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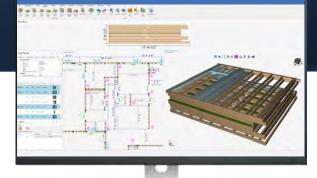
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Anna L. Stamm Director of Communications and Marketing Component Manufacturing Advertiser.



# **Three Types of People**

e tend to think in terms of black and white, good and bad, but reality is seldom that straightforward. For example, take the case of needing to ask someone for help. In my experience, that leads to three kinds of people.

### Who Hears Your Dilemma

Most of us are slow to ask for help. Perhaps our attitude is to "go it alone" or we don't want to "burden" someone else. But sometimes, we may find ourselves in a situation that's beyond our limits. In those cases where we definitely need some help, I think we'll be faced with three kinds of people.

Type one is, of course, the person who will provide you with the help you need. Regardless of if they are glad or reluctant to help, they'll offer some contribution. It may be easy or it may be awkward, but at least to some extent the other person will lessen your load.

Type two is the person who will not be of help. And you already know that. You already know they are not interested for whatever reason and they will provide whatever excuse they need to make sure the situation remains "your problem not theirs." That's fine, and we can all be honest about it.

Type three, however, is the person who has conned you into thinking that they would be willing to help. This is the person who is calculating "what's in it for them" first. This is the person who has extended offers to you in the past, but now you can see how your past interactions always provided the other person with some expectation of benefitting. This person will respond to your request with anger and/or dismay. Now, besides needing help, you'll have to created a rift. You will be berated for trying to ask for help when that would be such an imposition. Your situation no longer matters because now you have created a problem for them.

# People in Disguise

Recently, I had an interaction with a "type three" person. I hadn't realized that things were supposed to be tit-for-tat, so I was stunned by the anger directed toward me at a time when I was struggling. It would have been easier if he was a "type two," but I was fooled into thinking otherwise. Next time, I'll try not to be so naïve.









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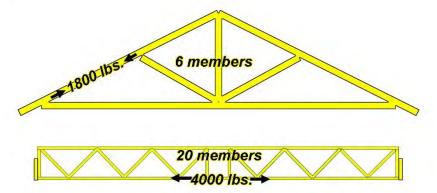
By Joe Kannapell

# Floor Truss Technology, Part III: Floor Design Intricacies

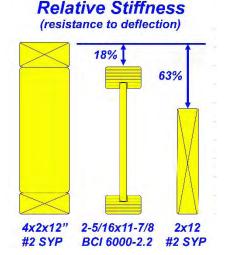
The advent of floor trusses gave us new insights that continue to be refined today. They also gave us a peek into whole house design with the promise of a fully componentized house. For the first time, they challenged us to build something that people could live on top of, rather than just underneath. And this human factor gave us new design responsibilities that sometimes smacked us in the face in the early days. Fortunately, our TPI codes have developed the tools over the years that we've needed to properly design floor trusses, and there are even

design floor trusses, and there are even more in ANSI/TPI 1–2022.

The idea is hard to grasp: that any shallow parallel chord truss has much higher forces than a triangular roof truss of the same span. That was why the framer on the Jiffy Lube we supplied couldn't believe that his 32 ft. flat roof trusses required much more lateral bracing than common 6/12 pitched house trusses. And, as

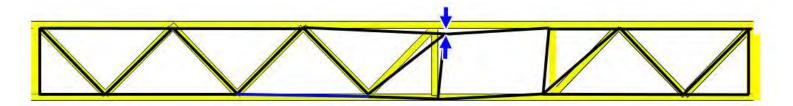


floor trusses are much skinnier than flat roof trusses, the forces are proportionally higher, requiring upgraded lumber and plates. Then there are special conditions, like extended top chord bearings and duct chases, which amplified stresses, but especially deflection. Gradually, beginning with PCT–77, the initial Parallel Chord Truss criteria, design requirements began to account for these conditions. And today, *ANSI/TPI 1–2022* section 7.6.2.3 includes enhanced deflection checks for floor trusses.



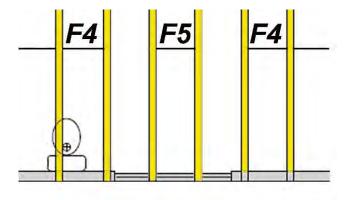
Of primary importance is that occupants be satisfied with floor performance. This led to rafts of physical testing, with careful monitoring of deflection. Since early software could only handle fully triangulated trusses, a diagonal web had to be inserted across the duct chase, and an additional time-consuming iteration of the analysis had to be performed. This prompted TPI to allow use of the simple beam deflection formula for clear span floor trusses, which was backed up by physical testing. This formulation also underscored the 63% greater stiffness of floor trusses over solid joists, its main competitor at the time, but also an 18% advantage over one of the highest grades of today's I-joists. However, this formula was limited to simple spans with centerline chases, which proved too limiting.





Try as we may, we couldn't discourage CMs from off-center duct chases, and fortunately we had recently picked up a copy of the newly released PPSA program in 1972. Yet the input was overwhelming, and we had to pour over the tabular output and limit the deflection in the chase, to guard against the possibility of dips in the floor. To simplify the analysis, TPI added another approximation formula, to account for the increased stress and deflection, if the chase was not too close to a bearing.

As top chord bearing floor trusses became increasingly popular, reaction limits were added to TPI, which were based on a maximum of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " gap between the bearing and the adjacent web member. However, field conditions often resulted in a larger gap, which magnified stresses and local deflection, but is difficult to model with software. The amount of deflection may seem negligible, but not when a top bearing truss is adjacent to a bottom bearing truss. In the floor section shown, the F5s have extended top chords bearing upon headers over a doorway, while F4s bottom chord bear.



An excessive gap between the header and the F5 webbing will exacerbate bending of the extended top chords, while the adjacent bottom bearing trusses will have little or no deflection in the same area, leading to a dip in the floor deck.

Although *ANSI/TPI 1–2022* will not be effective until the 2024 International Building Codes (IBC and IRC) are adopted, the refinements summarized here are important enhancements in the 50 year evolution of floor truss design and add to the versatility of the product.

Next Month: Floor Machines Adapt



Since 1970, <u>Joe Kannapell</u> has worked as programmer, Chief Engineer, Marketing Manager, and Sales VP for MiTek, plus 7 years at truss plants, retiring at the end of 2020.

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By Wendy Boyd Chief Customer Officer Machinery Group Spida Machinery

# **Planning for BCMC and Our Featured Machinery**

hen I am planning for the BCMC event, I know that our fabricators in the US like to touch and feel the new Spida Machinery and talk all things innovation.

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For the 2023 Building Component Manufacturers Conference in Indianapolis next month, we are bringing a couple of new things to the show floor that we haven't shown at BCMC before. I want to tell you what they are, but you'll have to wait one more month until we reveal the surprise. Let me just say we are going to showcase a new product that is a bit of "game changer" and will allow your wall framing factory to be less complicated and less labor-intensive.

That's not to say that we are leaving all those interested in new hi-tech truss pressing or cutting out in the cold either, but more about that next month.



Let's just say events like BCMC allow companies like Spida to showcase their latest products and innovations. Visiting our Spida booth will allow you to discover cutting edge equipment and technologies that can improve your construction processes and projects.





At the Spida booth, you will see live demonstrations of our products, get to experience the equipment in action, and talk to the guys that sell or service these machines to understand, ask questions, and learn the best of our machinery from the experts. You can gain valuable insights and knowledge by attending one of the live sessions or talking with our team.

Take advantage of our booth and the availability of representatives from around the world who can answer your specific questions on products and give you personalized advice including how we can meet your specific machinery wants and needs.

Keep an eye on our editorial next month, so I can tell you more about our surprises in the booth and what we have in store...



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### 2001 Alpine AutoMill RS Component Saw

2001 Alpine AutoMill RS component saw, model 343H. Computer controlled saw sets up in 2 to 19 seconds and downloads from a network or by using a touch screen for ease of operation. Windows 98 operating system. Five-head automated component saw works in both automated (downloading files) and semi-automated control via touchscreen input. It has [23] axes of automated movement, enhanced diagnostics, auto management reporting. Cuts from 13" to 20' long material in size range from 2×3" through 2×12". Includes [3] 18", [1] 22" and [1] 32" blades with air brakes and belt under-saw scrap conveyor. 480v/60Hz/3Ph power.

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# Wood Tech Systems MANUFACTURERS' A REPRESENTATIVES



### **Safety Speed Cut Model 7000 Panel Saw** Safety Speed Manufacturing model 7000, vertical panel saw, 3 HP induction motor, 64 inch crosscut, 2 inch maximum thickness, accuracy within 1/64th of an inch, 10 foot welded steel frame with integrated stand and linear V-guides, enclosed counterweight system, adjustable vertical and horizontal rules. Quick changes from vertical to horizontal cutting. Includes machined aluminum material rollers, hold down bar, wheels, quick stop gauges and material hold downs. Dust collection ready. Options available include lower frame extensions, digital readouts, laser guide, stop bar, vacuum and midway fence. 208-230/460 volt, 3 phase electrical (208-230 single phase, 2 HP power optional +\$100.00). \$10,099 Base, FOB MN.

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Wood Tech Systems

MANUFACTURERS' REPRESENTATIVES

### New L-M Equipment Verticut 2000 PET / Bunk Saw Station

The L-M Verticut 2000 is a true Precision End Trim (PET) saw that is capable of holding a 1/16th accuracy all day long. Made in the USA, the V2k comes equipped with a 15 HP 460/230 volt High-E three phase TEFC motor driving a Double ended Premium "Stellite" inlaid saw bar with a spring loaded chain tensioner and an automatic oiler to lubricate the .404 pitch custom profile semi chisel saw chain.

Rather than a single pivot-point, the saw assembly is mounted on a mandrel box that is guided by cam followers on a steel frame that is raised and lowered by a hydraulic cylinder. A console with the saw controls moves with the saw assembly along a track positioned using a manual "V" wheel geared drive or optional Hydraulic drive



The V2k is unlike other imported systems that are basically a Portable Yard Saw on a cutting rack with a best cutting accuracy of +/-1/8'' (meaning up to  $\frac{1}{4}$ " accuracy variance between units of lumber). The V2k from L-M provides +/-40 thousands, assuring consistent PET precision from unit to unit.

Another advantage L-M has over the competition is their commitment to personal service with unlimited phone assistance and technical help. Their team has traveled the country working on crosscut saws for many years and they know their equipment inside and out. L-M is a familyowned business that prides themselves in doing the job right and building long term relationship that is vital to their business: "Built to last as long as our customers since 1946".

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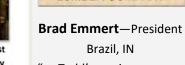
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**Todd Drummond** 

# Sacrificing Your Family Relationships for Bad Company Employment Practices

f you knew now that a promotion or career move would eventually lead to divorce and ruin your relationship with your children, would you think it was worth the

sacrifice? When I'm doing a consultation and ask this during my employee best practices training, everyone thinks this question is quite naive and maybe literally insulting their intelligence. Yet that is happening every day in many companies right now. The drive to meet company goals and achieve career goals drives many to sacrifice family relationships. And, of course, each of us thinks this never will happen to us, until it does.



Competition to achieve promotion and greater wages will never end, and this is by far the biggest driver to push individuals to work longer hours. But at some point, we have to admit that healthy work habits and an honest day's work are expected and should be part of every successful company's practices for their employees.

Statically, men are more willing to sacrifice time devoted to work than women. Simply put, women generally have different priorities than men, which is oriented toward family being the number one priority, especially in the younger years with young children. Women typically have a much better understanding of the importance of a good work-life balance. However, most women do not understand the true competitive nature of men to compete for promotions and wage increases. To better understand the differences between women and men in the workforce, please see "Labor Shortage in the Construction Industry is Partially a Self-Inflicted Wound."

Whether accepted or not, one fact cannot be disputed. And that is that women initiate divorce more often than men on average. Numerous studies have shown this. In fact, depending on which study you review, nearly 70 to 90 percent of divorces are initiated by women. What is the primary



driver of this? In a word, neglect. So often stated is that "he does not give me his time, and he does not spend enough time with the kids." Go ahead and lie to yourself that you are working ridiculously long hours for the sake of your family. Of course, there are exceptions to every rule and outliers to statistics that may pertain to your particular circumstances. Still, when it comes to all the other issues of infidelity, spousal abuse, and other emotional negligence, it usually all starts with neglect. If you are wondering what length of time is neglectful of your family, work that continuously exceeds 50 hours per 5-day work week should be a red flag.

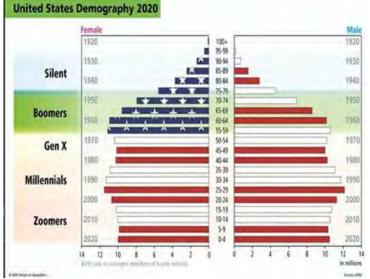


Among executives such as Fortune 500 companies, multiple marriages and infidelity statistics are abysmal. To sacrifice one's family relationships for more money and a title should be viewed as a serious flaw, not an achievement to be praised. Few understand the personal sacrifices one must make to achieve this type of so-called career success.

Now what about the company demands and culture regarding the "needed" work hours devoted to one's position within a company? Sometimes one needs to sacrifice a ridiculous amount of hours for a particular need, such as equipment installation, but that needs to be the exception not the rule. If any company requires employees to work well beyond the 45-hour work week every month, your policies should be reviewed. And to answer the next question from younger readers, yes, a standard 5-day work week of 45 hours is not unreasonable. Just make sure to arrive earlier in the morning and leave a practical time to have dinner with the family. And unless you are the primary home provider raising the children, a 32-hour work week is not full-time.

To the employer, the lack of the number of employees for vacant positions and other internal company issues such as labor costs are not an acceptable excuse for poor employee practices. I highly recommend reading two of my previous important articles about employee labor and practices.

- Labor Shortages Worse Than Most <u>Understand and Automation is Not</u> <u>Going to Be the Cure-All Solution</u>
- <u>Here is What Happens When Continuous</u> <u>Improvement is More than a Slogan</u>



One final statement that each reader should understand involves your role as an employee. At every job, one should either learn or earn. Either is fine. Both are best. But if neither, then leave on good terms. Your reputation as a worthy employee will follow you to your next opportunity. No company or title should be more valuable to you than the relationship between you, your spouse, and your children. We should always keep in mind that family is and always should be the number one priority.



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If you and your team wish to achieve more in less time, then there is no one better at providing your team with proven results for process improvement of employee practices, pricing, truss labor estimation, and so many other best-in-class practices. TDC's tailored solutions are for the client's specific needs. Go beyond the typical software and equipment vendor recommendations for your operations and do what many have dared to do. Embrace the Drummond Method, and your company can experience cost savings, and net profit gains that usually take months or years can be accomplished in weeks or months, resulting in an average of 3 to 6-point net profit gains for CMs. All areas are addressed, not just the manufacturing. Please do not

take my word for TDC's services, though. Read the public testimonials many current and past clients with decades of expertise and experience have been willing to give: <u>https://todd-drummond.com/testimonials/</u>.

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# New Monet DeSawyer 2000 Component Saw



New, Monet DeSawyer 2000, computerized, five-bladed component saw, sets up in 15 to 17 seconds, can run in manual mode, downloads projects from a network or manually using display screen controls. Features all powered movements, cuts from 15" 90/90 cuts to 20 foot length, 2 x 3" to 2 x 12" lumber depths and internal brakes are standard. Options include enhanced servo controls featuring auto-calibration, catcher's display and either shaker or belt scrap conveyor and incline. 440 volt, 3 phase electrical.

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The most common cause of downtime for an automated saw is a lack of lumber on the infeed conveyors.

Feeding a linear saw can be a very labor-intensive process. Operators will fatigue and naturally slow down over the day and loading mistakes can cost a plant significantly in lost productivity. Vekta's Packfeeder solution addresses these issues in an extremely compact, clever manner - making it a viable option for both new and existing plants.

Packs of lumber are loaded onto light-weight racks. Racks with longer lumber are loaded on an upper row while those with shorter lumber are loaded on a lower row. A vacuum head gantry then scans the location of each rack and the profiles of the timber in those racks. When called, a piece of lumber of the correct length and grade is picked up with the vacuum head and delivered to the saw. Vekta Packfeeder requires 75% less space than any other system.



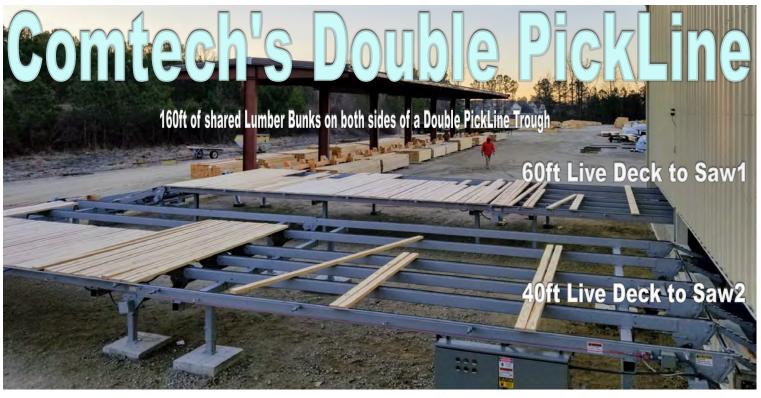
# IT'S ONE THING IN LIFE TO MAKE THE CUT. IT'S ANOTHER TO

# MAKE IT BETTER.

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Designed for high-volume floor truss web output with even greater safety, the Monet DeSauw FWA-500 AC (for "automated controls") offers the very latest in operator-friendly saw technology. Perfect for manufacturers running floor trusses in large volumes with variable web design, the 500 AC features automation for all blades, including the fixed cut-off blade for minimal waste. And without any need to open the saw motor cabinets, except for periodic service, you'll benefit from enhanced safety as well. You might say that with the fully automated FWA-500 AC, Monet DeSauw has set a new standard. Again. Contact us today to discuss how this exceptional machine can positively impact your production goals.

