



**It's easy
to show some
restraint.**



Simpson Strong-Tie continues to look for ways to simplify the installation of wood and cold-formed steel trusses. Our new line of spacer restraint, diagonal bracing and hip-end purlin connectors are designed to eliminate steps that add time and expense to the job. The adjustable AHEP connector is a structural purlin that also serves as lateral restraint. It attaches at the leading edge of step-down hip trusses and eliminates the need for drop top chords and fillers. The TBD22 diagonal truss brace offers a time-saving alternative to traditional diagonal bracing. The TSBR and S/TSR truss spacer restraints capture the on-center spacing of wood and cold-formed steel truss chords and webs, and laterally restrain truss members, allowing quicker, easier and safer installations.

For more information about these connectors and all of our truss solutions, call (800) 999-5099 or visit www.strongtie.com/truss.



Editor's Message

Testing Fosters Sustainability, Collaboration & Risk Management Strategies

by Joe Hikel

SBCRI can help develop sustainable building methods and has risk management benefits.

We are blessed to be involved in an industry that is innovative in nature. We have also invested in a very valuable industry tool that promotes that innovation. It hasn't been long since trusses themselves were a new idea, and the future is bright using technology to solve structural problems in building design for housing in a variety of creative ways. The SBCRI testing facility in Madison is that tool. In the past several years that the facility has been up and running, the staff has become more efficient at producing value-added results for both the industry and its proprietary customers.

The vision SBCA had when the idea of a testing facility was conceived was to leverage the testing results into a better understanding of load paths through structural building components and to use that knowledge to create methods to value engineer structures for our customers. Components have been developed using single element design logic since their beginning in 1952. There is a feeling that the next advancement of our industry will be due to greater understanding of the concepts surrounding system performance and taking advantage of these within component design software for both walls and roofs. One of SBCA's goals in developing SBCRI was the ability to test full scale systems and to use the results to optimize wood fiber and connector plate performance and revise the design requirements accordingly to create greater value in the components we sell. Isn't that the epitome of green? We should develop sustainable best practices for construction that help us use the resources at our disposal the best way we can in order to be good stewards of our environment.

As the facility has evolved, unexpected value has been created in areas we never imagined. An example is the collaboration of our association and our vendors, the lumber producers, on the subject of design values. I recently attended a meeting between component manufacturers, connector plate suppliers, and lumber producers after an issue came up during system testing. It was a very productive meeting that outlined the necessity of the entire supply chain to work together to solve industry challenges. In my 34 years in this industry, that meeting is the first example I know of where representatives of the entire supply chain met to resolve issues as a team.

SBCRI is a great tool to use as part of a risk management strategy as well. There have been several lawsuits defended using the facility to replicate failures that have occurred in the field, saving component manufacturers substantial claims in product liability and construction defect cases. You can read about one of these examples on page 16. Most of us don't think about these situations until they happen. It is great to have the peace of mind that there is a support system in place for us in a time that could cost us our companies if the wrong outcome occurs.

Last but not least, the facility can be used by individual companies on a proprietary basis to develop new products to keep all of us at the forefront of providing value to our customers. We need the ability to leverage our manufacturing expertise and harness our creative ideas to provide structural solutions that do not exist today. Testing the assumptions we make as new product developers is an essential strategy in the rapid advancement of our industry. New products bring differentiation and give our businesses the ability to add value and decommoitize our business models.

Continued on page 8

at a glance

- ☐ SBCA's vision for a testing facility is to create new methods to value engineer structures.
- ☐ Finding out about load paths through building components has been the focus of SBCRI's work.
- ☐ The ability to do forensic testing in SBCRI is a useful risk management strategy.

BCMC Build Kicks Off Fundraising Campaign

The BCMC Build Committee fundraising campaign for the September event is underway! This year, we will partner with Habitat for Humanity Indianapolis to give two Indianapolis families the dream of homeownership. The Committee is currently working with Habitat to confirm construction plans and site selection.

