

News Release



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iLevel® Shear Brace Stands Strong Against Nature's Wrath and Meets the Wall Framing Challenges of Today's Homes

Leveraging expertise in providing high-performance floor framing solutions for homes, iLevel by Weyerhaeuser provides a better, faster and simpler way to frame walls to meet the most demanding structural challenges. The iLevel® Shear Brace is a pre-built, engineered panel with more predictable and consistent performance than site-built shear walls, providing critical lateral bracing to help homes resist the forces imposed on them by high winds and earthquakes. In addition, the iLevel Shear Brace can be used in multi-story applications and provides a way to build stable, narrow walls quickly and with high quality in homes with many window and door openings. www.ilevel.com

The iLevel Shear Brace is optimized to resist high lateral loads with the ability to fit in narrower wall sections. The panel is engineered for performance and is manufactured in a controlled setting, providing builders and homeowners with confidence that it will help the home stand strong.

Beyond concerns with in-plane lateral loads created by earthquakes and high winds, the iLevel Shear Brace is able to resist vertical gravity loads and out-of-plane lateral loads, which gives it greater design flexibility. In addition, homeowners now demand more and larger windows in their homes, which may be part of a great room tall wall. Many times, these choices lead to tall, narrow wall segments in the structure, which are a challenge to properly brace using traditional

or prescriptive framing methods. The iLevel Shear Brace provides the solution by allowing for building strong and narrow wall sections using a one-piece panel that is simple to install.

The iLevel Shear Brace is available in 12" and 18" widths and in various stock and custom heights that can be trimmed in the field, if needed. It offers ease of installation through mounting brackets that allow builders to adjust the panel front-to-back for ready alignment with bolts installed in a home's foundation. The panel can be used on both the first story and second stories of homes. iLevel also makes life easier for other trades, as well, since the iLevel Shear Brace has pre-drilled holes to facilitate installation of wiring and plumbing. Additional holes can be drilled at the job site, helping contractors save time and eliminate guesswork.

Builders and homeowners can be confident that they have made an environmentally responsible choice when selecting the iLevel Shear Brace. The TimberStrand® Laminated Strand Lumber (LSL) used to produce the iLevel Shear Brace is made from logs that are too small for conventional solid-sawn lumber and the manufacturing process uses virtually every portion of every log to produce strong, straight and consistent framing members.

iLevel offers builders and building material dealers a complete and integrated package of innovative framing materials and services, including TimberStrand® LSL, Parallam® PSL, TJI® joists, Structurwood® panels, iLevel Premium Joists™ and design software tools such as iLevel Javelin®. To learn more about the complete iLevel line of residential framing products, software tools, technical support, and extensive distribution network throughout North America, visit www.iLevel.com or call 1-888-iLevel8 (888-453-8358) to locate a dealer near you.

About iLevel by Weyerhaeuser

iLevel is Weyerhaeuser's integrated residential framing business resulting in a seamless, unified solution for residential builders through dealers – offering a coordinated network of support for all structural framing materials. By combining Weyerhaeuser's high-quality products and services from well-known brands like Trus Joist and Structurwood, with its distribution and technology capabilities, iLevel efficiently supplies customers with all the necessary components for building the residential structural frame, and solving builder and customer needs around that frame.

About Weyerhaeuser

Weyerhaeuser Company, one of the world's largest forest products companies, was incorporated in 1900. In 2007, sales were \$16.3 billion. It has offices or operations in 13 countries, with customers worldwide. Weyerhaeuser is principally engaged in the growing and harvesting of timber; the manufacture, distribution and sale of forest products; and real estate construction, development and related activities. Additional information about Weyerhaeuser's businesses, products and practices is available at <http://www.weyerhaeuser.com>.

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