



Questions regarding the structural integrity of framing members arise when a structure has been subjected to a fire, either during construction or after occupancy. Boise Cascade BCI®/AJS® wood I-joists, Versa-Lam® LVL and BOISE GLULAM® beams and columns may have their load carrying capacities reduced when exposed during a fire event. The presence of char may be an indication of significant loss of structural capacity.

Therefore, if a Boise Cascade engineered wood product has surface char at any location, the product shall be replaced. Char is defined as any fire-related surface blemish that cannot be removed by wiping the surface. Since it is very difficult to determine the extent of strength reduction from fire damage, repairs for charred joists or beams are not allowed.

For conditions where Boise Cascade products have no visible fire damage after a fire within the same building, a forensic engineer with adequate experience with wood framing is required to review the integrity of the structure. Boise Cascade EWP Engineering is available to provide product information to the specific project engineer of record.



Example of Fire Damaged Engineered Wood Products

Water exposure during firefighting typically does not have a detrimental effect on the engineered wood products, if the products are allowed to properly dry afterwards. Since all wood products absorb smoke, proper remediation procedures shall be performed to mitigate off-gassing. For further information, please contact Boise Cascade EWP Engineering at 800.232.0788.