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# One month after installing a Double Lumber PickLine to feed two TCT Linear Saws:

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This equals about 3 less people 10 hours, and 2 less forklifts 10 hours.

Overall, it is a major improvement to our operation. We hope to have the chance to run it two shifts to further accelerate the payback."

Tom Hollinshed, Owner





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# New Monet DeRobo Linear Saw

New, DeRobo linear saw by Monet organizes "fill" boards to increase optimization of each board, can produce unlimited scarf cuts, cuts 1 or 2 boards at a time and cuts webs, chords, wedges, rafters and open-stair stringers. Works with all major connector plate manufacturer's software. Features include 22 inch blade, left-to-right feed direction standard, lumber push and pull grippers for more accuracy, ink marking on the 1 1/2" face of the incoming boards and small piece capture and delivery to the front of the saw for easy access. Infeed deck and bunk feed are shown as options only. 480 volt, 3phase. Call for pricing, FOB MO.

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# IF ONLY YOU COULD NAIL EVERYTHING IN LIFE THIS EASILY.

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**2000** Automill 5-Blade Component Saw 2000 Timbermill model 343H, five (5) blade component saw cuts lumber from 2" x 3" through 2" x 12", lengths from 18 inches to 20 feet, including 4" x 2" four-angle floor webs from 18 inches. All powered movements, includes computer controls, (1) 30", (1) 20" and (3) 14" blades, analog scales, shaker scrap conveyor, scrap incline and extra set of blades. 480 volt, 3 phase electrical required. 90 PSI air required.

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Monet FWA 500 Floor Web Saw

New, Monet five-head, floor truss web saw, cuts 4-angle, 4x2 floor truss webs from 16 inches and 90-90 blocks from 12 inches to four foot long maximum length. Features 10-board magazine feed, powered, fixed-quadrant angulation, manual carriage standard, shaker-pan scrap conveyor with short incline conveyor and cut-off blade. Option for longer carriage length, single-sided setup (shown in pictures, but not standard), dust hood and horizontal scrap conveyor. 480 volt, 3 phase. Call for pricing, FOB MO.

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The truss industry relies on 3rd party quality assurance services to provide random visits to review the plants Quality Assurance program along with their operations. If your plant needs to comply with the IRC, IBC and to those who depend on solid, experienced QA expertise, we ask you to consider selecting Timber Products Inspection, Inc. (TP) as your choice for 3rd party inspections.

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TP would like to welcome the following authorized agents to our inspection team, each of whom have many years of experience in the truss industry!



- Al Coffman
- Jean Hart
- Curt Holler
- Chuck Ray
- Glenn Traylor
- Elliot Wilson

If you have questions about how you can make this selection, please contact your authorized agent above or Glenn Traylor at 919-280-5905 or trusguy@gmail.com.



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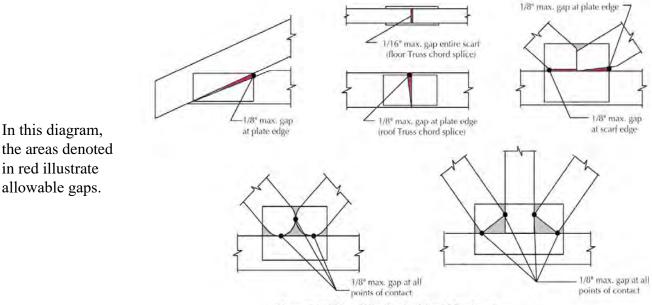
By Glenn Traylor

# Why is the Gaps Limitation So **Important to Truss Fabrication?**

NSI/TPI 1 is a practical guide to manufacturing metal plate connected wood truss. It considers rational expectations and reasonable manufacturing capabilities that help ensure a sound

product. Due to the nature of wood, cutting equipment and processes gaps do occur. These gaps can cause deflection. This can occur over time. Due to labor cost and waste involved, eliminating all gaps can be expensive and not cost effective.

So, which gaps are permissible, or not? Shown is an excerpt from the ANSI/TPI 1 standard, Figure 3.7-4 Wood Member to Wood Member Gaps.



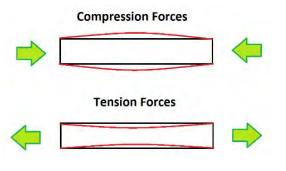
the areas denoted in red illustrate allowable gaps.

Figure 3.7-4 Wood Member-to-Wood Member Gaps,

# Assumptions

Determining if a gap is acceptable relies on a few assumptions:

- 1. The design software assumes that joints are in contact with each other.
- 2. Connectors are not designed to prevent buckling when presented with a compressive force.
- 3. Forces in tension are not subject to buckling but the forces can reverse due to variations in load cases. An example of force reversal would be wind uplift on a normal gravity load.







- 4. When gaps exist, even allowable gaps, eventually over time, the truss will settle, reducing the gap by compressing existing contact area.
- 5. When building floor trusses, consider using a tension design rather than a compressive design (see configuration in the diagram).
- Floating chases help eliminate gaps in floors (see my August 2022 article, <u>What is the Value of a Floating Chase?</u>).

# Reality

What if I have a gap? What can I do about it?

If during fabrication a gap larger than allowed per Section 3.7.6.3 occurs, then a metal shim can be installed to fill the gap. This galvanized shim must be installed with a suitable and approved fastener to prevent accidental removal. Coated metal banding makes a great shim, or truss manufacturers can cut their own shims from galvanized materials.

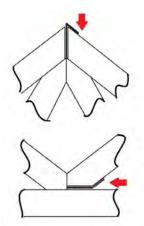
Importantly, wood cannot be used to fill gaps because the material compacts and has very little compression strength. The photo shows an example of wood shims used to fill gaps – this is **not** allowed per the standard.

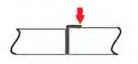
# Mind Your Gaps

Gaps can occur, but careful manufacturing procedures can almost eliminate the problem. When they do occur, you don't have to take the truss apart. Follow the standard and install a metal shim. It's an approved option that will preserve the strength and integrity of your trusses.

An ANSI/TPI 1 3rd Party Quality Assurance Authorized Agent covering the Southeastern United States, Glenn Traylor is an independent consultant with almost four decades of experience in the structural building components industry. Glenn serves as a trainer-evaluator-auditor covering sales, design, PM, QA, customer service, and production elements of the truss industry. He also provides project management specifically pertaining to structural building components, including on-site inspections and ANSI/TPI 1 compliance assessments. Glenn provides new plant and retrofit designs, equipment evaluations, ROI, capacity analysis, and CPM analysis.

Glenn Traylor Structural Building Components Industry Consultant http://www.linkedin.com/in/glenntraylor





**Tension Design** 

**Compression Design** 

Heavy black line shows metal shim, at least 3/4" wide and held in place with a suitable keeper

Red arrow indicates location of keeper







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Choose a Species									¥
Comparison R	esults						(2 ci	tor Selected	Results
Name	Bending (Fb)	Tension Paratlet (F <sub>1</sub> )	Shear Paraliel (Fv)	Compression Perpendicutar (Fra)	Compression Parallet (Fr)	Modulus of Elasticity (E)	Modulus of Elasticity (Esci)	Specific Gravity	Action
SYP MSR 2400F-2.0E 1	2400	1925	190	805	1975	2,000,000	1,020,000	0.57	1
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SPF MSR 1650F-1.5E 1	1650	1020	135	425	1700	1,500,000	760,000	0.42	1
SYP No. 1 2x4 2	1500.	1000	175	505	1650	1,600,000	580,000	0.55	
SPF No. 1 2x4 5	1515	675	135	425	1325	1,400,000	510,000	0.42	1
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Sources Design value source data is 1. MSRUPC 2. Southern Pine Inspectio 3. National Lumber Brade 4. Becht Lumber Inspecti	on Bureau (SP18) 5 Authority (NLSA)		superspript li	n the comparison re	sulta table above				
Footnotes									
A. Values pertain to MSR I and G = 0.46. B. Values pertain to MSR I C. Values pertain to MSR I	lumber graded usi	ng rules auth	norized by Wi	NPA. For lumber gra	ided using rules as	uthorized by WCL	18, Fy = 170 psi		psi
Disclaimers									



"Lumber buyers don't often have access to truss design software to easily determine the allowable substitutions that may inform their purchasing decisions in a meaningful way. This tool helps with that and provides valuable information about species substitution, which is becoming more common in today's market. It's a one-stop shop." -George Hamilton, MSRLPC Board & Website Committee Member

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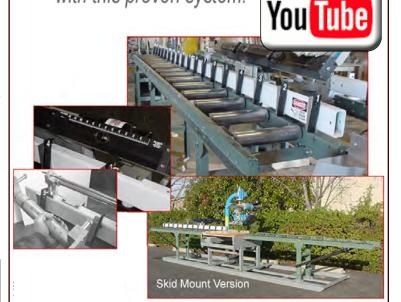
2008 Alpine PF90 Wall Panel Saw 2008 Alpine PF 90 wall panel cutting and marking system. 3.5" x 12" maximum cutting profile, Inkjet option, cuts to 16 ft long. From the OEM's literature, "Effortlessly handles two of the most critical and difficult processes in any wall panel operation - plate cutting and panel layout. At the rate of 1,000 linear feet per hour or more, uses data from the design software and accurately marks stud, cripple and jack locations, job and panel number, subcomponent and window/door locations, and even sheathing locations on both top and bottom plates simultaneously with ink-jet printing.

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# 4,001,398

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Dr. Tuomo Poutanen Kuninkaankatu 41 B 33200 Tampere Finland tuomo.poutanen@tuni.fi +358408490900, www.gjoist.com



## Adaptable Efficiency With the Ranger Retrieval System

- Compatible with linear saws from Alpine, Hundegger, MiTek, Monet Desauw, and Vekta.
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## An automated saw deserves an automated feed system. The Ranger helps you wring maximum production from your saw investment.



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Edmond Lim, P.Eng. LimTek Solutions Inc.

## Feed Any Component Saw with a Lumber PickLine

m, P.Eng. Intions Inc. PickLine will boost the cutting output of all the major automated linear saws out there, simply by recapturing saw idle time.

In fact, my previous articles have highlighted plants with the vast assortment of saw brands that will benefit from the use of a Lumber PickLine. For example, the plant featured in January 2022 has a MiTek Blade, "*Optimize Your Saw with a Lumber Pick Line*"; July 2022 involves the TCT XL, "*ROI with No 'Space' Fear Factor*"; September 2022 has the Monet DeRobo, "*Incremental CapEx ROI and Plant Tours*"; and the May 2023 article is based on an Alpine ALS, "*Incremental CapEx and Accelerated ROI*." Automated component saws are notorious for lost saw idle time, and that is why we can put Lumber PickLines in to feed automated component saws including *MiTek CyberSaw/EasySet series*, *Alpine AutoMill*, *Monet Desauw*, *Auto Omni*, and others to boost cutting output.

All automated component saws can setup within 6 to 14 seconds, and most can easily cut lumber at the rate of 10 boards per minute. On paper, this is more cutting output than a linear saw. However, most truss plants feeding their component saws by forklift will not send a quantity of 3 or less of the same truss to the component saw. But with a Lumber PickLine, a component saw can be turned into a "cut-by-truss" saw *and* a batch cutting saw – the best of both sawing output worlds, and a result you cannot achieve with a linear saw.

With a Lumber PickLine, more trusses can be grouped in a batch to collate and maximize truss table



output. "No more mini batches," which all started with the lumber stretching and/or lumber optimizing capabilities of linear saws which increased cut-piece throughput and simplified the feeding of lumber to linear saws by just stocking long lengths in front of the linear saw. The "lazy" lumber picking was at the expense of truss production as "lumberoptimized pieces" results in unorganized lumber at the tables.



Here is a process analysis and qualitative ROI of an automated component saw with approximately 30% idle time, which is a constraint of their current forklift lumber picking process that cannot get lumber consistently quicker to the saw.

MPONENT MANUFACTURING

The savings will begin to accumulate even before entering the manufacturing plant!

Valuable yard space is used up with forklift lumber picking, as shown in the first photo. Here, a wide forklift path is needed to transport lumber from the dense lumber storage to the saw.

As shown in the second photo, yard space is further "wasted" as the space is reserved for the forklift to maneuver and drop the picked lumber onto the side-feed conveyor.

Whether it's snowing or not, this is a lot of space commitment for forklift tires!





Next, let's talk about what happens as the lumber enters the plant.

At the component saw, the sawyer has to grab the board, lift it up onto the red in-feed arms and feed it into the saw. With longer lengths and larger lumber widths, this is hard on the sawyer.

Furthermore, bad lumber is inefficiently culled at the saw and as such extra pieces are knowingly picked by the forklift picker. The extra pieces and culled lumber end up in the building and need to be dealt with before pulling in the next load of lumber to cut, further slowing down the sawyer.











Instead of the forklift running lumber up to the saw, lumber is dropped into the Lumber PickLine trough (shown on the left in the photo) and the #50-2 roller chain carries each piece of lumber up to the exterior conveyors. Bunks of picking lumber will be placed alongside the lumber trough and the entire yard can be used to manage the daily picking lumber. The forklift will simply replenish the daily picking lumber, resulting in at least an 80% reduction in forklift usage.

As the lumber passes from the lumber trough into the steel lumber incline, there are sensors that will check the lumber picked against the lumber picker's tablet picklist for width of lumber, length of lumber, and quantity of pieces. If there is a discrepancy, the lumber trough will stop and the light will flash red along with an error message on the picker's tablet describing the error detected - wrong board width/wrong board length/wrong quantity. The picker makes the correction and re-starts the lumber trough chain from the tablet and continues picking lumber.

The lumber will progress up the sloping lumber incline up the flat conveyors and bring perfectly collated lumber into the saw building, as shown through the opened overhead door in the photo.





The front sawyer's deck will re-fill automatically up to the raised lumber stops as the saw cuts the lumber. The sawyer is the second line of lumber quality check, and will have the last look of crowning the lumber. If and when a bad board makes it to the front of the conveyor, the sawyer can easily replace the board that the picker "missed" by going out to the PickLine to replace the board and have a teaching moment with the picker.

It is easy to see how the wear and tear on the sawyer is significantly reduced. The sawyer can simply transfer boards from the PickLine front deck into the saw in feed arms by hand or by foot pedal or a semi-automated combination of both. This is a major ergonomic improvement, along with no culled lumber to deal with inside the building. Consistent quality lumber getting to the truss tables will also boost truss production as the number of "piece re-cuts" will be reduced significantly using a Lumber PickLine.

When you're ready to Feed Your Beast and see these efficient and effective systems for yourself, let us know! Inside and out, LimTek Process Organization Technology will help you squeeze out more truss production and deliver quality trusses with shorter lead times to better service your customers by organizing your truss fabrication processes to maximize your investment in automation. <u>https://limteksolutions.</u> <u>com/#solutions</u>











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#### August 2023 #15289 PAGE #51



#### EKSTROM-CARLSON MODEL E STRAIGHT LINE RIP SAW

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- 18" Blade)
- 48" Throat
- Adjustable Rip Fence
- Overhead Holddown
- Automatic Chain Oiler

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2005 PCS / MiTek Twin Axis Sheathing Saw

2005 PCS/MiTek Twin Axis sheathing saw: Cuts X and Y axis simultaneously in one pass through the saw. Cuts up to 1" thick, wood sheathing material, minimum width 3". Fully enclosed to reduce noise, dust, and improve operator safety; automated via downloaded sheathing cutting files from wall design software. Includes 8 foot long idler infeed conveyor and outfeed conveyor with pop-up skate wheels, (1) spare blade and all available spare parts. 220v/440v, 3phase electrical saw, 120v, 1 phase electrical PC. 100 PSI at 14 CFM air required.

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- Waste Conveyor with Short Incline \$35,000 NOW \$27,900 FOB MN

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2019 Mitek Auto Deck (for Mitek Blade Saw) Five Chain Auto Deck (for Mitek Blade Saw)

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SAWS



**2020** Spida Apollo Pull Arm Saw 2020 Spida manual Apollo pull arm saw featuring stroke limiter and locking turntable for setting angles. Cuts angles from 10 to 160 degrees, cross-cut maximum depth of up to 6 inches, with scarf cuts of up to 26 inches long. Saw features a 7.5 HP, 3 phase electric motor, with direct drive of its 17inch diameter blade. Saw frame is tubular steel construction. Includes (2) 16-inch wide x 10-ft long conveyor & cowling for dust extraction. Decommissioned in January of 2023. 230 volt, 3 phase electric required.

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### 2006 Koskovich Omni Miser WFA with WoodRunner Lumber Retrieval

Servo controlled angulation axis of movement for cutting and making wall frame (square & angle cut) components., "D" Print option (both faces, one edge). Includes 5 HP, 3450 RPM, arbor motor, computer monitor, console, 220/440v

3 Ph, spare blade. The WoodRunner Air Pick automated lumber retrieval system includes a single picking head with 10 bunks and 2 magazines. Includes manuals, all available spare parts and spare servo cards, and WoodRunner software source code. Available March 2022.





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By the Eide Machinery Sales Team

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SAWS



#### 2006 MiTek Cyber A/T Component Saw

2006 MiTek Cyber A/T Component Saw. Frame #521, Fully automated five-blade component saw, cutting performed by 2-16" x 7 HP, 2-20" x 7 HP, 1-32" x 13 HP. Windows 7 PC in enclosure for fully automated or manual part input, all powered movements, cuts  $2\times3$  thru  $2\times12$  plus  $4\times2$  lumber. Lengths cut from 14" to 20 feet. Minimum 4-angle cut 22" (17" in manual mode) Belt scrap conveyor included with short incline (approx 4'). Includes skate wheel outfield conveyor and optional "Catcher Display". Includes all available spare blades, spare parts, and manual with schematics. 2480v, 3ph power required.

