



## **Tolko Laminated Strand Lumber (LSL)** **Tolko Industries, Ltd.**

**PR-L284**

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Products: Tolko 1.35E LSL and 1.35E LSL Rim Board  
Tolko Industries Ltd., Athabasca Division, 6 km East Mitsue Industrial Park, PO Box 1400, Slave Lake, Alberta T0G 2A0 Canada  
(780) 805-3800  
[www.tolko.com](http://www.tolko.com)

1. Basis of the product report:
  - 2018 and 2015 International Building Code (IBC): Sections 104.11 Alternative materials and 2303.1.10 Structural composite lumber
  - 2012 and 2009 IBC: Sections 104.11 Alternative materials and 2303.1.9 Structural composite lumber
  - 2018 and 2015 International Residential Code (IRC): Sections R104.11 Alternative materials, and R502.1.5, R602.1.5, and R802.1.4 Structural composite lumber
  - 2012 and 2009 IRC: Section R104.11 Alternative materials, and 2012 IRC Sections R502.1.7, R602.1.4, and R802.1.6 Structural composite lumber
  - ASTM D5456-18, Standard Specification for Evaluation of Structural Composite Lumber Products
  - ASTM D5456-14b, ASTM D5456-13, and ASTM D5456-09 recognized by the 2018 IBC and IRC, 2015 IBC and IRC, and 2012 IBC and IRC, respectively
  - ASTM D7672-14 and ASTM D7672-12 recognized by the 2018 IBC and IRC, and 2015 IBC and IRC, respectively
  - 2015 ANSI/AWC Special Design Provisions for Wind and Seismic (SDPWS) recognized by the 2018 and 2015 IBC
  - 2008 ANSI/AF&PA SDPWS recognized by the 2012 and 2009 IBC
  - APA Reports T2008P-08A, T2018P-10, T2018P-24, T2018P-28, T2018P-29A, T2018P-33, T2018P-34, T2019P-06, and T2019P-21, and other qualification data
2. Product description:
  - 2.1 Tolko Laminated Strand Lumber (LSL)

Tolko LSL is made with strands of various species and strand classifications in accordance with the in-plant manufacturing standard approved by APA.

The LSL may be treated with an EPA-registered zinc borate for decay and termite resistance to a retention level equivalent to that specified in American Wood Protection Association (AWPA) Standard T1 for Use Category 2 (UC2). When treated, the LSL is designated as Tolko LSL with ZB. The efficacy of the preservative treatment of the Tolko LSL with ZB is outside the scope of this report and the APA certification program. For the purposes of this report, the designations of Tolko LSL and Tolko LSL with ZB can be used interchangeably.

Tolko LSL is available with thicknesses up to 3-1/2 inches, and a range of widths and lengths. Refer to the manufacturer's technical guide ([www.tolko.com](http://www.tolko.com)) and a local Tolko Industries Ltd. distributor for product availability.

Tolko LSL can also be used as wall framing in conventional light-frame construction of the applicable codes and in engineered wall systems. The minimum thickness of the LSL for wall framing is 1-1/2 inches.

Tolko LSL may be used as rim board with a minimum thickness of 1-1/4 inches.

3. Design properties:

Table 1 lists the design properties for Tolko LSL, Table 2 lists the equivalent specific gravities for fastener design with Tolko LSL, Table 3 lists the allowable loads for Tolko LSL used as rim boards, Table 4 lists the minimum allowable nail spacing for Tolko LSL, and Table 5 lists the strength adjustment factors for notches in Tolko LSL when used as wall studs.

3.1 Beams, headers, and columns:

The allowable loads for Tolko LSL beams, headers, and columns shall be in accordance with the recommendations provided by the manufacturer (see link above).

3.2 Wall framing:

3.2.1 Prescriptive Stud Wall Applications: Tolko LSL used as studs in conventional construction are permitted in accordance with Sections 2308.5 of the 2018 and 2015 IBC, Sections 2308.9 of the 2012 and 2009 IBC, and Section R602 of the 2018 through 2009 IRC.

