

## Freres Lumber Co.

Freres Lumber Co. is a premier wood products manufacturing company dedicated to bringing innovative, high-quality and environmentally-sound wood products to market. Founded in 1922, Freres is one of the oldest family-owned and operated businesses in Oregon, and values the personal relationships it has developed with customers and partners over the years. Freres promotes sustainability, and champions the wise and efficient use of raw materials in all wood product manufacturing operations as well as its related entities: Freres Timber and Evergreen BioPower LCC.

Freres Timber owns more than 17,000 acres of timberland and harvests that timber on a sustained yield basis. Freres Lumber specializes in the production of a wide range of veneer, plywood, and engineered wood products. Evergreen BioPower is a biomass cogeneration facility utilizing residual wood products to produce enough steam-generated electricity to supply the local utility company with enough energy to power more than 5,000 households, while also delivering heat for plant production processes.

## Manufacturing

For more than 50 years, Freres has specialized in bringing high-quality wood products to market, manufacturing veneer, lumber, and plywood and now structural composite lumber. With a history of incorporating cutting-edge technology to transform and modernize construction practices, Freres has engineered a monumental new finished wood product with its latest, patent-pending innovation, Mass Plywood Panels (MPP). Like other industry paradigm shifts, MPP has the promise of radically changing building practices.

## Mass Plywood Panels

Freres's MPP is a veneer-based engineered wood product assembled by combining extremely thin layers of wood veneers. These thin layers of veneer are more densely layered than other mass timber products, which results in a multitude of benefits. MPP uses 20-30% less wood than Cross Laminated Timber (CLT), and can be produced in larger, custom or prefabricated formats. MPP is as strong as or stronger than CLT in part because the more even distribution of defects in the veneer virtually eliminates weak spots. As a result, the panels can span longer distances, while retaining structural integrity. The MPP cross-grain design results in reduced material

shrinking and swelling, and MPP gets high marks for fire safety, seismic integrity, affordability and environmental impact. MPP supports ecofriendly building practices without compromising stability, produces fewer CO2 emissions than other building materials and is renewable, unlike concrete and steel.

Because of its efficiency, strength, and versatility, MPP is improving current labor-intensive building practices by saving builders time and money. Prefabricated structural elements such as floors, walls, beams and columns as large as 12 feet wide and 48 feet long and up to 24 inches thick can be built to spec; decreasing onsite assembly time, construction time and the number of truck loads delivered to the job site.

## Giving Back

Freres has a long history of giving back to the community, which is reflected in the company's culture and values. Freres is committed to providing sustainable, environmentally sound practices throughout all operations, as well as being a positive contributor to both its industry and local community. Freres encourages employees to volunteer their time to local community efforts. Freres's staff participates in industry associations and the company contributes to the local economic vitality through job creation and charitable contributions made through Freres Foundation.

Established in 1959, the Freres Foundation provides a much-needed source of financial support for charities and education-based organizations in Oregon's Santiam Canyon. Since its inception the Freres Foundation has given millions of dollars back to the local community. In 2017, Freres Foundation contributed more than \$200K to a myriad of local causes.

## Awards and Accolades

Freres's recent awards and honors include:

- SEDCOR (Strategic Economic Development Corporation):  
Manufacturer of the Year, 2018
- Stayton Sublimity Chamber of Commerce:  
Large Business of the Year, 2017

## Media Contacts:

Nicole Miller	Laura Luthi
nicole@wordsoutpr.com	laura@wordsoutpr.com
503.949.7621	503.341.7785



**“ MPP can be cut to almost any shape and size. MPP products can be used for practically any structural wood element in a mass timber building. ”**