

Standards and Regulatory Routes for Engineered Bamboo as a Building Material

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Engineered wood products in tall buildings



Cross Laminated Timber



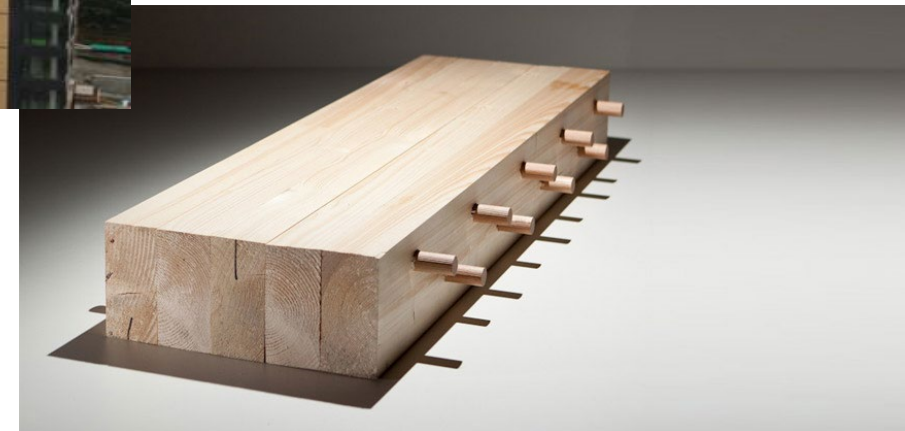
Structural Composite Lumber



Tallwood House, Vancouver
– Main driver is ‘green’
credential of wood



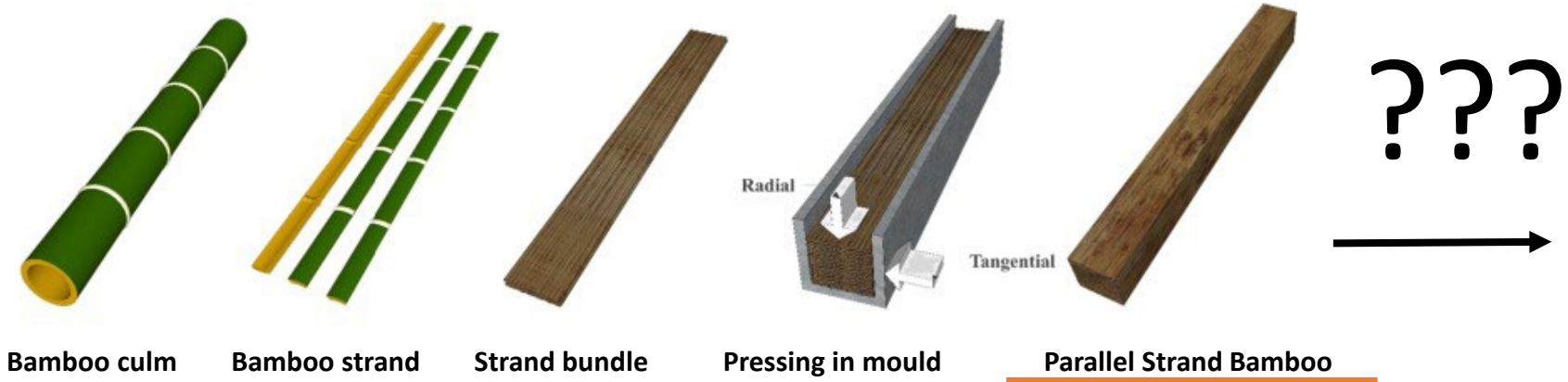
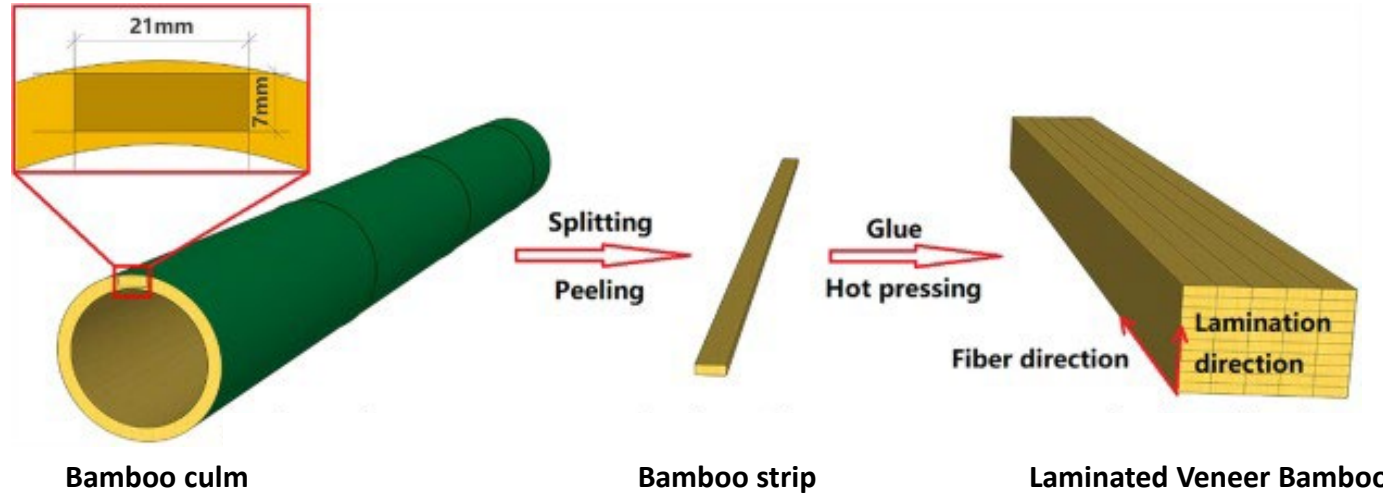
Glulam



