

STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS MAGAZINE (FORMERLY WOODWORDS)

March 2000

From Our Readers:



Kirk,

I would like to begin by thanking you for your hard work and dedication to our industry. I am sure, as in any industry, there are skeptics that feel we do not need a "watch dog." However, maybe the day their bottom line "cash flow" is affected they will realize we all need someone like you and your team which is out there expanding everyone's knowledge of Pre-Fabricated Wood Trusses....

Again thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Mario R. Espineira Jr., Vice President
DECO Truss Company, Inc., Princeton, FL

Letter to the Editor:

Thanks for your generosity in attributing the article entitled "[Shear Design Values for Lumber](#)" (December 1999) to me. As you'll recall, however, I was not the author, but merely a reviewer of the information and provided some editorial comment. The design values you published came from another source.

(Editor's Note: The article was a compilation of information received from WWPA, SFPA and CWC that was then asked to be reviewed by AF&PA). As noted in the article, "...until revision of the NDS® has been completed, 1997 NDS design provisions are only to be used with design values in the 1997 NDS Supplement: Design Values for Wood Construction, or similar values."

Also note, that the NDS equations referenced in the article were incorrect. They should be 3.4-3 and 3.4-4 for tension side notching and 3.4-6 and 3.4-7 for shear design of bending members at connections. An update version of this information can found on the AWC web site at www.awc.

[org.](#)

Thanks,

John "Buddy" Showalter, P.E., Director, Technology Transfer
AF&PA, Washington, DC

Kirk,

WOODWORDS gets better every issue! Please pass along to those responsible my congratulations on a first class product. [Bruce Hutchins' scissors truss piece](#) (January/February 2000) is extremely educational and so typical of what often happens.

What impresses me the most is how focused it is toward truss manufacturers, cover to cover.

Steve Cabler, Vice President of Engineering
MiTek Industries, Inc., St. Louis, MO

Dear Mr. Grundahl,

Our family owns a Southern Pine lumber mill, Charles Ingram Lumber Co., Inc., and a truss plant, Evergreen Component Systems, LLC. As a member of WTCA and Vice-Chair of the Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association (SLMA), I read your December *WOODWORDS* article with a great deal of interest.

SLMA is a group of 260 independent family-owned sawmills in 13 southeastern states. About 75 percent of our annual 4 billion board foot production is Southern Pine. A large percentage of our Southern Pine production is sold to your member companies.

SLMA participates in two marketing efforts, the Hardwood Council and the Southern Pine Council. Although I do not have the details, I understand there has been some conflict between SPC and WTCA. While I am concerned about the relationship between WTCA and the SPC, my major concern is the relationship between WTCA and SLMA's group of independent family-owned Southern Pine producers.

I believe I speak for all of our members when I say the truss industry is important to our membership. We are interested in improving the relationship between your members and ours. I would like to encourage our two organizations to begin a dialog exploring ways to further our mutual interests. We have a number of area meetings and mill tours that could provide a forum for these discussions. Our annual convention will be held in Squaw Creek, California on August 3-

5, 2000. Perhaps you would consider attending or even being a part of our program.

I understand you have discussed some of these ideas with SLMA's president, Steve Rountree. If there is anything I can do to facilitate this dialog please give me a call.

Yours very truly,

T. Furman Brodie, Vice President
Charles Ingram Lumber, Inc., Effingham, SC

Editor's Comments:We are going to build off of this very positive letter. WTCA's actions so far include:

- Several conversations with Steve to see how we can work together and also inform people about SLMA.
- A discussion with Furman that opened the door to Furman potentially writing an article or two for us in the future. He has a unique perspective as both a lumber and component manufacturer. We look forward to his insights.
- We will be attending SLMA meetings and working with Steve to get our WTCA chapters involved with the SLMA area meetings and mill tours.

Thank you very much, Furman, for taking the time to express your thoughts and open these doors. We are very encouraged by your actions.

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