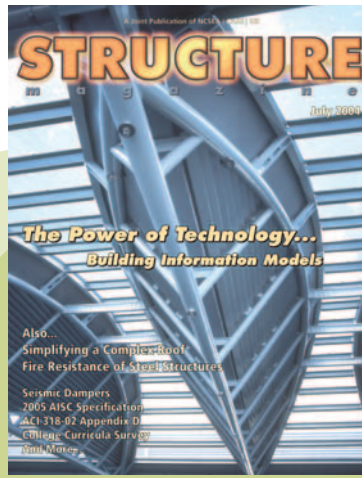


# March 2004

## FRP Strengthening...

STRUCTURE Magazine in March published an article on strengthening of deficient structures by use of fiber reinforced polymer (FRP) fabrics and plates. Unfortunately, the article did not mention the low tolerance of elevated temperatures of FRP and the materials used to attach it. Unless extraordinary protection measures are employed, the strengthened structural components, and hence likely the entire building, will lose whatever fire rating they and it may have originally had, and which presumably is required by the relevant building code. This is a serious shortcoming of the repair material which needs to be emphasized in all discussions of its uses.

*Hans Gesund, P.E.  
(Struct), FASCE, FACI  
Lexington, KY*



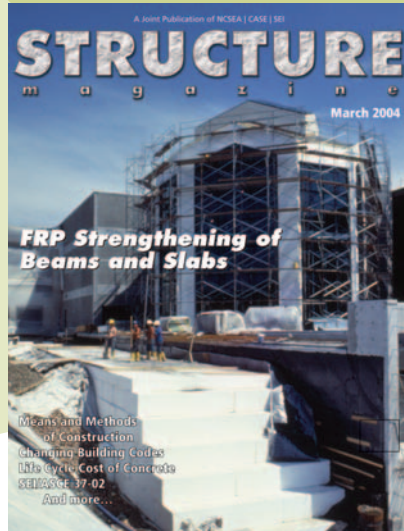
# July 2004

## Fire Resistance...

On behalf of the laminated timber industry, I wanted to comment on one of your articles in the July 2004 issue. A statement on page 22 seems to be a “stretch” of the facts. The piece on fire resistance of steel trusses begins by saying: “Trusses made of structural steel shapes are the common framing choice in structural systems that span over long distances or support heavy loads.” In my work for the American

Institute of Timber Construction over the past year or two, I have worked with engineers, contractors and architects to develop articles on about 12 structures with glulam trusses or beams that span over 100 feet. One of these is on the cover of this month’s Construction Specifier – a dining hall at the Univ. of California San Diego with curved glulam timbers over 120-foot long. In fact, commercial and institutional buildings are accounting for a greater share of the glulam market each year. I was wondering if engineered wood might be coming up on your editorial calendar later this year? We enjoy reading the magazine and appreciate the coverage you have given glulam timber in the past.

*Don Jaenicke  
Jaenicke Marketing  
Agency for American Institute of Timber Construction*



*Publisher's Note:  
STRUCTURE plans an  
issue dedicated to wood  
in March 2005*

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*See this month's  
Noteworthy  
(page 42) for the  
2005  
Editorial Calendar.*