



## Acoustics Summary: Sound Insulation in Mid-Rise Wood Building

<https://research.thinkwood.com/en/permalink/catalogue750>

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Organization: National Research Council of Canada

Year of Publication: 2014

Country of Publication: Canada

Format: Report

Material: CLT (Cross-Laminated Timber)  
 Light Frame (Lumber+Panels)

Application: Wood Building Systems

Topic: Acoustics and Vibration  
 Design and Systems

Keywords: Mid-Rise  
 Sound Insulation  
 Impact Sound Transmission  
 Airborne Sound Transmission

Language: English

Research Status: Complete

### Summary:

This report summarizes the acoustics research component regarding sound insulation of elements and systems for the research project on mid-rise and larger wood buildings. The summary outlines the background, main research considerations, research conducted and major outcomes. Further details of the design and the results can be found in the appendix of Client Report A1-100035-02.1 [1].

The goal of the acoustics research components was to develop design solutions for mid-rise wood and wood-hybrid buildings that comply both with the current National Building Code of Canada (NBCC) 2010 [2] requirements for direct sound insulation and with the anticipated requirements for flanking sound transmission in the proposed, 2015 version of the NBCC. In addition, the design solutions were to provide better impact sound insulation while still achieving code compliance for all other disciplines (interdependencies) as identified in the final report of the scoping study conducted in FY 2010/2011 [3]

Online Access: Free

### Resource Link

<http://doi.org/10.4224/21274554>




## Air-Borne Sound Transmission through Triple-Leaf Walls

<https://research.thinkwood.com/en/permalink/catalogue2235>

Author: Eslami, Armin  
Organization: Carleton University  
Year of Publication: 2015  
Country of Publication: Canada  
Publication:  
Format: Thesis  
Material: Light Frame (Lumber+Panels)  
Application: Walls  
Topic: Acoustics and Vibration  
Keywords: Mid-Rise  
Airborne Sound  
Model  
Sound Transmission  
Sound Insulation  
Language: English  
Research Status: Complete  
Online Access: Free

### Resource Link

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<https://doi.org/10.22215/etd/2015-10914> 



## Apparent Sound Insulation in Cross-Laminated Timber Buildings

<https://research.thinkwood.com/en/permalink/catalogue1276>

Author: Hoeller, Christoph  
Mahn, Jeffrey  
Quirt, Dave  
Schoenwald, Stefan  
Zeitler, Berndt

Organization: National Research Council of Canada

Year of Publication: 2017

Country of Publication: Canada

Format: Report

Material: CLT (Cross-Laminated Timber)

Application: Wood Building Systems

Topic: Acoustics and Vibration  
Connections

Keywords: Airborne Sound Transmission  
Adhesives

Language: English

Research Status: Complete

### Summary:

This Report presents the results from experimental studies of airborne sound transmission, together with an explanation of calculation procedures to predict the apparent airborne sound transmission between adjacent spaces in a building whose construction is based on cross-laminated timber (CLT) panels.

There are several types of CLT constructions which are commercially available in Canada, but this study only focused on CLT panels that have adhesive between the faces of the timber elements in adjacent layers, but no adhesive bonding the adjacent timber elements within a given layer. There were noticeable gaps (up to 3 mm wide) between some of the timber elements comprising each layer of the CLT assembly. These CLT panels could be called "Face-Laminated CLT Panels" but are simply referred to as CLT panels in this Report.

Another form of CLT panels has adhesive between the faces of the timber elements in adjacent layers as well as adhesive to bond the adjacent timber elements within a given layer. These are referred to as "Fully-Bonded CLT Panels" in this Report.

Online Access: Free

### Resource Link

<http://doi.org/10.4224/23002009>

## Apparent Sound Insulation in Mass Timber Buildings

<https://research.thinkwood.com/en/permalink/catalogue2616>



Author: Mahn, Jeffrey  
Quirt, David  
Mueller-Trapet, Markus  
Hoeller, Christoph

Organization: National Research Council of Canada. Construction

Publisher: National Research Council of Canada. Construction

Year of Publication: 2020

Country of Publication: Canada

Format: Report

Material: CLT (Cross-Laminated Timber)  
NLT (Nail-Laminated Timber)  
DLT (Dowel Laminated Timber)

Application: Floors  
Walls

Topic: Acoustics and Vibration  
Design and Systems

Keywords: Airborne Sound Transmission  
Apparent Sound Transmission Class  
Sound Transmission  
Adhesive

Language: English

Research Status: Complete

Summary:

This Report presents the results from experimental studies of the airborne sound transmission of mass timber assemblies, together with an explanation of the calculation procedures to predict the apparent sound transmission class (ASTC) rating between adjacent spaces in a building constructed of mass timber assemblies.

