

News Release



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iLevel by Weyerhaeuser Wood Building Products Provide Net Benefit in Reducing Greenhouse Gases

FEDERAL WAY, Wash., December 15, 2009 – Many human activities such as driving automobiles and heating homes typically add climate-changing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. Using wood for home construction, instead of more energy intensive building products, can actually help offset CO₂ contributions. Analysis conducted by Weyerhaeuser's iLevel wood products business demonstrates that its products store from 7 to 24 percent more carbon over their useful lives than is emitted to produce them. iLevel wood products manufactured in 2008 stored the equivalent of 7.7 million metric tons of CO₂ – comparable to taking 1.4 million cars off the road. www.iLevel.com

The benefit results from the natural process of photosynthesis, in which growing trees absorb CO₂ from the air and break it into carbon and oxygen molecules. Trees release the oxygen back to the air, and combine the carbon with other building blocks to form wood fiber. After harvest and manufacture into building products, the carbon remains in wood for the life of the building and beyond.

The volume of CO₂ stored in iLevel products such as TimberStrand[®] laminated strand lumber (LSL), Parallam[®] parallel strand lumber (PSL), Microllam[®] laminated veneer lumber (LVL) and iLevel[®] oriented strand board (OSB) exceeds the CO₂ emissions from growing, harvesting and manufacturing them by approximately 40 to 140 kilograms per metric ton. The analysis

accounts for all greenhouse gases emitted through manufacture, and is expressed as a CO₂ equivalent following standard methods.

“Wood is unique among structural building materials in its ability to remove carbon from the air and store it long term,” says Edie Sonne Hall, Manager, Sustainable Forests and Products, with Weyerhaeuser. “Wood takes relatively little energy to manufacture, as most of the ‘manufacturing’ is done by the sun through photosynthesis.”

In addition to helping offset greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, iLevel makes efficient use of natural resources. The business uses an average of 99 percent of every log in its manufacturing processes. Overall, the Weyerhaeuser company plants more than 100 million seedlings each year, and 100 percent of the forests it owns or manages in North America are independently certified to sustainable forestry standards.

About iLevel by Weyerhaeuser

iLevel is Weyerhaeuser’s integrated residential, multi-family and light construction framing business providing seamless, unified building solutions. By offering the most comprehensive and innovative collection of proven structural framing materials, technical support and software in the building industry, and the means to distribute them efficiently, iLevel is leading the structural frame market and helping builders and dealers succeed in today’s challenging business environment. www.ilevel.com.

About Weyerhaeuser

Weyerhaeuser Company, one of the world’s largest forest products companies, was incorporated in 1900. In 2008, sales were \$8 billion. It has offices or operations in 10 countries, with customers worldwide. Weyerhaeuser is principally engaged in the growing and harvesting of timber; the manufacture, distribution and sale of forest products; and real estate construction and development. Additional information about Weyerhaeuser’s businesses, products and practices is available at <http://www.weyerhaeuser.com>.

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