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COMMENTARY TO 2008 SPECIAL DESIGN PROVISIONS FOR WIND AND SEISMIC AVAILABLE

A new *Commentary* providing background information and sample calculations has been added to the American Wood Council's *2008 Special Design Provisions for Wind and Seismic (SDPWS)* standard. The *SDPWS* standard provides design guidance for materials and construction of wood members, fasteners, and assemblies to resist high wind and seismic forces.

As an update to *SDPWS-2005*, notable new provisions of *SDPWS-2008* include criteria for wood structural panels designed to resist combined shear and uplift from wind. This will allow more efficient and economical construction of wood-frame shear walls in high wind areas. The *Commentary* is organized to parallel the chapters of the *SDPWS* standard and provides sample calculations for each design value table.

SDPWS-2008 is approved as a reference standard in the 2009 edition of the International Code Council's (ICC) *International Building Code*.

Electronic versions of the *SDPWS-2008 with Commentary* are available for free viewing or purchase from the AWC website at <http://www.awc.org>.

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The American Wood Council (AWC) is part of the wood products group of the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA). AF&PA is the national trade association of the forest products industry, representing pulp, paper, and wood products manufacturers, and forest landowners. AF&PA member companies make essential products from renewable and recyclable resources that sustain the environment. The forest products industry employs 1 million workers and generates 6 percent of the total U.S. manufacturing GDP. Visit AF&PA online at www.afandpa.org.