3.2.2 Engineered Stud Wall Applications: Tolko LSL shall be permitted in engineered wall applications when designed based on net section analysis in accordance with the National Design Specification for Wood Construction (NDS) and the restrictions specified in Section 4.3.2. The allowable design stress for bending, axial compression, and axial tension shall be multiplied by the strength adjustment factors provided in Table 5 to account for stress concentrations in notches.

The allowable shear values for nailed wood structural panel shear walls using Tolko LSL as the wall studs shall be determined using Table 4.3A of the 2005 and 2008 SPDWS where the Tolko LSL shall be considered to be equivalent to sawn lumber studs with a specific gravity of 0.50, when subjected to the nailing restrictions specified in Section 4.3.3.

4. Product installation:

4.1 Beams and headers:

Tolko LSL shall be installed in accordance with the recommendations provided by the manufacturer (see link above). Permissible details and allowable hole sizes shall be in accordance with the recommendations provided by the manufacturer.

4.2 Columns:

4.2.1 Tolko LSL used as free-standing columns shall not be drilled or notched without the approval of a professional engineer or the manufacturer. Bolts, lag screws, and self-tapping screws shall only be inserted through the face of the column, perpendicular to the face of the strands in Tolko LSL.

4.2.2 Built-up columns: When used for built-up columns, Tolko LSL shall be constructed using connections specified by the manufacturer (see link above).

4.3 Wall framing:

4.3.1 Prescriptive Stud Wall Applications: Cutting, notching and boring of Tolko LSL used as studs in conventional construction is permitted in accordance with Sections 2308.5 of the 2018 and 2015 IBC, Sections 2308.9 of the 2012 and 2009 IBC, and Section R602.6 of

the 2018 through 2009 IRC. Stud wall nailing restrictions and requirements are presented in Section 4.3.3.

4.3.2 Engineered Stud Wall Applications: Cutting, notching and boring of Tolko LSL shall be permitted in engineered wall applications with the following restrictions:

- a) Holes up to 40% of the stud depth are allowed anywhere in the stud height for bearing walls, except that a hole shall not be placed within 6 inches of either end of the stud. A minimum edge distance of 5/8 inch shall be maintained for all holes for stud depths of 5-1/2 inches (i.e., nominal 2x6) or less. For larger depths, a minimum edge distance of 12% of the stud depth shall be maintained for all holes.
- b) Notches up to 20% of the stud depth are allowed anywhere in the stud height, except that a notch shall not be placed within 6 inches of either end of the stud. The notch length shall not exceed 8 inches.
- c) Holes and notches shall not be cut at the same cross section, and the minimum clear vertical space between hole and notch shall be 2 times the hole diameter or 2 times the notch length, whichever is greater.
- d) Stud wall nailing restrictions and requirements are presented in Section 4.3.3.

