

VANTAGEPOINT

Rough openings made easy

Two time-saving answers inside *page 2*



A serious time saver

BlazeFrame® delivers more than safety *page 9*



More data on demand

See what's new in iProSTUD *page 10*



The Seismic Project

A simulated earthquake is set to hit two stories of cold-formed steel. See how a unique industry collaboration makes this landmark research possible. *See article on page 3*

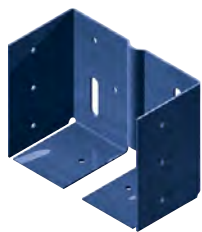
Rough openings made easy

Two time-saving alternatives to doing things the built-up way

Notoriously troublesome and time-consuming to install, framing for rough openings has always presented a challenge for contractors. At ClarkDietrich, we have the solutions to this problem. With our unparalleled collection of labor-saving rough opening systems, such as Red Header RO™ and the Heavy-Duty Stud (HDS®) Framing System, framing a rough opening requires fewer components, takes less time and allows a cleaner and smoother drywall finish.

Traditional built-up, or “boxed,” headers are labor-intensive to assemble, insulate, install and finish. In addition, they require several screws, which can negatively impact drywall finishing. RedHeader RO and HDS systems, however, require no pre-assembly, are easy to insulate and install and use half as many screws as traditional headers—minimizing screw head buildup to improve the appearance of drywall finishing around doors and windows.

RedHeader RO's patented Drop 'N Lock™



Clip provides a safe and easy installation, while still providing flush attachment of the drywall. It is blue in color to ensure contractors that their crew is installing the correct product.

Both **RedHeader RO** and **HDS** systems are easy to insulate. Since the header, jamb and clip are all in one plane, the installation and finishing of the drywall around the opening is simple and neat as well. The finishing crew will have no large joint compound buildups to hide, unlike with more cumbersome traditional methods.

RedHeader RO is best suited for interior nonload-bearing and exterior curtain wall applications, while HDS is ideal for longer spans and conditions where an axial load is imposed on the header.

The HDSC header bracket provides the perfect complement to the HDS system. This simple, yet innovative, header bracket turns curtain wall header installation from a two-man to a one-man job. Like other components of the RedHeader RO and HDS systems, the bracket's unique, prepunched clip eliminates surface drywall finish-compromising screw head buildup.

Regardless of your project requirements, ClarkDietrich has the Rough Opening products and systems that give you the edge you need with easy to install, laboratory- and field-tested systems.



Created for architects, critical to contractors

White papers cover a range of installation best practices

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES: The ClarkDietrich White Paper Library

Leading manufacturer of steel framing and accessories, ClarkDietrich Building Systems, recently made another addition to its growing white paper library with “Best Practices for Selection and Installation of Expanded Metal Lath Products.”

Specifying the appropriate metal lath product for the application and installing it properly has a dramatic impact on the long-term stability of a building's exterior cladding. Fortunately, there are various building codes and industry standards that are excellent guides to best practices in product selection and installation for specifiers or installers. ClarkDietrich's new white paper takes a closer look at the aforementioned codes and standards and their recommendations for selecting and properly installing the best-quality expanded metal lath products for specific applications. It highlights common installation errors—and their consequences—to stress what practices installers should avoid.

With this paper, ClarkDietrich hopes to provide project teams with a resource that will help them produce more stable, longer-lasting exterior wall assemblies.

Developed for the architectural community, but certainly a great resource for contractors and distributors, ClarkDietrich's white paper library can be found online at clarkdietrich.com/news/white-papers.

“Best Practices for Selection and Installation of Expanded Metal Lath Products.”



New products, projects and perspectives from the leader in steel framing

ClarkDietrich welcomes walls and ceilings pros to VantagePoint

The building industry isn't just constantly on the move. The pace of change is picking up every day. As construction methods, innovative materials, standards and technology continually reshape the landscape, professionals rely on trusted resources to help them stay ahead.

Already known for sharing a wealth of knowledge, ClarkDietrich Building Systems has created its new custom publication, VantagePoint, to debut at INTEX EXPO 14, but remain of relevance far after. The company currently

offers the industry's broadest lineup of steel framing systems and accessories. It also has just as strong a reputation for connecting contractors, installers, the A+D community and others to product details, data-rich tools, engineering and BIM services, plus educational opportunities. But the newspaper format is a first for the steel framing leader.

"When looking at where to focus attention, we simply couldn't put our finger on one big story," said the company's Vice President of Marketing Terry Westerman. "We've got more

than a few great headlines to share with our customers, so this newspaper was born," said Westerman.

The pages of the VantagePoint definitely reflect the company's broader goal to be more than a manufacturer, yet there's the right balance of product-focused content. Readers can learn about their latest offerings which save time and labor, as well as about the special projects, partnerships and people that make ClarkDietrich stronger than steel.

Ready to shake:

Three-year seismic project completes final phase of testing



Industry partnerships key to researchers' long-term study of cold-formed steel framing and earthquake safety.

A partnership of leading cold-formed steel design researchers from top U.S. and Canadian universities and design professionals from the steel industry completed the final phase of a three-year research project to increase the seismic safety of buildings that use lightweight cold-formed steel for their primary beams and columns. Funded by a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant, the researchers have already developed a series of computational models to determine how a complete building structure will perform during an earthquake.

The final stage in the testing involved the construction of a two-story structure and testing on a "shake table" at the University of Buffalo. The building underwent the rigors of a controlled earthquake to determine how it performed.