Fundraising Chair Jay Halteman said, "Far from a catch phrase, Building the American Dream is our passion and livelihood. This year in Indianapolis we look forward to greater opportunities for the components community to donate in the form of time, money and materials and at a level that is suitable for companies large and small."

There are four sponsorship levels: Hero (\$5,000), Partner (\$2,500), Friend (\$1,500) and Supporter (up to \$1,000). Sponsors at each level will enjoy a variety of promotional opportunities.

Hero and Partner level sponsors (\$5,000 and \$2,500 respectively) who donate by April 30 get first choice of an in-kind material donation. For more information about the perks available for Hero, Partner, Friend and Supporter sponsors, visit bcmcbuild.com/donate. The online contribution form is up and ready!

The Committee is also planning some special fundraisers during BCMC week, September 19-23. Stay tuned at bcmcbuild.com for announcements!

Contact Trish (tkutz@qualtim.com) with any questions about donations. **SBC**

Editor's Message

Continued from page 7

We develop technological solutions for structural problems using sustainable, renewable resources to provide shelter. SBCRI is a powerful tool in bringing our new product solutions to market. I can't think of a business I would rather be in. I wish everyone a prosperous building season. **SBC**

SBC Magazine encourages the participation of its readers in developing content for future issues. Email your thoughts and ideas to editor@sbcmag.info.

New SBCA Members

REGULAR MEMBERS

Beisser Components Division
Grimes, IA • 515-986-1213
Ms. Carla West

Heart Truss & Engineering
Lansing, MI • 517-372-0850
Mr. Curt Schaberg

McCabe Lumber
Loveland, OH • 513-683-2662
Mr. Joe Tepe

Mid Michigan Truss & Components LLC
Carrollton, MI • 989-755-4000
Mr. Dennis Metiva

North Georgia Truss Systems, LLC
Cartersville, GA • 770-387-4227
Mr. Steven Powell

Pops Home Hardware & Building Centre
High Prairie, AB • 780-523-3995
Mr. Ron L. Shunter

Prairie Truss
Stonewall, MB • 204-467-9597
Mr. Joel Maendel

TrussMart Building Components
Midway, GA • 912-884-4094
Mr. Richie DeLoach

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Absolute Wall & Ceiling Systems
Wilmington, NC • 910-790-3661
Ms. Bonnie J. Hunt

County of San Luis Obispo Building Dept
San Luis Obispo, CA • 805-781-1536
Mr. Matthew E. Varvel

CT Construction Services, LLC
Conroe, TX 77304 • 720-244-1296
Ms. Teasy Antill

Mike Meyerovich
Brooklyn, NY • 718-891-1941

WEIMA America, Inc.
Fort Mill, SC • 803-802-7170
Mr. Madison Burt

Woodard Sease & Associates, P.C.
Cary, NC • 919-462-8331
Mr. Barry E. Woodard, PE

Listing as of 3/11/11

For membership details, contact Anna (608/310-6719, astamm@qualtim.com) or visit sbccindustry.com.



SBCA Board of Directors

Officers & Executive Committee Reps.

- **President:** Joseph D. Hikel • Shelter Systems Limited
410-876-3900
- **President Elect/Treasurer:** Steven L. Stroder • ProBuild
303-262-8500
- **Secretary:** Scott Ward • Southern Components, Inc.
318-687-3330 x106
- **Past President:** Steven Spradlin • Capital Structures Inc.
479-783-8666
- **Kenneth M. Cloyd** • California Truss Company
951-657-7491
- **Dwight Hikel** • Shelter Systems Limited
410-876-3900
- **Kendall Hoyd** • Trussway Holdings, Inc.
713-590-8811
- **Joe M. Odgers** • Truss Systems, Inc.
770-787-8715

At-Large Representatives

- **Greg Griggs** • ProBuild Southeast • 770-428-2604
- **Ben Hershey** • ProBuild Northwest • 360-925-4155
- **Jim Thomas** • Trussway Holdings, Inc. • 713-590-8958
- **Jerry Vulgaris** • California Truss Company • 951-436-3162