4.3.3 Stud wall nailing restrictions and requirements

a) Tolko LSL Studs

- For sheathing attached with 10d common nails (0.148 inch x 3 inches) with a spacing no closer than 6 inches on center, a single Tolko LSL stud shall be permitted for framing at adjoining panel edges. Nails shall be installed a minimum 3/8 inch from all panel edges.
  - For sheathing attached with 8d common nails (0.131 inch x 2-1/2 inches) or smaller with a spacing no closer than 4 inches on center, a single Tolko LSL stud shall be permitted for framing at adjoining panel edges. Nails shall be installed a minimum 3/8 inch from all panel edges.
  - For sheathing attached with 8d common nails (0.131 inch x 2-1/2 inches) spaced closer than 4 inches on center or 10d common nails (0.148 inch x 3 inches) spaced closer than 6 inches on center, a double, stitch-nailed, LSL stud or single 2-1/2 inch thick LSL stud is required at adjoining panel edges. Nails shall be installed a minimum 3/8 inch from all panel edges and shall be staggered a minimum of 1/2 inch for each row of nails.
- b) For stud wall applications in accordance with the IRC and the conventional light-frame construction provisions of the IBC [Sections 2308, Table 2304.10.1 (2018 and 2015 IBC), and Table 2304.9.1 (2012 and 2009 IBC)], double LSL studs shall be stitch-nailed together with 2 staggered rows of nails (minimum 0.120 inch x 2-7/8 inches) spaced 8 inches in each row. For engineered stud wall applications, the stitch nailing of double LSL studs shall be designed to transfer the required lateral shear using an assumed equivalent specific gravity of 0.50.
  - c) 10d common nails (0.148 inch x 3 inches) shall not be spaced closer than 3 inches on center, and 8d common nails (0.131 inch x 2-1/2 inches) shall not be spaced closer than 2 inches on center.
  - d) Maximum nail size is 10d common (0.148 inch x 3 inches).

4.4 Rim board:

4.4.1 Tolko LSL rim boards shall be installed in accordance with the recommendations provided by the manufacturer (see link above) and the code.

5. Fire-rated assemblies:

- 5.1 Design of fire-resistant exposed wood members in accordance with Chapter 16 of the NDS, Section 722.1 of the 2018 and 2015 IBC, Section 722.6.3 of the 2012 IBC, and Section 721.6.3 of the 2009 IBC shall be applicable to Tolko LSL. Fire-rated assemblies shall be constructed in accordance with the recommendations provided by APA *Fire-Rated Systems*, Form W305 ([www.apawood.org/resource-library](http://www.apawood.org/resource-library)), and the manufacturer.
- 5.2 When used as joists/rafters, Tolko LSL is permitted to be used as direct replacement for solid-sawn lumber having the same dimensions, in any fire-resistance-rated floor/roof assemblies listed in Table 721.1(3) of the 2018, 2015, and 2012 IBC and Table 720.1(3) of the 2009 IBC.
- 5.3 The provisions of Section R302.13, Exception 4 of the 2018 and 2015 IRC and Section R501.3, Exception 4 of the 2012 IRC for fire protection of floors shall be applicable to floor assemblies constructed with Tolko LSL having a nominal 2x10 dimension (i.e., 1-1/2 inches by 9-1/4 inches net dimension) or greater.
- 5.4 When used as wall studs, Tolko LSL is permitted to be used as a direct replacement for solid-sawn lumber of No. 2 or lower grades, having the same dimensions, in any fire-resistance-rated wall assemblies listed in Table 721.1(2) of the 2018, 2015 and 2012 IBC or Table 720.1(2) of the 2009 IBC. A minimum of 2.5 lbf/ft<sup>3</sup> mineral wool insulation shall be placed in the stud cavity.
- 5.5 As an alternative to the prescriptive fire-resistance-rated wall assemblies listed in Table 721.1(2) of the 2018, 2015 and 2012 IBC or Table 720.1(2) of the 2009 IBC, a one-hour fire-resistance-rated wall assembly shall be permitted to be designed and constructed with the restrictions listed below, provided that the applied axial stress on each stud does not exceed 435 psi for Tolko LSL studs. When the slenderness ratio exceeds 30, the  $F_c'$ , which is the  $F_{c||}$  value tabulated in Table 1 for Tolko LSL studs adjusted for all applicable adjustment factors, including column stability factor, in accordance with NDS, shall be multiplied by 0.78 for Tolko LSL.
- The stud spacing shall be no greater than 24 inches on center,
  - The top and bottom plates of the wall shall be constructed in accordance with the nailing schedule specified in Table 2304.10.1 of the 2018 and 2015 IBC, Table 2304.9.1 of the 2012, and 2009 IBC or Table R602.3(1) of the 2018 through 2009 IRC,
  - The wall shall be covered with one layer of 5/8-inch Type X gypsum wall board attached to studs with 2-1/4-inch long Type S drywall screws at 7 inches on center on the perimeter and in the field, and
  - A minimum of 2.5 lbf/ft<sup>3</sup> mineral wool insulation shall be placed in the stud cavity.
6. Limitations:
- Tolko LSL shall be designed in accordance with the code using the design properties and installation requirements specified in this report.
  - Tolko LSL is limited to dry service conditions where the equivalent moisture content of sawn lumber is less than 16 percent.
  - The efficacy of the preservative treatment of the Tolko LSL with ZB is outside the scope of this report and the APA certification program.
  - Tolko LSL is produced by the Tolko Industries, Ltd. facility in Slave Lake, Alberta, Canada under a quality assurance program audited by APA.
  - This report is subject to re-examination in one year.