There were two phases to the shake table testing: **Phase One** tested only the structural components, which include the cold-formed steel skeleton and the OSB (oriented strand board) sheathing for the floor diaphragm and roof; and **Phase**

Two added non-structural components like stairs, gypsum sheathing and interior partitions. The objective was to advance cold-formed steel, light-frame design in buildings to the next level and equip engineers to implement these performance-based seismic designs in their projects.

"We appreciate the valuable technical and economic input that our industry partners have provided."

Benjamin Schafer, Ph.D., P.E., of the Department of Civil Engineering at The Johns Hopkins University (JHU) and a long-time member of two standards-developing committees of the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI)—the

Committee on Specifications and the Committee on Framing Standards—leads the research team.

ClarkDietrich Building Systems, the Steel Framing Industry Association (SFIA), along with several other steel industry partners, participated in the project, providing technical expertise, donated materials and additional funding. "We appreciate the valuable technical and economic input that our industry partners have provided," said Project Team Leader Benjamin Schafer, Ph.D., P.E. "Their role will continue to be critical after the project concludes as they provide technology transfer of the findings to practicing engineers. From a research perspective, we will seek additional opportunities to build on the body of knowledge resulting from this project and utilize the ideas and enthusiasm of the next generation of seismic engineers."

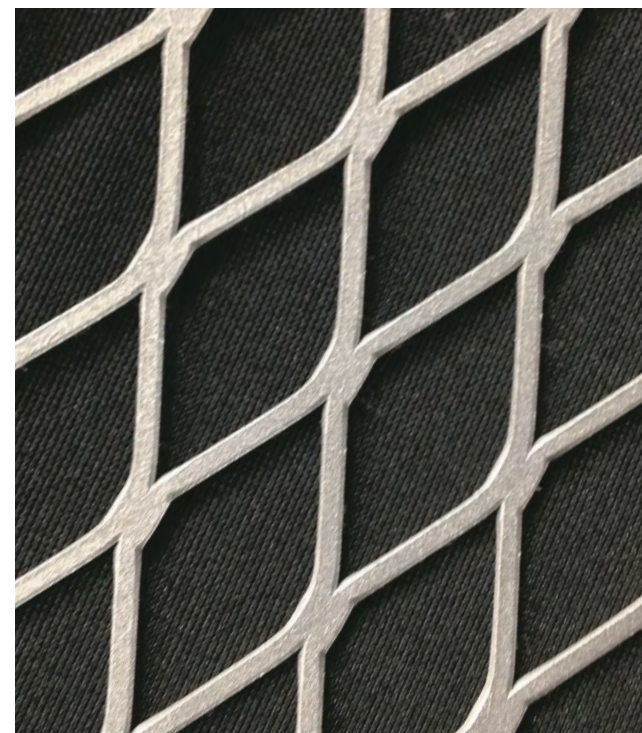
For information on the project, ongoing research updates, a live video of the construction process and informational blogs from the testing site at the University of Buffalo, visit the CFS-NEES website at ce.jhu.edu/cfsnees/.

Barrier Mesh gets into security business in big way



Common applications where Barrier Mesh is installed include: government buildings, military courthouses, retail stores, hospitals, banks, police stations, or any application where a significant level of security is required. The mesh's effectiveness comes from being concealed behind the wall—so the perpetrator has no idea of what they can do to penetrate the walls.

Barrier Mesh is installed on the framing side of the perimeter wall of the space to be protected. There are various methods to attach Barrier Mesh to the framing, including nails, screws and even tack-welding to steel framing. The recommended BM-Clips act like washers to attach Barrier Mesh to framing members using appropriate threaded fasteners. A flat head, bugle-type self-tapping screw long enough to penetrate the steel stud at least 3/8" is recommended. For wood stud applications, use a 1-5/8" fine-thread drywall screw allowing the fastener to penetrate the framing member at least 1-1/2."



ClarkDietrich Building Systems Barrier Mesh™ (BM) is a tough, rigid, heavy-gauge steel mesh that is used to safeguard against break-ins and break-outs across the wall system. The product is easy to install and can be used in both metal and wood framing applications to elevate the level of delay from breach, and may be attached with BM-Clips to metal or wood studs in walls, floors and ceilings.

ClarkDietrich Barrier Mesh is produced to American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards, specifically ASTM F1267, Type 2, Class 1-carbon steel finish. Because Barrier Mesh is produced with a carbon steel finish, it must be protected from rain, snow, ice, dew, or other types of weather. For this reason, mesh should be set on dunnage blocks and protected from weather and construction traffic.

ClarkDietrich Barrier Mesh comes in four styles, each with at least two different gauges within those styles. These different combinations provide varying levels of security: minimum, medium and maximum security—depending on the facilities being served.