Directors Representing Chapters

- **Phil Adams** • Northwest Building Components, Inc. • 208-687-9490
- **Keith Azlin** • U.S. Components, LLC • 520-882-3709 x131
- **Clyde R. Bartlett** • Bluegrass Truss Company • 859-255-2481 x100
- **Jimmy Broach, P.E.** • Atlantic Building Components & Services, Inc. • 800-475-3999
- **Dean DeHoog** • Hamilton Truss LLC • 616-879-1171
- **Rafael S. Del Valle** • Florida Forest Products • 727-585-2067
- **David A. Denoncourt** • Beau-Trusses LLC • 603-796-6200 x1
- **Jack Dermer** • American Truss Systems, Inc. • 281-442-4584
- **Barry E. Dixon** • True House, Inc. • 904-757-7500 x321
- **James C. Finkenhoefer** • Truss Systems, Inc. • 770-787-8715 x229
- **John Hogan** • Vivco Components • 816-449-2161
- **Steven M. Johnson** • Nelson Truss, Inc. • 608-884-6141 x400
- **Michael Karceski** • Atlas Components, Inc. • 815-332-4904 x103
- **Taft Ketchum** • PDJ Components, Inc. • 845-469-9191
- **Jess Lohse** • Rocky Mountain Truss Co. • 406-728-5356
- **Glenn McClendon** • Sun State Components of Nevada, Inc. • 702-657-1889
- **David Motter, P.E.** • Louws Truss, Inc. • 425-516-5964
- **Richard P. Parrino** • Plum Building Systems, LLC • 515-978-6269
- **John M. Presley, P.E.** • UFP Mid-Atlantic, LLC • 336-226-9356
- **David A. Raasch** • Lloyd Truss Systems • 507-387-4250
- **Michael L. Ruede** • A-1 Roof Trusses • 772-409-1010
- **Gary Sartor** • Stone Truss Company, Inc. • 760-967-6171 x11
- **Javan L. Yoder** • Stark Truss Co., Inc. • 330-479-8314

Associate Member Directors

- **Steve Harms** • iLevel by Weyerhaeuser • 253-924-2083
- **Stanley K. Sias** • Simpson Strong-Tie Co. • 925-560-9066
- **Tom Valvo** • Aegis Metal Framing, LLC • 314-851-2220
- **Thomas F. Whatley, II** • Eagle Metal Products • 800-521-3245

How do you triple the output of *your* table?



Retrofit with WizardPDS® drop-in Channels™

FACT: The average plant produces between 120-160 bd ft/man hr at the assembly table. Visit the EIS website to see the WizardPDS® producing at a rate of 572 bd ft/man hour.

The simple, patented open channel design of WizardPDS® drop-in Channels™ makes retrofit possible to any table and with many retrofit programs available — *including an option to perform all retrofit work in your plant without the need or extra cost associated with removing and shipping your tables.* (Contact us for a complete list of available options).

WizardPDS® drop-in Channels™ Your table, Automated.



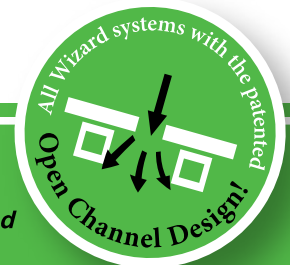
Think green.
Retro fit.
Save green.

WizardPDS®
Automated Perimeter Definition System



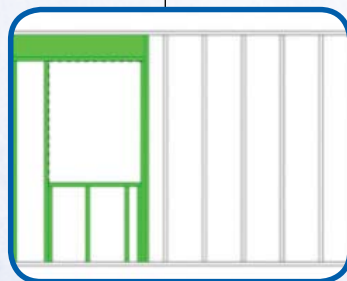
We bring the best together!

