STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. 19-03

CODE: 2015 International Building Code
SECTION: 703, Mass Timber Fire Resistance Rating

QUESTION: How are fire resistance ratings for connections in mass timber Types IV-A, IV-B, and IV-C determined?

ANSWER: Fire resistance ratings for connections in Type IV-A, IV-B, or IV-C construction should be determined by one of the following:

a. Testing in accordance with the Washington State Amendment to Section 703.2 where the connection is part of the fire resistance test.

b. Engineering analysis as approved by the code official. Code officials may reference ICC 2021 Group B B S170-19 proposal for guidance. For the purposes of this analysis, the connection includes connectors, fasteners, and portions of wood members included in the structural design of the connection.

SUPERSEDES: None

REQUESTED BY: City of Seattle