Speeding up connections

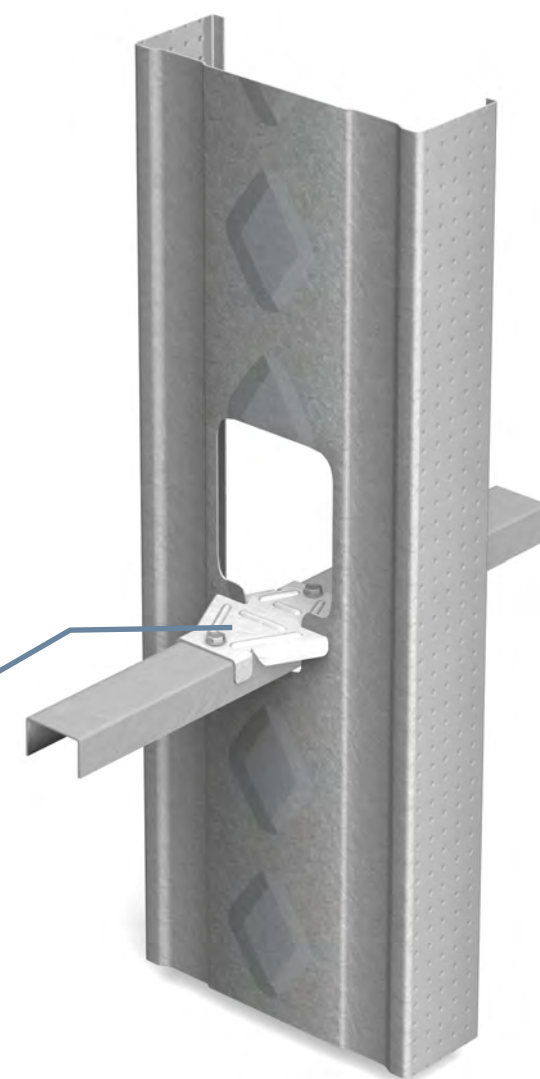
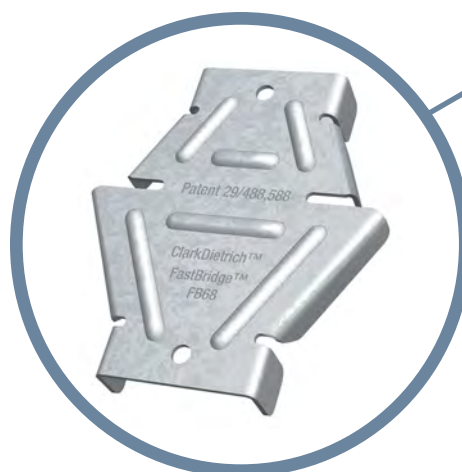
New clip more than lives up to its name

ClarkDietrich, your light-gauge metal framing hardware and connector leader, remains committed as the framing industry's connector solution provider. Our newest product at ClarkDietrich Clip Express™ is the FastBridge™ Clip that is used to secure 1-1/2" cold-rolled channel to structural wall studs when used in load-bearing or curtain wall applications. The wall stud friction fit design allows for as little as one screw for the connection to the u-channel, which results in shorter installation time and considerable labor savings.

The FastBridge™ Clip is designed to accommodate up to 8" structural studs and comes in two gauges—14ga (for 12ga–16ga structural studs) and 18ga (for 16ga–20ga structural studs)—and are 50ksi G90 galvanized steel.

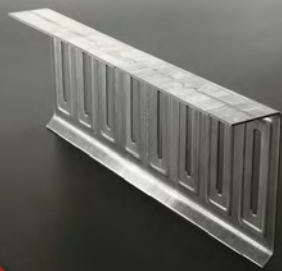
In other news, we recently received our ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) certification for our FastClip™ Slide Clip (FCSC) and Extended FastClip™ Slide Clips (FCEC).

The report (ESR-2570) confirms compliance with the 2012 International Building Code® (IBC) and International Residential Code® (IRC), as well as the 2010 California and Florida Building Codes. What this means is that those products comply with the codes through a process that thoroughly examines product information, test reports, calculations, quality control methods and other factors.

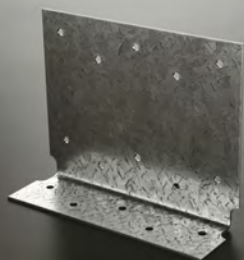


CONNECT WITH US TODAY.
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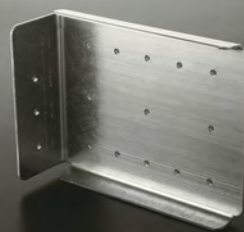
FastClip™ Slide Clip



Fast Strut™



EasyClip™ E-Series™



Extended Uni-Clip™



SwiftClip™



CLARKDIETRICH CLIP EXPRESS.™ It stands alone as a product line, support service and single-source philosophy. And now, with new clips to cover more installation needs, the industry's widest selection of steel framing connections is even wider. As always, overnight shipping options keep your projects on the fast track. Plus, getting the whole system—studs, tracks, accessories and more—from one trusted name keeps you working smart. **STRONGER THAN STEEL.™**

Interior Framing • Exterior Framing • Interior Finishing • Clips/Connectors • Metal Lath/Accessories • Engineering



ClarkDietrich.
BUILDING SYSTEMS

clarkdietrich.com

Clip ExpressSM West takes service coast to coast

At Clip Express, we continually strive to be number one in customer service from coast to coast, a goal demonstrated by the recent opening of our Clip Express West branch in Woodland, Calif. With thousands of connectors in stock every day, as well as the ability to fabricate whatever a job specifies, we are dedicated to servicing your next job. If you ever have questions about our product line or need product submittals, our experienced engineering, technical services and sales teams are only a phone call away. In addition, the ClarkDietrich iTools system is also available online and can be accessed from your mobile device. With the Clip Express Navigation tool, you can view the various clips and connectors offerings through ClarkDietrich's Clip Express Service.

You can also view detailed product images, submittals and product catalog pages.

We understand that timing is critical on all projects. That is why we have expanded our production capabilities to include custom-fabricated clips and connectors. We can custom fabricate just about any shape, bend or angle that you specify. With our new location, we have also increased our next-day delivery lane footprint and have cut the transit times in half for many of our West Coast customers. Our goal is to support you and your customer's needs, no matter your location.

At ClarkDietrich Building Systems, we continue to remain the industry's one-stop shop for all metal framing needs.

