



ENGINEERED WOOD WEEK

NEWS NOTES FROM AITC. THE ORIGINAL TRADE ASSOCIATION FOR ENGINEERED WOOD

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Water Parks Say No to Steel, Yes to Glulam

The growing popularity of indoor water parks has been a big plus for pressure treated glued laminated timber because it thrives in moisture conditions that cause steel to rust.

The water parks create a four-season recreation facility even in Northern states. AITC has published a number of trade magazine articles on water parks to promote the use of treated glulam. A new \$30 million Six Flags water park in Queensbury, NY is designed with exposed glued laminated framing to achieve what the builders call “the rustic Adirondack effect.” John Collins, general manager says, “We’re now a four-season destination.” Six Flags operates 31 theme parks throughout North America.

The park features a number of water attractions, including the lazy river and the *Flowrider*, a continuous sheet wave that allows guests to surf and body board, plus tube water slides that send visitors through loops and curls before depositing them in the pool. The treated glulam ridge beam which forms the backbone of the structure is 90 feet long and six feet deep. The beam is held in place by 86 glulam rafters and columns. Unadilla Laminated Products, located in Unadilla, New York, provided the design and supplied the structural glued laminated timber.

Fort Rapids Water Park

The 60,000 square feet Fort Rapids Indoor Water Park and Resort in Columbus, Ohio, adjoins a new Holiday Inn, creating a resort environment with a Western theme.

Jim Campbell of Brackett Builders, the contracting firm, says the strength of the 76 foot glulam trusses provided long-span capability and required fewer interior columns. “Glulam was a clear choice as the best material for this wet environment,” Campbell says. The designer was John Poe Architects in Dayton, Ohio. Structural Wood Systems of Greenville, Alabama, manufactured the structural glued laminated timber. Erection management was provided by Seech Industries, Inc., of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



AITC has also published feature articles on water parks such as Splash Lagoon in Erie, Pennsylvania, Splash Country Indoors in Branson, Missouri, and five other parks in various locations.

AITC is the *only* trade association promoting the use of glulam by publishing articles in trade magazines. We’ve been doing that for many years. When your firm supplies glulam for water parks or other unique buildings, let us know and we will write an article

on your project.

