

STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS MAGAZINE

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From Our Readers

Rachel,

Thank you for bringing gable end bracing to the front of industry discussion. Proper bracing and connection of the gable end truss is critical to resisting wind forces. We would like to hear WTCA's opinion on the use of standard flat bottom chord gable end trusses adjacent to scissor trusses? Most design software provides a bracing system based on ceiling connection at the bottom chord comprised of scabs, "T" or "L" braces. The main difference is the lack of wind load resistance from the ceiling diaphragm. What would WTCA suggest?

Thanks,
Greg Kebbekus • Design Manager
Structural Component Systems, Inc.
Greeley, CO

Greg,

Thanks for your comments. The article on gable end bracing was the beginning of the development of this information for a Truss Technology in Building (TTB) brochure. Shortly after I wrote the article, I sent it out to a group of industry engineers and design managers to review and provide feedback. The scissor truss issue was one that came up repeatedly. We are revising the information to incorporate a scissor detail where the bottom chord of the gable end is in line with the ceiling diaphragm. Keep an eye out on the web site for the unveiling of the new document later this summer. Thanks for your interest and please let me know if you have any questions.

By the way, would you like me to add your name to the list of folks who review the draft version of the TTB documents? You will receive an email from the WTCA tech department maybe four times a year asking for your input within a week or two deadline. It's a pain-free way to stay on top of the information we are developing for the construction industry.

Rachel Smith
WTCA Director of Technical Education

To submit a letter to "From Our Readers," fax a copy to 608/271-7006 or email editor@sbcmag.info.

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