ClarkDietrich database now accessible on Quick Bid

ClarkDietrich Building Systems recently announced a partnership with OnCenter Software, the country's preferred bid estimating solution for construction professionals. The goal of the partnership is to make ClarkDietrich's industry-leading steel framing products immediately accessible to contractors using OnCenter's Quick Bid estimating software.

The ClarkDietrich database is now accessible from the OnCenter site. Contractors across the country who have downloaded the data and incorporated the products report that the process is straightforward and easy to use. By having the products at their fingertips, they can more efficiently create accurate and precise takeoffs.



To utilize the database, contractors who subscribe to the OnCenter annual maintenance program can go to www.oncenter.com/company/partners and click on the "download" link at the bottom of the screen underneath the ClarkDietrich logo.

ClarkDietrich is committed to developing labor-saving products to solve the challenges our customers face every day. This includes both physical products and electronic tools, such as the OnCenter library, SubmittalPro®, the iProSTUD wall assembly tool and more. For more information, visit www.clarkdietrich.com.

Teaming up to support an extraordinary athlete—and his biggest fans

How a paralympian's family got to Sochi to cheer him on to Gold!

Rico Roman is a Paralympic athlete and U.S. Army veteran. To show its support and gratitude, L&W Supply launched Rico's Army, a fundraiser that helped send Rico's wife Nathalie, daughter Juliet, 11, and son Raul, 9, to the 2014 Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi. There, they watched him compete for—and win—gold in sled hockey.

L&W Supply matched funds raised by employees, customers, vendors and the general public, with a goal of raising \$50,000

by the start of the Paralympic Games. ClarkDietrich Building Systems is proud to have been one of five key vendor partners in this fundraising effort.

In addition to our financial contribution, ClarkDietrich also posted messages to its Twitter followers to encourage their support as well.



Add-In tools for Revit® take aim at clash detection

Custom ClarkDietrich BIM framing tools soon to be part of MWF software package



When it comes to building your BIM model with cold-formed steel framing and detecting clashes of other trade systems, having the right tools in your Autodesk Revit® software is essential. However, you'll quickly find that Revit right out of the box does not offer the necessary tools to help the designers create cold-formed steel wall assemblies.

ClarkDietrich has worked closely with StrucSoft Solutions (Revit software extension developers) since 2010 on developing extension tools for our BIM Engineering Team. In 2011, with StrucSoft, we developed the ClarkDietrich Wall Type Creator™ Revit Add-In. This is the first cold-formed steel Revit Add-In design tool to help architects create information-rich wall types, with specific details on UL, STC and limiting heights. Now we would like to share our BIM Framing tools with contractors.

In June 2014, ClarkDietrich will release its custom BIM Framing Tools to subscribers of the StrucSoft Solutions MWF (Metal Wood Framer) Pro Wall packages. Along with MWF's wall framing creation and clash detection tools, MWF also will include ClarkDietrich products and framing tools:

ClarkDietrich/SFIA Standard Members

Includes all structural and nonstructural stud and track Revit Families required to frame/panelize in MWF Pro Wall.

ProSTUD® Non-Structural Stud Selection Tool

A selection tool that allows the user to lookup ProSTUD limiting heights and automatically load in the required ProSTUD & ProTRAK® Families into Revit and MWF's walls.

Structural Stud Selection Tool

A selection tool that allows the user to lookup structural stud limiting heights for interior and exterior walls and automatically loads in the required ClarkDietrich/SFIA Families into Revit and MWF's walls.

Top Deflection Track Selection Tool

A selection tool that allows the user to add a diverse lineup of top deflection track systems into their Revit MWF walls. Systems include: ProTRAK Deep Leg, Non-Structural Deep Leg, Structural Deep Leg, MaxTrak® & MaxTrak 2D Slotted Deflection Track and BlazeFrame® Fire Stop Deflection Track systems.

Opening Framing Tool

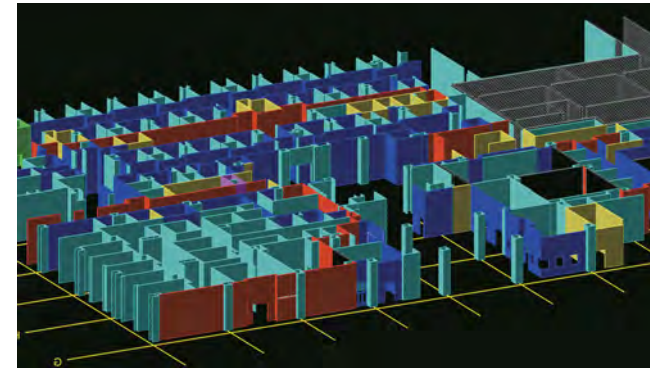
Allows users to simplify the process of building a diverse lineup of header, sill and jamb systems with MWF's wall templates and/or Marker tools. Systems include: RedHeader RO™ and HDS® Framing System to build header, sill and jamb configurations.

