

QB Corporation

Salmon, Idaho

TPM Member Since June 1977



In the year 1977, along the base of the Bitterroot Mountains of Salmon, Idaho, QB Corporation (QB) was formed by Holton Quinn and Jim Banta. Today QB is one of the largest manufacturers of glue laminated (glulam) wood beams in the United States.

QB has multiple production lines to produce custom and stock beams. This gives QB the capacity to provide more versatility and shorter lead times. Custom, curves and tapers, as well as production stock beams are all efficiently produced in its state of the art facility. The plant is capable of producing beams up to 20 inches deep, 96 inches wide, and 130 feet long. QB can load the trucks indoors. Note the 96 footers that are rolling out the door in the photo to the right.



QB beams are protected with wrapping and can be loaded inside the facility to preserve the surface during transport.



Strings Pavilion in Steamboat Springs, CO is home to the Steamboat Orchestra and is a community center point.

Attention to detail in all aspects of the operation makes the difference between mediocre and excellent product quality. Nowhere is this attention to detail more important than in the area of finger joints. Finger joints are basically glued connections that make long pieces of wood out of short pieces through the use of “fingers” cut into the ends of the boards. These joints transfer forces from along the board to the adjoining board. It takes significant care to make a quality joint. The fit of the joint, the application of adhesive, and the pressure and cure are all important aspects to making this critical component of beam construction work. All tension laminations are proof loaded to ensure both the lumber and the finger joint will handle the stress levels that are assumed for the design.

QB aims to produce high quality (above the standard or minimum) beams. The technicians work hand in hand with the production personnel. This full support of management with production creates an atmosphere where every member of the team is fully engaged in quality production. Quality is built into every piece. QB selects quality vendors for its raw material and carefully grades and processes it into a finished product. Every piece is graded and monitored for appropriate moisture content to ensure proper gluing and curing.



(Inset) The framing of this private home in Long Beach, CA, illustrates the ability of QB to produce curved laminated beams to meet the requirements of any architectural challenge. The inside view is amazing.

Featured Member continued from page 8

QB produces beams from softwood species including Douglas Fir, Western Red Cedar, Alaska Yellow Cedar, and Southern Yellow Pine. The company produces standard stock beams as well as custom engineered products. Products are distributed throughout the nation and can be shipped to most ports in the United States for export to foreign markets.



Curved laminated beams create a charming street view in San Mateo, CA.

Glulam technology has a long history of providing large structural building materials from smaller dimension trees. The glulam product line is one of the oldest and most proven engineered wood products produced. Wood by its very nature is one of the most environmentally friendly building materials available anywhere. It can be recycled and is renewable, so it's the only major building material that "grows." Meaning, with proper care and management, it is a resource that will never run out. Trees capture and sequester carbon while they grow, a claim no other building material can make. All of the QB products produced are covered under the American Plywood Association (APA-EWS) quality assurance program. Rigorous independent audits ensure fabrication methods meet or exceed industry standards. The QB manufacturing process includes the ability to recycle its waste products into wood pellets that are used as a heating source for many customers around the northwest.

QB is a community minded company and supports many of the areas local projects, donating materials for the Salmon Hockey Rink, the American Legion baseball field, Kid's Creek Park, the skateboard park and Salmon Search & Rescue. The latest project is a dual purpose project, QB is building a fire department substation on its property. The station will be manned by local volunteers. Currently, service for the area is located 15 miles away. The substation will not only lower QB's insurance

premiums but also for the surrounding homes and ranches. QB's President, Mike Lane said "QB Corporation is an active participant in the Salmon community and we take pride in donating for the betterment of the population."



Laminated beams are versatile and architecturally strong and beautiful. The curve adds appeal to the entrance of JP Morgan in San Mateo, CA.



The Sun Valley, ID project used QB custom laminated beams in the building of Sun Valley Lodge. With quality QB laminated beams the designers created breathtaking rooms overlooking the Sawtooth mountains.

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