7. Identification:

The Tolko LSL described in this report is identified by a label bearing the manufacturer's name (Tolko Industries, Ltd.) and/or trademark, the APA assigned plant number (1094), the product type and grade, the APA logo, the report number PR-L284, and a means of identifying the date of manufacture.

Table 1. Design Properties (Allowable Stress Design) for Tolko LSL<sup>(a,b)</sup>

Property		1.35E LSL
Bending ( $F_b$ ) <sup>(c)</sup> , psi	Joist	1,850 <sup>(d)</sup>
	Plank	2,060
Tension parallel to grain ( $F_t$ ), psi		1,300 <sup>(e)</sup>
Longitudinal shear ( $F_v$ ), psi	Joist	330
	Plank	115
Compression parallel ( $F_{c  }$ ), psi		1,650
Compression perpendicular ( $F_{c\perp}$ ) <sup>(f)</sup> , psi	Joist	750
	Plank <sup>(g)</sup>	690
Modulus of Elasticity ( $E$ ) <sup>(h)</sup> , psi	Joist	1,350,000
	Plank	1,350,000

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 lbf = 4.448 N, 1 psi = 6.9 kPa.

- (a) The tabulated values are design values for normal duration of load. All values, except for E and  $F_{c\perp}$ , are permitted to be adjusted for other load durations as permitted by the code. The design stresses are limited to conditions in which the average equivalent moisture content of sawn lumber does not exceed 16 percent.
- (b) Allowable stresses for “Joist” refer to loads applied parallel to the wide face of the strands (the edge of the member). “Plank” refers to loads applied perpendicular to the wide face of the strands (the face of the member).
- (c) Tabulated flexural stress ( $F_b$ ) may be increased by 4 percent when the member qualifies as a repetitive member as defined in the NDS.
- (d) The tabulated values for Tolko LSL are based on a reference depth of 12 inches. For other depths, when loaded edgewise, the allowable bending stress ( $F_b$ ) shall be modified by  $(12/d)^{0.125}$ , where d = depth in inches. For depths less than 2-1/2 inches, the factor for the 2-1/2-inch depth shall be used.
- (e) The tabulated values for Tolko LSL are based on a reference length of 3 feet. For other lengths, the allowable tensile stress shall be modified by  $(3/L)^{(1/16)}$ , where L = length in feet. For lengths less than 3 feet, use the allowable tension stress in Table 1 unadjusted.
- (f) When designing with the tabulated compressive stress perpendicular to grain ( $F_{c\perp}$ ), the Bearing Area Factor ( $C_b$ ) stipulated in Section 3.10.4 of the NDS shall be permitted to be applied.
- (g) The tabulated compressive stress perpendicular to grain ( $F_{c\perp}$ ) value is based on the average stress at the proportional limit or 0.04-in. deformation, whichever is less, in accordance with ASTM D5456-18.
- (h) The values are the apparent modulus of elasticity (MOE) and include the effect of shear deformations. For uniformly loaded simple-span beams, deflection is calculated using the tabulated apparent MOE as follows:

$$\delta = \frac{270 \omega L^4}{Ebd^3} \quad [1]$$

where  $\delta$  = calculated deflection (in.),  
 L = design span (ft),  
 d = beam depth (in.), and