TradeReady® Floor Joist Framing Layout Tool

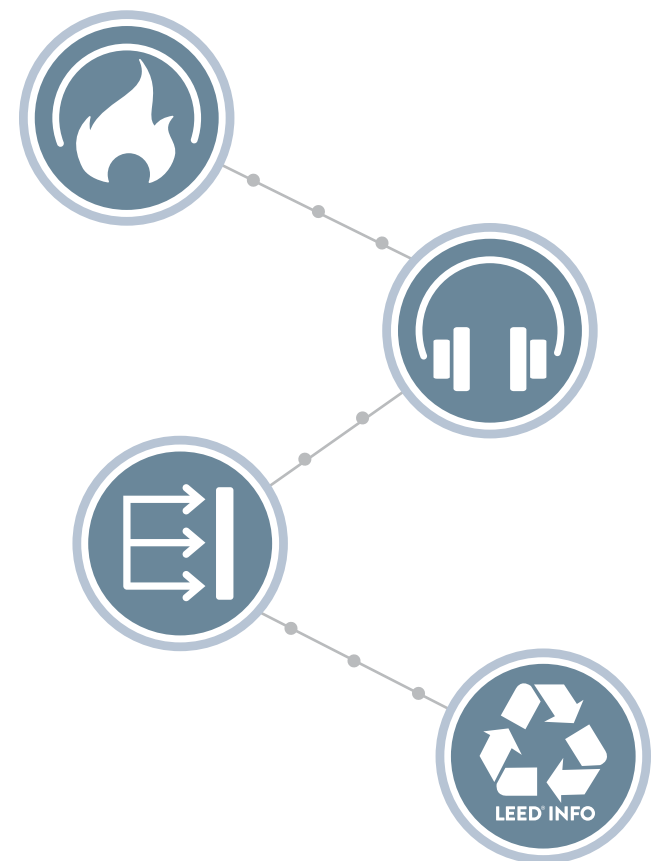
With StrucSoft's advanced floor layout tool (MWF Pro Floor), ClarkDietrich will also include its premier TradeReady Floor Joist System in the package.

The combination of these tools will help the project's design teams mix collaboration between all the trades and streamline their cold-formed steel Revit BIM models.

If your team would like to help test drive these tools before June 2014, please contact us at BIMinfo@clarkdietrich.com.



Find more about ClarkDietrich's BIM Wall Type Creator™ and BIM Services at www.clarkdietrich.com/BIM



Steel in the tweetosphere

@clarkdietrich

Follow us! What's New means many things to ClarkDietrich, and Twitter is the first place you will read it. New product announcements, along with support detail, such as catalogs and technical data can be found here. Also being tweeted will be new developments made to our current service offerings and support tools, such as BIM,

iTools and SubmittalPro.® We will always direct you to more information, whether it be our website or an attached article, so that we can answer any questions you may have. We also feature industry-related articles and architectural areas of interest that speak to a wide audience. And, we keep it all business—so that we don't waste your time.

What you may not know about metal lath

New smarter packaging drives quality, credibility



Quality metal lath products are defined both tangibly and intangibly. The tangible methods include third-party testing of the lath's physical properties by an IES-accredited laboratory, assuring the products' compliance to ASTM C847-10 "Physical Properties of Expanded Metal Lath." In this ASTM standard, the lath dimensions (length, width & expanded thickness), weights (expressed in lbs. /sq. yard) and allowable tolerances are defined for the industry. There are different ways to achieve these standards and U.S. lath manufacturers all configure their setup a bit differently. The goal is to achieve target weights and dimensions within the allowable tolerances.

Packaging of the lath sheets is the quality "intangible"—the neater and straighter the lath sheets are in the bundle and on the pallet, the greater perception of quality of the sheets themselves. While ClarkDietrich laths were manufactured to ASTM C847 standards and tested by third parties for years, we have worked diligently to improve this perception of our lath products in regards to packaging. Improvements we have made include both shorter bundle stacks, wider wooden

pallets to protect lath edges and consistent pallet heights achieved once compressed.

Historically, pallet tags were randomly attached to the full pallets during stacking of sheets for compression packaging. Unfortunately, these tags are often either damaged or removed during shipping and tend to not make it to the field, significantly reducing traceability. To mitigate the lack of QC traceability, ClarkDietrich has committed to packaging every 10-piece bundle of lath with two straps/bundle that will display the lath sheet weight, length and third-party test found in that 10-sheet bundle. Our intent of adding this color-coded banding is to improve the straightness of the sheets while providing full disclosure to the contractor that all lath sheets from ClarkDietrich are manufactured to ASTM C847 and meet the specifications outlined for the project.

Lath compliance to ASTM standards, plus improved packaging, will bolster the product's credibility when it encounters entities such as the building supply distributor, the installer, and the building inspector.

A Structa-Wire success story

Project spotlight shines on downtown L.A.

Architect: Michael Maltzan Architecture
General Contractor: WestPort Construction Inc.
Plastering Contractor: Berger Bros., Inc.
Product: Mega Lath™ & V Truss® Walls & Ceilings

Los Angeles has become a hub of construction activity over the last couple of years, due to the ongoing revitalization of the city's downtown core. This construction trend is producing several new residential and mixed-use developments in formerly blighted areas that are innovative in both design and building material use. Designed by Michael Maltzan Architecture, Star Apartments stands out as an excellent example. The Los Angeles firm's design converted an existing one-story commercial building bordering the city's infamous Skid Row district, into a mixed-used complex with 102 apartments for formerly homeless individuals.

Playing an important role in the structure and exterior skin of the building was the project team's choice of light-gauge steel framing. Originally, traditional 3.4-pound metal lath was specified, but the project's framing contractor Berger Bros., Inc., substituted Structa's high-performance Mega Lath for the walls to ensure a quality plastering finish. Mega Lath was chosen ensuring a beautiful, crack-resistant and long-lasting base for the striking project. Sean Cooney, of Berger Bros., said that his foreman Albert Valenzuela 'loves' the Structa

Mega Lath because "it rolls out easy, stays flat and is user-friendly—and better to work with than 3.4-pound metal lath and woven wire." Berger Bros. also used the Structa Mega Lath and V Truss WC product combination on the Santa Monica Village development, a recent mixed-use development project in the heart of Santa Monica's Civic Center area.

