

February 25,2021

To: PWT Treated LVL Customers
From: Jim Enright and Dawn Greenwood, PE
RE: Error in PWT Treated User Guide

Notification:

The PWT Treated column allowable axial loads shown on page 6 (Sh. 5 of 8) of our PWT Treated User Guide, which was distributed in paper form and available on our website, were published and distributed without considering eccentric loading, while the notes section, item1 - bullet point 4, **incorrectly notes that table values are based on “load eccentricity of either 1/6 column wall or thickness.” THIS STATEMENT IS A MISTAKE.**

PWT review of the misprinted Treated User Guide:

When the error was discovered, PWT completed an internal review and commissioned a third-party engineer to review our findings. (See attached report.)

Findings:

- In the design of LVL columns for axial loads applied to the top of the member, the inclusion of eccentricity is optional.
- For columns supporting beam loads where the end of the beam bears on the entire cross section of the column, it is acceptable to ignore eccentricity in the column design.
- Where two beams butt together at the centerline of the support column, by proof, the load from one beam cancels the load from the other beam thus negating eccentricity.
- There is no code requirement to design for minimum eccentric moment.
- We have verified that the software provided by Simpson EWP Studio/CSD and Woodworks Sizer from American Wood Council, produce correct designs with or without eccentricity.
- The inclusion of load eccentricity in publications is extremely conservative for typical construction use. When complex designs are required, a competent design professional should be consulted.

The review of the conditions noted above confirm that the misprinted tables have no adverse impact on the performance of PWT Treated LVL columns except for non-standard designs where a qualified designer would have utilized load tables rather than software. If the loads table were used for non-standard column

design, the design should be re-examined with the above-mentioned design software.

Next Steps and Remedies:

- Corrected PWT Treated User Guides have been posted to our website.
- Printed copies of corrected the PWT Treated User Guide will be sent to all PWT treated customers with a cover note identifying the change.
- We are asking our Treated LVL distributors to provide PWT a list of their customers that have purchased Treated LVL columns. Please email the customer's name, address, phone number and email address to columns@pacificwoodtech.com We will contact each customer directly to verify that they have received the information provided in this document.
- **If you or your customer is unsure whether a condition using the misprinted column loads is acceptable, PWT will provide an independent review of the condition and provide a formal response to that request. Please contact PWT at columns@pacificwoodtech.com**

Finally, we are confident that the performance of PWT Treated LVL columns meets or exceeds the design requirements for its intended application. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause you or your customer. If you have any questions or concerns, Dawn or I can be contacted immediately. Matt Caissie, JD Dombek, and Steve Thurber are also available.

Thank you, we appreciated your business and will promptly handle your questions or concerns.

Jim Enright
CEO/President

Dawn Greenwood, PE
Senior Engineer