

Katerra CLT and the Environment

November 2019

At A Glance: Kattera's CLT Sustainability Commitments

- 100% Timber Sourced from Well-Managed Forests
 - All Lumber PEFC or SFI Certified
 - FSC Certified Upon Request
 - Utilization of Small-Dimensional Lumber
 - Reduction in Use of Supplemental Finish Materials
 - ISO 14025 Type III EPD for CLT Product Line In Progress
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At Kattera, we believe Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) will become the backbone for future generations of high-performance, low carbon buildings across North America.

As building energy efficiency improves and the planet rapidly urbanizes, embodied carbon is estimated to be responsible for almost half of new construction emissions between now and 2050¹. Switching to building materials with lower embodied carbon can significantly reduce a building's negative environmental impacts.

CLT provides lighter, stronger, and a more sustainable alternative to carbon-intensive concrete and steel structures, but limited availability in the North American market has constrained the transition. Kattera is changing that. Our new CLT plant in Spokane Valley, Washington was built to bring environmentally-responsible, cost effective mass timber building systems to the North American Market.

At Kattera, we control the entire end-to-end building process and take a complete life cycle approach to determining our environmental impact:

Responsible Supply Chain

Kattera is committed to sourcing environmentally-responsible forest products, with 100% of our lamstock sourced from well-managed forests. All lumber sourced from Canada sawmills is PEFC or SFI certified at a minimum, and chain-of-custody processes to enable FSC-certified product upon request are currently under development.

Resource Efficiency

Our CLT panels are manufactured with small dimensional lumber, making them much more resource efficient than conventional heavy timber framing. With natural wood's pleasing aesthetic and superior fire resistance (5-ply CLT panels exceed a two-hour rating), the structure can be left visually exposed, eliminating supplemental finish materials. Mass timber buildings are significantly lighter than comparable concrete buildings, reducing foundation size and seismic forces in addition to embodied energy².

Operational Efficiency

Mass timber building systems enable increased construction productivity, with automated fabrication in a controlled factory environment reducing waste and enabling streamlined field assembly. Mass timber buildings are roughly 25% faster to construct and require up to 90% less construction traffic than concrete buildings³.

Improved Occupant Environment

People have an affinity for natural materials and elements that incorporate or evoke nature, known as the "biophilic effect." Studies have found that subjects perceive wood as "warm," "inviting," "homey," and "relaxing" than all other tested materials, and demonstrate physiological and psychological benefits to viewing wood⁴.

Environmental Transparency

Katerra is committed to third-party environmental certification and will pursue Type III Environmental Product Declaration to ISO 14025 for our CLT product line. This will commence once the factory has been in operation for a minimum of 12 months in accordance with the standard.

¹ "New Buildings: Embodied Carbon," Architecture 2030.com, architecture2030.org/new-buildings-embodied

² ³ "4 things to know about Mass Timber," ThinkWood.com, April 25, 2018, thinkwood.com/news/4-things-to-know-about-mass-timber

⁴ "Nature in Design: The Biophilia Effect," APA – The Engineered Wood Association.com, apawood.org/designerscircle-nature-in-design-the-biophilia-effect