Berger Bros., Inc. has been in business for over 50 years and is among the top lath, plaster and drywall contractors in California. Their longstanding reputation for performing quality lathing & plaster, in unique commercial and residential projects throughout California, is in part due to their commitment to try new techniques and products to develop new solutions that enhance their building projects.

The Star Apartment project was recently recognized by the WWCCA as winner of an annual Project of the Year award for Multi-Family Development.



References:

<http://www.bergerbro.com/index.html>
 Star Apartments | Michael Maltzan Architecture
www.mmaltzan.com/projects/star-apartments

Skipping steps boosts safety and protects bottom line

BlazeFrame® saves labor on fire-rated assemblies

Time is money! Unlike traditional fire-rated joint systems, BlazeFrame steel framing products can save contractors hours on installation while also reducing the time needed to clean up after the system has been installed. The offset parallel to beam profile saves time the minute it's installed by eliminating additional parts and pieces; and because the profile can be installed before fireproofing material is applied, it can also save valuable time in scheduling. BlazeFrame eliminates the need to install additional pieces such as “Z furring” clips or the need to repair fireproofing after install caused by damage from track installation.

Fluted decks provide some of the greatest challenges in fireproofing, especially when a partition runs perpendicular to the deck and parallel to a nearby beam. With BlazeFrame, the framing is the fireproofing and there is no better example than this condition. The framing goes up, a pre-cut mineral wool flute fill goes into the gap above the track. Fasteners attaching the drywall can be attached up to 24" below the deck, so the beam is no longer an obstacle. There are no messy caulks in tight spaces and no sprays or stuffing between the beam and partition.

Next is the BlazeFrame slotted J-runner for shaft wall systems. This product makes fireproofing easy as it is already in place before the wall is constructed. The slotted J-runner allows for dynamic movement in seismic areas with no concern about how long the shaft will be protected. Even in its simplest application, over flat concrete—skimmed or not—BlazeFrame provides the smallest unencumbered joint,



thereby eliminating traditional larger caulked joints and the labor dollars to install these products.

What would eliminating multiple layers of drywall and even a stud be worth to your bottom line? The BlazeFrame Control Joint Backer has a simple one-piece installation that provides considerable labor savings; and because BlazeFrame Control Joint Backer does not require the additional pieces

of a traditional fire-rated wall system, the product can save countless dollars on the bottom line. The flute cover is the easiest way to maintain a UL fire rating without having to install mineral wool, which requires two people installing flat strapping material to keep it taut and flush. With BlazeFrame Control Joint Backer, one person can lift, attach and completely install the system—saving time and money.

Now in Spanish

New literature highlights ClarkDietrich products and services

ClarkDietrich is pleased to introduce our first Spanish language literature piece, which will include a summary of the products and services offered by ClarkDietrich. We look forward to sharing this new literature piece online and in print with our international and domestic customers.

This comprehensive brochure provides an introduction to our interior and exterior framing products—Clip Express™ Connectors, TradeReady® Floor Joist, metal lath and accessories—as well as a range of light gauge steel framing and BIM design services. We are looking forward to strengthening our existing relationships and opening new doors throughout the United States and the world. We also have future plans to offer a Spanish language version of our iTools and clarkdietrich.com website.



Get ready for a bigger binder

New lath and plaster catalog now available

A new addition to ClarkDietrich's product binder is the Metal Lath and Accessories for Stucco and Stone catalog. Drawing from our extensive product line, we feature metal lath products and accessories, control and expansion joints, weep and sill screeds, veneer plaster bead and trims that fit many stucco and stone applications. When you specify or choose our product line, you receive fully tested, precision-formed products every time. Product descriptions, renderings, size and dimensions, along with piece/carton information, is included with all products listed in this publication. We offer unmatched service through numerous plants with nationwide product availability for the stucco and stone industry.

Rebuilt from the ground up

Popular iProSTUD tool redesigned with UL and STC lookups

ClarkDietrich Building Systems is proud to announce the latest version of its popular iProSTUD steel framing design tool—iProSTUD 2.0.

The interactive tool is a component of the ClarkDietrich iTools web application and features a completely redesigned interface that allow users to quickly calculate a broad range of data for interior wall and ceiling systems.

Developed specifically for use with the ProSTUD® Drywall Framing System, iProSTUD 2.0 gives contractors and architects the ability to filter wall assembly data by specific properties, including: wall design, wall assembly, limiting heights, STC sound ratings and UL fire protection ratings. In addition, iProSTUD 2.0 provides direct links to UL design reports, third-party STC sound tests and SubmittalPro®, where contractors can view technical data sheets and generate submittals.

“The launch of iProSTUD 2.0 underscores our commitment to providing the building community with innovative tools

that make their jobs easier at every phase of wall and ceiling design,” said Mike Murzyn, ClarkDietrich Building Systems.

“As our customers’ demands continue to change and expand, ClarkDietrich will continue to develop solutions to meet and exceed their wall and ceiling technical needs.”

Launched in 2013, ClarkDietrich iTools was developed to help architects and contractors evaluate purchasing decisions and assist in product selection for steel framing projects. The cost-saving calculators use applicable project data to give an instant comparative pricing model for both materials and labor for many ClarkDietrich steel framing products. ClarkDietrich iTools also provides direct links to product pages, LEED® request forms, product literature and technical data sheets.

ClarkDietrich iTools is available in both desktop and mobile formats at iTools.clarkdietrich.com.