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2005 Alpine Speed Cut Saw with Speed Cut Express

- Alpine Metra-Cut Saw (5 HP-3 Phase) with 16" Blade
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## Wood Tech Systems



#### Safety Speed Manufacturing Model 7400 XL Panel Saw

Safety Speed Manufacturing, model 7400 XL\*, vertical panel saw, 3 HP induction motor, 64 inch crosscut, 21/8" maximum thickness, accuracy within 0.005 inches, 13 foot long welded steel frame with integrated stand and linear V-guides, enclosed counterweight system, adjustable vertical and horizontal rules. Quick changes from vertical to horizontal cutting. Includes machined aluminum material rollers, hold down bar, wheels, quick stop gauges and material hold downs. Dust collection ready. Options available include digital readouts for vertical cuts, automated length measuring, laser guide, stop bar, vacuum and midway fence. 208-230/460 volt, 3 phase electrical (208-230 single phase, 2 HP power optional +\$100.00).

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# Wood Tech Systems



New Monet DeWall Saw

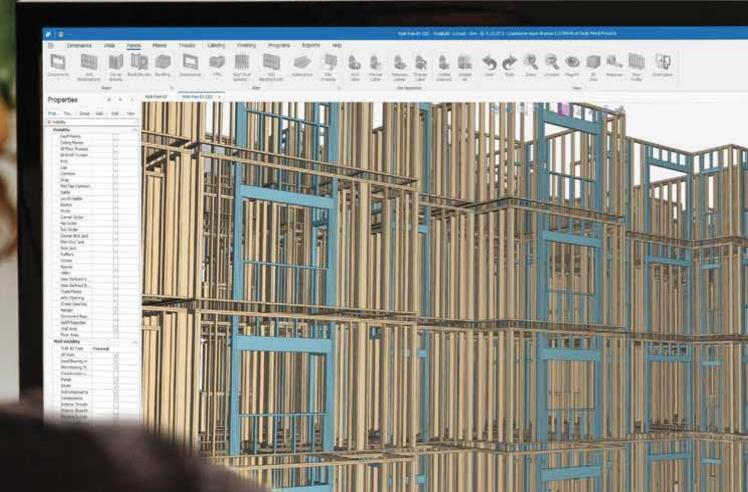
Monet DeWall 90/90 wall panel marking saw is a computer numeric controlled wall panel saw with touch screen user interface. Cuts and marks up to 2 boards at a time using 2x4 through 2x8 or cuts and marks one board at a time. Call for pricing, FOB MO

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SAMSUNG





August 2023 #15289 PAGE #57

# Wood Tech Systems





## New Monet DeSawyer ESC (Servo Controlled) Component Saw

Monet DeSauw model Desawyer ESC enhanced servo-controlled (ESC) component saw with touch screen user interface with backup mechanical controls. Includes three operating modes: Auto (download setups from LAN or USB), Semi-auto (touch screen setup entry), and Manual (backup push-button switches for powering all movements). Includes over-travel protection, comprehensive setup screens, auto sequencing, auto-calibration and pneumatic brakes on all five () blades. One (1) 30" blade and four (4) 16" blades. Manual cut limits are 18" min., 11" min. square edge blocks, 20' max cut. Belt under-saw waste conveyor. Voltage: 480 volt/3 phase/60 Amp. Air: 50 PSI at 5 CFM. One-year warranty included. Can be paired with a model PD-6 lumber feed system at an additional cost. Heavy duty 80 RIV chain feed system. 16' wide x 20' long x 36" deck height. Transfers 3' to 20' lumber. Includes auto-feed control, foot pedal override, forward & reverse, variable speed control with HD double-bearing construction. Other additional-cost options include, inkjet marking, label printing, backside screen display, spare blades and incline scrap conveyor.

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By Thomas Griffin Product Manager

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/TEM-04129						-						Mar 8, 2020 189 Doys Late
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These systems truly shine when interconnected, and the secret to unlocking their full potential lies in mastering the creation of your BOM.

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Electrical Supply:	120 VAC					
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	Length: 16' or 20'					
	Width: Adjustable 8' to 10' or 8' to 12'					
Shipping Weight:	3000 lbs					

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TRUSS EQUIPMENT



#### 2018 Clark Mini Barn Press

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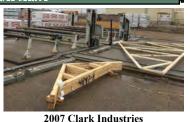
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#### 2007 Clark Industries Horizontal Truss Stacker

Model HVS, Two Unit, 2-Zone, 14' Horzontal Stacking System. Two lifting units (one master and one slave) with integral electrics. A truss sensing system consisting of adjustable laser sensors mounted on slide rails. One indoor electric control enclosure & panel w/PLC and manual controls. A stacker-conveyor interface package comprised of (1) mounted 3-push button enclosure and (1) remotely mounted 2-push button enclosure (pause/ emergncy stop). Hand-held Wampfler Remote Control System. 8 stacking rails and 4 stripping posts. Stack 1 5/8" thick x 14' tall trusses up to 30 high. Stack a truss in approximately 40 seconds (cycle time). Stack up to 55' or longer trusses on each side of the conveyor with minor assistance for truss sag, shorter lengths can be stacked unassisted. Excludes 77' Walk Through Conveyor System. Two systems available at \$25,000 NOW \$19,900 Each. FOB NE.

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- Clamping on Both Sides
- Air Cylinders Under Table
  2 Control Valves for

Clamping

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#### Used Triad G2 Wall Assembly Equipment

Used Triad wall assembly equipment includes 16 ft x 12'-3'' max height framing station, model G2, with (2) two-tool dollies, squaring/ sheathing combo table, model G2 SH-SQ, with multi-tool mount nailing bridge and separate manual-drive router bridge, quantity of (6) 10 ft long x 2 ft wide idler roller conveyors with (4) legs, and Triad model FTCN component nailing station with four Hitachi NR83A nail tools.

Framer includes 16" and 24" color-coded stud locators, pop-up skate wheel conveyors, tool dollies have two tool mounts each (no tools) and powered height adjustment. Sheathing bridge includes joy-stick controls, tool offset, tool tilt, laser guide, power return and mounts for up to (23) Hitachi nail tools. Router and all available spare parts included. 120 volt, 1 phase, 30 Amp electrical required. 100 PSI air required.

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3 Custom Skatewheel Conveyor Tables (10' x 10, 8' x 10' and 6' x 10') Triad Wall Panel Lift 2 Triad Material Carts 2 Triad Tree Carts Extra Senco Nail Guns & Parts

Shipping, Installation & Training is available at additional cost.

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## **Economic Resilience Despite Lingering Recession Fears**

By The Lesko Financial Services Team

The U.S. economy started the second half of 2023 with a sense of resilience and more optimism than last year at this time. Inflation has been trending downward since its peak in June of 2022; the Federal Reserve hit the 'pause' button on interest rate hikes; the job market has been surging; and unemployment remains low.

Adding to recent positive news was the relatively calm resolution of the U.S. debt ceiling extension and a lack of any lingering significant contagion from the regional bank failures earlier in the year. Also, GDP figures from the First Quarter have been revised upward to 2% annual growth. Better-thanexpected consumer spending was a major factor in driving that final revision higher than first thought.

The markets are still volatile and overly sensitive to the latest economic headlines. But the S&P 500 ended the second quarter and first half of 2023 at a 14-month high and most

major stock indices logged solid gains in the second quarter. This was helped along by the pause in the Fed's rate hikes and stronger-than-expected corporate earnings.

But many economic indicators have been sending mixed signals which could be interpreted as glass-half-full or half-empty. This is leading many forecasters to voice concerns and to remain cautious going into Quarter 3.

#### Expectations as we move beyond the mid-point of the year

**Inflation** – Year-over-year inflation declined to 3% in June, the lowest it's been since March of 2021. Prices have been trending downward since a high of 9.1% in June of last year. Consumers are paying less for some food items and prices at the gas pump have remained relatively steady. If downward trends continue, the next quarter could begin to ease fears that inflation remains too sticky.

**Jobs** – The U.S. employment market has continued to be strong, adding an average of 63,000 jobs per month. The total number of job openings has ticked slightly downward to 9.8 million but there are still more openings than qualified candidates to fill them. In addition, the unemployment rate declined to 3.6% in May. And wages ticked up an unexpected 4.4%.



**Key Points:** 

Continued resilience in Q2

More rate hikes likely

Inflation cooled to 3% in June

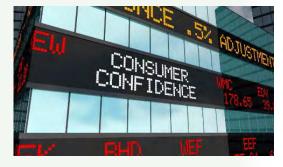
Fed paused rate hikes in June

Jobs picture remains strong

Some still fear a recession

**Economic Growth** – There are lingering recession fears even as predictions about a hard landing for the economy are beginning to recede from some forecasts or are being pushed into the 4th Q of this year or Q1 of 2024. Many who still see a recession on the horizon have, at the very least, softened their predictions to be milder than they were earlier in the year. The more optimistic forecasters are predicting second-quarter growth between 0.6 and 1%.

**Consumer Confidence** – Despite the challenges of higher interest rates, and some real wage gains being eroded by inflation, consumers are still benefitting from the surplus in savings—over two trillion dollars—that households accumulated during the pandemic. But higher rates are starting to impact the household budget, especially with jumps in credit card interest. Also, student loan forbearance is ending in Q3, and tighter lending standards may also have an impact. So far, however, consumers still seem eager to continue to spend on vacations and other leisure activities.



**Stocks** – The outlook for stocks and bonds is mostly positive but many analysts believe stock valuations are still too high and expectations too optimistic. Some venture capitalists and stock traders have been exuberant about anything relating to artificial intelligence, while others are comparing AI to the '90s dot-com frenzy. The markets remain overly attuned to the latest buzz and will likely remain volatile in the next quarter.

**Interest Rates** – After 10 successive interest rate increases, the Fed paused its hikes in June but has indicated that more could be forthcoming, depending on inflation and other indicators. The Fed is especially troubled by the hot job market, seeing it as a possible sign the economy isn't cooling off enough to bring inflation down. The Fed meets again in late July to assess the data and make a decision on interest rates.



## Looking ahead

Analysts who forecast a further slowing of the economy point out that we have yet to feel the full impact of the Fed's aggressive rate hikes and that historically these measures have taken far longer than many expect to impact economic growth.

Those weighing in on the side of optimism maintain that 'resilience' is still the word that best describes what has taken place this year—especially in the second quarter—and they see that continuing. Tempered optimism seems a prudent way to approach the coming months. So far, avoiding sudden moves and quick decisions while taking advantage of opportunities that have emerged have served investors well.

It may be a good time to talk with your advisor to make sure your portfolio is balanced, look at exposure to risk, and revisit allocations in light of your near- and far-term goals. Our advisors are ready and available to review your situation to help you stay on track over the next six months and beyond. Please let us know how we can ease any concerns you have and, meanwhile, enjoy the warmer weather and the summer weeks ahead. <u>www.leskofinancial.com</u>







Developed for commercial wall panel production facilities this is the remarkable ProStack, fully automated wall panel stacker. The ProStack II relieves your build team from creating a stack of wall panels and keeps them building walls instead. Stacks 2×4 through 2×8 walls up to 20' in length and up to 12 feet in height. The ProStack automatically centers each layer including multiple wall segments on the same layer, and the ability to "create" fork lift pockets for ease of loading in your yard or on the build site. It can stack left, right or center-justified. Designed without any overhead frame or apparatus, so no crane inspections are required. The ProStack is "event driven", so there is no need to read a file. 208 volt, 3 phase, 45.3 full Amp load electrical required. No air required. Footprint is 26'-5"L x 19'-3"W. ProStack II can operate with you existing powered conveyors or select optional matching conveyors:

#### **ProStack Wall Panel Tilt In-Feed Conveyor:**

System can tilt wall panels (12'W x 16'L) to approx. 75° for working access to install blocking, windows, or inspection/repair of "shiners" on sheathed wall segments. System utilizes hydraulic power from an existing ProStack wall panel auto-stack system.

#### **Powered In Feed**

conveyor section, Chain drive under top and bottom plate for access to inspect sheathing fasteners - 12'W x 16'L, adjustable working height from 28" to 34".

#### **Powered Out-Feed**

conveyor section, full-width, HD roll-top for easy access to banding operation. 12'W x 16'L, adjustable working height from 28" to 34".

#### Here are some of the features of the ProStack Wall Panel Stacker:

- Wall Length Max 16'
- Wall Height Range 8' to 12'
- Material 2×4" through 2×8"
- Total Weight capacity 6,000 lbs. •
- Total stack Height Max - 6'
- · This unit stacks on-center
- System is able to stack on-center layers that have multiple wall segments ٠
- · Siemens® HMI touch-screen controls
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- Speed 45-60 seconds per wall layer
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## **2007 Panels Plus Combo Table** with Multi-tool Bridge

2007 Panels Plus Combination Table, allows you to frame, square and sheath wood wall panels on one,16 foot long table x 12 foot framer for wall heights from 6'-9" to 12'-4". Builds both  $2 \times 4$  and 2×6 walls. Clamps wall prior to nailing. Table

includes push button controls, color-coded stud locators at 16 inches & 24 inches o.c. spacing, squaring stops, motorized telescoping arms, skatewheel ejectors and powered tool bridge. Sheathing nailing bridge includes powered travel, joy-stick & key pad controls, air manifold, manual fine tuning, tilt and seam nailing. No tools or mounts included. 30 CFM at 120 psi air required, and 120 volt, 1-phase electrical required.

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## Wood Tech Systems REPRESENTATIVES

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## 2021 Panels **Plus Wall Panel** Assembly

#### Equipment

Panels Plus Framing station, one station without tool carriages, for assembling wood wall panels up to 16'-0" in length, 4'-0" to 12'-4" in height, includes stud locators, air clamping, sub-air tank, skate wheel ejectors and optional swing gates. Consists of a framing table with squaring edge, stud locators, pop-up rollers, foot switch, pushbutton controls- stationary side, and a motorized telescoping side.

Includes optional UL certification. 10 CFM at 120 PSI air required. 110 volt, 1 phase electrical required.

Panels Plus Sub-component tables, one pair, one fixed and one adjustable table, each table 12 ft x 3'-6" footprint with squaring edges on one long and one short side of one table with skate wheel ejectors, for sub-components up to 12' long, 3'-6" to 14'-0" in height. The tables are for building rough opening sections. They feature pop-up rollers, a squaring edge, and a manual telescoping side to easily adjust and set the wall height. The pop-up rollers make it easy to move product down the production line. 5 CFM at 120 PSI air required.

Panels Plus conveyors, three pairs of In-feed 10 ft long skate wheel conveyors with stands.

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## PANEL EQUIPMEN'



New Component Table with **Skatewheel Conveyors** Lift & Extend Skatewheel Conveyors. 10' x 10' Work Area with Squaring Lip. Gun Holster & Nail Tray. \$12,500 FOB NE

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- 1" Stroke Air Clamps
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## August 2023 **PAGE #75**



#### New Panels Plus Wall Panel Framing Equipment

Consider Panels Plus wall panel assembly equipment for manufacturers of wood or steel wall panels, floor-panels, and related framing components. Panels Plus is an employee owned, ISO certified, manufacturing company that builds state-of-the-art equipment featuring durable construction, with fit and finish second to none in the structural building component industry. The referenced base framing table allows you to assemble from 7-12 foot wall heights, at industry standard 16 foot lengths, at a working height of 29 to 32 inches. This framer design includes controls at each end of table, squaring stops and pneumatic clamping for consistent wall panel quality. Frames 2x4 or 2 x 6 walls, with color-coded, steel stud locators at 16 and 24 inches O.C. spacing. Includes pop-up skate wheels for easy transfer of completed wall frame. Framing table can be configured to receive wall framing light bars, other options include custom buildable wall heights, lengths and auto-indexing of optional 2 or 3 tool carriages.

Additionally from Panels Plus are sheathing tables with features that include foot pedal control at squaring end of table, with squaring stops, roller conveyors at both sides, single pendant controls for bridge, tool spacing at 6 inch centers with 3 inch bridge shift for offset nailing. Tool bridges can accommodate from 2 x 4 to 2 x 8 walls, with seam tilt being standard equipment Panels Plus Tool Bridges are available with single beam or dual beam design for two different tool mounts on one bridge.

Squaring stations, sub-component tables, conveyors and panel lifts are also available to complete the configuration of the wall panel assembly line. Price includes factory installation and training. 50 CFM at 120 psi air. 120 or 230 volt, 1 phase electrical. 765-751-9990 www.woodtechsystems.com

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Jared Powell, Vice President of Operations Component Manufacturing & Reaves Buildings



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- 278% more air tank capacity
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- Automatic tilting of nail guns (for example on seams)
- Auto-positioning nailers, at 16" & 24" 0C
- Easily set "rules" for your nailing profile(s)
- Vertical axis servo control, for wall thicknesses
- Laser sensors for material detection (won't fire nails over openings)
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#### PANEL EQUIPMENT



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#### WITH SHEATHING BRIDGE • 16' x 12' Squaring Table with Powered

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#### Generation 3, Used 2018 Triad Framing Table

The Generation 3 Framing Table has adjustable 20' long walls. With just a push of a button, the width adjustment clamp is activated to clamp and square all components. The Generation 3 Framer features a wider table top, designed with the framer in mind. Our new Anti-Slip Surface allows the operator to work on a comfortable and safe surface.

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#### 2021 Triad Router Bridge & Portion of V-Track

2021 Triad Routing Bridge with approximately (20) feet of v-track. Fits over tables that build up to 12' nominal height wall panels. Includes powered automatic bridge return, powered vertical router movement, manual fine adjustment wheel, manual vertical router travel with chain drive and (1) Milwaukee router, catalog #5625-20 120 volt, 1 phase, 15 Amp electrical required. No table included.

