

Technical Committee Virtual (online) Meeting Sept 9, 2020 minutes

A Western Wood Truss Association Technical meeting was held on Sept 9th, 2020 virtually to follow the Province of BC's COVID 19 Guidelines for meetings with more than six individuals.

Attendance: Barry Schick, Larry Schwazer, Ken Su, Marc Landry, Drayson Akhurst, Shazad Mohammed, Shawn Zacharis, Royden Carey, Richard Heida, Mark Parry, Chris Perkin, Scott Wetaski, Sukh Johal, Kevin Mindel, Eugene Ng, Gurmit Dhaliwal, Lorne Winship, Trevor Judd, David Lyall, Ed Lim, Drayson Akhurst

Presentation one: Canadian Engineered Wood Products, Scott Wetaski STRUCTURAL LUMBER MARKETS

Scott provided a 28 min long in-depth conversation on the events that led to supply side crises in the structural lumber market that resulted in our members being subjected to record high lumber prices and structural lumber volume shortages.

Summary: In response to a likely slowdown in economic activity due to the COVID 19 breakout, mills back in the Spring of 2020 began to curtail production so as to limit exposure to inventory buildup. This was explained as an annual exercise conducted by many mills with the normal exception of West Fraser Timber who historically always kept producing. Oddly, this year West Fraser Timber did the opposite and followed its peers in shutting down/curtailing a large portion of their production capacity. When an ever increasing demand for pressure treated lumber came about (mainly due to home improvement projects from stay at home COVID 19 individuals) West Fraser Timber decided to focus their ramping up to their pressure treated lumber production (and not their structural lumber lines). This doubling effect seriously effected the availability of market ready structural lumber. Further complicating matters the expected slow down in the construction sector did not materialize and in many regions, it actually increased from previous years. The net result of increased demand from the home renovation sector and as well as the traditional residential construction sector with the mill shutdowns was just too much. Supply simply could not meet demand and prices rose and rose rapidly.

Scott did predict some normalcy returning to the market post Summer 2020, but time will tell.

Presentation two: CORE Canada Insurance Solutions Inc., Mark Parry INSURANCE MARKET CHANGES

Mark also provided an 18 min long in-depth conversation on the events that led to supply side crises in the Industrial/Commercial Insurance market that resulted in our members being subjected to record high insurance premiums for their manufacturing operations.

Summary, similarly, to our first presentation the supply side shock came as a result of historically supportive insurance providers exiting the market causing large gaps in underwriting capacity.

Supply (underwriting capacity) simply could not meet demand and prices rose and rose rapidly. A more formal and detailed summary was provided by Mark: Wood Sure Insurance protection-Insurance Market Changes which I will post on our website.

Presentation three: NBC 2020/CSA 086 & TPIC Updates, David Lyall, WWTABC Technical Committee

David provided a 14 min long summary of items/topics discussed at the May 7,2020 TPIC Technical Committee Meeting which was also held virtually (Online). The three main subtopics being, NBC2020 update, the CSA 086 & TPIC task group update and ended with the Task Group updates.

NBC2020 Update

- Revised target date for release is early 2021.
- New “Part 2” will be used for large farm buildings.
- Most provisions for NFBC1995 shall be used for small farm buildings.
- Proposed small farm building limits are the same as Part 9 limits. Span \leq 40ft. Building plan \leq 600 square meters.
- Proposal that the system factor (load sharing) K_h cannot be used for Part 2 trusses spaced more than 24”oc in small or large farm buildings.
- TPIC 2019 will be referenced in both NBC2020 and CSA-O86-19
- Proposed revision to Post Disaster
- Load Companion Factor for serviceability on Table 4.1.3.4 is proposed to be changed from 0.5 to 0.35.
- There is provision for drift at corner of building.
- New Part 4 Solar Panel Snow Loading formulas. Very complicated and detailed. In some cases, more Liberal than the Part 9 Solar Ready provisions
- Revision to the conservative Part 9 9.23.13 total load deflection formula. 1.333 factor will be eliminated.

CSA O86 & TPIC Update

- CSA-O86-19 & TPIC 2019 complete. Addendums to follow once NBC2020 is published.
- Both CSA and TPIC are planning for the new NBC 2025 code cycle.

Task Group Updates

- Letter prepared and posted on TPIC website clarifying position on metal ceiling as a diaphragm.
- Task group developed to research additional loading on “Smoke Stop” and “Fire Wall” trusses.
- Enhanced T-Bracing, L-Bracing and Web Scab Bracing table/formula to be added in TPIC. Use the work that TPI has been developing over the past couple of years.
- Revise Appendix C Ply to Ply fastening to allow for proprietary wood screws rather than bolts for 4 and 5 ply girder trusses. Letter prepared and posted on TPIC website clarifying position on adding solar panels to existing Part 9 roof trusses.
- Continued work on using ceiling drywall as a BC bracing system. TPI allows this. Goal is to have a similar clause in TPIC with limits on conditions.
- Research is being done on HDG truss plates used in corrosive environments. There may be a process that may be acceptable. More research and testing to be performed.
- Roller press reduction factor for 4x2 and 3x2 floor trusses. Letter to follow to clarify the two-pass requirement.
- Group developed to enhance the Roles and Responsibilities clause in TPIC

All presenters were thanked for their contribution.