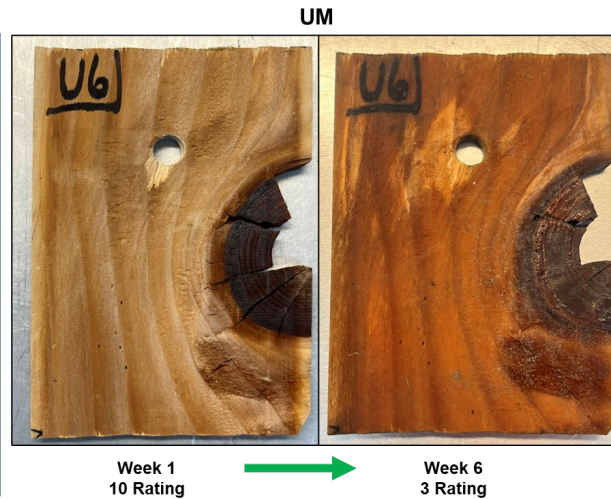
## 2020 NEHRP Recommended Seismic Provisions: Design Examples, Training Materials, and Design Flow Charts

FEMA P-2192-V1/November 2021

Volume I: Design Examples

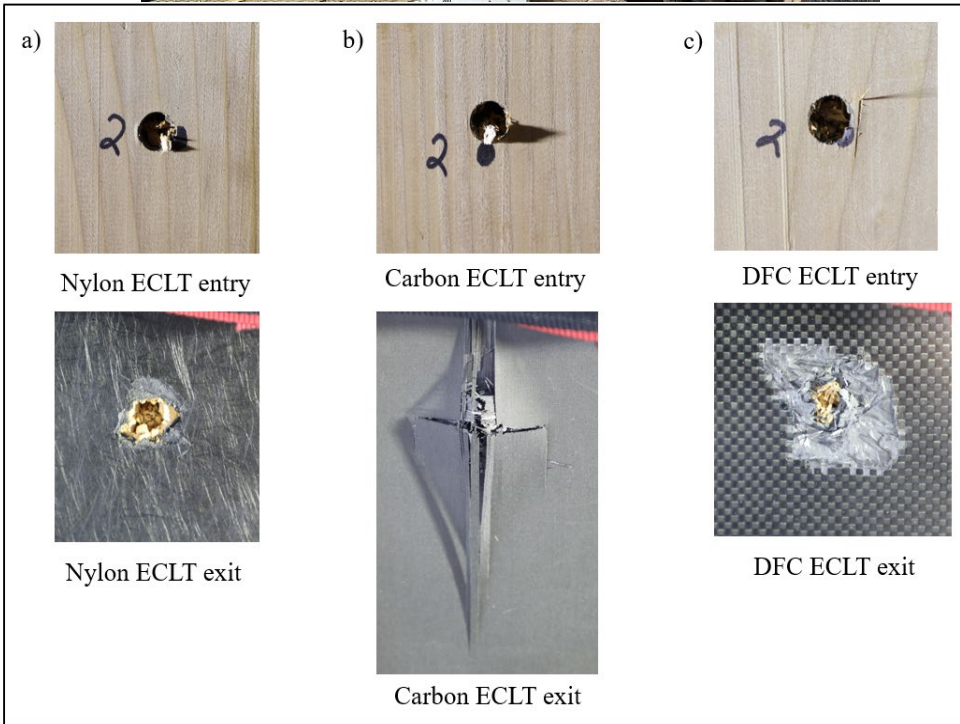