The experimental data which is the foundation for this Report includes the laboratory measured sound transmission loss of wall and floor assemblies constructed of Cross Laminated Timber (CLT), Nail-Laminated Timber (NLT) and Dowel-Laminated Timber (DLT), and the laboratory measured vibration reduction index between assemblies of junctions between CLT assemblies. The presentation of the measured data is combined with the presentation of the appropriate calculation procedures to determine the ASTC rating in buildings comprised of such assemblies along with numerous worked examples.

Several types of CLT constructions are commercially available in Canada, but this study focused on CLT assemblies with an adhesive applied between the faces of the timber elements in adjacent layers, but no adhesive bonding between the adjacent timber elements within a given layer. These CLT assemblies could be called “Face-Laminated CLT Assemblies” but are simply referred to as CLT assemblies in this Report. Another form of CLT assemblies does have adhesive applied between the faces of the timber elements in adjacent layers as well as adhesive to bond the adjacent timber elements within a given layer. These assemblies are referred to as “Fully-Bonded CLT Assemblies” in this Report. Because fully-bonded CLT assemblies have different properties than face-laminated CLT assemblies, the sound transmission data and predictions in this Report do not apply to fully-bonded CLT assemblies.

Online Access: Free

**Resource Link**

<https://doi.org/10.4224/40001816>



## Correlation between Sound Insulation and Occupants' Perception – Proposal of Alternative Single Number Rating of Impact Sound

<https://research.thinkwood.com/en/permalink/catalogue79>

Author: Ljunggren, Fredrik  
Simmons, Christian  
Hagberg, Klas

Publisher: ScienceDirect

Year of Publication: 2014

Country of Publication: Netherlands

Format: Journal Article

Material: CLT (Cross-Laminated Timber)

Application: Floors

Topic: Acoustics and Vibration

Keywords: Airborne Sound  
Frequency  
Insulation  
Lightweight  
Sound  
Sweden

Language: English

Research Status: Complete

Series: Applied Acoustics

Summary:

Traditionally, multi-family houses have been constructed using heavy, homogenous materials like concrete and masonry. But as a consequence of the progress of lightweight building systems during the last decades, it has been questioned whether standardized sound insulation evaluation methods still are appropriate.

An extensive measurement template has been applied in a field survey where several vibrational and acoustical parameters were determined in ten Swedish buildings of various constructions. In the same buildings, the occupants were asked to rate the perceived annoyance from a variety of natural sound sources. The highest annoyance score concerned impact sounds, mainly in the buildings with lightweight floors.

Statistical analyses between the measured parameters and the subjective ratings revealed a useful correlation between the rated airborne sound insulation and  $R_0 w p C_{50-3150}$  while the correlation between the rated impact sound insulation and  $L_{0 n;w p C_{1;50-2500}}$  was weak. The latter correlation was considerably improved when the spectrum adaptation term with an extended frequency range starting from 20 Hz was applied. This suggests that frequencies below 50 Hz should be considered when evaluating impact sound in lightweight buildings.

Online Access: Free

### Resource Link

<https://www.traguiden.se/globalassets/forskning/akustik/applied-acoustics/ljunggren-et-al-correlation-between-sound-insulation.pdf>



## Development of Robust Design Details for Improved Acoustics in Mass Timber Construction

<https://research.thinkwood.com/en/permalink/catalogue2249>

Organization: Université du Québec à Chicoutimi  
Country of: Canada  
Publication:  
Material: CLT (Cross-Laminated Timber)  
Application: Wood Building Systems  
Topic: Acoustics and Vibration  
Keywords: Model  
Airborne Sound Transmission  
Impact Sound Transmission  
Research Status: In Progress  
Notes: Project contact is Sylvain Ménard at Université du Québec à Chicoutimi

### Summary:

To ensure the acoustic performance of wood constructions, the research group at the Sustainable Building Institute at Napier University has established a series of proven solutions. The advantage of this approach is to provide designers with solutions that have been technically validated, thus allowing them to overcome the burden of proposing to the manufacturer an acoustic solution. The tools to develop this concept will involve an understanding of the propagation of impact and airborne noises in the main CLT building design typologies, validating the main solutions through laboratory testing and providing proven solutions. Many NRC (National Research Council of Canada) trials could have been avoided. Conducting tests is expensive, and it would be interesting to link the test results to the modeling results.