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**IBS Tool Bridge & Router Bridge** IBS multi-tool bridge with (24) tool stations. Bridge features auto-return, button controls and laser guide mount. Fits up to 12' nominal rail centers. IBS router bridge features (1) router, laser guide mount and lever-switch button controls. Fits up to 12' nominal rail centers. Sold as a pair. Includes all available floor mounted, v-rail. Both bridges missing laser sub-assembly. 120vac, 120psi air.

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## New Panels Plus Floor Cassette Framing Station Price: \$Call for pricing FOB: MN

New Panels Plus floor framing machine, supports the structural members creating floor sections from 2" x 6" LVL through 2" x 10" to 2" x 12" dimensional lumber, 20" deep wood floor trusses or engineered wood / I-joists. Standard footprint of floor panels (cassettes) up to 12' wide x 45' long. Table consists of a fixed section and a track-guided, moveable section controlled by either a foot switch or push-buttons.

Includes a series of color-coded locator pins at 16", 19.2 and 24" on-center spacing and clamping with squaring feature including foot pedal control. The locators individually flip down if a joist comes out on top of them. After the floor is complete and unclamped, the floor section can be raised up on skate-wheel conveyors and rolled out or lifted off the table using an overhead crane. Table height is 24.5", OAL 45.5 ft, OAW 14.5 ft. 120 volt, 1 phase, 15 Amp electrical required. 90 to 120 PSIG at 15 CFM air required.

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By Thomas McAnally TheJobLine.com

# **Building Your Own Home – Part VI Exteriors and (Almost) Utilities**

ast month, I thought we would be completely dried in with utilities run by the end of July, but instead we are almost dried in and utilities remain on the to-do list. We had some issues matching the metal siding and roofing colors with the stone color, which necessitated having a hands-on look at multiple samples and a two-week delay in getting the siding.

The siding was delivered July 24, but the team wasn't available to begin work again until July 31, pushing utilities out as they needed the siding before running the electrical supply to the house. We didn't want the utility crew working around the house while Graber installed siding. On the bright side though, these two weeks were put to good use, with drywall and insulation subs coming out to confirm their bids and identify potential issues, savings, and methods. Several good ideas and best practices were learned during these visits, as were some well-received price reductions.





Our insulation contractor identified areas to save money and timing issues for foam insulation and drywall. Insulation is usually installed before drywall, but a few areas will need pre-drywall to provide a backer to spray on. When you consider that some exterior walls are inaccessible or will have two sides that get drywall, one side has to be in place to insulate. This is something the drywall contractor said is normal and not an issue.



One major accomplishment was getting doors and windows installed. The system they use with Typar tape corners at window openings looks leakproof. The 12' sliding glass door in the living room opens onto a 15' x 45' covered back porch, providing lots of shade to protect from the sun, and blowing rain protection. The garage door crew installed the garage door in a few hours. That means we are secure, as secure as lock sets can provide.

Other items needing attention are pre-wiring areas covered by siding, eve closure, and porch ceilings. That includes can lights, ceiling fans, flood lights, POE cameras, and speaker wiring. I am personally doing the low-voltage part, and have discovered muscles I haven't used in years, crawling through trusses, and climbing ladders. With wireless being prevalent in most homes, I still want CAT6 wire to all TVs, POE security cameras, all over the office for equipment, and 300' to the power center for a WiFi tower to reach anywhere on the property. We are lucky to have fiber here,



so I want to take advantage of the speed it brings. That is best accomplished using CAT6 cables and a central rack mount hub for equipment and WiFi routers.

In August, we will have the exterior done. Electrical, plumbing, and HVAC contractors will start their rough-in phases. Then, we will run utilities to the house from the central power center. Because everything is ready to extend from the power center, it will be done in one day. The excavator, who has become a great friend,

wants to trench water 6' deep using a 2" pipe, providing lots of nice cold water to the house. Power, fiber, plus CAT6 back to the power center, and propane will be run with sleeves at driveway crossings as required. Septic will come later.

It's not as exciting as watching the house go up, but now the real work starts.

Next month: Managing expectations and next steps



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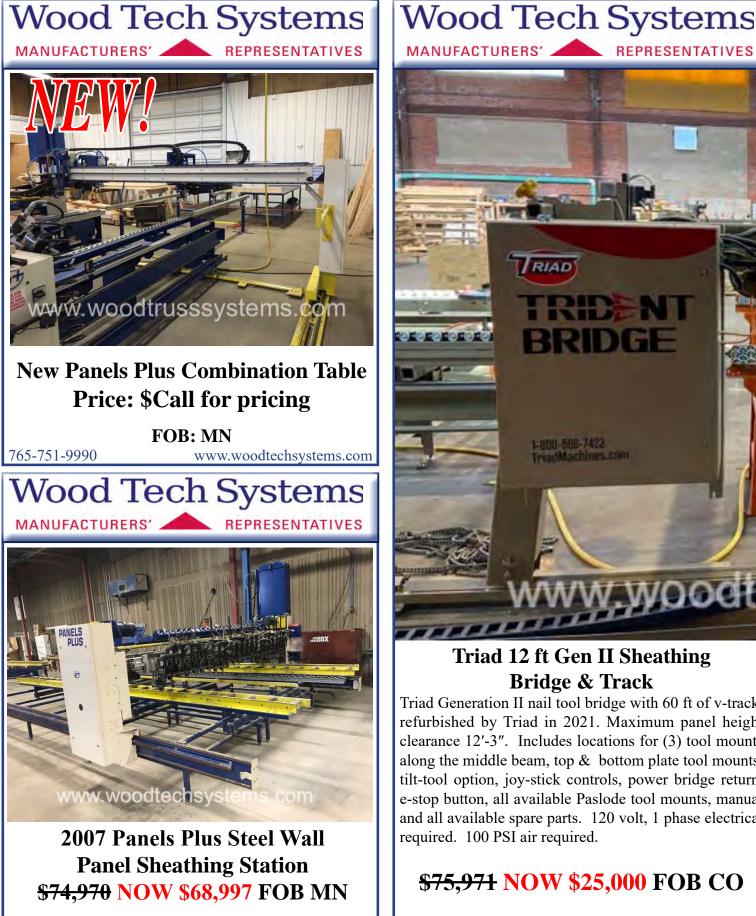
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s I approach four decades in this industry (!), the list of building code and design requirements that seem odd to me continues to grow. I am the first to acknowledge that the primary goal in designing a home is, and should be, occupant safety. But there are some requirements and inconsistencies that have me shaking my head. I am addressing this primarily from my Canadian background, but I am sure those of you working in the U.S. or elsewhere can find similar oddities in your codes and engineering approaches.

- Snow will always fall onto single family house roofs in a nice, uniform blanket at least that is what the Canadian building code presumes. Of course, this is not really the case, because snow from the windward side of any peaked roof will tend to accumulate to a greater extent on the leeward side, creating an unbalanced loading condition. If exactly the same roof configuration occurred on a commercial building, we would need to address that possibility, but not when it happens on a house.
- Similarly, the depth of that snow blanket is typically assumed to be  $\sim$ 33% greater on the commercial building than the residential one.
- And further, with rare exceptions, wind is not considered to be a design consideration for roofs in Canada. Two years ago, a small but still significant tornado went through my hometown, destroying several homes and severely damaging others. Would designing for wind, and including hurricane clips to secure the trusses to the walls, have prevented all the damage? Of course not, but it would be foolish to think that it wouldn't have helped. Decades of research on the effect of wind on houses has shown that keeping the roof intact is a key component of maintaining the integrity of the building and preventing a domino effect of damage. A study completed in Canada over 40 years ago, following a tornado event that resulted in many homes and cottages being lifted clean off their foundations, resulted in increased requirements to anchor the house to the foundation. However, there was a conscious decision *not* to address anchorage of the roof to the framing. Why not? Basically just the couple hundred extra dollars it would have added to the construction cost.



When designing trusses, especially girders or long span trusses, bearing contact area is often a limiting factor. Essentially, we consider that under very high loading conditions the wood of either the truss bottom chord, the wall top plate, or both may be crushed somewhat. Here is my take on this – if a truss or beam member fails in bending strength, the roof could fail and people could be hurt; if that same member fails in shear strength, the roof could fail and people could be hurt; if that same member deflects too much,



we could see or feel unacceptable amounts of deflection and undesirable performance. If the top plate or bottom chord get crushed a bit, it is highly unlikely that anyone will ever know. If you don't believe me, take a piece of 2x4 framing lumber and put it in a vice. Tighten the vice until it is snug, then continue tightening. It is likely that after the wood is compressed (crushed) about 1/8" you will find it very difficult to tighten the vice further. This is essentially the concern when limiting bearing capacity.

With apologies to my friends who work at the various truss connector companies, scissor slider brackets are a waste of time in most residential conditions. I understand that there is a need to limit the amount of horizontal movement that will theoretically occur in cathedral ceiling arrangements, especially high pitch scissor trusses, parallel chord scissors, etc. This limit is generally ~1" under total load. Brackets are available, and commonly required, to allow one end of the truss to move laterally, while simultaneously keeping the truss secured to the wall. But here is my thought. These brackets have been in common use to my knowledge for something like 35 years. In that time, literally thousands of them have been installed in roofs supplied by the various companies where I've worked. Now, look up at the ceiling at the outside wall of your house, and imagine that the roof and ceiling were to move outwards 1" while the wall stays where it is. What are you likely to see? Well, I would guess that you would soon see a tear in the taped joint at the ceiling. This would then soon result in an angry call from the homeowner to the builder and then on to the truss supplier. For most of my years in the industry, those calls would have almost always been directed to me. But in 35 or so years, I have yet to get one call or hear about a single case where the drywall joint failed because of horizontal movement. What that tells me is that sliding doesn't really happen on light frame roofs in the real world.

So, those are some of the situations I have encountered at the intersection where reality and the codes meet. Are there things in your building code that seem unusual, inconsistent, or just plain silly? I'd love to hear them! Likewise, if you have any other tips to share that help with installation and bracing, please pass them along.

If you want help finding that next perfect component designer or design job in Canada, please contact me. If your work is in the mass timber world anywhere in North America, I'd love to talk to you about connecting you to that next great job or candidate. You can reach me at <u>secord@thejobline.com</u>, or 800-289-5627 ext. 2. I'm also happy to engage at: <u>LinkedIn.com/in/geordiesecord. www.thejobline.com</u>



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# ANSI/TPI 1: The National Design Standard for Metal Plate Connected Wood Truss Construction

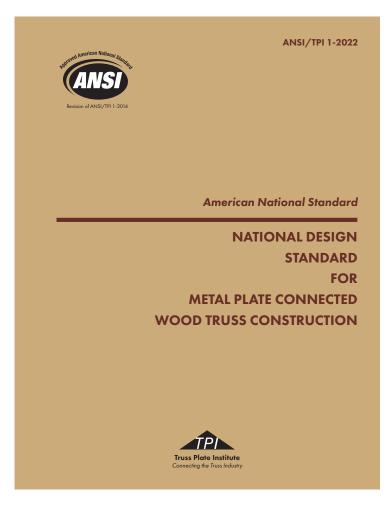
By Jay P. Jones, P.E. Executive Director, TPI

> fter more than three years in development, I'm pleased to announce the publication of ANSI/TPI 1–2022 *National Design Standard for Metal Plate Connected Wood Truss Construction*. Including a Commentary & Appendices, this standard is available for purchase in print and downloadable digital versions from the Truss Plate Institute at <u>www.tpinst.org</u>.

We all know that it's important to review our standards on a regular basis, so that we can update and improve them over time. Businesses evolve, technology evolves, and so too should our definition of best practices. Most importantly, our fundamental standard, ANSI/TPI 1, is developed through a consensus process that allows all interested parties to participate in the creation of the final product.

The Truss Plate Institute began the process of revising the prior version, ANSI/TPI 1–2014, in December 2019 with the formation of a Project Committee representing a cross-section of the industry. In May 2022, TPI officially opened the Public Review & Comment period for the draft BSR/TPI 1–2022 (revision to ANSI/TPI 1–2014) National Design Standard for Metal Plate Connected Wood Truss Construction. The new standard is the culmination of this process.

The ANSI/TPI 1 standard establishes minimum requirements for designing and







constructing metal-plate-connected wood trusses. It describes the materials used in a truss, both lumber and steel, and design procedures for truss members and joints. Methods for evaluating the metal connector plates, manufacturing quality assurance, and responsibilities in the design process involving metal-plate-connected wood trusses are also contained in the standard. The industry has

ANSI/TPI 1-2022 COMMENTARY & APPENDICES
Commentary & Appendices to
NATIONAL DESIGN
STANDARD
FOR
METAL PLATE CONNECTED
WOOD TRUSS CONSTRUCTION
Truss Plate Institute Connecting the Truss Industry

used the standard in earlier versions since the early 1960s. Updates and revisions have regularly occurred to keep pace with the industry's everchanging needs and innovations.

New in the 2022 edition are provisions for top-chord-bearing trusses and a methodology for analyzing reinforced web members, and additional updates have been included to reflect the latest industry knowledge and expertise.

Furthermore, ANSI/TPI 1–2022 will be referenced in the 2024 International Building Codes. This will enable all jurisdictions adopting the 2024 *International Building Code (IBC)* and 2024 *International Residential Code (IRC)* access to the current guidelines for our industry.

By having a national standard, we demonstrate our commitment, as an industry, to maintaining an expected level of quality in our products. Please join me in thanking everyone who participated in this process to ensure our national standard is reflective of the best practices of our industry.



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By MiTek Staff

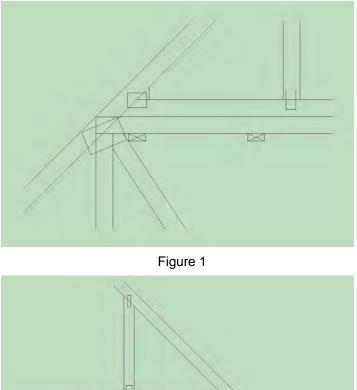
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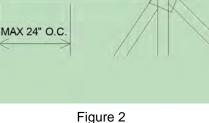
## **Flat Top Chord Bracing**

Top chords are usually braced by roof sheathing. Roof sheathing provides effective lateral bracing when nailed directly to the top chord. In cases where roof sheathing cannot be directly applied to the top chord, purlins are used to prevent lateral buckling of truss top chords. The Truss Designer must take this into consideration when choosing the size and properties of the members during the design process.

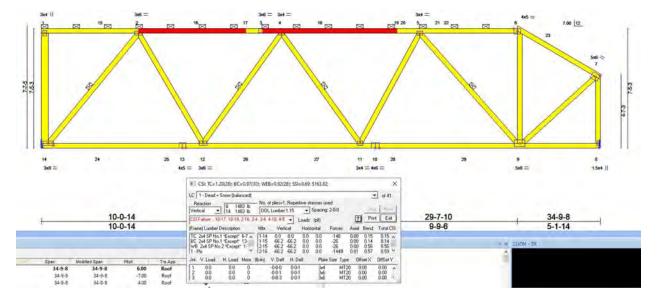
One such case is the flat area of the top chord on a piggyback base truss. Piggyback base trusses have a flat section where a smaller piggyback or cap truss will set on it. You can either have a flat section of top chord of piggyback base truss flush with the piggyback bottom chord as shown in Figure 1 or raise the bottom chord of the piggyback 1-1/2" as shown in Figure 2.

For the scenario in Figure 1, the cap truss sets directly on the base truss so that the connection between the cap and base can be made directly. To prevent lateral buckling of the top chord of the base truss, the purlins must be installed below the top chord. For Figure 2, the purlins are installed on the top of the top chord of the base truss and the cap sits on the purlins. In each scenario, if continuous sheathing is run on the top chord of the base truss there is no way to connect the trusses together due to the sheathing being in the way. Also, by sheathing the interior chord of the base truss, ventilation would be limited between the base and cap section of the truss.





Another case is trusses with a dropped flat top chord. Flat top chord is usually dropped specifically for purlins and must be run that way in the engineering program. Figure 3 shows how the top chord lumber could fail if designed as sheathed and then checked with purlins instead of sheathing.

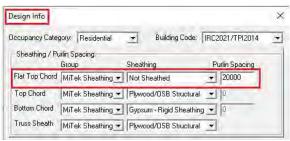




To switch from sheathing to purlins in MiTek 20/20 Engineering, see Figure 4.

To switch from sheathing to purlins in Structure with Truss Design, see Figure 5.

Note that when switching to purlins, always start with a maximum of 2' o.c. spacing. When running the cap trusses as continuous bearing, it is required that the purlins below are spaced at no greater than 2' o.c. for it to be considered continuous bearing. With purlins spaced greater than 24 inches on center the cap trusses must be analyzed with bearings where the purlins are. Along with the cap trusses being analyzed without continuous bearing the base trusses would need to be analyzed with point loads from the cap bearing locations instead of the uniform load from the caps. Therefore, we recommend limiting the purlin spacing to 2' o.c.





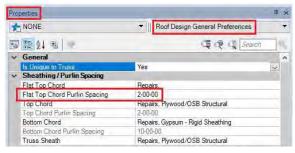


Figure 5

For additional information, or if you have questions, please contact the MiTek Engineering department.



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The Razer V5 is the full-featured version of the Razer saw, designed to have maximum flexibility and capability. The V5 can perform trench cuts, drilling, miter cuts at various angles, courtesy cuts (shallow cuts on the underside of wall bottom plates on either side of door openings) zero-overcut birdsmouth cuts and several other functions.