# R&D – Environmental Resilience



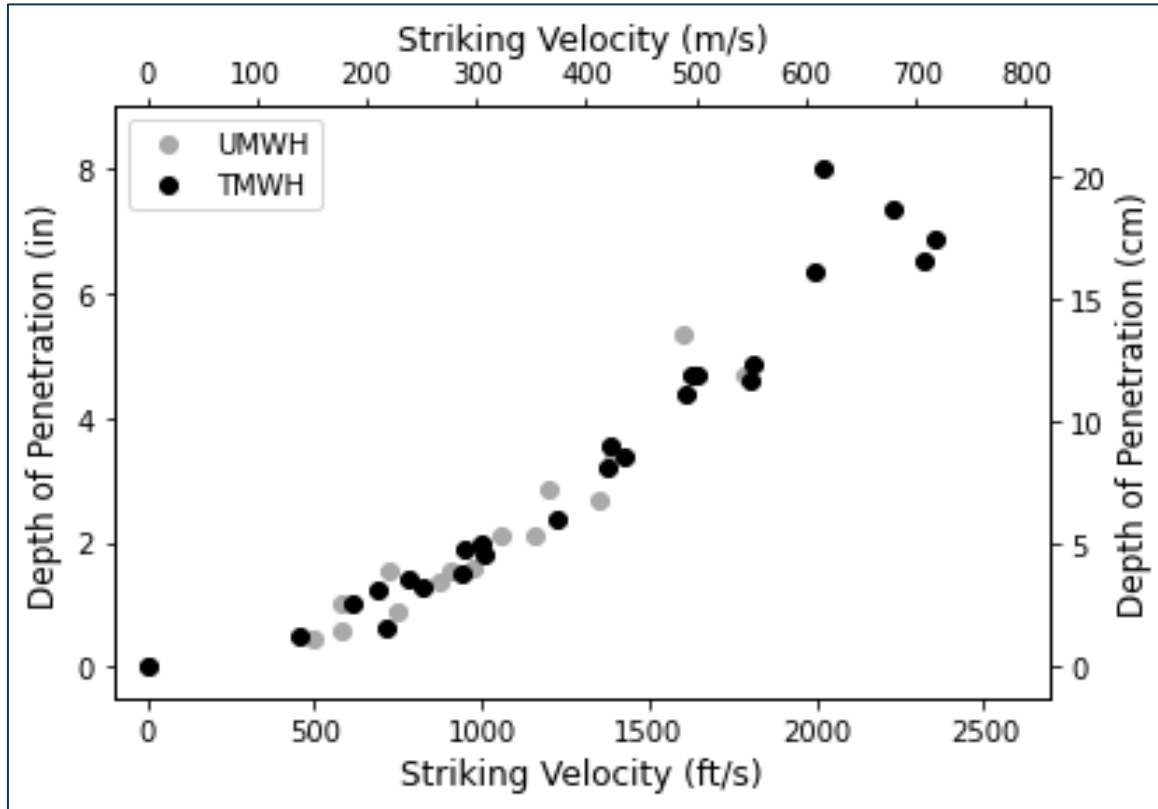
# R&D – Penetration Resistance

$$T_W = 9837 \left( \frac{v^{0.4113} W^{1.4897}}{\rho \left( \frac{\pi D^2}{4} \right)^{1.3596} H^{0.5414}} \right)$$

