

# STRUCTURAL WOOD SYSTEMS

DIVISION OF HARRISON INDUSTRIES, INC.

P.O. BOX 250 - PHONE 334-382-6534 EMAIL: sales@structuralwood.com

GREENVILLE, ALABAMA 36037

www.structuralwood.com

## IMPORTANT

Suggested Practice for Unloading, Handling, and Care of Glued-Laminated Timber Arches, Beams, Frames, and

## ACCOMPANYING MATERIALS

### UNLOADING

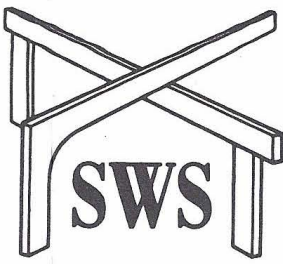
1. Inspection of contents should be made immediately upon receiving truck. If any damage is apparent, or load shifting noticeable, which may indicate damage, the delivery carrier must be notified and no unloading permitted until the carrier has made an inspection. Damage is to be noted on the driver's shipping documents. Take pictures of any damage from different angles.
2. In unloading glued-laminated material, care must be exercised to prevent damage to finished surfaces. Slings may be used only after the necessary blocking has been provided as corner and surface protection. "Glulam" material should always be lifted by forklift or crane; it must not be dropped or dragged. The piece underneath must have equal care as the piece on top.
3. A tally of items received should be made against material lists during unloading to detect any possible shortages. Check carefully to be certain that all hardware and fabricated steel connections intended for your job are unloaded. These items will be identified with your job number. If any shortage develops during unloading of either lumber or hardware items, the delivering carrier should be notified, and a shortage report obtained.
4. Decking may often be included with glulam. Deck is "show" material and must be handled like any other dry finished lumber. It must be kept clean, dry, and unmarred. It should not be walked on, nor handled with dirty hands or gloves.

### HAULING & STORAGE

1. GLUED-LAMINATED TIMBER MEMBERS AND SOLID TIMBER DECKING are manufactured of selected dry lumber and every care must be taken to keep them dry. Glulam is in fact large heavy pieces of finished lumber, which must be kept dry, clean, and unmarred. Glulam and decking must be protected from moisture at all times. **Factory applied wrapping, when furnished, is intended for transit protection only.** The packages are not necessarily watertight, nor abrasion proof. If upon receipt, or at any time thereafter, there is moisture inside a package, it should be immediately released. Time of removed of factory wrap is optional, but it must be repeated that the factory applied wrapping is intended for transit protection only. Should utilization of the wrap be desired toward further protection, the members should first be inspected and additional care provided as necessary. **This is the customer's responsibility.** For inspection purposes, a package can be opened by slitting along a low edge, but care must be taken not to damage the surface appearance.
2. When glulam and decking material is stored, it should be blocked up well above the ground, sloped for drainage, and protected on the top, sides, and ends. Preferably, glulam should be stored on edge. Curved glulam work should be with the concave face (usually

**READ CAREFULLY BEFORE UNLOADING**





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the soffit) downwards. Air spaces of at least 2” nominal should be left between their faces. When vertical storage is impractical and flat stacking is required, use 2” or thicker stickers between each layer. Take care to keep the members in line to prevent twisting, warping, or bending. Stickers also provide room for insertion of lifting slings. Air spaces of at least 2” should also be left between decking material and the vapor barrier on all sides to allow for proper ventilation. Without this space, moisture can form between the inside of the vapor barrier and the surface of the decking, leading to moisture related damage.

3. Overall protection, such as suitable tarpaulins or plastic covering **with adequate ventilation allowed** for both glulam and decking is recommended.
4. Care should be taken at all times so that free air can circulate under any protection to prevent collection of moisture that might occur due to condensation, or other reasons.
5. Prolonged jobsite storage is not recommended. The material is very dry, and even stored properly, it can absorb moisture under wet conditions.
6. These recommended items of further protection contained herein, and the removal of factory applied wrapping, are the responsibility of the customer.

## **ASSEMBLY & ERECTION**

1. **Before proceeding** with assembly or erection, all fabricated members should be checked against the anchorages, spans, elevations, and controlling dimensions and clearances.
2. The same general care as for unloading is required. Glulam material should not be handled with anything that will mar the surface. When using slings, care must be taken to see that they are clean, and do not cut into the wood; use of corner protectors under the sling is recommended.
3. **MATCH-MARKING**. In most instances, sections of same pattern and fabrication for a given job are interchangeable. However, some of the more complicated members will have been pre-assembled at the factory, and match-marked. These match-marks must be observed and the proper pieces used in their respective position, or an improper fit may result.
4. If the decking will not be immediately roofed over, some means of protection should be considered to avoid weather staining, absorption of moisture, or dirtying from any source, such as wet plaster, rain, etc., or other damage. During installation, you should “dry-in” the material as frequently as possible, especially at the end of each workday.
5. **TEMPORARY BRACING** and/or guys adequate to stabilize the structure for all weather conditions to be encountered should always be used as erection proceeds, and should remain in place until permanent bracing is accomplished.
6. Rapid heating of the building, or blowers directed against the materials, may cause rapid dissipation of surface moisture that may have been picked up during transit, storage, or erection, and subsequent checking may result. Such conditions should be prevented.

These suggestions are offered by Structural Wood Systems, gratuitously as a possible assistance to its customer. The suggestions may not all be applicable to a specific case, and the customer is advised to consult with their construction supervisor with respect to all details.

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