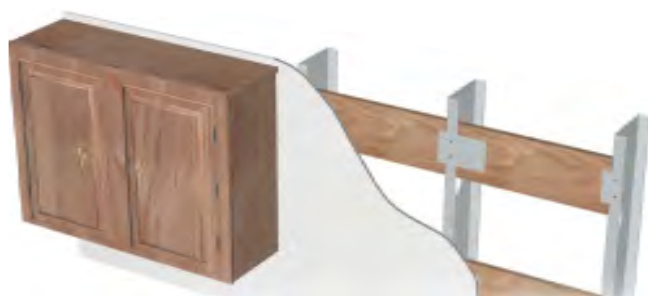


Backing lineup puts leader out in front

Steel or wood, fixed spacing or not, ClarkDietrich has a backing solution for all of your backing needs. Choose from Danback, FastBack, ClarkDietrich Notched Track or ClarkDietrich Backing Plate.

Danback®

Danback Flexible Wood Backing System, featuring Dricon® fire-retardant treated wood (FRT), has made wood backing installation easy and economical eliminating cutting, notching, ripping and routing.



Danback provides superior connection shear and pullout strength to support and meet even some of the heaviest loading conditions. Installers can simply snap, flex and screw Danback into place. The patented hinge design actually flexes around the stud and snaps into place for a perfect fit—every time.

FastBack™

Rotate the FastBack Clip over the flange of the stud until it sits flush, then fasten into place using drywall screws in the predrilled holes. Precut fire-rated wood backing sized to fit 12," 16," and 24" o.c. spacing. Place wood onto tabs and fasten into place using standard drywall screws.

Having exposed fasteners on the face of the product helps to reduce finishing time. The product's interlocked design between stud and track for baseboard backing installations, allows backing and bracing to be installed all the way to the floor. FastBack is available in 5-1/8" and 10-1/4" standard sizes.



ClarkDietrich Notched Track

Notched Track is generally used for joist blocking or horizontal backing in walls to allow support for cabinets, appliances, etc. Notched Track is also specified in many hospital jobs to add support to the mechanical equipment that is mounted on walls. (Available on the West Coast only.)



ClarkDietrich Backing Plate

ClarkDietrich's backing plate is a general multipurpose flat stock that is used for backer plate to support shelves, cabinets, fixtures or handrails when applied to metal framing. Backing plate should not be used as tension strapping or cross bracing—Diagonal Tension Strapping should be used in such applications.

- Use as backer plates for attachment of fixtures to metal stud walls.
- Available in 2," 3," 4," 6," 8," 10" and 12" widths and 25- and 20-gauge.
- Standard length is 10'. Other lengths and coil stock are available.

BIM coordination leads to healthy labor savings for Texas hospital



ClarkDietrich's largest BIM project to date is the Jennie Sealy Replacement Hospital in Galveston, Texas. The hospital features nearly 250 rooms, surgical suites and intensive-care space. In total, the hospital will encompass 758,000 sq. ft. throughout a seven-level base building with twin towers, each having six levels.

ClarkDietrich Engineering Services' scope was to provide engineering services for the exterior of the building while providing BIM modeling for the interior and exterior of the hospital. The specific BIM requirements were outlined in detail in the project specification and the BIM execution plan. Below is a list of the key BIM requirements:

- Provide color-coded walls to help the contractor/GC identify key system performance characteristics of walls, such as fire- and sound-ratings.
- Provide a model of all framing to be installed within the hospital to allow for coordination with other trades.
- Provide wall backing modeling to facilitate installation.
- Provide coordination drawings, which include fully dimensioned layout drawings for all of the framing.

Due to the amount of coordination that was completed on the front-end of the project, the contractor is expecting a large amount of labor savings. Using ClarkDietrich's wall and framing modeling during collaboration meetings, the contractor was quickly able to identify issues regarding code compliance and clearly provide direction on how certain areas should be constructed. Metal stud framing products specified within the model include ClarkDietrich Building Systems' ProSTUD® Drywall Framing System and MaxTrak® slotted deflection track. Correct products and installation methods were identified up front so the proper materials could be procured. Conversations pertaining to the installation were conducted long before the metal stud construction started. The coordination drawings, which were created from the BIM model, indicated exactly where stud framing was to be placed, eliminating coordination time and allowing framing to be installed with confidence. Ultimately, the contractor feels that ClarkDietrich's expertise in BIM was well worth the cost associated with the service and is anticipating a significant return on its investment.

Fresh earthy colors available from Vinyl Corp.

Tan, brown and gray make exterior cladding jobs easier

Vinyl Corp. has expanded its VinylColor™ extrusions to include stocked standard colors. For many years, Vinyl Corp. led the industry by offering custom-colored extrusions to match any project's requirements. We now are stocking three new colors—tan, brown and gray—and they are available upon demand. The recent changes were made in response to our contractors who install cultured stone and similar exterior claddings, as the colors “match” the earthy colors and don't require painting after installation.

The new products are tinted so the color is throughout the piece and not simply a “top coat.” So if the profile is cut, scratched or bent it doesn't matter. VinylColor is uniform and doesn't require “touching up” after the fact. This is truly a superior product designed with the contractor's best interest in mind.

As always, Vinyl Corp. is the innovator in Vinyl Extrusions in offering products covering stucco, EIFS and drywall

applications plus many more. Visit our new website at www.vinylcorp.com to see our entire product line.



Website update more than just looks

New vinylcorp.com makes product searches faster

ClarkDietrich recently launched a new website for its Vinyl Corp. division at www.vinylcorp.com. The redesigned website features an easy-to-navigate interface and includes extensive installation guidelines, as well as technical information on Vinyl Corp.'s entire walls and ceilings product offering, including stucco, EIFS, drywall, acoustical and roofing trims and accessories.