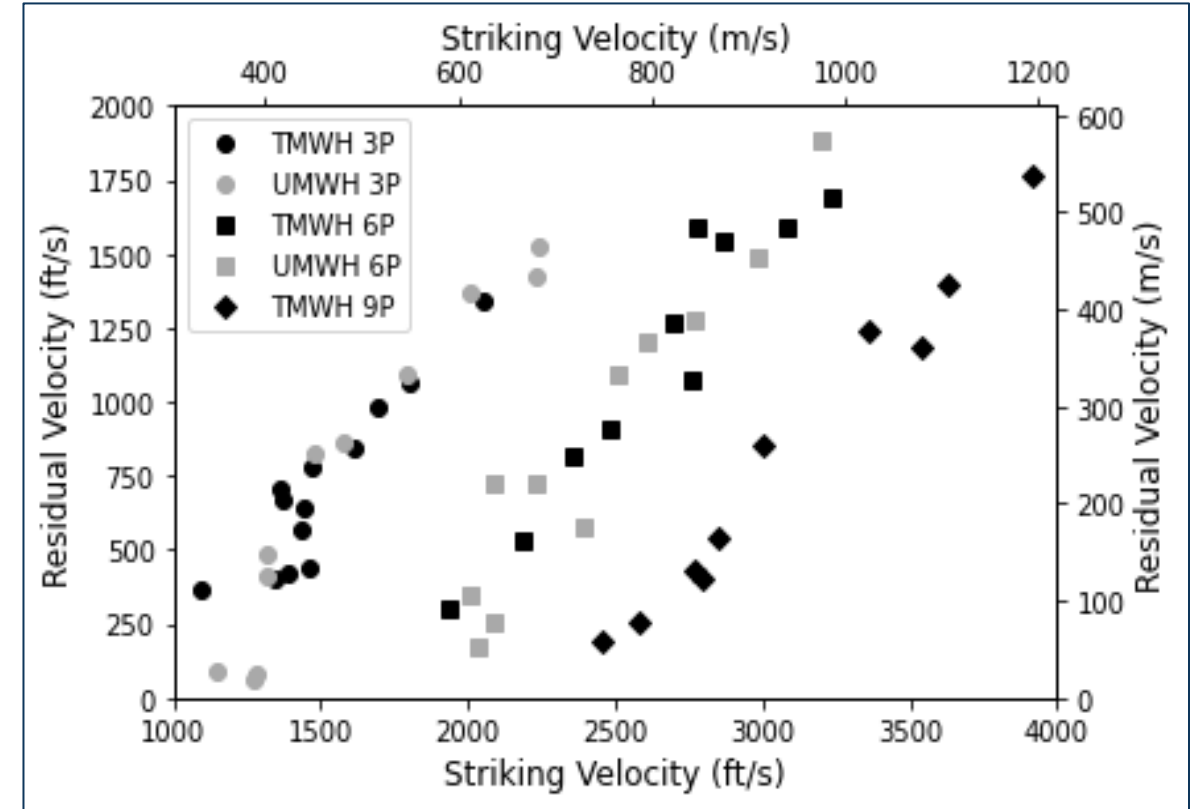


DFC ECLT fracture path

# R&D – Penetration Resistance



Partial penetration



Full perforation



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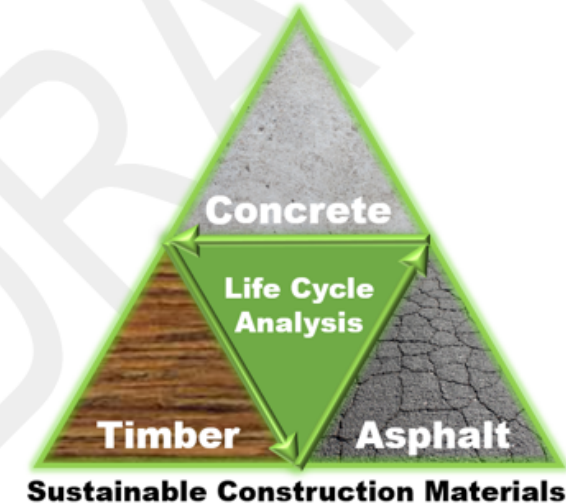


Mitigation of GHG Emissions for DoD Construction Materials and Infrastructure 6.4 VEQT

## Unified Facilities Criteria & Unified Facilities Guide Specifications for Sustainable Military Construction – Concrete, Asphalt, Wood, and Life Cycle Assessment Perspectives

Talbot B. Rueppel, Jerry M. Paris, Sadie E. Casillas, Brent Panozzo, Ernie Heymsfield, Meghan Fuhler, Allison Young, Peter B. Stynoski, Ben C. Cox, Annette L. Stumpf, Trevor J. Looney, Matthew W. Glasscott, Robert D. Moser, Justin Smith

