

June 25, 2024

Forest to Façade: Commercial Seismic, Daylighting, and Energy Retrofits

NEEA PRODUCT COUNCIL



Agenda

- Project overview
- Mass timber seismic and energy retrofits
- Daylight design optimization to improve daylight availability while saving energy

Learning Objectives

- Learn about recent development in mass timber applications to improving commercial seismic and energy performance via existing building retrofits
- Understand the added opportunity to improve daylighting performance, which can affect energy performance, occupant comfort and health
- Discuss effects of daylighting on visual health and potential opportunities for electric lighting and controls upgrades





Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration (2019 data) Image Source: Noah Berger/AP warehouse 17%

office 16% 944,000 buildings 15.5 billion SF

5.9 million

number of buildings

other 15%

food service 5%

education 7%

numinitii

Contraction of the

religious worship

public assembly 8%

service 15%

mercantile 9%

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2018 Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey, Sept. 2021



energy retrofits

areas of climate zones in 4, 5, 6 could especially benefit from increased façade thermal resistance.

SOURCE: ASHRAE

EVOLUTION OF SEISMIC DESIGN STANDARDS

Developing an Application for Mass Plywood Panels in Seismic and Energy Wall Retrofits This work is supported by the 2020 Wood Innovations Program grant number 20-DG-11062765-737 from the USDA U.S. Forest Service

seismic retrofits

the U.S. West Coast has substantial need to prepare for seismic events

SOURCE: https://www.usgs.gov/natural-hazards/earthquake-hazards/science/introduction-national-seismic-hazard-maps?qt-science_center_objects=0#qt-science_center_objects

energy + seismic retrofits

areas of climate benefitting from increased façade thermal insulation align with areas of Cascadian subduction zone and present a unique opportunity for combining both efforts.

SOURCE: https://earthquake.usgs.gov/scenarios/eventpage/bssc2014cascadia_sub0_m9p34_se/map

Forest to Façade

using mass plywood and digital workflows to retrofit low-rise commercial buildings for climate and seismic resilience

MINDA TimberPress X 337

images - (top) Forest, Eugene Deshko, unsplash.com (mid left, middle) Freres Lumber digital panel processing (mid right) OSU Emmerson Lab digital fabrication (bottom) Freres Lumber MPP Production hall

energie sprong

"energiesprong"

the concept of a leap in energy savings, originated in holland and uses premanufactured facades, created from a building scan, to cover an existing facade. we are developing this in the U.S. using mass timber to reduce energy/emissions of the assembly itself.

1

Façade Deep Energy + Seismic Retrofit

commercial retrofits can be invasive

leaving behind substantial material waste, cost, and embodied carbon along with business disruption and displacement of workforce

retrofits should address

seismic + energy

In addition to embodied carbon, operational carbon can be reduced through higher façade thermal performance and opportunity for improved daylighting

Forest to Façade

developing seismic + energy mass timber commercial façade retrofits

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Oregon State University

the project

SWINERTON **SWINERTON**

we are using a case study PNW fourstory low-rise reference office building to explore seismic upgrade using a mass timber façade-based alternative that also improves energy performance

IMBERLAB

Forest to Façade

developing seismic + energy mass timber commercial façade retrofits

the project team

University of Oregon IHBE Energy Studies in Buildings Lab

Baker Lighting Lab

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IMBERLAB

Oregon State University

Andre Barbosa (Co-PI), Gustavo Fernando Orozco Orozco

Swinerton / Timberlab William Silva, Ryan Wasell

Project Goals and Activities

Activity				
Goal 1: Develop a mass timber panel facade retrofit system				
Task 1.1: Building Case Study Development				
Task 1.2: Structural Analysis and Sizing				
Task 1.3: Energy Performance Analysis of Wall Assembly				
Task 1.4: Moisture Analysis of Wall Assembly				
Goal 2: Compare embodied carbon impact				
Task 2.1: Embodied Carbon Analysis of Baseline				
Task 2.2: Embodied Carbon Analysis of Proposed Mass Timber Solution				
Goal 3: Provide cost-estimation				
Task 3.1: Cost-Estimation Baseline				
Task 3.2: Cost-Estimation Proposal				
Goal 4: Disseminate findings				
Task 4.1: Dissemination				

Digital Off-Site Fabrication

Concept: Façade As Built

Ο

Concept: Façade Retrofit

Vertical Post-tensioned Rocking Wall Lateral Force Resisting System

Ο

Using ASHRAE Achieving Zero Energy Guide to Inform Wall Insulation Levels

Advanced Energy Design Guide for Small to Medium Office Buildings

Daylighting performance

Improving visual comfort and health by improving façade daylighting performance

Intro

- The Forest to Facades project allowed us to explore the possible co-benefits of seismic upgrades to improve the following daylight conditions:
 - increase daylight availability deeper within the space
 - lower unwanted sunlight exposure through appropriate shading
 - maintain eye-level light exposure levels to promote health
 - decrease glare levels to promote visual comfort

Model conditions

- As-built iterations:
 - 00: Baseline with dropped ceiling
- Retrofit iterations:
 - 01: Baseline
 - 02: Baseline + exterior vertical shading
 - 03: Baseline + exterior vertical shading + interior light shelf
 - 04: Baseline + exterior vertical shading + exterior horizontal shading
 - 05: Baseline + exterior vertical shading + exterior horizontal shading + interior light shelf
 - 06: Baseline + exterior vertical shading + exterior horizontal shading + interior light shelf + clerestory and view window (clerestory is not dynamically shaded)

Materials

Modeled interior material reflectance/transmissivity:

