

SEISMIC

BE PREPARED FOR A "BIG ONE"

- Durability and long-term consistent performance.
- Reduced structural capacity due to dry-rot, termites, or mold will not compromise a steel structure in an earthquake.
- Steel absorbs energy. Unlike concrete and masonry, steel bends without breaking.
- Steel is lighter. Heavier structures have greater inertia: when the ground starts to shake, they want to stand still; thus greater forces are imparted into heavier structures in earthquakes. Steel is lighter than its structural equivalent in wood, concrete, or masonry.
- Steel is consistent. Steel does not have a weak direction or weak grain, does not depend upon water/cement ratios or mix design for its strength, and is easy to inspect for seismic.
- Steel is connected. Using screws, pins, bolts and welds, steel framing has a positive, consistent load path. Steel does not have corrosive chemicals or moisture that can corrode or degrade connectors.

GREEN BUILDING

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

- The steel industry has reduced its energy use to produce a ton of steel by approximately 1/3 since the early 1990s.
- More than 95% of the water used in the steel making process is recycled and returned – often cleaner than when it was taken from the source.
- Every piece of steel used in construction contains recycled content. All steel can be recovered and recycled again and again into new high quality products.
- Steel is durable, safe, and strong. It is not susceptible to rot, termites, or mold. Steel used for framing will last from hundreds to over a thousand years due to its zinc coating, a natural element. Steel structures require less material (both reduced weight and reduced volume) to carry the same loads as concrete or masonry or wood structures.
- Steel is dimensionally stable: it will not warp, split, or creep – making it durable and built to last. Don't waste time and dollars on costly call backs. Minimize cracking and pops in drywall and other finishes with LGS framing.

TERMITES

PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT FROM THE START

- Termites cause more damage than fire, floods, and storms combined.
- Termites cause an estimated \$5 billion dollars of damage a year in the United States. REF: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA)
- The Formosan termite is one of the most destructive termite species in the world and now infests more than 14 states according to the USDA.
- U&C Light Gauge(LGS) is one of the recognized methods for compliance with the termite-resistant construction requirements of the International Residential Code.
- There is no need for annual termite treatments with steel.
- LGS provides a healthy building with no off-gassing from chemical termite treatments, or pressure treated lumber.
- Termite damage is rarely covered by insurance. Build it right and avoid costly problems later.

FIRE RESISTANCE

NON-COMBUSTIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Steel is a non-combustible, fire resistant material and will not feed a fire.
- On average, wood structural members or framing rank third as the first-ignited material in home fires according to the National Fire Protection Association.
- Building with steel can reduce cost of construction insurance as well as homeowners insurance premiums.