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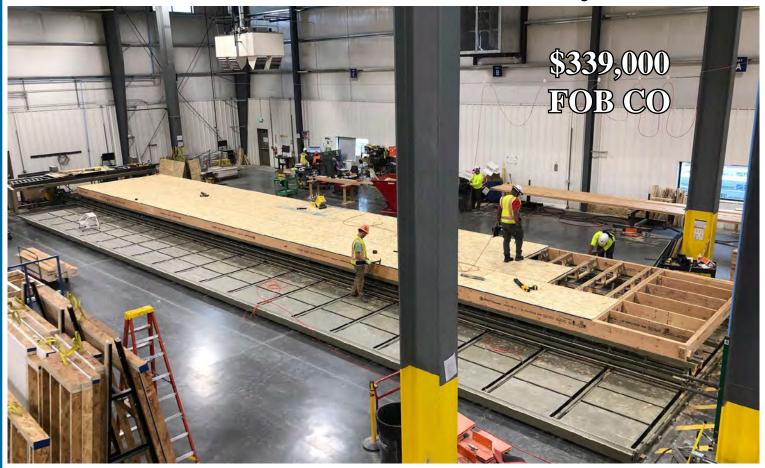
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MISC





2021 Gorbel crane frame with 1,000 lb electric chain hoist

Purchased but never installed. Manual (x, y) movements, powered vertical movement. 15-ft wide bridge x 23 ft long x 14 ft height. Hoist moves at 16 feet per minute, includes pendant control, chain container and centering strap to minimize the need to reach for the control pendant. Last 3 photos show current condition & status. Other photos are of matching crane frame with hoist in place. 115 volt, 1 phase electrical required.

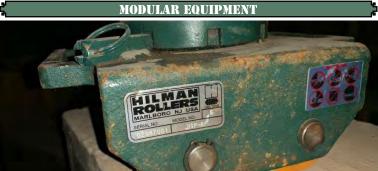
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   <u>Additional Details</u>

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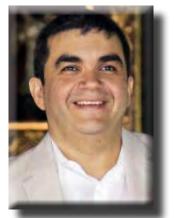
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By Diego Polanco Product Owner at Alpine

# Simplify Your Wall Panel Production Process with the Panel Stacker

omponent manufacturers are continually improving production environments to optimize performance in order to maintain market position. Planning and organizational tools are essential for streamlining the production workflow. Wall panel projects in particular require careful planning in order to ensure optimal efficiencies in manufacturing and installing.

When manufacturing a wall panel project, all production panels must be organized into bundles for cutting, assembly, delivery, and installation. Proper panel bundling is as important for manufacturing as it is for installation crews. An error in the bundling results in issues within the production line, materials, shipping, storage, and an overall poor installation experience onsite. Organizing the wall panels into bundles is a tedious, cumbersome process for panel designers—often taking hours. In a recent IntelliVIEW® Suite (22.01) release, a new tool was introduced in iPanel that improves panel manufacturing and installation—the Panel Stacker.



Easily organize, bundle, and stack wall panels with the Panel Stacker.







## The Panel Stacker

The Panel Stacker introduces a set of tools and workflows for panel designers to easily organize, bundle, and stack wall panels and beams automatically, semiautomatically, or manually—ultimately allowing designers to sequence panels and automate bundling in the required order for onsite installation.

### Layout View and Stacking Tools

The new interface effortlessly creates bundles automatically with one simple click per level. Each bundle or group created follows a smart sequence identifying exterior and interior production lines. Designers are afforded the ultimate flexibility with the manual, semi, and automatic aids. The Layout View and Stack Grid utilize colors for bundles and panels to help designers quickly identify elements during pre-production audit. The Stack Grid control will also provide the needed information for proper load balancing for shipping. The Stack Location Notes feature marks the ultimate location of the stack for onsite installation.

### Stack View and Panel Tools

The Stack Elevation View will show all the panels within a stack and provide important information for the designer (e.g., panel label, length, openings, sheathing, angle cut, and framing details). Panels will be highlighted with colors to quickly identify problems, variation of the most common height, rotated panels, among others. The Stack View is a visual representation of the stack, allowing designers to move panels with ease to a precise position within a stack, from stack to stack, top to bottom or bottom to top, left to right, rotate the panels and/or beams, or add forklift blocks— the flexibility is yours. Lastly, designers will be able to apply global modifications to panel labels to improve sequencing. Panel Stacker simplifies the bundling and stacking process—saving time panel designers spend on creating bundles and stacking while minimizing the potential issues executing the project. Contact your local Alpine<sup>®</sup> Sales Representative about how to leverage these tools to improve your business today.

<u>Watch our video</u> to see how the Panel Stacker can automatically visualize and stack panels for seamless production and shipping.



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core, from 6-ft to 8-ft heights. Electronic, programmed controller manages the loading process. Loader positions the door stacks adjacent to the door machine infeed to save effort of the operator. Pneumatic motor and heavy-duty drive train provide dependable continuous use. Cycle time approximately (30) seconds per loaded door slab.

Footprint approx. 10' x 10' x 11'. Weight 2,000 lbs. 120 volt, 1 phase, 15 Amp electrical required. 120 PSI at 20 CFM (1/2" ID line min.) air required.

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If you have questions about how you can make this selection, please contact your authorized agent above or Glenn Traylor at 919-280-5905 or trusguy@gmail.com.



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## Safety First! Safety Meeting Topics

## Sea Precavido con el aire comprimido

From State Fund CA.

## Take Care With Compressed Air

Compressed air tools are commonly used in many workplaces. Many workers take them for granted, ignoring the hazards involved in their use. Compressed air is not "just air." Its a focused stream of air driven at a high velocity, which can cause serious injury or death to its operator or persons in the immediate area.

Fooling around with compressed air can be lethal. In one case, a blast of air playfully directed behind a worker startled him and caused him to fall against a moving piece of machinery. A misdirected blast of compressed air can "pop" an eyeball from its socket, rupture an eardrum or cause a brain hemorrhage. Directed at the mouth, it can rupture the lungs and intestines. If used to blow dust or dirt off clothing or body parts, it can cause bubbles of air to enter the blood stream, even through a layer of clothing, and inflate and rupture body organs.

To prevent accidental injury when working with compressed air, here are several precautions to follow:

- A compressed-air tool operator must wear eye protection and other appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Before operating an air hose, examine all connections to make sure they are tight and will not come loose under pressure. A loose air hose can make a dangerous bullwhip.
- Check the air hose carefully to make sure it is in good condition before opening the valve to let air into the hose; when the job if finished, turn off the valves on both the tool and the air line.
- Hold the nozzle when turning the air on or off.
- Before turning on the air pressure, make sure that dirt from machinery will not be blown onto other workers.
- Don't kink the hose to stop the airflow; always turn off the air and the control valve.
- Continuously check the condition of a compressed air tool and the air hose for damage or signs of failure.
- Never point a compressed air hose nozzle at any part of your body or another person.
- Never use compressed air for a practical joke.
- Never look into the "business end" of a compressed air tool.
- Never use compressed air for cleaning work clothes or machinery.
  Keep air hoses out of aisle ways where they can be damaged by traffic or be a tripping hazard.

Compressed air tools are safe and reliable when properly and sensibly used.



Las herramientas de aire comprimido se utilizan comunmente en muchos lugares de trabajo. Muchos trabajadores no les prestan suficiente atención y hacen caso omiso de los riesgos que conlleva su uso. El aire comprimido no es "solamente aire". Es una corriente concentrada de aire impulsada a alta velocidad, la cual puede causar serias lesiones o la muerte a su operador o a las personas que se encuentran en las inmediaciones.

Jugar con el aire comprimido puede resultar mortal. En una ocasión, un chorro de aire dirigido en broma a espaldas de un trabajador, lo sobresaltó de tal modo que le hizo caer contra una parte en movimiento de una máquina. Un chorro de aire comprimido lanzado en dirección equivocada puede sacar un globo ocular de su órbita, romper los t'mpanos o causar una hemorragia cerebral. Dirigido a la boca, puede desgarrar los pulmones y los intestinos. Si se usa para quitar polvo o suciedad de la ropa o del cuerpo, puede hacer que penetren en la sangre burbujas de aire, por encima incluso de la ropa, e inflar y desgarrar órganos del cuerpo. Para prevenir lesiones accidentales cuando trabaje con aire comprimido, observe las siguientes precauciones:

- Los operadores de herramientas de aire comprimido deben llevar puesta protección ocular y otros equipos de seguridad personal adecuados.
- Antes de usar una manguera de aire, examine todas las conexiones para asegurarse de que estén bien apretadas y que no se aflojaran con la presión. Las mangueras de aire flojas pueden dar latigazos peligrosos.
- Revise la manguera de aire con detenimiento para asegurarse de que esté en buenas condiciones antes de abrir la válvula y dejar entrar aire en la manguera; al terminar el trabajo, cierre las válvulas de la herramienta y del tubo de aire.
- Sujete la boquilla al abrir y cerrar el aire.
- Antes de abrir el aire comprimido, asegœrese de que la suciedad depositada en las máquinas no saldrá despedida en dirección a otros trabajadores.
- No retuerza la manguera para interrumpir la corriente de aire; cierre siempre el aire en la válvula de control.
- Revise continuamente la condición de la herramienta de aire comprimido y de la manguera de aire por si tuviera daños o diera muestras de fallos.
- Nunca apunte la boquilla de una manguera de aire comprimido en dirección a su cuerpo o a otra persona.
- Nunca use aire comprimido para bromas pesadas.
- Nunca mire en el interior del extremo de la herramienta de aire comprimido por donde sale el aire.
- Nunca use aire comprimido para limpiar su uniforme de trabajo ni ninguna máquina.
- No deje mangueras de aire en pasillos, ya que puedan ser dañadas si se pisan o ser causa de tropiezos.

Las herramientas de aire comprimido son seguras y fiables cuando san de modo adecuado y sensato.





By Paul McEntee

# Why Fire-Rated Hangers Are Required in Type III Wood-Frame Buildings

ne of the first mixed-use designs I worked on as a consulting structural engineer was a four-story wood-frame building over two levels of parking. Designing the main lateral-force-resisting system with plywood shearwalls was a challenge for this project that required new details to meet the high design loads. The high overturning forces were resisted using the <u>Simpson Strong-Tie® Strong-Rod<sup>TM</sup> anchor tiedown system</u>, which incorporates high-strength rods, bearing plates, and shrinkage compensation devices.

At the time, these construction details using Strong-Rod systems and high-load shearwall diaphragms were new, innovative concepts. However, this method of construction rapidly became commonplace as intense demand for housing fueled the trend toward denser, mixed-use developments in downtown areas. I discussed the trend toward taller, denser developments in this post.

A more recent trend in wood-frame construction has been the shift to Type III wood-frame construction, which allows designs up to five stories. To help educate designers on some of the nuances of Type III wood-frame construction and provide guidance on meeting the associated code requirements, we reached out to Bruce Lindsey, the South Atlantic Regional Director for WoodWorks. Bruce wrote a two-part article entitled *Fire Protection Considerations with Five-Story Wood-Frame Buildings – Part 1 and Part 2*. This article will go into more detail on connecting the floor system to the two-hour fire-rated exterior walls and discuss our new DGT series joist hangers that are specially designed for this application.

As a consulting engineer, I was aware of fire requirements because I needed to account for the weight of fire sprinklers, added layers of gypsum board, fire-proofing on steel, or concrete slab thickness in my design. While the increased loads affect the vertical- and lateral-force-resisting systems, I seldom needed to change the details and connections in my designs.

The exterior walls in Type III wood-frame construction require <u>fire-retardant-treated (FRT)</u> lumber with two layers of gypsum board to provide a two-hour fire rating. There are many established fire-rated floor and wall assemblies available. The challenge, as discussed in <u>Part 2</u> of Mr. Lindsey's post, is detailing the intersections between the floor and wall systems. Connecting the floor framing to the exterior walls in Type III construction requires careful detailing to transfer the vertical loads without compromising the two-hour fire rating of the wall assembly.



The following is a summary of some of the possible fire wall connections as discussed in Mr. Lindsey's previous posts.

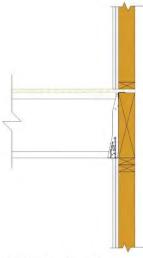
A solid header on top of the wall that has adequate thickness to provide a two-hour rating through its charring capability. The cost and availability of solid rim board material should be considered.

A continuous 2x ledger or blocking to provide one hour of fire resistance. The second hour of resistance is provided by ceiling gypsum board. Some jurisdictions object to this detail over concerns about a fire starting within the floor cavity.

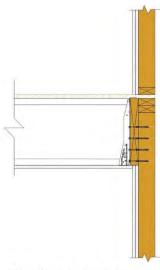
Some jurisdictions interpret the two-hour exterior wall requirement as applying only to the wall and not the floor. In such jurisdictions, designers can sometimes use standard platform framing in Type III construction.

A variation where the ledger can be installed over two layers of gypsum board. Simpson Strong-Tie has tested and published values for ledger connections over gypsum board using our SDWH and SDWC fasteners. The testing of these fasteners was discussed in our <u>Spanning</u> the Gap post.

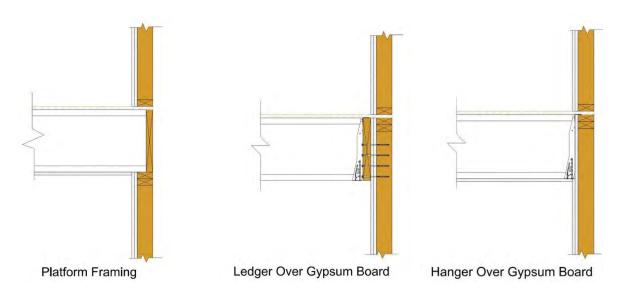
In this detail, one hour of fire resistance is provided by a single layer of gypsum board running the full height of the wall with a hanger installed over the gypsum board. Similar to the continuous ledger detail, the second hour of resistance is provided by the ceiling gypsum board. We publish allowable loads for many popular hangers installed over drywall in our technical bulletin <u>T-C-TFWALL</u>. The advantage of this detail is in the use of standard top-flange hangers, which reduce cost.



Solid Rim Board



**Continuous Ledger** 









DGT Fire Wall Hanger with Truss



DGT Fire Wall Hanger with Gypsum Board

A variation of this detail is our DU/DHU series of drywall hangers that are installed over two layers of gypsum board. These were addressed in <u>this post</u>.

Designs using hangers or ledgers installed over gypsum board can create construction sequencing challenges. Since the gypsum board needs to be installed before the framing, the contractor will need to coordinate between the trades.

A solution that eliminates sequencing issues for Type III construction is our DGT series of firewall hangers. DGT hangers are designed to easily install on a two-hour wood stud fire wall. These top-flange hangers feature enough space to allow two layers of 5/8" gypsum wall board to be slipped into place after the framing is complete.



DGT Firewall Hanger Test Failure

These new fire wall hangers were tested in accordance with ICC-ES AC13 and ASTM D7147, which I discussed in <u>How We Test – Part I: Wood</u> <u>Connectors</u>. These standards do not explicitly detail how to test a hanger installed on a wood stud wall, so we collaborated closely with ICC Evaluation Services to develop a test setup that meets the intent of the standards.





The DGT hangers have been tested according to ASTM E814 and received F (flame) and T (temperature) ratings for use on one or both sides of the fire wall. These ratings verify that the DGT hangers do not reduce the two-hour fire wall assembly rating.

Our testing and load tables address installation of 2×4 or 2×6 stud walls constructed of Douglas fir (DF), southern pine (SP), spruce-pine-fir (SPF) or hem-fir (HF) lumber.



DGT Firewall Hanger Test Setup

	Fasteners (in.) DF/SP SPF/HF															
Model	Ga. Joist Depth		Ca Joist Depth	Ga Joist Depth				11-124	Dowr	nload (10	0/125)	11-124	Dow	nload (10	0/125)	Code
Model	ua.	(in.)	Тор	Face	Joist	Uplift (160)	Stud Wall	2x, 3x Nailer	(2) 2x, 4x Nailer	Uplift (160)	Stud Wall	2x, 3x Nailer	(2) 2x, 4x Nailer	Reference		
DOT	10	7 1/4 to 11 1/4	(6) 0.148 x 11/2	(2) 0.148 x 1 1/2	(6) 0.148 x 11/2	500	1,650	1,650	1,650	450	1,270	1,270	1,270			
DGT	12	7 74 10 11 74	(6) 0.148 x 21/2	(4) 0.148 x 21/2	(6) 0.148 x 1 1/2	640	1,860	1 <del>- 3</del> , 1	1,860	555	1,430		1,430			
DGT	10	11 % to 24	(6) 0.148 x 1 1/2	(2) 0.148 x 11/2	(6) 0.148 x 1 1/2	500	1,620	1,620	1,620	450	1,370	1,370	1,370			
DGT	12	11 1/8 10 24	(6) 0.148 x 21/2	(4) 0.148 x 21/2	(6) 0.148 x 1 1/2	640	1,725	-	1,725	555	1,455	-	1,455			
DGHT	10	9½ to 24	(6) 0.148 x 1 1/2	(2) 0.148 x 11/2	(6) 0.148 x 1 1/2	660	1,995	1,995	1,995	570	1,535	1,535	1,535	IBC, FL,		
DGHT	10	9 1/2 10 24	(6) 0.148 x 21/2	(4) 0.148 x 21/2	(6) 0.148 x 1 1/2	830	2,350		2,350	725	1,805		1,805	LA		
GHT (over studs)4			(6) 0.148 x 21/2	(4) 0.148 x 21/2	(6) 0.148 x 1 1/2	830	2,485	-	-	725	1,920	-	-			
GHT (over studs with SDWC) <sup>4</sup>	10	9½ to 24	(6) 0.148 x 2½	(4) 0.148 x 2½	(6) 0.148 x 1 ½	830	2,740	-	14	725	2,065	-	-			

Allowable Loads on 2x4 or 2x6 Wall

If you are designing a Type III wood-frame construction project, check out our <u>Fire Wall</u> <u>Solutions page</u>, which has product profiles with links to further information about the new DGT hanger series, as well as our <u>DU/DHU series</u> of drywall hangers and fire wall fastener solutions using <u>Strong-Drive® SDWS Timber screws</u>.

