

**Ad Hoc Committee – Tall Wood Buildings
Standards/Definitions Work Group
Draft Code Change Proposal
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Developed: 8/23/2017

Revised: xx/xx/17

File name: Section 202 - Definition – Mass Timber

The following is a draft code change proposal that has been developed by the Standards/Definitions Work Group (WG) of the Ad Hoc Committee on Tall Wood Buildings (TWB). This draft proposal has been reviewed by the TWB Committee and is posted for information and comments. Please direct comments to the Chair of the WG: Jonathan Humble at jhumble@steel.org. **This is a draft only and is subject to change prior to submittal to cdpACCESS by the January 8, 2018 deadline.**

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IBC Chapter 2 - Definitions

Mass Timber: Structural elements of Type IV construction primarily of solid, built-up, panelized or engineered wood products that meet minimum cross section dimensions of Type IV construction.

Reason: This is a new term and definition is being proposed to represent both the legacy heavy timber (a.k.a. Type IV construction) and the three (3) new categories of timber elements that are proposed for Chapter 6 of the IBC in another code change proposal. The purpose of creating this term and definition was to establish a single term which represented the various sawn and engineered timber products that are in the market today.

The types of construction types of mass timber would include:

Type IV-A (3 hour), Type IV-B (2 hour partially exposed), Type IV-C (2 hour exposed), and original Type IV-HT (Heavy Timber).

Specific types of mass timber can include:

Nominal sawn timber, glued-laminated timber, cross laminated timber, structural composite lumber, and other timbers listed in IBC Chapter 23 (Wood) and that are reference standard PRG-320.

The Code Council Board of Directors approved the establishment of an ad hoc committee for tall wood buildings in December/2015. The purpose of the ad hoc committee is to explore the science of tall wood buildings and to investigate the feasibility and take action on developing code changes for tall wood buildings. The committee is comprised of a balance of stakeholders with additional opportunities for interested parties to participate in the four Work Groups established by the TWB, namely: Code; Fire; Standards/Definitions; and Structural. For more information, be sure to visit the [TWB website](#).

Cost impact: No impact.

Informational Note: As a final submission to the ICC, this proposal is intended to be combined with another code change proposal whose subject is related to this definition. (e.g. Chapter 6 Type of Construction)