



STORAGE AND HANDLING OF CROSSLAM PANELS

Structurlam has taken every reasonable precaution to protect your CrossLam panels during shipment to the project site; however, when not properly handled and protected, panels are subject to surface marring and damage, water staining, sun tanning, and checking. We recommend you follow the guidelines outlined below.

1. STORAGE

- Storage location should be level and allow air movement around panels, but protect from rain, snow, sun, and mechanical damage and be sufficiently elevated off the ground 6-12 inches.
- Cover panels at all times with good quality tarps to protect them from precipitation and UV damage.

2. HANDLING

- Use wide fabric or plastic belts or other slings that will not mar the wood. If chains or cables are used, provide protective blocking or padding to protect panels from damage.
- Do not walk on unprotected panels or handle the material with soiled hands or equipment.
- Unload trucks and move panels by using lifting equipment. Do not drag, dump or drop panels.
- Panels may need to be flipped from one side to another if they are delivered “good” side up or if work needs to be done on them prior to installation.
 - Protect the corner edge from crushing with corner blocking.
 - Use a crane and proper rigging.
- The target max weight per bundle is 10,000lbs. Offloading equipment on site needs to be able to handle loads up to or above this amount if required.

3. FINAL FINISH

- ***Finish sanding is recommended prior to applying any stain or finish to the exposed CrossLam panels.*** Apply stain to a small test section as different colours 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 visible CrossLam Panels!**



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4. WEATHER CONDITIONS

- Cross Laminate Panels are susceptible to adverse weather conditions and precautions must be taken to protect them.

Rain

- If unprotected, rain and moisture will cause staining of CrossLam panels.
- 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 CrossLam panels and cause staining.

Sun Tanning

- If a portion of the panel has been left uncovered in the sun for a period of time, "sun tanning" can occur. Sun tanning is the result of exposing wood fiber to sunlight. Wood fibers permanently darken when exposed to direct or indirect sunlight.
- Sun tanning can result from a tear in the wrap or from improperly covering the panel at the project site.
- Even if the materials are covered with the factory applied opaque wrap sun tanning can still result over an extended period of time. Again, it is recommended that the materials are covered with an additional opaque waterproof material (i.e. good quality tarpaulin).
- In general, all wood species change colour over time as a result of exposure to natural light and oxidation of the wood fibers. Over the long term, the colour differences will even out and in most instances will disappear altogether. If it is deemed necessary, the colour difference can be corrected in the short term by manually sanding the affected areas to remove the sun tanned marks on the beam.

Cold Weather

- Sudden application of heat to buildings in cold weather can rapidly change the moisture content of the CrossLam panels. **This can seriously affect the structural integrity of the CrossLam panels!**
- 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 CrossLam panels.



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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 CrossLam panels. 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 CrossLam panels.
- Regulate all heating units remembering that hot air rises and temperatures at the ceiling can reach 100 degrees F plus.
- Maintain normal relative humidity in the building and monitor if necessary.

****Important****

It is recommended to apply the final finish to the CrossLam panels before heat is applied (If applicable). 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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