$\omega$  = uniform load (lbf/ft),  
 b = beam width (in.)  
 E = apparent modulus of elasticity (psi)

Table 2. Fastener Design for Tolko LSL<sup>(a,b,c)</sup>

Equivalent Specific Gravity (S.G.)					
Nails		Nails and Wood Screws		Bolts and Lag Screws <sup>(d,e)</sup>	
Withdrawal Load		Lateral Load		Lateral Load	
Installed in Edge	Installed in Face	Installed in Edge	Installed in Face	Installed in Face	
				Parallel to Grain	Perpendicular to Grain
0.42	0.44	0.47	0.50	0.50	0.50

- (a) Fastener types and orientation not specifically described above are beyond the scope of this report.
- (b) Fastener design values calculated using the tabulated equivalent specific gravities given above must be adjusted by the applicable adjustment factors specified in the NDS for connections.
- (c) Fastener spacing, and end and edge distances must be as specified in the NDS.
- (d) Bolts and lag screws shall only be installed into the face (plank orientation) of the LSL.
- (e) The capacities for ½-inch (12.7 mm) diameter lag screws installed into Tolko LSL Rim Board for ledge attachment shall be in accordance with Table 3.

Table 3. Allowable Loads for Tolko Rim Boards<sup>(a)</sup>

Grade	Thickness (in.)	Lateral Load <sup>(b,c)</sup> (lbf/ft)	Uniform Vertical Load <sup>(d)</sup> (lbf/ft)		Concentrated Vertical Load (lbf)	Lateral Resistance for 1/2-inch-dia. Lag Screws (lbf)
			Depth ≤ 16 in.	16 in. < Depth ≤ 24 in. <sup>(e)</sup>	Depth ≤ 24 in. <sup>(e)</sup>	
1.35E	1-1/4	250	5,400	4,350	3,800	560
1.35E	1-1/2	225	6,450	5,500	5,000	560
1.35E	1-3/4	200	7,550	7,550	7,000	560

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm, 1 lbf = 4.448 N, 1 lbf/ft = 14.6 N/m.

- (a) The tabulated design values are applicable to the normal load duration (10 years) for wood products, except for the lateral load capacity, which is based on the short-term load duration (10 minutes). Design values shall be adjusted for other load durations in accordance with the applicable building code except that the vertical uniform load capacity and vertical concentrated load capacity are not permitted to be increased for any load durations shorter than the normal load duration (10 years).
- (b) Toe-nailed connections are not limited by the 150 lbf/ft lateral load capacity noted for Seismic Design Categories D, E and F in Section 2305.1.4 of the IBC.
- (c) The nailing schedule for sheathing to rim and rim board to sill plate (toe-nailed) is based on 8d box (0.113 x 2-1/2 in.) nails at 6 inches on center. Lateral load capacity is permitted to be increased by a factor of 1.4 when subjected to wind loads. Commercial framing connectors may be used to achieve lateral load capacities exceeding the values shown in this table. Calculations shall be based on the equivalent specific gravity values listed in Table 2 subjected to the nailing spacing provided in Table 4.
- (d) The allowable vertical uniform load capacity is based on the strength of the rim board and may need to be reduced based on the bearing capacity of the supporting wall plate.

Table 4. Minimum Allowable Nail Spacings for Tolko LSL<sup>(a)</sup>

LSL Thickness (in.)	Orientation <sup>(d)</sup>	Common Nail Size <sup>(e,f)</sup>	Minimum End Distance (in.)	Minimum Nail Spacing per Row (in.)	
				Single Row	Multiple Rows <sup>(b,c)</sup>
1-1/4 ≤ thickness < 1-1/2	Edge <sup>(g)</sup>	8d & smaller	2	4	NR <sup>(i)</sup>
		10d & 12d	2	4	
		16d	2-1/2	5	
	Face <sup>(h)</sup>	8d & smaller	7/8	1	1
		10d & 12d	7/8	1	1
		16d	7/8	1-1/2	1-1/2
1-1/2 ≤ thickness ≤ 3-1/2	Edge <sup>(g)</sup>	8d & smaller	1	2	3
		10d & 12d	2	3	4
		16d	2-1/2	3	4
	Face <sup>(h)</sup>	8d & smaller	1/2	1	1
		10d & 12d	1/2	1	1
		16d	7/8	1-1/2	1-1/2

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm.