Dowel Laminated Timber

New generation of engineered bamboo composites

Acceptance through standardization and regulatory process is an essential step – ISO standardization process can play a key role



This presentation

- Introduction of ISO standards development process
- ISO standardization for timber and bamboo products in structural applications
- Suggestion for engineered bamboo composites (EBC)

ISO Standard Development

- ISO develops standards that can be **directly adopted** or used as **model standards** by member countries
- Traditional key objective:
 - To facilitate trading of products and services between countries → Harmonization of standards
- Newly added objective:
 - To contribute to realization of United Nation's SDGs by 2030 – affordable shelter, climate change, etc
 - Promotion of renewable, low carbon footprint material in construction would help achieve some of the SDG



ISO Technical Committees on Renewable Materials

ISO/TC 89 - Wood-based panels

ISO/TC 165 – Timber structures →

ISO/TC 287 - Sustainable processes for wood and wood-based products

ISO/TC 296 - Bamboo and rattan

Standardization concerning **structural applications** of wood based products, and related lignocellulosic fibrous materials (e.g. bamboo)



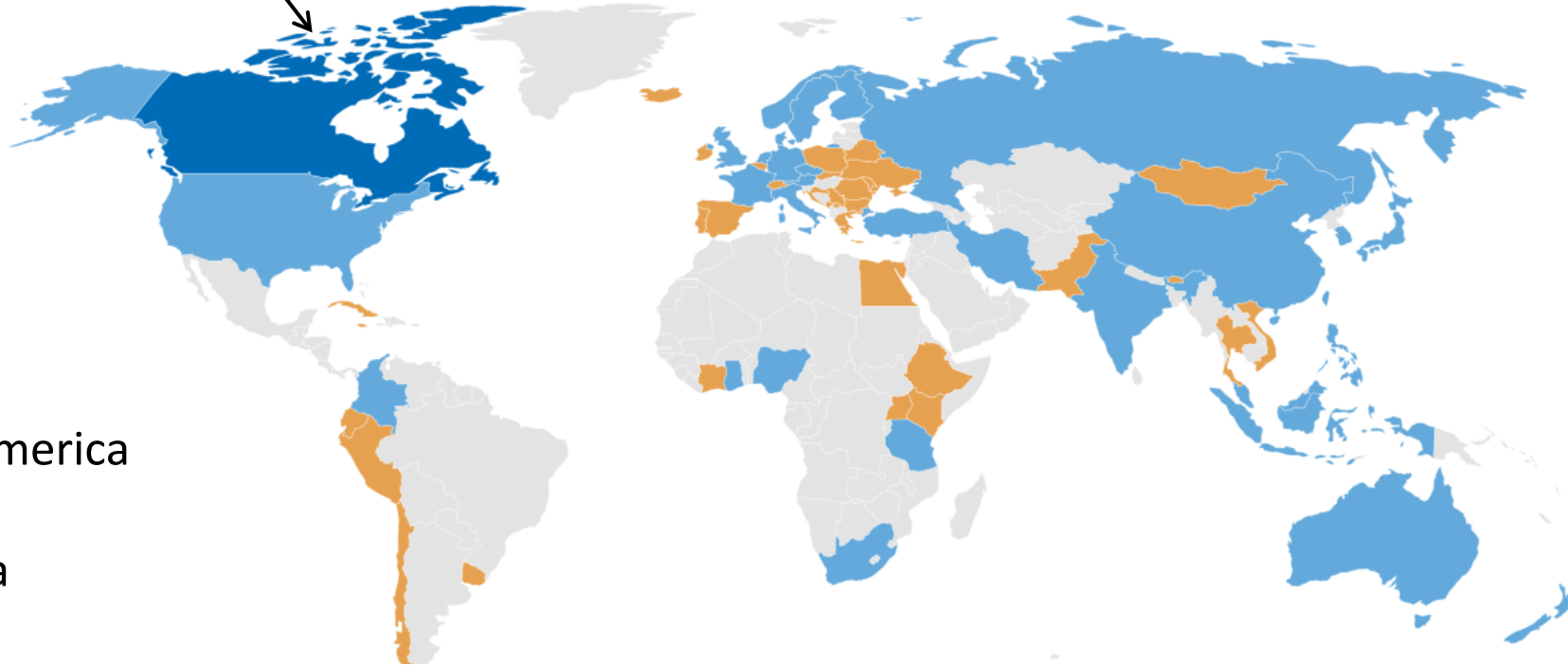
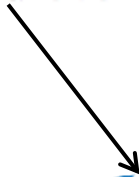
Sustainable structures / Green buildings



