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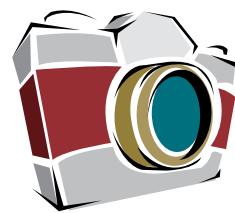
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A winter of hundreds of roof collapses in the U.S. and Canada resulting from heavy snowfalls sure reinforces the importance of snow loads. But that's not apparent to everyone. Steve Kennedy, E.I. (Lumber Specialties) sent in this photo recently taken at a rural Iowa property. "One of our salesmen was called to this jobsite to measure for what the customer described as a simple order that required no additional loading." An out building once attached to the barn had collapsed (you can see the outline of the shed in brown), and the owner was making plans to rebuild it.

"When the salesman arrived on site, it was obvious that snow drifting around the barn would require additional snow loads. Yet it had never occurred to the owner," Kennedy said. The salesman explained why snow drifting should be considered, and Lumber Specialties moved forward with the job.

What caused the shed to collapse in the first place? Ironically, snow drifts on its roof. **SBC**

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- Steve Kennedy, Engineer/Training Manager, Lumber Specialties

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