- (a) Edge distance shall be sufficient to prevent splitting.
- (b) Multiple rows must be spaced 1/2 inch or more from each other and offset one-half of the tabulated minimum nail spacing, as shown in Figure 1.
- (c) Multiple rows must be equally spaced about the centerline of the edge or face (whichever applies).
- (d) Face orientation applies to nails driven into the face of the LSL member, such that the long axis of the nail is perpendicular to the wide faces of the strands. Edge orientation applies to nails driven into the edge of the LSL member.
- (e) 16d sinkers (0.148" x 3-1/4") may be spaced the same as a 12d common wire nail (0.148" x 3-1/4").
- (f) Nails listed are common wire nails. For box nails, the spacing and end distance requirements of the next shorter common nail may be used: e.g., a 16d box nail may be spaced the same as a 10d and 12d common nail. Larger nail sizes and shank types not specifically described above are beyond the scope of this report.
- (g) Nail penetration for edge nailing shall not exceed 2 inches for 16d common nails (0.162" x 3-1/2") and 2-1/2 inches for all nails with a smaller shank diameter.
- (h) Tabulated closest on-center spacing for face orientation is applicable to nails that are installed in rows parallel to the grain (length) of the LSL. For nails installed in rows perpendicular to the direction of grain (width/depth) of the LSL, the closest on-center spacing for face orientation shall be sufficient to prevent splitting of the LSL.
- (i) Not Recommended.

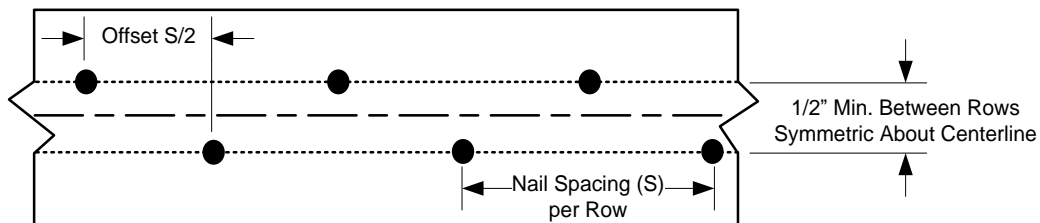


Figure 1. Spacing of multiple rows of nails.

Table 5. Strength Adjustment Factors for Notches in Tolko LSL Stud<sup>(a,b,c)</sup>

Material	Strength Adjustment Factors for Notches		
	Bending	Compression	Tension
1.35E LSL	0.90	1.00	0.75

- (a) Design of Tolko LSL studs with notches used in engineered wall framing must be based on a net-section analysis in accordance with the NDS. See Section 4.3.2 of this report for limitations on the allowed size and placement of notches up to 20% of the stud depth.
- (b) The reference design stresses for bending, compression and tension from Table 1 must be multiplied by the strength adjustment factors in this table.
- (c) See Section 4.3.1 for notching in Tolko LSL studs used in prescriptive wall framing.

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**HEADQUARTERS**

7011 So. 19<sup>th</sup> St. • Tacoma, Washington 98466  
 Phone: (253) 565-6600 • Fax: (253) 565-7265 • Internet Address: [www.apawood.org](http://www.apawood.org)

**PRODUCT SUPPORT HELP DESK**

(253) 620-7400 • E-mail Address: [help@apawood.org](mailto:help@apawood.org)

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