



NEWS RELEASE

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Freres Wood's Latest Projects Demonstrate Wood Can Replace Steel and Concrete in Warehouse Construction

MPP Warehouse and Ty Hart Memorial Fitness Center officially open this month

LYONS, Ore., Oct. 16, 2024 – This October 2024, Freres Engineered Wood celebrated the completion of two significant buildings, Stayton High School's new Ty Hart Memorial Fitness Center and Freres Wood's mass timber warehouse. Each project showcases wood's capacity to compete with traditional steel and concrete construction methods for industrial warehouse projects, representing yet another sustainable improvement in the larger construction industry.

"As it is now, you only have two opportunities for warehouses: concrete tilt-up construction or pre-engineered metal buildings," says Tyler Freres, the company's VP of Sales. "There's been a lot of exploration to see if wood can provide a viable alternative to these methods, and both the Ty Hart project and the new mass timber warehouse demonstrate that wood can offer a quicker and more effective means of constructing large format warehouses."

While the design of these buildings differ in some ways, their structural components are both made with Freres Wood's innovative Mass Ply products. The new 60,000-square-foot mass timber warehouse mimics tilt-up concrete construction, but the structural elements are entirely Freres Wood's patented Mass Ply Panels (MPP) and Mass Ply Lams (MPL). The building features a specific 40 ft. by 48 ft. grid, with space for four truck loading stations, two tarping stations and storage for 5,000 units of plywood.

"The main goal for this building is to house our expanded product line, but also to hold more inventory on site and allow us more consistent production runs," says Tyler. "Most mass timber projects are built on a much smaller grid and don't have this type of open floor space, so getting this span built in with the structure is unique."

While the Ty Hart Memorial Fitness Center is a smaller-scale project at 6,000 square feet, it also uses structural elements from Freres Wood throughout, featuring a 60 ft. span and a ridge beam down the center. Stayton High School's new fitness center includes areas for strength training and plyometrics, as well as an artificial turf track down the center of the building. The facility commemorates the life of former graduate and three-sport athlete Ty Hart, who died in a helicopter crash in 2016 while serving with the U.S. Marines.

"It's a privilege to contribute to local projects like Stayton High School's new fitness center, especially those that recognize local heroes like Ty Hart," says Tyler. "We at Freres Wood are

privileged to honor Ty Hart's memory with such an innovative project, one we hope will be the first of many builds that prioritize sustainable, renewable alternatives like wood.”

Freres staff members attended the ribbon cutting event for the Ty Hart Memorial Fitness Center on October 3, and the company received occupancy of their new mass timber warehouse on October 7. Following the completion of both projects, the team is thrilled at the potential for wood to compete directly with concrete and metal industrial building construction in the future, enhancing the mass timber movement and supporting the industry trend towards sustainability.

For more information about Freres Engineered Wood and their Mass Ply products, call 503-859-2121 or visit www.frereswood.com.

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About Freres Engineered Wood Products

[Freres Engineered Wood](http://www.frereswood.com), 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 LLC—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.