## Elaboration of Robust Design Details for Increased Acoustics in Massive Timber Construction

<https://research.thinkwood.com/en/permalink/catalogue2670>

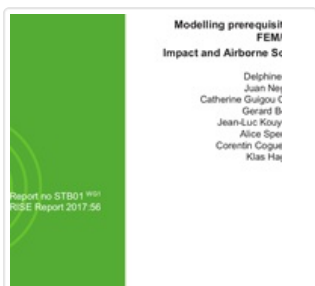
Organization: Université Laval  
Country of Publication: Canada  
Material: CLT (Cross-Laminated Timber)  
Topic: Acoustics and Vibration  
Keywords: Airborne Sound  
Acoustic Performance  
Model  
Research Status: In Progress  
Notes: Project contact is Sylvain Ménard at Université Laval

### Summary:

In order to ensure the acoustic performance of timber constructions, the research group of the Sustainable Building Institute at Napier University has established a series of proven solutions. These, called rugged construction details, are based on a series of designs that are most likely and proven for the performance they will bring into the building. The advantage of this approach is to provide designers with solutions that have been the subject of technical validations, thus allowing them to free themselves from the burden of offering the builder an acoustic solution. The tools to develop this concept will involve an understanding of the propagation of impact and airborne noise in the main building design typologies in CLT, to validate the main solutions through laboratory tests and to propose proven solutions. Many tests performed at NRC could have been avoided. Performing tests is expensive, and it would be interesting to make the link between the test results and the modeling results. Having a solution guide is great, but having a model that would predict the behavior of a design would be even better.

### Resource Link

<https://circerb.chaire.ulaval.ca/projets/phd-rdc-61-elaboration-de-details-robustes-de-conception-pour-une-acoustique-accrue-dans-la-construction-massive-en-bois/>



## Modelling Prerequisites – FEM/SEA Impact and Airborne Sound

<https://research.thinkwood.com/en/permalink/catalogue840>

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Borello, Gerard  
Kouyoumji, Jean-Luc  
Speranza, Alice  
Coguenanff, Corentin  
Hagberg, Klas  
Organization: Silent Timber Build  
Year of Publication: 2017  
Country of Publication: Sweden

Format: Report  
Material: Light Frame (Lumber+Panels)  
Application: Wood Building Systems  
Floors  
Walls  
Topic: Acoustics and Vibration  
Keywords: Europe  
Finite Element Model  
Frequencies  
SEA Model  
Prediction  
Impact Sound Insulation  
Airborne Sound Insulation  
Language: English  
Research Status: Complete

Summary:

This report comprises results from the work done within work package 1 in the WWN+ project "Silent Timber Build", WP 1: Prediction tools, low and high frequencies. The aim from this WP was to develop prediction tools applied for wooden constructions. Included in this is also to create necessary basis for enough accuracy for any European wood construction. It implies development of new methods but also to understand how input forces primarily from the tapping machine affects the results of impact sound levels. The WP also describes how models are developed, in order to provide expected accuracy and then how to further improve the models in order to optimize floor and wall assemblies. The Work Package has been closely linked to WP 2 but also WP3. Using the results from WP 2, the prediction model results can be compared to expected values for any European construction. From that optimization of floor assemblies and refining of the model is possible.

Online Access: Free

**Resource Link**

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[http://silent-timber-build.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/16/2018/01/wg1-report-db\\_171226.pdf](http://silent-timber-build.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/16/2018/01/wg1-report-db_171226.pdf)





## Sound Insulation Performance of Cross Laminated Timber Building Systems

<https://research.thinkwood.com/en/permalink/catalogue342>

Author: Schoenwald, Stefan  
Zeitler, Berndt  
Sabourin, Ivan  
King, Frances

Organization: Inter-noise

Year of Publication: 2013

Country of Publication: Austria

Format: Conference Paper

Material: CLT (Cross-Laminated Timber)

Application: Wood Building Systems

Topic: Acoustics and Vibration

Keywords: Airborne Sound Insulation  
Acoustic Performance

Language: English

Conference: Inter-noise 2013

Research Status: Complete

Notes: September 15-18, 2013, Innsbruck, Austria

Summary:

In recent years Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) was introduced as an emerging building system in the North American market. CLT elements consist of multiple layers of wooden beams that are laid-out cross-wise and laminated together to form solid wood panels for floors and walls. As part of a multi-disciplinary research project a comprehensive study was conducted on the impact and airborne sound insulation of this type of elements in order to create a data base that allows building designers to predict the acoustic performance of CLT systems. Parametric studies were carried out on the direct impact airborne sound insulation of CLT floor assemblies (with/ without various floor topping and gypsum board ceiling variants), on the direct airborne sound insulation of CLT walls (with/without gypsum board linings), as well as on the structure-borne sound transmission on a series of CLT building junctions. The results were then used as input data for predictions of the apparent impact and airborne sound insulation in real CLT buildings using the ISO 15712 (EN12354) framework that was originally developed for concrete and masonry buildings. The paper presents the prediction approach as well as results of prediction and measurement series for apparent impact and airborne sound insulation.

Online Access: Free

### Resource Link

<https://nrc-publications.canada.ca/eng/view/object/?id=4ae707b4-6075-4376-bb30-9b42a039fa91>