As-built	Retrofit
50% ref. walls 70% ref. ceiling 20% ref. floor 50% VLT glazing	 55% ref. perimeter walls (mass timber) 15% ref. exterior metal cladding 70% ref. interior walls 80% ref. ceiling 40% ref floor 70% VLT glazing

Glossary

- [sDA] Spatial Daylight Autonomy: Percent of space receiving at least 300 lux for at least 50% of occupied hours. *Calculation includes dynamic shading*.
- [ASE] Annual Sunlight Exposure: Percent of space receiving at least 1000 lux direct sun for at least 250 occupied hours. *Calculation excludes dynamic shading*.
- [UDIa] Useful Daylight Illuminance (autonomous): Averages UDIa across a whole space. UDI differentiates areas that are too dim/failing(<100Lux), supplemental (100-300Lux), acceptable/autonomous(300-3000Lux), and excessively lit(>3000Lux). Calculation includes dynamic perimeter shading.
- Avg Lux: Mean workplane illuminance during occupied hours. Calculation includes dynamic perimeter shading.
- Occupied hours: Typical time range for office occupancy and our simulations.

[sDA] Spatial Daylight Autonomy: Percent of space receiving at least 300 lux for at least 50% of occupied hours.

Calculation includes dynamic shading.

[ASE] Annual Sunlight Exposure: Percent of space receiving at least 1000 lux direct sun for at least 250 occupied hours.

Calculation excludes dynamic shading.

[UDIa] Useful Daylight Illuminance (autonomous): Averages UDIa across a whole space. UDI differentiates areas that are too dim/failing(<100Lux), supplemental (100-300Lux), acceptable/autonomous(300-3000Lux), and excessively lit(>3000Lux).

Calculation includes dynamic perimeter shading.

AS-BUILT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Baseline façade

618 average lux Perimeter shading retracted 80% of occupied hours

RETROFIT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Baseline façade

898 average lux Perimeter shading retracted 76% of occupied hours

Baseline façade +exterior vertical shading

Baseline façade +exterior vertical shading +interior light shelf

756 average lux Perimeter shading retracted 81% of occupied hours

Baseline façade +exterior vertical shading +exterior horizontal shading

690 average lux Perimeter shading retracted 83% of occupied hours

ANNUA PERFORMANCE **Baseline façade**

+exterior vertical shading +exterior horizontal shading +interior light shelf

669 average lux Perimeter shading retracted 85% of occupied hours

RETROFIT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Baseline façade +exterior vertical shading +exterior horizontal shading +interior light shelf +clerestory and view window

723 average lux

Perimeter shading retracted 85% of occupied hours

12:00

September 21st 15:00

12:00

September 21st 15:00

1000 1500

MI HE--

September 21st, 9:00

 cd/m²

 0
 500
 1000
 1500
 2000

Glare Risk

Daylight Glare Probability (DGP)¹

A percentage of people who are likely to experience glare, with thresholds at 0.40 (disturbing) and 0.45 (intolerable).

glaring

¹ J. Wienold, J. Christoffersen, Evaluation methods and development of a new glare prediction model for daylight environments with the use of CCD cameras. Energy and Buildings 38(7): 743-757, 2006

Circadian entrainment

Circadian rhythms

- Sleep and wake
- Hormone secretion
- Body temperature
- Cognitive function

→ Non-visual responses

Direct effects

- Melatonin suppression
- **Pupil constriction**
- Subjective alertness
- Performance

Circadian entrainment

Circadian entrainment

Equivalent Melanopic Lux (EML)¹ – WELL Standard Lux weighted to the melanopic, rather than photopic sensitivity curve

For workstations used during the daytime, electric lighting is used to achieve the following thresholds:

a. The following light levels are achieved for at least four hours (beginning by noon at the latest) at a height of 18 in above the work-plane for all workstations in regularly occupied spaces:

Tie	Threshold		Threshold for Projects with Enhanced Daylight	Points
1	At least 150 EML [136 melanopic EDI]	OR	At least 120 EML [109 melanopic EDI] and either L05 Part 1 or L06 Part 1	1
2	At least 275 EML [250 melanopic EDI] ¹¹	OR	At least 180 EML [163 melanopic EDI] and either L05 Part 1 or L06 Part 1	3

b. The light levels are achieved on the vertical plane at eye level to simulate the light entering the eye of the occupant.

Circadian performance

			9am	10am	11am	12am	
	As-built baseline workstation view	Average Annual Vertical Illuminance (Lux)	534	561	693	660	
		% days E _v >= 275 Lux	62%	74%	84%	84%	
	Retrofit baseline workstation view	Average Annual Vertical Illuminance (Lux)	957	1342	1454	1299	-
		% days E _v >= 275 Lux	66%	81%	91%	93%	
	Enhanced retrofit workstation view +exterior shading (vertical and horizontal) +interior light shelf +clerestory and view window	Average Annual Vertical Illuminance (Lux)	866	1008	581	533	T
		% days $E_v >= 275 Lux$	69%	74%	83%	82%	

Circadian health and electric lighting

Meeting circadian dosing requirements (WELL Standard)

Annual Lighting Energy Use Total (kWh)

(

Discussion

- Mass plywood and timber products offer a low-carbon solution to improve seismic and climate resilience for commercial buildings
- Façade retrofits can also offer co-benefits like improved thermal performance and daylighting design, which offer energy savings and improved occupant comfort and health
- There is a give-and-take dynamic between maximizing daylight availability, minimizing excessive over-lighting and potential glare, and promoting health. Efficient electric lighting systems and controls can help bridge the gap.

Questions? Discussion?

