



STRUCTURLAM STORAGE AND HANDLING OF GLULAM MEMBERS

1. STORAGE

- All materials should be stored level on the site and must be raised off the ground 6 to 12 inches, stacked using separating spacers. Even if the original wrapper is in place and in good condition it is recommended that the materials are covered with an additional opaque water proof material (i.e. good quality tarpaulin). When Glulam members are wrapped in poly, slit the poly on the underside of the member to prevent accumulation of water and condensation.

*** THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT TO PREVENT FUNGAL GROWTH ***

2. HANDLING

- Glulam members that will be exposed to view in the finished building should be handled using nylon or fabric slings to prevent surface damage. Also it is advisable to use protective corners to prevent “crushing” of corners.
- Erect glulam beam members so the unfinished face is facing up. There will be a grade stamp on this surface. This is important as the engineering of the beam dictates this.

3. FINAL FINISH

- A light bodied shop sealer is applied to all glulam members and will provide some protection during erection only. Because it is light bodied, other finishes can be applied over (i.e. paint, stain, and polyurethane). **Finish sanding is recommended prior to applying any stain or finish to the exposed glulam posts and beams.** Apply stain to a small test section as different colors of stain bring out different characteristics in the wood. When finish sanding is needed, sand in the direction of the grain using 120 grit sandpaper. Follow the application directions for whatever finish product used.
We recommend a final finish be applied to all glulam members!

4. WEATHER CONDITIONS

- Glulam members are susceptible to adverse weather conditions and precautions must be taken to protect them.

Rain

- If unprotected, rain and moisture will cause staining of glulam members.
- If bolts are used with steel connections, ensure they are free of oil. Otherwise this will cause staining. Using galvanized bolts and connectors will prevent this.
- Any unprotected steel that has the opportunity to rust could also drip onto the glulam members and cause staining.
- **Ensure the protective poly is kept on the glulam members until the roof is installed!**



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Cold Weather

- Sudden application of heat to buildings in cold weather can rapidly change the moisture content of the glulam members. **This can seriously affect the structural integrity of the glulam members!**
- It is important that care is taken during transit, storage and throughout all stages of construction to avoid rapid changes in the moisture content of glulam members.

When applying heat to buildings, the following should be followed:

- Gradually increase the heat in the building over a two to three week period, up to normal temperatures. This will ensure a gradual change in the moisture content of the glulam member. The slower the moisture content in the wood equalizes with the moisture content in the air, the better.
- Do not direct any forced air heating systems onto the glulam members.
- Regulate all heating units remembering that hot air rises and temperatures at the ceiling can reach 100 degrees F plus. Glulam members are located here.
- Maintain normal relative humidity in the building and monitor if necessary.

****Important****

**It is recommended to apply the final finish to the glulam member before heat is applied!
This will help to regulate the change in moisture content.**

Structurlam Products LP will void its warranty if the above conditions and recommendations are not followed.

Please contact us if you have any questions:

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