November 2023



Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

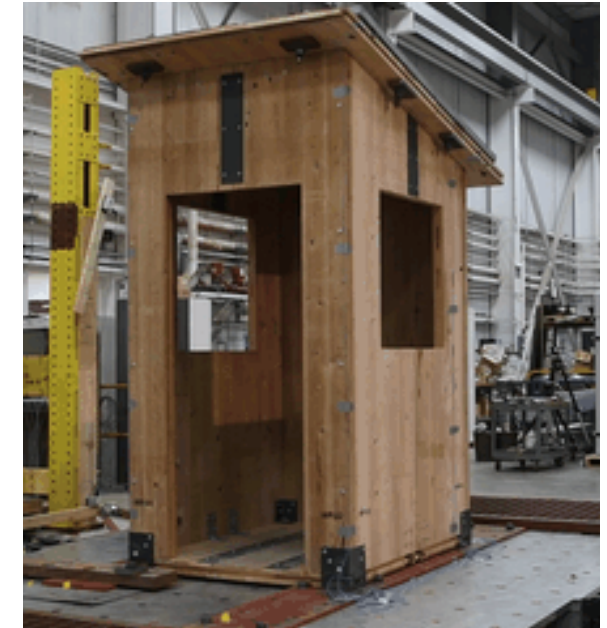
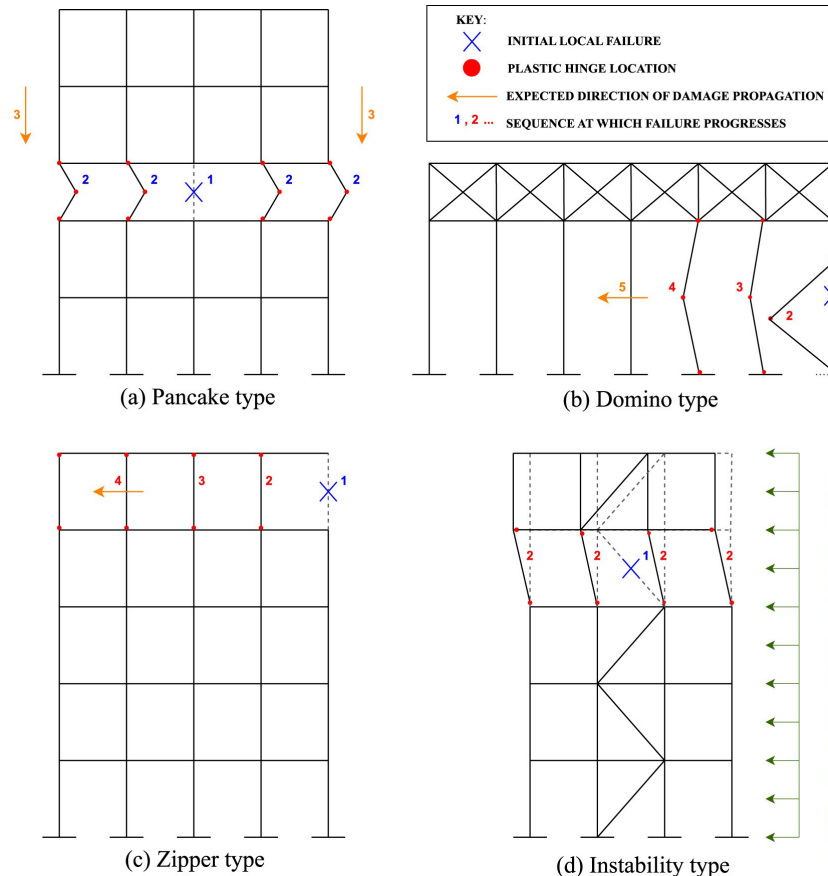
# Mitigation of Progressive Collapse

- UFC 4-023-03, ASCE/SEI 76-23
  - Govt-Private partnership for Criteria Change Request

## Common MT Pitfalls:

- Brittle material, yet ductile connections
  - Insufficient bracing
  - Ignoring moisture effects
- Glulam beams generally enable longer spans
  - Leads to deformation control
- Load-bearing exterior walls not always avoidable
  - Result: CLT acts as Deep Beam

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.istruc.2024.106131>



# Mitigation of Progressive Collapse

## Common strategies:

- Just make shorter MT buildings!
  - < 3 stories → FSL I or II
  - CLT Report to Congress, pg. 1
  - At odds with economic first cost
- Alternate Load Path method
  - Tie Force method poses connection challenges
- Proper detailing of fully-restrained, moment-carrying connections
- Glulam or CLT panel cantilevers