The article, <u>Why Fire-Rated Hangers Are Required in Type III Wood-Frame Buildings</u>, appeared first on Simpson Strong-Tie Structural Engineering Blog. To sign-up to receive the Engineering Blog in your inbox, go to <u>seblog.strongtie.com/subscribe</u>.

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	CALENDAR OF EVENTS	Ύ
	AUGUST 2023	
August 3 – 5	American Institute of Building Design (AIBD) Design & Build Conference	Nashville, TN
August 10	Midwest Building Suppliers Assoc. (MBSA) 2023 Sycamore Scramble Golf Tournament	Anderson, IN
August 16	SBCA Minnesota Chapter Meeting and Minnesota Twins Game	Minneapolis, MN
August 22	National Assoc. of Home Builders (NAHB) Association Management Conference	Cincinnati, OH
August 23 – 25	Southern Forest Products Assoc. (SFPA) 2023 Forest Products Machinery & Equipment Expo	Nashville, TN
August 24	Zonda's Multifamily Market Update	online
August 31	Midwest Building Suppliers Assoc. (MBSA) 2023 White Pine Classic Golf Tournament	Stanwood, MI
	SEPTEMBER 2023	
September 6	Zonda's National Housing Market Update	online
September 8 – 11	Do it Best Fall Market	Indianapolis, IN
September 11 – 12	Timber Off-Site Construction Conference	Melbourne, VIC, Australia
September 11 – 14	North American Wholesale Lumber Assoc. (NAWLA) Fall Wood Basics	Peachtree, GA
September 14	Offsite Construction Expo-Denver	Denver, CO
September 18 – 20	Lumbermens Assoc. of Texas (LAT) 137th Annual Convention & Expo	Arlington, TX
September 18 – 22	Building Component Manufacturers Conference and Framer Summit (BCMC   FS)	Indianapolis, IN
September 19	Structural Building Components Assoc. (SBCA) 40th Anniversary Celebration Dinner	Indianapolis, IN
September 19 – 21	National Assoc. of Home Builders (NAHB) 2023 Fall Leadership Conference	Palm Springs, CA
September 19 – 21	Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Assoc. (SLMA) 2023 D.C. Summit	Washington, D.C.
September 19 – 22	Lumbermens Merchandising Corp. (LMC) 2023 Leadership Summit	Columbus, OH
September 20 – 22	Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Assoc. (NELMA) 90th Annual Meeting	Rockland, ME
September 22	Structural Building Components Assoc. (SBCA) Board Meeting	Indianapolis, IN
September 26	Forest Economic Advisors (FEA) Forest Products Forum	Portland, OR
September 26 – 28	Multifamily Executive (MFE) Conference	Dallas, TX
September 27 – 28	Forest Economic Advisors (FEA) Industrialized Wood-Based Construction (IWBC) Conference at Greenbuild	Washington, D.C.
September 27 – 29	Florida Building Material Alliance (FBMA) 2023 Trade Show & Convention	Orlando, FL
September 28	Midwest Building Suppliers Assoc. MBSA CONNECT	Fort Wayne, IN
*	OCTOBER 2023	
October 8 – 10	International Code Council (ICC) 2023 Annual Conference and Expo	St. Louis, MO
October 9 – 10	Future Place 2023	Tampa, FL
October 11 – 13	LBM Strategies 2023 Conference	Charlotte, NC
October 12	Mid-America Lumbermens Assoc. (MLA) Sunflower Shootout	Manhattan, KS
October 16 – 18	Builder Connections 2023	Arlington, TX
October 18	Offsite Construction Expo—Berkeley	Berkeley, CA
October 18 – 20	METALCON 2023	Las Vegas, NV
October 23 – 25	LBM Advantage Fall Planning Conference	Boston, MA



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	CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
October 24	Zonda's Q4 Housing Market Forecast	online
	NOVEMBER 2023	
November 6 – 8	Lumbermens Merchandising Corp. (LMC) 2023 Expo	Philadelphia, PA
November 8 – 10	North American Wholesale Lumber Assoc. (NAWLA) Traders Market	Columbus, OH
November 10	Mountain States Lumber & Building Material Dealers Assoc. (MSLBMDA) Brew Fest	Denver, CO
November 13 – 15	Affordable Housing Finance (AHF) Live Summit	Chicago, IL
November 13 – 15	University of Texas Building Professional Institute (BPI) of Texas—Central Texas	Austin, TX
November 15	Offsite Construction Expo-Atlanta	Atlanta, GA
November 15 – 17	RESNET 2023 Building Performance Conference	San Diego, CA
November 16	Zonda's National Housing Market Update	online
	FEBRUARY 2024	
February 20 – 22	LBM Advantage 2024 Annual Buying Show	Orlando, FL
February 27 – 29	National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) International Builders Show (IBS) 2024	Las Vegas, NV

Don't see your event? Increase attendance and participation by listing your industry focused events here! E-mail details and event web-link to <u>Anna@componentadvertiser.org</u>. We can't guarantee space for all events, but all industry related events will be added on a space available and interest to our reader priority.



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### Builders Automation Stair Stringer Router

More information here: <u>http://goo.gl/mSsxyY</u> 800-382-0329 | www.wasserman-associates.com

# Wood Tech Systems

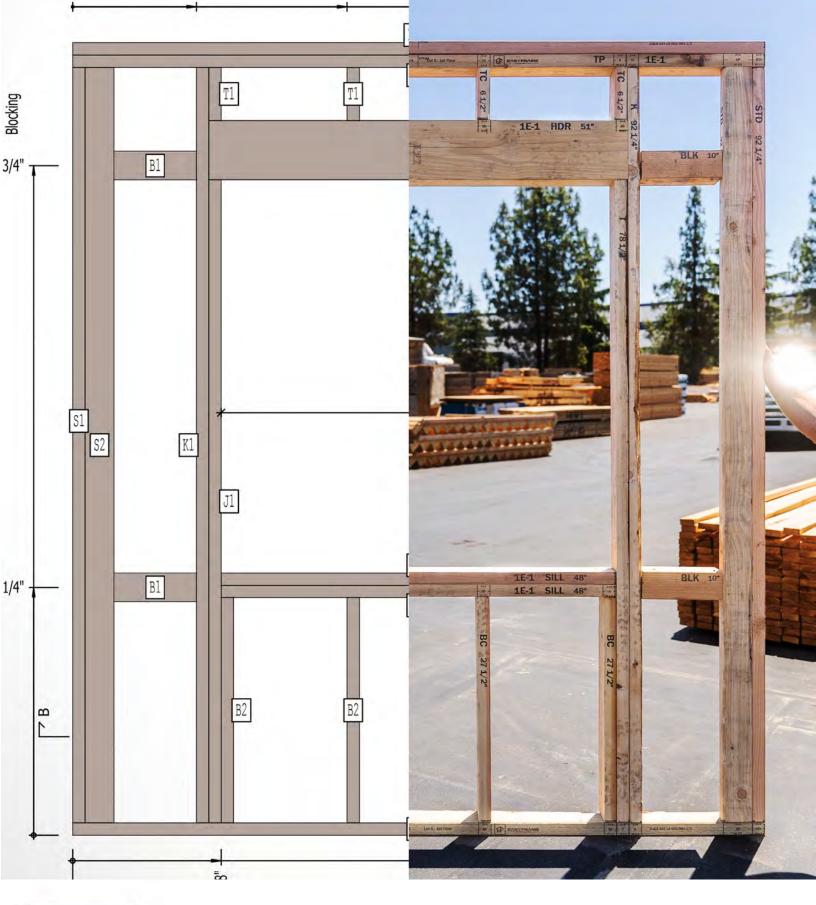
**NEW! BAM Staircase Assembly Clamp** Builders Automation Machinery (BAM) staircase assembly clamp, model 2210, accommodates up to 20 foot long stringers with a maximum width of 54"...



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**PAGE #118** 

#### JOB OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE



Truss Designer. MiTek software. Experience required: 2+ years. Components include: floor trusses, roof trusses and wall panel experience is a plus. Markets include lumber yards, single family, single family custom, and light commercial. Work Schedule: average 40-45 hours a week or more if interested.

Compensation hourly, plus overtime, and base pay from \$22 to \$28hr+-. (\$45k-70's) Yr.+-) depending upon experience, monthly bonus based on production output/errors. Benefits include: Medical, Dental, Vision, retirement programs, and ESOP (Employee Stock Ownership Plan). Relocation is open to negotiation. Low cost of living. EOE (Equal Opportunity Employer). J15235

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Our client in Florida is looking for Remote Truss Designer NOW, before the end of the year! Work remote, or in an office location in Florida. They need ONE Basic or Intermediate level Remote Truss Designer. Fantastic benefits, compensation is very competitive, and they use MiTek software. Remote is an option if you have a home office and remote experience, or you can work in office. They may consider someone without remote experience, just depends on the skill level. Fantastic benefits, compensation is <u>very competitive</u>, and they use MiTek software. I can't say more about this opportunity here.

Compensation can be estimated based on your experience and skill 45 hours per week average.

Overtime hours are usually available. Call/<u>email</u> for details

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Remote Truss Designer <u>J14203</u> Indiana	Regional J15287
	Southeast
Remote Truss Designer - MiTek <u>J15303</u> Florida or remote	Commer Designer
Truss & Wall Panel Designer <u>J15226</u>	Nashville
Northeast	Wall Des
Remote Truss Designer - Mega-Multifamily	Eastern C
<u>J15302</u>	EWP Des
Central time zone	Eastern C
Hybrid Remote Truss Designer - Single Family <u>J14212</u>	Truss De Eastern C
Remote or in office (IN)	Lead Des
Senior Mega-Multifamily Designer <u>J15301</u>	Central A
Northern California	CFS Trus
Remote Truss Designer - MiTek <u>J15228</u> Florida	Remote c
Truss Sales & Design - Truss/Framing	Truss Sa
Packages J15245	Packages
Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma	TN
Residential Order Tech J15232	Senior P
South	<u>J15276</u> B.C.
Truss Designer <u>J15250</u>	Project S
South	<u>J15273</u>
Truss Designer <u>J15251</u>	U.S.
South	Project S
Truss Designer <u>J15285</u>	Timber J
New England	North An
Truss Designer J15286	Chief Es
Indiana	Timber J
Truss Designer <u>J15290</u>	BC
Ohio or Hybrid Remote	Project C
Truss Designer J14136	TN
South	Truss Des
Truss Designer <u>J10629</u>	Texas
MO	Remote
Remote Wall Panel Designer - Production	<u>J15266</u>
Builder Market <u>J14107</u>	South
Remote Indiana	Senior Tr
Truss Designer J14165	South
Carolinas	Truss De
Truss Designer-J15300	Montana
Eastern Ontario	Mega-Mu
Truss Designer-J15299	South/So
Eastern Ontario	
Roof & Floor Truss Designer - Alpine	
<u>J15297</u>	
Colorado	
Director of Operations - Truss/Panel J15298	
Georgia	
Truss Designer - MiTek J15296	
Northern California or Northern Nevada	
Inside Sales J15289	
Northern California or Northern Nevada	
Agricultural & Commercial Truss	
Specialist- <u>J15292</u>	
Southern Alberta	
Design Manager - <u>J15295</u>	
Western Ontario	
Senior Truss Designer - <u>J15294</u>	
Western Ontario	
Truss Designer- <u>J15293</u> Western Onterio	J.
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Mega-Multifamily Truss Designer cial/Mega-Multifamily Truss J15277 .<u>, T</u>N igner-<u>J15284</u> Intario igner-<u>J15283</u> Intario signer-J15282 Intario igner-<u>J15281</u> lberta ss Designer <u>J15269</u> or in the Midewst lles & Design - Truss/Framing <u>J15279</u> roject Manager - Mass Timber uperintendent U.S. - Mass Timber Superintendent Roaming - Mass 15274 nerica timator/Precon Manager - Mass 15271 Coordinator J15272 igner - MiTek/Multifamily J14173 Senior Truss Designer - Truss uss Designer - Truss J15218 signer J15235 ultifamily Project Manager J15229 utheast

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#### ID: C11370

General | Plant Manager/Operations -Truss/Panel/Framing Package Relocation: Texas, Arizona

20 years' experience. Started in production, advanced to Saw Supervisor, Production Manager, Plant Manager, now General Manager. As General Manager operated a \$125M truss plant. Tripled output and reduced errors and labor cost. Developed and implemented standards and procedures to manage quality and costs. As Plant Manager (4 years), manage all the operation of the manufacturing plant, such as Productivity, logistics, efficiencies, costs. As Production Manager (12 years), manage all the areas of the manufacturing across the plant. Safety, quality control, efficiencies, HR, etc... Software: MiTek, Word, Excel, OptiFrame. Products: R & F Truss, Panel, Framing package. Markets: Single Family, Multifamily, Custom Homes. Bilingual English/Spanish spoken and written. Degree in Industrial Engineering.

Compensation: \$90's+ bonus (\$100k min)

#### ID: C13437

Remote Truss Designer | In Office Truss Designer | Design Manager Relocation: Ohio

If it is big, bad, ugly, or worse, I can handle it. I've done layout and profile work in autocad w/ some home brewed scripting. and ArchiCAD. Custom residential, a few track builders that had 3 base models and many options to track, some multi-family, and large commercial projects. Software: MiTek, AutoCAD, ArchiCAD, Truswal, Simpson, Eagle and others. Quick to pick up new software.

#### ID: C10853

Remote Design Manager | Remote Offshore Design Project Manager Relocation: Texas, Georgia, USA - South

Top level Engineering/Design Management candidate, 14+- years experience Truss, 4+- Panel experience. Has experience building and integrating offshore design resources with internal design departments and training design managers to better utilize offshore capabilities. Large volume manufacturer experience. MiTek Sapphire design/layout proficient. Too confidential to go into more detail.

Compensation: \$120k+

#### ID: C18565

Designer: Truss/Panel, Wood/Steel, BIM Relocation: North Carolina

Material take-offs, proposals, job-site meetings, Submittal Tracking, Excellent Problem-solving Skills, Material Ordering, Field Measuring, 3-D Modeling Program (3-D and 4-D BIM in-house), Generated

#### AVAILABLE CANDIDATES

material take-offs from the BIM model, Coordinated RFI's thru the BIM model, Clash detection between wood trusses, structural steel and LVL's. 3-D Scan's of job-sites. Scheduled / Distributed work to 6 designers Cross-trained all designers in roof floor and wall panels for whole-house design.

#### ID: C18370

Plant | Location | General Manager - Truss/ Panel

#### Relocation: California, Nevada

Highly experienced (20+ years) roof and floor truss, and wall panel manufacturing manager. Started in the plant as builder, then sawyer, supervisor, truck driver, maintenance manager, designer, outside sales, plant manager, operations manager, and general manager. OSHA trained, developed and implemented safety programs. Successful turn around experience, hands on ability to work with departments to combine individual strengths into one team effort, lower costs, and meet quality and volume expectations. Past experience negotiating better vendor programs to lower costs and improve inventory turns.

#### ID: C10507

Senior Management - Truss/Panel/Lumber/ Installed Services Relocation: USA - Western

am a Diverse driven individual I seeking a position in the fast paced construction component industry where my professionalism in sales, business and leadership skills along with a strong proven background in, General Management, Operations, Sales Management, strategic alliances, business development, team building, P&L experience and Customer Satisfaction will play an integral part in growing new business, nurturing existing business or developing company operations to meet the highest level of efficiencies, standards and safety while having fun doing it!

#### ID: C11929

Location/General Manager - Truss/I-Joist/ Beams/EWP

Relocation: USA - ALL States

Schedule all production. Schedule all deliveries. Purchasing. Set company pricing. Invoicing. Receiving. Developed a system for outside sales staff to turn in truss orders. Designer. Primary duties: design, layout, and cutting/production documents. Secondary duties: checking others work, scheduling, customer service, inside sales, and training. Software used: Non-MiTek, AutoCAD, and CAD - Other. Component experience includes floor trusses, roof trusses, I-Joists, EWP, and hardware. Market experience includes tract, single family, single family custom, multi-family, light commercial, and agriculture. My

volume is \$150k+- a month. Designed 1.25 million in 2012 for production. This total doesn't include quotes and is considerably less than my capability considering all other job duties.

#### ID: C18454

Remote Designer | Mega-Multifamily Single Family Custom Relocation: Minnesota

12 Years' experience. Create Estimating models for bids. Study blueprints for inconsistencies, collaborate with Design Manager and Sales to determine if more information is needed, design and engineer trusses, create a detailed truss layout to set trusses in the field, and provide support until project is successfully completed. Mega-Multifamily, Multifamily, Single Family Custom. MiTek Sapphire and CAD. Tested low end of Senior Designer range.

#### ID: C11834

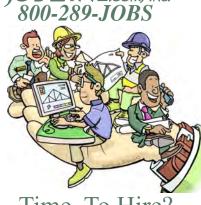
General/Regional Manager - Truss/Panel Relocation: Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Ontario, Vermont

As District Manager: Responsible for the financial performance of three wood truss and wall panel plants, two Millwork and door assembly facilities and one installed labor location in multiple states. Group revenues increased from \$50 million/year in to \$70 million per year. Devised a "buy versus make" purchasing protocol in to ensure that internal truss and Millwork plants were operating at capacity before using outside vendors that supplied similar products. Spearheaded a "hub and spoke" organizational structure for three truss plants. This plan optimized scarce design talent, reduced clerical expenses, and synchronized output at each plant. Restructured the installed labor division to include material estimators, lumber salespeople and cost accounting methods in 2005. The changes resulted in a 400k gain in profits. Drafted corporate training material for fall protection and new hire safety orientation.

As General Manager: Won "Gold Store" award for exceeding company goals in profits, sales growth, and ROA. Served on a corporate manufacturing audit and operating performance team that made recommendations to under performing truss plants. Two of the facilities audited became "Gold Stores" the following year. When the sales of three district stores were allocated to the truss plant, the lost business (\$1.5 million/year) was made up and organic sales grew by over 10%. Sales volume grew from \$11 million per year to over \$15 million per year.

