

# PROLINES

February 2009

The Newsletter for the Professional Builder

## LVL Scaffold Planks

The Occupational Health and Safety Code of the Province of Alberta contains the following requirement of employers regarding the use of commercially manufactured Scaffold Planks.

### Scaffold planks

329(1) An employer must ensure that a commercially manufactured scaffold plank is used, stored, inspected and maintained according to the manufacturers specifications.

LP LVL is a vast improvement over solid wood scaffold Planks. Researched over a 10 year period and thousands of jobsites across the country, this Laminated Veneer product is reliable and safe and has stood the test of time. Defects such as knots, irregular grain and splits, which would weaken solid lumber planks, are dispersed during the veneer peeling process, and are then graded and laid in a specific pattern so the naturally occurring defects have no concentrated effect on the scaffold plank. While some grades of solid wood scaffold planks may be initially less expensive, the shorter life span plus the cost to rod and pin the solid lumber planks may offset the initial cost savings.



We keep the 1 1/2" x 9 1/4" x 16' in stock. To ensure the safety of you and your workers, and extend the life of your new LP Scaffold Planks please follow the Span Chart and the information regarding storage, and jobsite instructions. Ask your Davidson Enman Lumber Ltd. sales representative for more information, or to arrange a delivery to your jobsite.

Simple Span		Two Equal Spans	
Loading Condition	1 1/2" x 9 1/4"	Loading Condition	1 1/2" x 9 1/4"
50 PSF	10' - 6"	50 PSF	11' - 0"
75PSF	9' - 0"	75 PSF	9' - 6"
1 Person	10' - 6"	1 Person	12' - 0"
2 Person	8' - 0"	2 Person	8' - 6"
3 Person	6' - 0"	3 Person	6' - 6"

PSF- pounds per Square Foot

We will be closed Monday, February 16, 2009 for Family Day

## Recommended Storage and Handling Methods



Fig. 1

-Keep Scaffold Planks dry. The strength and performance of a scaffold is reduced by increased moisture content. Store Planks in a dry, well ventilated area, a wet unventilated area will accelerate wood decay, and deterioration. Always protect from extreme weather conditions. (Fig 1)

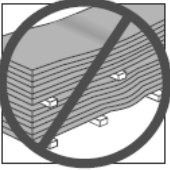


Fig. 2

-Keep planks stacked in bundles off the ground. Support planks with spacers placed no more than 8' apart, and be sure to line them up with the ground blocks to prevent bowing. (Fig 2)

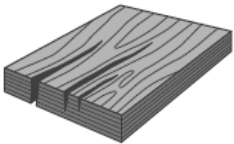


Fig. 3

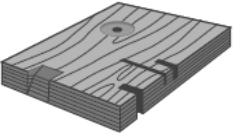
-Do not overload planks. Refer to the span chart for loading capacity. Immediately remove planks from service that have been overloaded, and visually inspect prior to next use. Also, do not throw planks from scaffolding, or hit bundles of planking with fork ends, as these actions may cause damage, and must be visually inspected before use. (Fig 3)

The LP LVL Scaffold plank is manufactured exclusively to be used as a Scaffold plank, other uses may cause damage that will make it unsuitable for it's intended use.

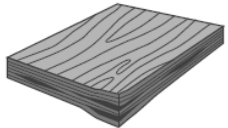
## Visual Inspection and recognizing defects.



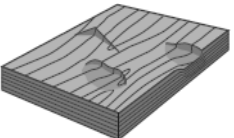
-End Splits. The separation that extends through the plank from face to face, caused by repeated exposure to wet/dry conditions. Splits longer than 18" must be removed from service.



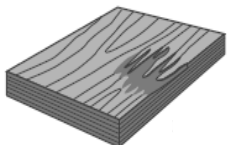
-Saw cuts, Drilled holes, and Notches. Cuts or holes across the face or through the edge will reduce the planks load capacity. Planks with these flaws should be removed from service and inspected.



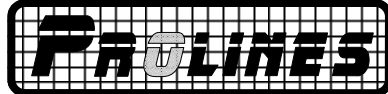
-Edge Splits. Separation of the narrow edge, usually caused by forklift damage. A diagonal cut may be caused by overloading. Shallow weather "checks" are acceptable, but if an open split is found, remove plank from service.



-Dents, Gouges and Depressions. Dents can indicate internal structural damage. Dented planks should be removed from service and inspected before reuse.



-Face Breaks. Irregular cracks across the face of plank, which is the usual result of overloading. These cracks dramatically reduce the strength of the planks, remove these planks from service immediately.



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