

## GLULAM SPECIAL INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR DSA PROJECTS

This technical bulletin explains the California Building Code (CBC) requirement for special inspection of structural glued laminated timber as it pertains to new requirements published by the Division of the State Architects (DSA), and what it means for any in-process or future DSA projects.

Please note that the CBC requirements have not changed, but DSA is providing clarification on how the project design professional is to communicate whether or not special inspection is required for individual glued laminated timbers.

### Special Inspection Requirements

CBC California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 2, Section 1705A.5.4, requires that manufacture of all structural glued laminated timber shall be continuously inspected by an approved agency, with the following exception:

- **Exception:** Special Inspection is not required for non-custom members of 5 1/8 inch maximum width and 18 inch maximum depth, and with a maximum clear span of 32 feet, manufactured and marked in accordance with ANSI A 190.1 for non-custom members.

On 6/21/2017, DSA released [BU 17-03](#) to provide clarification whether structural glued laminated timbers are exempt from special inspection on DSA projects. Beam members must meet both of the following criteria to be exempted from special inspection on DSA projects:

1. Member must qualify for exception per the requirements of CBC Section 1705A.5.4.
2. The project design professional must specify, in the DSA approved construction documents, any non-custom members that may be sourced from general inventory and do not require special inspection.

Per BU 17-03, as of 6/21/2017, DSA will consider any member that does not meet both of the above criteria to be a custom member and shall require special inspection regardless of size.

For DSA projects in-process, and as a way to communicate, manage and set expectations for projects the following is provided:

### Projects with a DSA approval date of 6/21/2017 or later

- **Special inspection will be required on all glulam beams unless specifically noted as non-custom on the DSA approved construction documents by the project design professional.**
- RedBuilt's Glulam Beam Template will continue to be completed and shall include all glulam beams from the DSA approved construction documents, unless beams are indicated as non-custom on said documents.
- If the DSA approved construction documents do not include all specification information required to be inspected by ANSI A 190.1, RedBuilt may add the missing information to the Glulam Beam Template. The project design professional must review and approve any specification added to the Glulam Beam Template that cannot be found in the DSA approved construction documents.
- The approved Glulam Beam Template should be included in the RedBuilt Approved for Production/Construction submittal. A copy will also be provided to the glulam manufacturer to be used for inspection scheduling, and to provide to the inspector, as necessary.