ID: C18459

Remote Wall Panel Designer | Wall Panel Designer



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#### AVAILABLE CANDIDATES

Relocation: Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario

8 Years' experience as a wall panel designer. Uses HSB CAD, AutoCAD, Autodesk Revit. Everything from Single family custom to multifamily and modular.

#### ID: C18468

Truss Designer | Wall Panel Designer Relocation: Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah

Designer, truss and wall panel, MiTek, AutoCAD, iLevel, almost considered a senior designer. In addition to design, was responsible for training new designers. Also has iLevel, Open Joist 2000 experience. Wall panel design experience is in AutoCAD and later in Sapphire. Started in the industry in sales, then wall panel design, added truss, and I-Joist. 7 years' experience in truss design, 3 in wall panel, 10 in I-Joist design. Will consider relocation to indicated areas only. Will consider remote.

\$26-28 hr.

#### **Current Candidates** www.thejobline.com





### New OSHA Rules on Injury Recordkeeping and Reporting Go Into Effect Jan. 1

Posted July 27, 2023 on <u>NAHB Now | The News Blog of the National Association of Home Builders</u> Reprinted with permission.

OSHA last week published a final rule amending its workplace injury and illness recordkeeping regulation to require certain employers to electronically submit additional injury and illness information annually.

The main change is the requirement that companies with more than 100 employees in certain industries submit information from OSHA Form 300, Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses, and Form 301, Injury and Illness Incident Report, to OSHA on an annual basis.



The requirement does not cover all of construction but does include some sectors that home builders rely on, like foundation, structure, and building exterior contractors, and manufacturers of many building materials.

These new requirements will go into effect Jan. 1, 2024, and the required data from the previous year must be submitted to OSHA by March 2.

Companies with 20 to 249 employees in certain industries, including construction, will continue to be required to electronically submit information from their OSHA Form 300A, Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses, to the agency once a year.

In addition to the new reporting requirements, OSHA intends to post some of the data from these annual electronic submissions on a public website.

NAHB and other construction trade associations strongly opposed the plan to publish the workplace illness and injury data. NAHB noted in comments during the rulemaking process that "the publication of establishment-specific injury and illness data would lead to misuse of confidential information by the public and special interest groups." The Associated General Contractors of America also noted in its comments that the plan, "could result in the potential mischaracterization of a contractor's safety and health program in the absence of proper context."



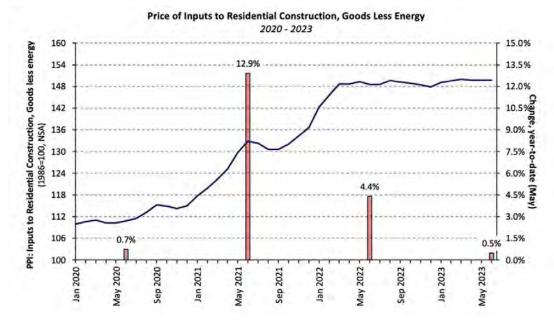
## Is Inflation Cooling? Building Material Prices Indicate Yes



Posted July 17, 2023 on <u>NAHB Now | The News Blog of the National Association of Home Builders</u> Reprinted with permission.

Continuing a trend of slowing price growth that began in 2022, overall prices of building materials were unchanged in June, according to the latest Producer Price Index (PPI) report. The index has gained 0.5% year to date and has not increased 1% or greater in any month since March 2022.

The PPI for all final demand goods was unchanged in June following a 1.6% decline in May (seasonally adjusted). The index has declined 0.2% from a year ago, while the PPI for final demand goods less food and energy has increased 2% (not seasonally adjusted).



#### **Gypsum Building Materials:**

• PPI fell 0.3% in June after declining 1.1% in both April and May.

#### **Steel Mill Products:**

• Steel mill product prices were spared in June, declining 0.6% after a four-month period during which prices climbed 12.4%.

#### Softwood Lumber:

• PPI for softwood lumber (seasonally adjusted) increased 3.9% in June – the second increase over the past three months.

#### **Ready-Mix Concrete:**

- Prices increased 0.5% in June.
- The PPI has risen each of the last 15 months, 27 of the last 30, and has climbed 12.3% over the past year. However, price growth slowed 0.8 percentage point over the month.
- The average monthly increase declined from 1% in 2022 to 0.7% in 2023.

#### **Freight Prices:**

- The price of truck and rail transportation of freight decreased 2.1% and 0.4% respectively in June while the PPI for deep sea (i.e., ocean) freight increased 0.4%.
- Trucking freight prices declined 13.7% over the past year with both long-distance (-15.1%) and local (-9.2%) motor carrying prices falling 92% and 4.1%, respectively.

David Logan, NAHB director of tax and trade policy analysis, provides more in this Eye on Housing post.





### New HBI Report Shines Spotlight on Labor Shortages

Posted July 21, 2023 on <u>NAHB Now | The News Blog of the National Association of Home Builders</u> Reprinted with permission.

The lack of skilled construction labor is a key limiting factor to expanding home construction and improving housing inventory and affordability. The latest Construction Labor Market Report from the Home Builders Institute (HBI), provides an outlook for residential construction employment and includes state-level employment data.

Key findings in the report include:

• The construction industry currently needs approximately 723,000 new construction workers each year to meet demand (residential construction represents 3.2 million of the construction payroll employment of 7.9 million).



- The number of open construction sector jobs currently averages between 300,000 to 400,000 every month.
- At least 90 percent of single-family builders responding to a survey reported a shortage of carpenters, and 80 to 85 percent reported a shortage of subcontractors in six other trades
- More than 80 percent of remodelers reported a shortage of subcontractors in 11 of the 16 trades.
- The share of construction workers aged 25 to 54 dropped by six percent over the past seven years.

According to Ed Brady, HBI president and CEO, the facts show the construction industry today must focus on three urgent priorities:

- 1. Promote training and jobs in the trades to those people who have not yet considered a career in construction;
- 2. Support immigration reform designed to produce the next generation of new Americans seeking opportunity in the United States; and
- 3. Advocate for housing affordability by demonstrating the direct link between the nation's housing shortage and its construction labor shortage.

To learn more about the current state of the nation's construction labor market view the full report.



# Industry News

### New Home Sales Cool in June on Higher Mortgage Rates



Posted July 26, 2023 on <u>NAHB Now | The News Blog of the National Association of Home Builders</u> Reprinted with permission.



Rising mortgage rates and elevated construction costs put a damper on new home sales last month.

Sales of newly built, single-family homes in June fell 2.5% to 697,000 seasonally adjusted annual rate from a downwardly revised reading in May, according to newly released data by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Census Bureau. However, new home sales are up 23.8% from a year ago.

"Rising mortgage rates in June, coupled with elevated construction costs and supply chain issues for electrical transformers, acted as headwinds on the new home sales market," said Alicia Huey, chairman of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and a custom home builder and developer from Birmingham, Ala.

"Demand for new homes cooled in June primarily due to a more than quarter-point rise in mortgage rates over the previous month," said Danushka Nanayakkara-Skillington, NAHB's assistant vice president for forecasting and analysis. "However, the lack of existing inventory and the Federal Reserve nearing the end of its rate hikes signal that demand for new homes may rise in the coming quarters."

A new home sale occurs when a sales contract is signed or a deposit is accepted. The home can be in any stage of construction: not yet started, under construction or completed. In addition to adjusting for seasonal effects, the June reading of 697,000 units is the number of homes that would sell if this pace continued for the next 12 months.

New single-family home inventory in June was 432,000, down 3.6% compared to a year ago. This represents a 7.4 months' supply at the current building pace. A measure near a 6 months' supply is considered balanced. Of that total inventory, 67,000 were completed, ready-to-occupy homes, up 91.4% from a year ago; however, that inventory type remains just 15% of total inventory.

The median new home sale price in June was \$415,400, down roughly 4% compared to a year ago.

Regionally, on a year-to-date basis, new home sales are up 4.7% in the Northeast and 3.2% in the South. New home sales are down 7.6% in the Midwest and 16.5% in the affordability-challenged West.





COMPONENT MANUFACTURING

### Simpson Strong-Tie Building It Forward Photo Campaign on Social Media Supports Habitat for Humanity

July 25, 2023--Pleasanton, Calif. — Starting today, Simpson Strong-Tie, the leader in engineered structural connectors and building solutions, is asking its customers and social media followers to participate in the Building It Forward campaign. The six-week campaign will support the work of Habitat for Humanity in building safe, strong and affordable housing.



For every project photo submitted on Instagram using Simpson Strong-Tie products, the company will donate \$250 to Habitat for Humanity International, to a total of \$25,000. Photos must clearly show the company's products and include the hashtag #strongtiegives. There is a limit of one submission per person, and photos are due by September 5, 2023.



Simpson Strong-Tie and Habitat for Humanity International have a decades-long relationship, with the company keeping its annual sponsorship continuously for several years. Every year, the company donates the equivalent of \$500,000 or more to Habitat and local Habitat for Humanity affiliates in money, products and volunteer time.

"Give Back is one of our company's core values, so we're incredibly proud of our longstanding partnership with Habitat and local Habitat affiliates," says Simpson Strong-Tie President and CEO Mike Olosky. "This campaign is another opportunity to bring visibility to the work they do and how Simpson Strong-Tie products help in their mission to build homes that are resilient and affordable."

"We're excited to have the support of Simpson Strong-Tie in their Building It Forward fundraising campaign," said Tolli Love, chief development officer at Habitat for Humanity International. "We are grateful for their continued partnership and for the many ways in which they've shown support for our vision to create a world where everyone has a decent place to live."

For more information about the campaign, go to strongtie.com/resources/building-it-forward-habitat.

#### About Simpson Strong-Tie Company Inc.

Simpson Strong-Tie is the world leader in structural solutions — products and technology that help people design and build safer, stronger homes, buildings, and communities. As a pioneer in the building industry, we have an unmatched passion for problem solving through skillful engineering and thoughtful innovation. Our structural systems research and rigorous testing enable us to design code-listed, value-engineered solutions for a multitude of applications in wood, steel, and concrete structures. Our dedication to pursuing ever-better construction products and technology and to surrounding our customers with exceptional service and support has been core to our mission since 1956. For more information, visit strongtie.com and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and LinkedIn.



### Simpson Strong-Tie Introduces New AT-3G Hybrid Acrylic Anchoring Adhesive Designed for Faster Curing Times in Extreme Environments





July 12, 2023--Simpson Strong-Tie, the leader in engineered structural connectors and building solutions, has introduced AT-3G, a new, all-weather hybrid-acrylic anchoring adhesive engineered to deliver a faster-curing, high-strength bond for cracked and uncracked concrete and post-installed rebar connections.

Designed for high performance in extreme environments, AT-3G adhesive dispenses easily, cures quickly, and can be specified for both dry and damp conditions when in-service temperatures range from below freezing (as low as  $-40^{\circ}$ F) all the way up to  $320^{\circ}$ F.

Offered in single coaxial and side-by-side cartridges for use with standard manual, pneumatic, and batterypowered tools from Simpson Strong-Tie, AT-3G is easy to prep and apply and has passed the demanding ICC-ES AC308 adverse-condition tests pertaining to reduced and elevated temperatures and long-term sustained loads.

"AT-3G adhesive is a tested, proven, and versatile way to provide high anchoring strength in cold-weather and adverse conditions where a fast cure is required," says Simpson Strong-Tie product manager Shea Roche. "With superior sustained load performance and easy application in both dry and damp environments, this new anchoring adhesive provides contractors with a flexible solution for achieving high levels of bond strength across a wide range of jobsite conditions."

Code listed for cracked and uncracked concrete and post-installed rebar connections, AT-3G is NSF approved, IBC compliant, and meets the requirements of Type I/IV, Grade 3, Classes A, B and C under ASTM C881 / AASHTO M235. The 10:1 ratio, two-component adhesive dispenses easily and cures quickly with minimal prep and no power-brushing required for hole-cleaning. To learn more, visit <u>go.strongtie.com/AT3G</u>.



INDUSTRY NEWS



# The Truss Plate Institute announces the publication of ANSI/TPI 1-2022, *National Design Standard for Metal Plate Connected Wood Truss Construction.*

**Waldorf, MD.--** On July 17, 2023, the Truss Plate Institute (TPI), the leading provider of truss engineering information for the construction industry, released the ANSI/TPI 1-2022 *National Design Standard for Metal Plate Connected Wood Truss Construction*. This publication is an update to the ANSI/TPI 1-2014 and is now available for purchase online from the Truss Plate Institute at <u>www.tpinst.org</u>. This standard is available in hard copy or in a downloadable electronic form and comes with a Commentary & Appendices.

The TPI 1 standard establishes minimum requirements for designing and constructing metal-plate-connected wood trusses. It describes the materials used in a truss, both lumber and steel, and design procedures for truss members and joints. Methods for evaluating the metal connector plates, manufacturing quality assurance, and responsibilities in the design process involving metal-plate-connected wood trusses are also contained in the standard. The industry has used the standard in earlier versions since the early 1960s. Updates and revisions have regularly occurred to keep pace with the industry's ever-changing needs and innovations. New in the 2022 edition are provisions for top-chord-bearing trusses, a methodology for analyzing reinforced web members, and more. The ANSI/TPI 1-2022 will be referenced in the 2024 International Building Codes.

The process for revising the TPI 1 standard followed TPI's ANSI-approved procedures as outlined in the *Project Committee Method for Achieving Consensus* (PCMAC). A balanced Project Committee was formed in 2019, consisting of Users, Producers, and General Interest members tasked with updating the 2014 edition of the standard. The ANSI/TPI 1-2022 is the product of the Project Committee's efforts.

###

#### About TPI

TPI is a trade association with the mission to maintain the wood truss industry on a sound engineering basis. TPI establishes design and construction methods for wood trusses following the American National Standards Institute's accredited consensus procedures. TPI's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and staff provide technical assistance to the wood truss industry, conduct research, and coordinate activities with other industry organizations. For more information, visit <u>www.tpinst.org</u> or call (240) 587-5582.

Contact: Jay P. Jones, P.E. Executive Director, TPI (240) 587-5582 jpjones@tpinst.org



### Perficient Architects Microsoft Azure Cloud Modernization Solutions for Builders FirstSource



Solution Earns Perficient a 2023 Microsoft U.S. Partner of the Year Finalist Award Out of 4,200 Nominations

SAINT LOUIS--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Perficient, Inc. (Nasdaq: PRFT) ("Perficient"), the leading global digital consultancy transforming the world's largest enterprises and biggest brands, today announced that it successfully partnered with Builders FirstSource (NYSE: BLDR), the largest U.S. supplier of structural building products and services to the professional market for residential and multi-family construction, to develop a new, cloud-native application for roof and floor truss manufacturing. The unified cloud platform implementation allows Builders FirstSource to better scale future operations and fully integrate new acquisitions across all operating plants.

As a Microsoft Azure partner, Perficient guided Builders FirstSource in developing a new, cloud-native system that would unify manufacturing execution system (MES) processes across the enterprise and their physical truss manufacturing locations. With a standard tool enforcing best practices, capturing job analytics, and automating integrations with raw material databases, Builders FirstSource has increased visibility into material availability and improved production and purchasing scheduling, resulting in a faster turnaround for their customers.

"We needed a more agile and unified manufacturing organization. Efficiency is key in this business, so the more efficient we can run across our factories, the more profitable our business can be," said Mike McCranie, CIO, Builders FirstSource. "With an infinitely scalable cloud solution we can now move our other on-premises technologies in the manufacturing space to the cloud, thereby streamlining our processes."

Perficient was recognized as a 2023 Microsoft U.S. Partner of the Year finalist for its cloud native app development work with Builders FirstSource from a set of more than 4,200 submitted nominations. The Microsoft U.S. Partner of the Year Awards recognize Microsoft partners that have developed and delivered outstanding Microsoft-based applications, services, and devices during the past year. The award recognizes Perficient for having a track record of building new cloud-native apps and providing outstanding solutions and services in Cloud Native App Development.

"We're honored to be recognized by Microsoft as a 2023 U.S. Partner of the Year finalist," said John Jenkins, vice president, Perficient. "Our Microsoft partnership and expertise enables us to build leading-edge, strategy-driven, cloud-native solutions that are transforming the manufacturing industry. Our commitment to Builders FirstSource and other clients makes Perficient a trusted partner to imagine and execute holistic visions for Microsoft Azure cloud services."

Perficient is an award-winning Microsoft Solutions Partner with more than 20 years of experience delivering strategic solutions across the Microsoft Cloud. For more information about Perficient's Microsoft expertise, follow us on Twitter and LinkedIn.

#### **About Perficient**

Perficient is the leading global digital consultancy. We imagine, create, engineer, and run digital transformation solutions that help our clients exceed customers' expectations, outpace competition, and grow their business. With unparalleled strategy, creative, and technology capabilities, we bring big thinking and innovative ideas, along with a practical approach to help the world's largest enterprises and biggest brands succeed. Traded on the Nasdaq Global Select Market, Perficient is a member of the Russell 2000 index and the S&P SmallCap 600 index. For more information, visit <u>www.perficient.com</u>.



### METALCON Announces Show Highlights & Educational Programming for Vegas

(Newton, Mass., – July 19, 2023) — METALCON announces its program line-up for this year's annual conference and tradeshow scheduled from Wednesday, Oct. 18 to Friday, Oct. 20 at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

From intensive pre-show workshops beginning on Tuesday, Oct. 16 to 35+ free educational sessions conveniently located inside the exhibit hall to inspiring keynotes, top industry experts will share their knowledge with attendees who are eligible to earn nearly a year's worth of continuing education credits (CEUs), including AIA learning units among others.