ISO TC 165 'Timber Structures'- membership

Secretariat ■

Canada - Standards Council of Canada (SCC)



- North America
- Europe
- East Asia
- Oceania

■ PARTICIPATING MEMBERS (30)

■ OBSERVING MEMBERS (34)

Requirements for acceptance of a product by building/design codes

- Manufactured according to a product standard
- Tested according to standard procedure
- Test data evaluated according to accepted procedure to derive design properties
- Accepted design procedure

Standards

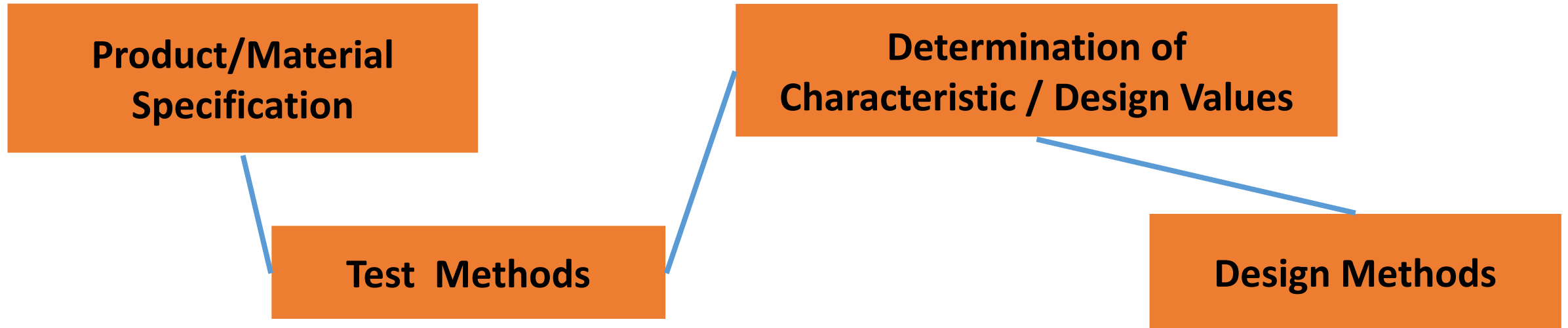
Product Specification

Test Methods

**Determination of
Characteristic / Design Values**

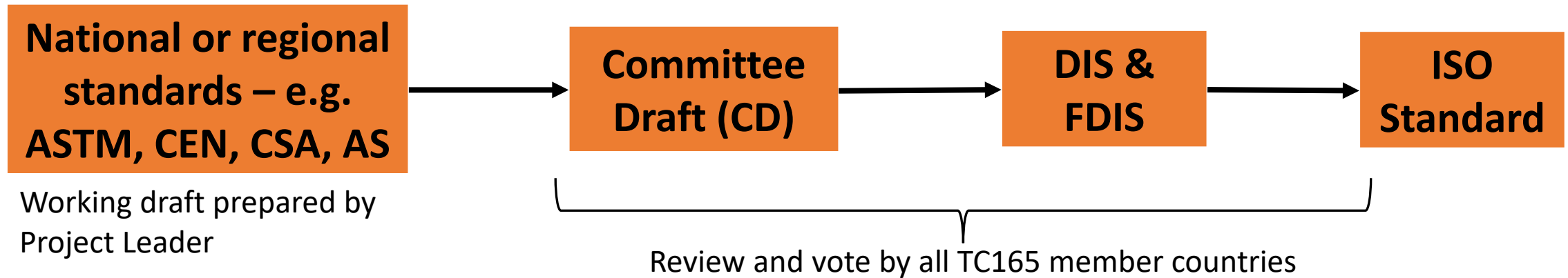
Design Methods

Four categories of standards published by ISO TC 165 'Timber Structures'