The website offers other user-friendly features, including:

- **Seamless Navigation:** Fully integrated platform for easy navigation through industry resources on over 2,000 products.
- **Product Sample Requests:** Visitors can easily request product samples directly from the new and improved website.
- **AEC Document Center:** The industry's most extensive online portal for architects, engineers, contractors and dealers in search of information on beads, trims and control joints for stucco/plaster as well as EIFS and DEFS.

Employee efforts show strength of heart

ClarkDietrich Cares builds lives, communities



ClarkDietrich strongly believes in giving back to its local communities and supports this initiative through its ClarkDietrich Cares community service program. The program enables employees to devote one paid workday every year to volunteering at the community organizations of their choice.

Under the program, employees can choose community service activities for non-profit organizations, including community and social service agencies, schools and libraries, hospitals and museums, environmental and animal welfare organizations, as well as youth organizations. Government-sponsored efforts such as park beautification and waterway cleanup also are included.

“We may think that life is hard, but to see a child, and all they need is a head of hair, it gives you a new perspective on your own life.”

To date, the program has included an annual Christmas food drive, local food bank assistance, working with Habitat for Humanity,[®] participating in Susan G. Komen for the Cure[®] and multiple sclerosis sponsored events, and raising money for the UnitedHealthcare Children’s Foundation. Most recently, Ranae Scoggins, of our McDonough, Ga. plant donated her hair to ‘Locks of Love’—a public non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children in the United States and Canada, under age 21, suffering from long-term medical hair loss.

When asked why she would cut her long hair, Ranae stated, “Due to the economy and hardships in the world today, it is not as easy to give financially as it used to be. So I wanted to help out with what the Lord gave me—my hair.” Ranae indicated that her inspiration to donate her hair came from the thought, “We may think that life is hard, but to see a child, and all they need is a head of hair, it gives you a new perspective on your own life.”



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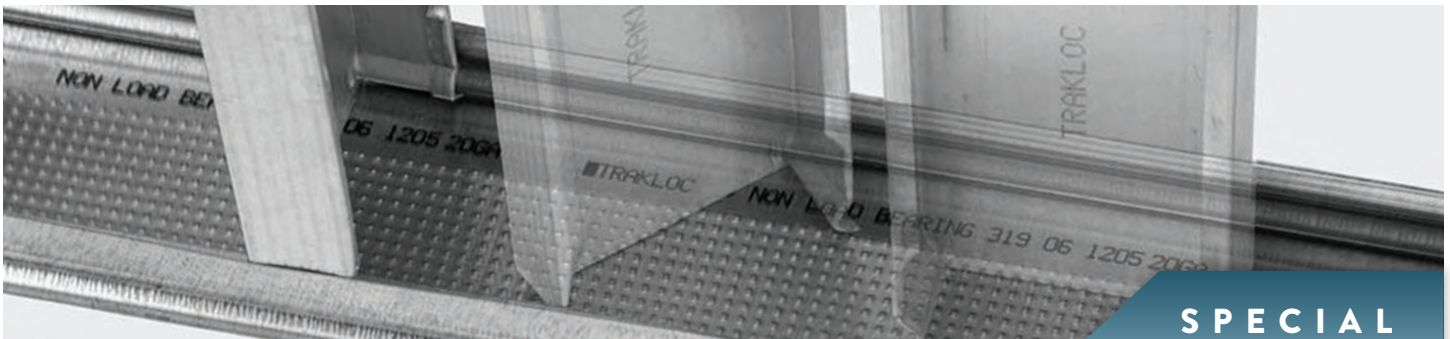


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VANTAGEPOINT



**SPECIAL
INSERT**

New framing system all set to adjust contractors' thinking

TRAKLOC® telescopes in length to deal with variances during installation

TRAKLOC® Steel Framing is a revolutionary development in cold-formed steel framing systems. Unlike traditional steel studs, which are cut to length for varying jobsite conditions, TRAKLOC® allows you to order one length member and “adjust” the length accordingly for variances in the slab. The stud consists of a traditional-style framing member combined with an interlocking adjustable component. The adjustable portion allows for telescopic length adjustments and can accommodate variances in the slab, minor wall heights per floor, etc.



Another added benefit to the TRAKLOC® system is that screw attachment of the stud and track is not required. The patented suage end formation, combined with the suaged forming of the track, allows for the two members to “interlock” with no need for screw attachment. The dimples along the web of the track allow

for minor adjustments to be made while keeping the members solidly locked in place. TRAKLOC® steel framing members come in standard widths of 2-1/2", 3-5/8" and 6".

TRAKLOC® also offers a fire-rated head-of-wall deflection detail. The telescopic portion has a punchout in each flange. When installers attach the drywall at the head-of-wall detail, the top screw is allowed to “float” inside the flange knockout while maintaining a position connection to the solid flange of the stud below. Look up our full list of fire ratings at www.trakloc.com

In many retrofit conditions, one of the biggest battles is having to transport stud and track members in and out of elevators. In what we call our Elevator Stud, the TRAKLOC® members can fully compress inside themselves and then telescope out to full length. What this means on the jobsite is that you can essentially get an 18' fully extended stud in a 10' elevator car. This not only saves the labor of stocking the framing but also reduces installation, as you no longer have to splice studs. The TRAKLOC® system is versatile and can satisfy even the most difficult jobsite interior nonload-bearing condition and save you labor in the process.