



FALMOUTH VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION
FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
SAFETY BULLETIN

SUBJECT: TRUSSES WITHOUT GUSSET PLATES

NUMBER:
SB08-008

APPROVED:

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INITIATED
06/2008

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REVISED

There are now wood trusses that are commercially engineered without gusset plates. This "new-breed" truss is simply a 2 X 4 that is *finger jointed and spot glued* where the webs meet the upper and lower chord members.

These trusses are being held up by a 2 X 8 or in some cases a "TJI" sill plate that is anchor bolted to the block sidewall. Look closely at some of the members; they do not appear to even be fastened but merely secured by the building's dead and live loads.

We have all been encountering a mixed variety of structural members, particularly plywood "I" beams (TJI) on upper floors with simple beams on joist-hangers (Teco Clips) on the lower floors. Now add these to the mix... Pre-fire planning for new construction in concert with early inspection holes in ceilings, for existing structures is becoming more and more critical.

To view a complete set of photos, see the *Safety Bulletin Book* located in the Watch Office

