



## Constructing Our Environments: A Material Comparison

<https://research.thinkwood.com/en/permalink/catalogue161>

Author: Murdock, Henry  
 Organization: University of Waterloo  
 Year of Publication: 2014  
 Country of Publication: Canada  
 Format: Thesis  
 Material: CLT (Cross-Laminated Timber)  
 Topic: Market and Adoption  
 Keywords: Environmental Performance  
 Concrete  
 Steel  
 Energy Efficiency  
 Assembly  
 Design Flexibility  
 Ease of Manufacture  
 Language: English  
 Research Status: Complete

**Summary:**

Our built environment is constantly adapting to changing factors: technology, the state of the economy, material resource availability, and, in turn, environmental conditions. The latter has gained notable importance in popular discourse, and especially in the architecture and construction professions. However, as much as we see terms such as “sustainability” and “green” in our everyday lives, government and industry are slow to take action investing in our future environment. Material resources in the building industry are worth investigating. Timber, used as a structural material to compete with concrete and steel, brings more energy efficient and natural renewable resources to our growing cities. In order to provide a broader perspective of how we as a society use concrete, steel, and timber, I will compare the three building materials in a four part guideline: Environmental Performance, Ease of Manufacture, Organized Assembly, and Design Flexibility.

Online Access: Free

**Resource Link**

<http://hdl.handle.net/10012/8622>