2000 LOG CHINKING STANDARDS

Addendum to ILBA standards as of October 27, 2001

STANDARDS

2.A.2. Green or dry logs may be used for construction.

2.B. Log walls shall be constructed of logs laid in horizontal courses with a chink gap between logs and with interlocking notches at the corners.

2.D. Chink Gap

2.D.1. Logs in walls shall have a continuous chink gap along the length of each log (except where interrupted by required structural blocking).

2.D.3. Minimum length of chink joint shall be 4".

2.D.7. Blocking of not less than 3 1/2" wide x 4" deep in shall be installed in the chink gap. Blocking height will vary. The blocking shall be placed at each side of door or window openings and at intervals determined by local codes and conditions. Blocking shall be installed so that flats are level in both directions and centered on the chink gap. Log walls with openings cut for doors, windows and passageways require blocking at each side of the opening to support log ends. These opening may require structural analysis.

2.D.8. Log wall pinning is necessary to resist applicable wind and seismic loads.

2.D.9. Synthetic chinking material shall be applied in chink gaps in such a manner as to resist water, air and insect infiltration. At all times, the chinking shall conceal and protect through-bolts, pins, dowels, kerfs, electrical holes, blocking, and the like. All chinking shall be repaired upon visible evidence of cracking or pulling away from logs. Synthetic chinking shall be installed according to joint designs that will favor "cohesive" failure of the chinking (rather than "adhesive" failure) if unavoidably extreme movement should occur in a joint.

2.E.5. At load bearing extensions or where blocking or pins are visible, chinking must be applied.

2.G.3. The notch and chinking shall at all times completely hide a splice and its fasteners and help protect splices against weather and insect infiltration.

2.H.1 A header log shall have no more than half of its vertical height removed at the location of openings, unless it is covered by at least one more full log. In all cases, the header log must be supported at each side by blocking and wall pinning and be adequate for structural requirements.

2.I.2. Where conventional framing meets a plate log, this intersection shall have chinking, elastomeric caulking or an expandable gasket to accommodate anticipated shrinkage of the log plate and to restrict weather and insect filtration.

2.J.2. The depth of the top kerf shall be at least one quarter of the height of the log and shall be no deeper than one half the diameter.

Section II-Chinking (Synthetic)

II.A.I. Before applying the chinking material, backer rod shall be installed in the chink gap. The backer rod shall fit snugly into the gap via either friction or appropriate mechanical fasteners.

II.A.2. Synthetic chinking material shall be applied to the backer rod from notch to notch or notch to door/window opening in such a manner that it is self-draining and restricts air, water and insect infiltration.

II.A.3. Where appropriate internal gaskets are installed, no chinking of notches and joints is required. All other notches and joints shall be chinked.

II.A.4. Chinking shall be applied with sufficient application pressure and tooling to properly "wet out" and establish strong adhesion to the contact surfaces of the logs. Such pressure and tooling can eliminate regions where the chinking might otherwise pull away and provide entry to moisture, air, dust or insects.

II.A.5. Where chinking is to be applied over structural blocking, as much as possible, bond-breaking materials such as, backer rod tape, etc., must be applied between the blocking and the chinking to avoid 3-point adhesion.

II.A.6. The chinking shall be applied to surfaces that are known to provide a suitable substrate for strong chinking adhesion. Coatings containing wax and oils that might lead to poor adhesion and chinking failure are to be avoided.

II.A.7. Fire-rated chinking systems shall be in careful compliance with the manufacturer's specifications.