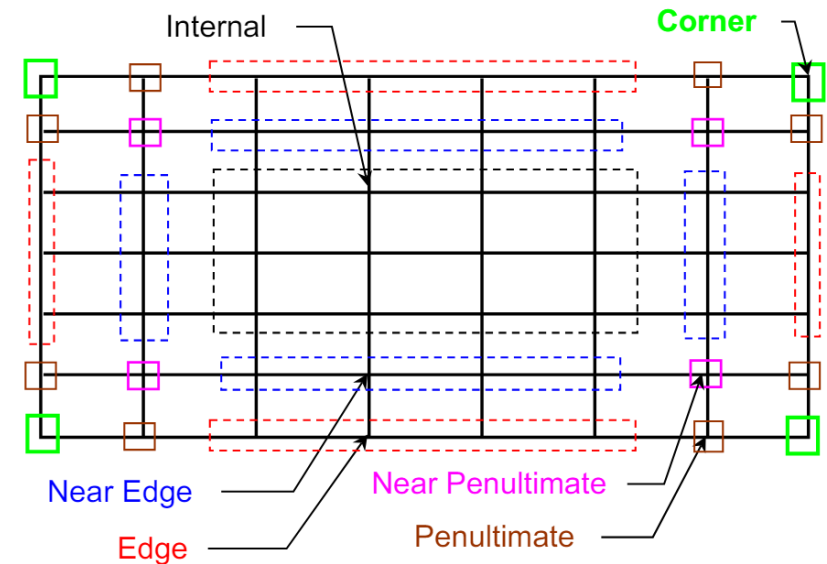
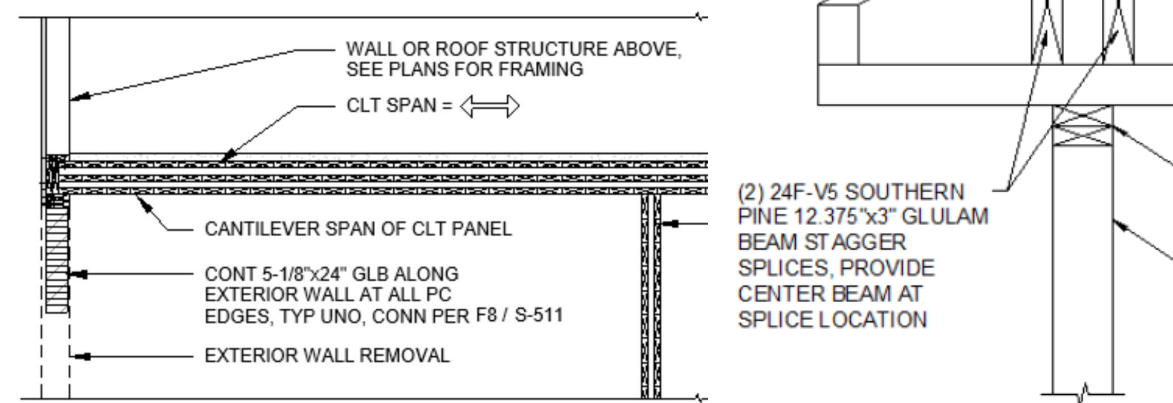


