Freres’s Mass Ply Panels shape the near-complete PDX Airport roof

PDX’s new terminal mass timber roof is installed

LYONS, Ore., Jan. 20, 2023 — Four hundred thousand square feet of Freres Engineered Wood’s Mass Ply Panels was used on the 9 acre mass timber roof in the Port of Portland’s PDX Terminal Project. The Port of Portland recently announced that they have reached the halfway mark in a five year long airport expansion project. The use of Freres Engineered Wood’s MPP has made it possible for the designers to mold and shape the PDX Airport roof into its lattice design.

Approximately 1,347 of the Mass Ply Panels finished first phase installation. The PDX Terminal Project’s 18-million pound mass timber curved roof supports 49 skylights installed across the roof. An impressive 2,425 MPP parapet panels surround the perimeter of the roof that gives it its unique curved design.

Associate principal at ZGF Architects, Christian Schoewe, celebrated Freres latest improved appearance-grade MPP at the Industry Summit on Timber: Timber in the Digital Environment. Schoewe says, “one of the unique things about using Mass Ply Panels is that it gave us an opportunity to improve the design just because of the areas where it gets expressed, it just looks very clean. The improved appearance-grade MPP is just stunning.”

Due to the size of the new terminal roof, the installation was divided into 18 “cassettes,” which are portions of the roof that are approximately 800,000 pounds. Fourteen panels were installed in January and four remaining panels will be installed in 2024.

Freres Engineered Wood reports positive environmental impact with the carbon benefits of this in this mass timber roof. “Using WoodWorks Carbon Calculator, Freres Engineered Wood reports that in the PDX T-Core project, 73,527 cubic feet of MPP was used (2,082 cubic meters). “There are 2,208 metric tons of carbon dioxide stored in that wood,” says Tyler Freres, VP of Sales at Freres Engineered Wood. “Considering this helps us avoid 854 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions in carbon dioxide, the total potential carbon benefit that MPP contributes to this new airport roof is 3,063 metric tons of carbon dioxide.”

In other words, renewable building materials such as wood help mitigate the rate of global warming.
For more information on Mass Ply Panels, their sustainable benefits or their use in the PDX Terminal project, contact Tyler Freres at tyfreres@frereswood.com or 503-859-2121.

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**About Freres Engineered Wood Products**

Freres Engineered Wood, formerly Freres Lumber Co., Inc., has a 100-year history of innovation in the wood products industry, beginning in 1922 when T.G. Freres started a small sawmill in Oregon’s Santiam Canyon. Today, Freres’ operations include finished plywood, lumber, veneer and structural composite lumber, Mass Ply products, biochar, and a cogeneration facility that supplies renewable power for the local area. Known for being traditionally innovative, Freres is deeply committed to its community and to sustainable forest management practices. The company uses 100 percent of the wood it processes throughout its three operations—Freres Engineered Wood Products, Freres Timber and Evergreen BioPower LCC— and six wood products facilities. Freres provides family wage jobs to nearly 500 employees. For more information, visit www.frereswood.com or call 503-859-2121.