

Texas Department of Insurance
Windstorm Inspections Program/Engineering Services Program
Newsletter

April/May 2014

Portal Frames: An answer to garage and large window framing

Do you have trouble designing garage door openings that protrude from the front of a residential structure or meeting lateral resistance requirements for a large window opening or for a series of windows in the wall of a house? If so, then APA TT-100E may be your answer.

The American Plywood Association released a tested portal frame design that is easy to install. You can use the portal frames as single segments, located on one side of an opening, or as multiple segments, located between larger openings such as garage door or multiple window openings. The portal frames provide an alternative lateral resistance system to conventionally framed wood structural panel shearwalls with a decrease in shearwall segment width.

Please go to www.apawood.org, sign up as a nonmember, enter publications, and search for TT-100E. It will pop right up! There is no fee for access or download of the publication. TT-100E will provide you with design details, and will provide a drawing that you can follow. Take advantage of this easy to use, tested assembly.

Addition is the only certification type that TDI can issue on a *mobile home*.

2014 By the Numbers

WPI-1s received:
8,453

WPI-2s received:
6,979

WPI-8s issued:
5,359

Number of appointed engineers:
250

As of 3/28/2014

Alterations/Opening

- When submitting an alteration with the detail of window or door, please specify if you are replacing an existing door or window, or if you are creating an entirely new opening.
- When completing the WPI-2, remember to select the protection of exterior openings for the building's location.
- Failure to include all pertinent facts on your documentation can delay the issuance of the Certificate of Compliance, Form WPI-8.

We want to hear from you!

Do you have a question you would like us to address in an upcoming Newsletter? If so, please email us at engineering@tdi.texas.gov and put "Newsletter Question" in the subject line.

Contact TDI

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800-248-6032

Engineering Services Program
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512-322-2212

www.tdi.texas.gov/wind/

Upcoming State Holidays

April 19, 2014 – TDI will close at noon

April 21, 2014 – San Jacinto Day – TDI will have limited staff

May 26, 2014 – Memorial Day – TDI will be closed