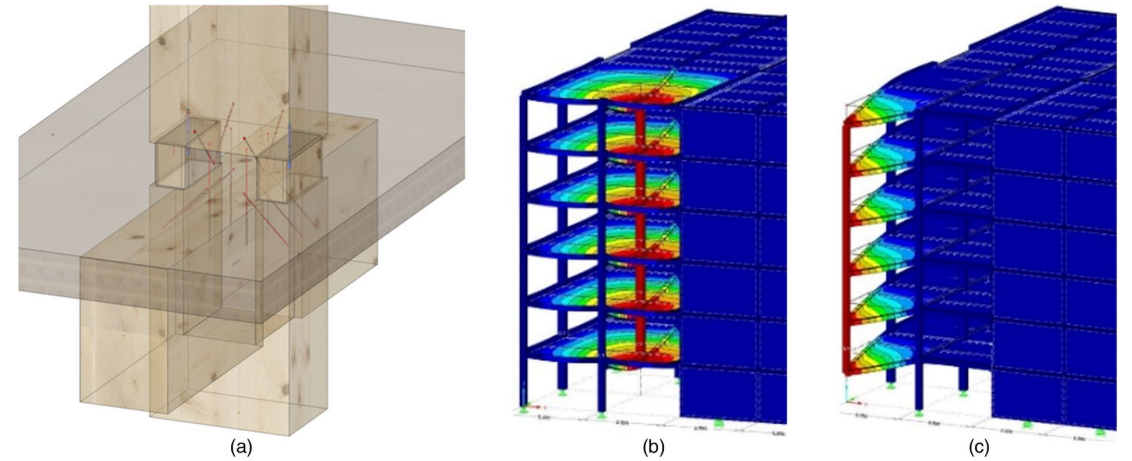
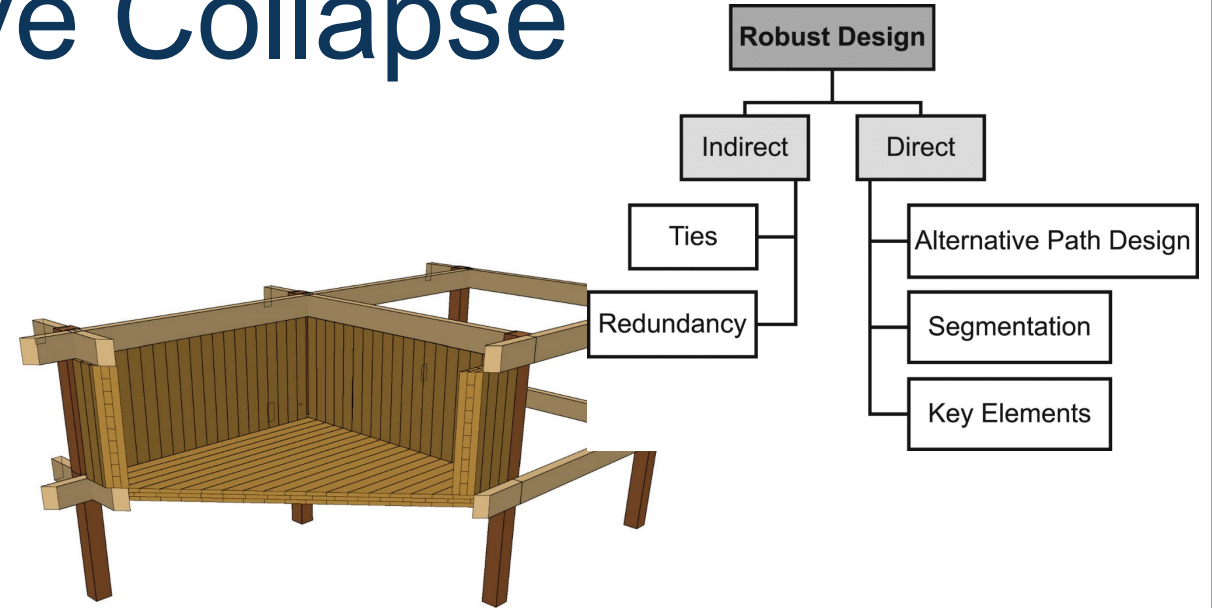
Figure C-2. Column Removal Locations



# Mitigation of Progressive Collapse

Further reading:

- Structural Robustness and Timber Buildings
  - Wood Material Science & Engineering 14(2) 2019
  - <https://doi.org/10.1080/17480272.2018.1446052>
- Prevention of Disproportionate Collapse for Multistory Mass Timber Buildings: Review of Current Practices and Recent Research
  - Journal of Structural Engineering 148(7) 2022
  - [https://doi.org/10.1061/\(ASCE\)ST.1943-541X.0003377](https://doi.org/10.1061/(ASCE)ST.1943-541X.0003377)



# THANK YOU

Please take a few minutes to complete a short survey about this session. Your feedback will help us improve future programming for JETC.

 **conferences** i/o



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# Q&A

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- Karen Gesa, [karen.gesa@woodworks.org](mailto:karen.gesa@woodworks.org)
- Pete Stynoski, [peter.b.stynoski@usace.army.mil](mailto:peter.b.stynoski@usace.army.mil)