- Since 2013 bamboo products are included in scope
- To-date - 44 timber related and 3 bamboo related standards have been published

Typical process to develop timber-related ISO standards



Challenge

- Timber products have a long history of commercial production and each major producing country already has its own suite of standards:
Manufacturing → Testing → Design Properties → Structural Design
- True harmonization of timber standards and therefore trade is often difficult to achieve

ISO TC 165 – Bamboo related standards (since 2013)

- Few national standards exist for structural bamboo products
- This is an area where ISO can play a leading role in developing truly harmonized international standards

Bamboo culm standards

Product	ISO 19624: 2018	Grading of bamboo culms - Basic principles and procedures
Testing	ISO 22157: 2019	Determination of physical and mechanical properties of bamboo culms - Test methods
Design	ISO 22156 : 2021	Structural design



ISO TC 165 – Bamboo related standards under development

- Current projects focus on engineered bamboo composites (EBC)

Engineered bamboo composite related standards

Product	Glued laminated bamboo – Product specifications
Testing	Engineered bamboo products – Test methods for determination of physical and mechanical properties
Design	Engineered bamboo products – Structural design



Suggestion for harmonization – Structural Class System for Engineered Bamboo Composites (EBC)

Background experimental study

A comprehensive testing program conducted by National Engineering Research Centre of Biomaterials, **Nanjing Forestry University** to characterize mechanical properties of EBC.

Provenance	Age	Product	Adhesive
Jiangxi	4	LVB, PSB	Phenolic
Hunan	5	LVB, PSB	Urea-formaldehyde
Fujian	3-4	LVB	Phenolic
Sichuan	5	LVB	Phenolic

Example of Structural Class System for EBC - Characteristic property requirements

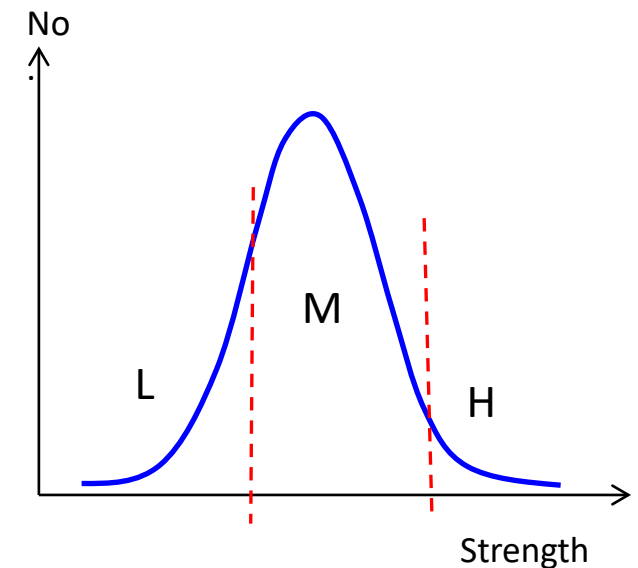
Property	Symbol	BC1	BC2	BC3	BC4
Bending strength	f_b (MPa)	10	14	18	22
Tensile strength	f_t (MPa)	6	10	14	18
Compression // strength	f_c (MPa)	8	12	16	20
Shear strength	f_v (MPa)	2	3	4	6
Compression perp strength	f_{cp} (MPa)	3	5	7	9
MOE	E (MPa)	10000	12000	14000	16000
Density	ρ (kg/m ³)	500	550	600	650

Benefits of a structural class system

Structural class	BC1	BC2	BC3	BC4
Product	Fujian LVB Hunan LVB Sichuan LVB		Jiangxi LVB	Hunan PSB Jiangxi PSB

Facilitate Harmonization of Standards and International Trade

- Benefits for end users
 - Specifiers and designers can easily substitute products
- Benefits for producers
 - Recognized properties to aim at
 - Can produce several grades from the same production – use of grading technologies



Thank you for your attention!

