



A Professional Corporation

Technical Bulletin

FROM SPEIGHT, MARSHALL & FRANCIS, P.C.

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On a regular basis, we plan to distribute these informational leaflets about crucial - but often ambiguous - structural engineering topics. With the knowledge our featured subjects, our goal is to help our clients improve their profitability while reducing their liability. We suggest distributing a copy of our technical bulletins throughout your office and keeping them on hand for quick reference.

SPECIAL INSPECTIONS (PART X)

Wood Construction (BOCA 17056 and SM&F Recommendations)

Introduction:

In this bulletin we will outline the process of evaluating wood construction in accordance with BOCA pursuant to the Schedule of Special Inspections and Construction Documents. The Special Inspector is referred to as Agent 1 (typically the Structural Engineer of Record). Prior to initial inspection the inspector(s) must review the Schedule of Special Inspections and project specifications to understand their responsibilities and requirements.



Part A: Wood Construction per BOCA 17056

Inspection of Fabricator – when wood structural elements are assembled on shop premises:

- T Verify fabrication and quality control procedures.
- T Review fabricators ability to conform to approved drawings, project specifications and referenced standards.
- T Review procedures for completeness and adequacy related to code requirements.

The Fabricator is exempt from a shop inspection when it maintains an in-plant inspection agreement with an approved independent inspector or Quality Control agency.

Inspection of Seismic Performance Systems:

- T Inspect nailing, bolting, structural gluing and fastening of structural seismic resisting system for Categories C, D or E (1610.1.7).



Part B: Additional Wood Construction Inspection Procedures Recommended by SM&F:

Structural Details:

- T Visually inspect load bearing walls, truss systems, anchorages, shearwall systems, etc. for conformance with Construction Documents during construction.

Material:

- T Visually inspect materials used in construction for conformance with grade stamp requirements outlined in the Construction Documents.

Conclusion:

The Special Inspections team works together to assure proper fabrication and erection of structural members in compliance with the approved Construction Documents.

Typically Agent 1 is assigned responsibility for inspecting wood construction. Inspection of wood construction should be treated with the same importance as steel and will be more effective if conducted periodically during construction. Any discrepancies noted shall, without delay, be reported to the Structural Engineer of Record for review.

Happy Holidays!

Cooperation and communication between the Special Inspector and the General Contractor is essential to quality construction.



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