Toll free 800-344-3433 Ph. 612-521-9193 Fax 612-521-9307 www.eideintegratedsystems.com
Eide Integrated Systems, LLC PO Box 11397 / 3219 North Second Street Minneapolis, MN 55411-0397



For reader service, go to www.sbcmag.info/eide.htm

SAPPHIRE™ Structure



Create portal frames quickly for APA braced wall (shear panel) requirements

The core of The **SAPPHIRE** Suite, it provides component manufacturers whole-house design software in a true 3-D model using one data set. When powered by the new *Materials* module, the single data set will be used across the suite to drive engineering, materials, production output and the new *Viewer*.

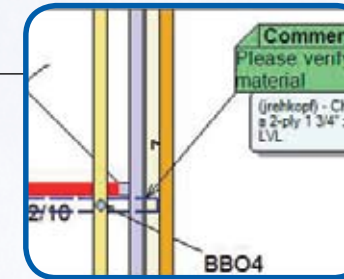
Go to: www.mitek-us.com/sapphirestructure

“SAPPHIRE Structure has put the fun back into designing.”

Toby Brundage — Builder's First Source
 Harrisburg, NC

Tools for Collaboration

SAPPHIRE™ Viewer



Quickly review SAPPHIRE Structure models in plain and 3-D views using zoom and pan.

A simple, collaborative tool that allows your designated builder, architect, or engineer customers to view a shared digital 3-D model — to review, comment, modify or approve specific building details.

Current MiTek customers are invited to download *Viewer* at NO COST to see for yourself how you can collaborate with your customers in three-dimensional imagery. Make your customers your business partners.

Go to: www.mitek-us.com/sapphireviewer

SAPPHIRE™ Portal



A web-based communication hub, *Portal* can manage your design process, increase your communication efficiency and build true collaboration.

SAPPHIRE Portal is your own 'customer collaboration hub' — it is web-based, secure, MiTek-hosted, and designed exclusively for component manufacturers.

- **Share** — Share documents with your customers - virtually any project-related document from pdf files to specific job documentation.
- **Manage** — Set it up to fit your unique business needs - to manage your unique design and approval workflow, saving time for both you and your customers.
- **Communicate** — Give your customers a great 'Project Manager' — *Portal* generates notification for activities, tasks, and updates to create a highly efficient workflow. Eliminates unnecessary communications and keeps your team on the leading edge.

Go to: www.mitek-us.com/sapphireportal

Collaboration — it has supercharged efficiencies in other industries — it is now time for an easy way to collaborate on structural design: The **SAPPHIRE™** Suite. The **SAPPHIRE** Suite lets you share files with your customers to help design, estimate, and accurately build from a digital architectural model - all geared to help you leverage your value for providing components — while improving the speed, efficiency, and the bottom line.

The first step is **SAPPHIRE™ Viewer**. *Viewer* allows you to review models in plan and 3-D views with your customers, using notations and bookmarks. You and your customers can also view elevation drawings and even isolate items to view in the model, such as a particular level or layer. And it is all so easy. For more information on collaborating, go to www.mitek-us.com/collaboration.



TECHNOLOGY BUILT FOR TODAY'S COMPONENT MANUFACTURERSSM



For reader service, go to www.sbcmag.info/mittek.htm

STRUCTURAL BUILDING **COMPONENTS**TM

THE FUTURE OF FRAMING

www.sbcmag.info

Dear Reader:

Copyright © 2011 by Truss Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. For permission to reprint materials from **SBC Magazine**, call 608/310-6706 or email editor@sbcmag.info.

The mission of **Structural Building Components Magazine (SBC)** is to increase the knowledge of and to promote the common interests of those engaged in manufacturing and distributing of structural building components to ensure growth and continuity, and to be the information conduit by staying abreast of leading-edge issues. SBC will take a leadership role on behalf of the component industry in disseminating technical and marketplace information, and will maintain advisory committees consisting of the most knowledgeable professionals in the industry. The opinions expressed in SBC are those of the authors and those quoted solely, and are not necessarily the opinions of any affiliated association (SBCA) .



6300 Enterprise Lane • Suite 200 • Madison, WI 53719
608/310-6706 phone • 608/271-7006 fax
www.sbcmag.info • admgr@sbcmag.info