Keynote speakers for this year's show include contractor and Denver business owner Rico León, HGTV host of "Rico to the Rescue", presenting "HGTV's Rico to the Rescue: Real Life Scenarios – From Nightmares to Dreams Come True" on Wednesday, October 18 at 10:00 a.m. He will share some of his most unforgettable experiences and lessons learned from residential construction projects gone wrong and then turned around.

Then, on the following day at the same time, Ken Simonson, chief economist of the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of America with 40+ years of experience analyzing, advocating and communicating about economic and tax issues, will explore the current state and outlook for construction in his keynote, "Construction Outlook for 2024: Forbidding or Reason for Cheer?"

#### A variety of special focus areas are planned, including:

#### The Architect's Experience

Back for a third consecutive year and brought to you by PPG Industries, this "show-within-a-show" over two days is focused on the use of metal as a design and construction component, specifically to help architects, designers, specifiers and engineers solve tough architectural, structural, environmental and building performance challenges.

Offering exclusive education sessions specific to design professionals, attendees will hear from respected thought leaders, award-winning architects and industry experts, including featured keynote morning kick-off sessions. On Wednesday, Oct. 18 beginning at 8.30 a.m., Christopher Sotiropulos, vice president of stadium operations joins Gary Edgar, manager of architectural specifications and industrial coatings of PPG to present "Designing for Las Vegas: A Full House of Finishes for Allegiant Stadium to Enhance, Protect & Cool." Sotiropulos will share what it took to build – and maintain – this \$1.9 billion stadium as well as its ongoing sustainability initiatives.

Then, the next day at the same time, architect and author Stefan Al, will delve into the world of architectural innovation and its profound impact on skylines worldwide in his keynote, "Steel and Skylines." Drawing from his acclaimed book "Supertall," Al will share insights from the realm of skyscrapers, shedding light on the emergence of a new generation of towering structures that defy conventional limits in terms of height and design. Additionally, he will highlight the unceasing evolution of Las Vegas Boulevard as he explores the developments of resort design contributing to the city's distinctive character. Based on his book "The Strip: Las Vegas and the Architecture of the



American Dream," he uncovers the dynamic changes that have shaped this iconic destination while contemplating the importance of sustainability in its ever-evolving architectural landscape. Registrants of the Architect's Experience can stop by the pavilion lounge area.

#### **METALCON Training Zone (Booth #6071)**

New this year and sponsored by Sherwin-Williams, the METALCON Training Zone provides a hands-on demonstration and training area for contractors, remodelers and others who want to sharpen their skills and deliver their best, most efficient and cleanest work when installing various metal roof offerings and systems. Featuring a variety of mock-ups and materials including aluminum, copper, painted steel zinc and even some exotic materials, training will focus on proper detailing and utilization of the right tools (offered in both English and Spanish).

#### Women of Metal Construction!

Also new this year, women of metal construction are welcome to join their peers before the show kicks off on Wednesday for a morning filled with the perfect blend of breakfast, networking and discussion at the ENVY at the Renaissance Hotel. Gather alongside fellow inspiring women and listen and learn from peers who are shaping the industry. "Metal and Mimosas" is sponsored by ATAS International, CIDAN Machinery, MetalCoffeeShop, the MRA (Metal Roofing Alliance) and METALCON.

#### Metl-Span Las Vegas Plant Tour

Metl-Span, a Nucor® company, invites general contractors, installers and architects to an exclusive plant tour at its Las Vegas facility. Learn from this leading North American manufacturer of insulated metal panels (IMP)s just how they are made on Thursday, Oct. 19 from 8:00-10:30 a.m. (transportation provided). This exclusive experience includes breakfast, networking, a plant tour and an education session "Designing with Commercial/Industrial Insulated Metal Wall Panels" presented by industry expert Kira Rogatnik (earn 1 AIA HSW credit). Register at https://metalcon.com/exclusive-plant-tour

#### The IMP Alliance Education Center (Booth #1115)

The MCA IMP Alliance (leading manufacturers, material suppliers, and resellers) presents a special seminar, "Insulated Metal Panels – Installation and Handling Best Practices," on best practices and common mistakes made during the unloading, staging and storage of bundles.

#### NRCA ProCertification® Demo (Booth #7077)

NRCA's engaging demo will introduce what metal panel and metal shingle roof system hands-on assessments look like in its NRCA's national certification initiative, which certifies experienced installers in specific roof system installations. For more information, visit <u>https://nrca.net/procertification/mc</u>.

#### Learning Centers

Check out METALCON's FREE education sessions! These 60-minute sessions from 11:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday are organized into three centers on the show floor: **Best Practices**, **Technical Know-How** and **Sustainability**. Attendees can earn up to 12 hours of CEUs. Additionally, METALCON continues to offer in-depth workshops this year on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the show to provide cutting-edge education and training, which cannot be found elsewhere.



# **INDUSTRY NEWS**



### West Coast Lumber Names Jason Walsh Vice President of Component Manufacturing

Addition of seasoned industry leader positions company for expansion into new category

SAN DIEGO--(BUSINESS WIRE)--West Coast Lumber ("WCL"), the regional lumber and building materials supplier launched by Building Industry Partners in 2022, announces the addition of Jason Walsh to its leadership team. Walsh will serve as the company's Vice President of Component Manufacturing and will be responsible for leading its strategy in the category. WCL currently serves customers throughout Southern California via four locations in Agoura Hills, Bakersfield, Camarillo, and San Diego.



Walsh brings more than two decades of experience in the component manufacturing industry. His career began as a truss designer at CompuTrus, Inc., which was acquired by MiTek, Inc. in 2009. Over time, he assumed more cross-functional roles at Home Building Components (a HnR Framing Systems, Inc. company) and Universal Truss Fontana.

Most recently, Walsh worked with California TrusFrame ("CTF"), which was acquired by Builders FirstSource (NYSE: BLDR) in 2021. Throughout his tenure at CTF, Jason was promoted repeatedly and ultimately served on the Executive Team as Vice President of Sales, Marketing and Design. He helped grow CTF to become the leader in component manufacturing in California.

"Jason's instant credibility with customers, his comprehensive knowledge and experience, as well as his deep network of trusted relationships, make him the ideal leader to guide and execute our expansion into component manufacturing," said Joe Lawrence, Chief Executive Officer of WCL.

"Jason combines a unique balance of strategic insight and operational know-how that stems from his years of experience from the ground level up," said Maged Diab, Director at WCL. "He will help us drive growth while maintaining a keen focus on providing our customers with the most innovative and economical solutions."

Walsh is the latest addition to an experienced leadership team at WCL. The company recently announced that Paul Dodge has joined Diab and Lonnie Schield on its Board of Directors.

Walsh's people-centered management philosophy aligns with that of WCL. "I have experienced first-hand the benefits that come from working with people-centric leaders," said Walsh. "I am fortunate to have crossed paths with many talented individuals who mentored me and invested in my professional development. I look forward to working with our leadership team to help make WCL the employer of choice in all of our markets."

#### ABOUT WEST COAST LUMBER

West Coast Lumber is a regional lumber and building materials supplier formed in 2022 by Building Industry Partners, the leading private equity firm in the U.S. building supply industry. Its four locations serve customers throughout Southern California. For more information, visit <u>westcoastlumber.com</u> and follow West Coast Lumber on LinkedIn.





### Mead Lumber Announces Rebranding Initiative

Omaha, Nebraska, July 3, 2023 -- Mead Lumber, a leading supplier of building materials and services, announced today the launch of its rebranding initiative. The rebranding initiative is aimed at updating the company's look and creating consistency across its business units, both with employees and customers.

As part of the rebranding initiative, Mead Lumber will unveil a new and modern logo, an all-new website, and a new web address, which is <u>www.meadlumber.com</u>, among many other initiatives. Some of its locations will also be changing their name to Mead Lumber, while others will keep their name but will follow the new logo and design scheme.

"Our team has been working tirelessly to develop a fresh look for our brand that better represents the quality, reliability, and innovation that our customers have come to expect from us," said Dave Anderson, CEO of Mead Lumber. "This new branding highlights our commitment to providing top-notch service and support for all of our customers."

At the heart of the rebrand is Mead Lumber's brand promise: "To Make You Feel at Home, From Design to Finish®". This promise has always been the cornerstone of their business, and they are committed to continuing to deliver on it in everything they do. Mead Lumber believes that this promise sets them apart from their competitors and is the reason why their customers keep coming back.

Mead Lumber will continue to offer the best products and services in the building supply industry. The company remains committed to providing its customers with top-quality materials and services, and to building long-lasting relationships with them and the communities we serve together.

"We're proud of our history and where we've come from, but we're also excited about where we're going," said Barry Kriha, Director of Marketing at Mead Lumber. "This rebrand is an exciting time for us as we aim to strengthen the connection that our customers have with us. We believe this fresh approach will help us stand out in a highly competitive industry and attract new customers and employee-owners as well."

To celebrate the rebranding initiative, many of Mead Lumber's locations will be holding celebration activities on the day of the rebranding, and will be incorporating the announcement into their upcoming events. A video was also produced to introduce the rebrand. That can be viewed <u>online</u>.

#### About Mead Lumber

Mead Lumber is a 100% Employee Owned company that has become one of the leaders in the building materials industry, ranking in the top 12 nationally for companies serving Professional Builders. Mead Lumber now has 52 operating locations in Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Wyoming, including five truss and wall panel manufacturing plants and a countertop manufacturing facility. Mead Lumber specializes in providing a complete line of materials to builders and homeowners including lumber, building materials, trusses & wall panels, millwork, kitchen cabinets and countertops, siding, decking, windows, doors and hardware. For more information on Mead Lumber, visit www.meadlumber.com.

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## THE HIRING ZONE

#### JOB OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

#### For Information on Any of these Job Opportunities Visit: The Hiring Zone

**Truss Designer 23-0901-1** Posted on Monday, January 09, 2023 Employer: Simple Homes

Simple Homes is looking for a detail oriented designer to develop truss and floor designs from architectural and structural drawings. The ideal candidate for this position enjoys hyper-focused work, sweats the small stuff, is a clear communicator and strong team player, and is excited about working for a rapidly growing company.

#### Remote Truss Designer J15228 Posted on Wednesday, June 07, 2023 Employer: Client Confidential

Details: Our client in the Southeast is looking for Remote Truss Designer. Work remote, or in an office location. They need senior level Remote Truss Designers and Intermediate level may be considered. Fantastic benefits, compensation is very competitive, and they use MiTek software. Remote is an option if you have a home office and remote experience, or you can work in one of their offices. They may consider someone without remote experience, just depends on the skill level. Must be in the Southeast

#### Remote Truss & Panel Designer J15290 Posted on Wednesday, June 07, 2023 Employer: Client Confidential

Truss Designer for Single Family Custom and Production Builder projects. Products include floor and roof trusses, I-Joists, wall panels, MiTek. Panel experience is a plus! JobLine Senior Designer rating is preferred. Remote or hybrid remote may be available, depending upon skills and experience.

#### Hybrid Remote Truss Designer -Single Family J14212 Posted on Wednesday, June 07, 2023 Employer: Client Confidential

If you are a mid to senior level Truss designer, able to design for mostly single family custom and production builder type projects, able to design in savings and create packages that work in the plant and on site, this is a job you should consider. The company uses MiTek but will consider other truss design software experience. This job requires someone who is used to working with repetitive tasks, but also finding savings and minimizing errors.

#### Outside Sales Representative 23-0307-1 Employer: Dutchcraft Truss & Component Inc.

Dutchcraft Truss & Component Inc. is seeking a seasoned motivated and hardworking individual to fill the position of Outside Sales Representative. The Outside Sales Representative would be responsible for building relationships, calling on customers, quoting, taking orders, and ensuring the customer is satisfied from start to finish. Dutchcraft Truss & Component Inc. will supply everything this person needs to be successful, car, gas, phone, and computer. This is a great opportunity for a hard-working individual to make a very good living.

#### Truss Designer J15286 Employer: Client Confidential

Products include floor and roof trusses, I-Joists, wall panels, MiTek. Panel experience is a plus! JobLine Senior Designer rating is preferred. This is an In-Office position only. No remote, but part time remote may be available, depending upon skills and experience.

Thom's Notes: One of my "A" list employers, great benefits, competitive compensation plus very competitive bonus program. When I place someone there, they stick! Very tight specifications for this employer. Relocation assistance is available.

#### Regional Mega-Multifamily Truss Designer

Mega-Multifamily Estimator/Designer needed to support multiple plants. Duties include modeling for estimating and full designs of multifamily projects. Intermediate or advanced skill level will be considered using JobLine's Truss Design Skills Evaluation. This job is local, remote (Eastern Time Zone), or hybrid. Relocation assistance is negotiable if you plan to work in the office. Please inquire for additional details and to be considered for this position.

Compensation: \$33-43hr based on skills and ability. average 45 hours a week. Can interview onsite or remotely.

#### Remote Mega-Multifamily Estimator J15227

Employer: Client Confidential Remote Mega-Multifamily Truss Estimator opportunity. Qualified candidates will already know the general duties and skills needed for this position and additional details can be obtained prior to approving presentation.



Employer will consider 3+ years single family design experience. Training and position is remote. Expert level Remote MMF Estimators are afforded top consideration but the employer is very willing to train experienced single family designers wishing to become MMF Designers. This position is a stepping stone to a MMF Design job if you are interested.

#### Truss Designer - MiTek/Multifamily J14173

Posted on Monday, November 28, 2022 Employer: Client Confidential

JobLine Senior Designer ranking and MiTek software experience (Sapphire preferred) is highly desirable for this position. Prefer someone with commercial and multifamily experience but strong Single Family Custom will be considered. Bring your friends! In-office position. Remote is not an option.

Lead Designer 22-0811-2 Employer: ProTec Panel & Truss

ProTec Panel & Truss is looking to add a Lead Designer to our team. The designer will be responsible for the production of detailed shop drawings for component manufacturing using Mitek Software. They will contribute to the Design Team's success by working with team members to check accuracy and assist entry level designers.

#### Remote Designer - Truss/Panel J14179 Posted on Friday, January 21, 2022 Employer: Client Confidential

This opportunity is for senior remote designers with truss and/or wall panel experience. Only highly capable designers with solid remote experience will be considered.

MiTek software experience preferred. The ideal candidate will have multifamily and single family experience. This advanced level designers only. Please inquire for additional information. Zone Building Component Industry Job Board

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Joe Kannapell, P.E.

The Last Word

## **Two Titans: Denig and Toombs**

took over highly technical companies in the early 1990s, Denig at Trus Joist

and Toombs at MiTek, transformed them into world class businesses, folded them into top flight corporations, and then joined together to create winning software.

Both of their companies arose in the 1960s, capitalizing on their innovations in wood structures – Trus Joist in commercial, tubular-webbed trusses, and MiTek's predecessors in residential woodwebbed roof trusses. Their businesses began overlapping in the 1970s as pioneering component manufacturers, led by Frank Novak's Truss Span, went head-to-head with Trus Joist in the Northwest. Other CMs followed across the country, taking advantage of their local sales and manufacturing. Trus Joist had to ship from plants in the West until 1973 when they opened a plant north of Columbus, Ohio to service the East, and that year they became a public company. The same year, Gang-Nail also went public. And they became ardent competitors.

Trus Joist's sales accelerated through the rest of the 1970s and 1980s, spurred on by its breakthrough LVL technology. Yet in its dizzying quest to reach \$500 million in sales, it squandered its capital and energies on unwise acquisitions. In 1991, it suffered its first-ever loss. During this same period MiTek, without any comparable innovations, struggled as an also-ran in the plate business. Yet that would soon change.



Gene Toombs

In 1991, Gene Toombs took over MiTek and quickly transformed it into a software powerhouse. Capitalizing on his recent acquisition of a 3D layout software, he marshalled all MiTek resources to develop whole house software, releasing his own breakthrough product, MiTek 2000, in 1993. The following year, Tom Denig took over Trus Joist and rapidly expanded its manufacturing and sales. By the end of the 1990s, both Denig and Toombs had doubled their sales. Yet that was not enough for either of them.



Denig was the first to act in 1999, parlaying his company into the Weyerhaeuser Company, one of the world's largest forestry businesses, for a thirty percent premium. In 2001, Toombs followed suit, selling his company to Berkshire Hathaway, one of the world's largest investors. Now both were armed with the capital they needed for unbridled expansion. Yet that was still not enough. Denig realized that he needed a software tool that would enable him to put all of Weyerhaeuser's full array of products into a single platform.



Warren Buffett and Gene Toombs

Toombs realized that his component manufacturer customers needed the same thing, many of which were building supply firms, now known as LBMs. And it was their like-minded, entrepreneurial spirit that brought two competitors together to form the OptiFrame software joint venture in 2001, which shook the industry.

This became a very controversial move, igniting rivalries between the two companies, and upsetting customers who bought from Weyerhaeuser's competitors. In addition, the OptiFrame developers realized that they'd have to discard their existing software and start from scratch, doubling the development time. Customer-facing associates of both partners became frustrated as the time frame to its launch stretched out even further. By the first software release in 2007, both businesses were in the depths of recession, and yet OptiFrame was far from ready for primetime. By 2008, the partners were at irreconcilable odds, and the joint venture had to be dissolved. Both companies faced the task of taking on more developers, at the very bottom of the recession. Yet Denig and Toombs never wavered in their commitment to investing in the promise of technology,

pouring even more money into getting their respective programs across the finish line. And by having the courage to bite the bullet and invest during tough times, they increased the distance between themselves and competitors.

Denig and Toombs were cut from the same middle-class cloth. They attended mid-tier colleges, and served their country in the military, Denig in Vietnam. As implied by their pictures, Toombs would be at ease communing in a boardroom, while Denig would prefer entertaining on his boat. Yet both earned their way to the top, through the sheer force of their intelligence and personality. Beyond this day, Tom Denig and Gene Toombs will likely remain the foremost captains of this industry, separately and together.



Tom Denig



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