

Truss Technology Workshops:

Year-Round Education & Training Is Just a Click Away

by Emily Patterson

New and improved!
Truss Technology Workshops
present a host of new options
to professionals in and outside
the industry.

Staying up to date on continuing education and industry issues just became a whole lot easier. WTCA's new Truss Technology Workshop (TTW) web site, ttw.woodtruss.com, offers a one-stop shop for continuing education (CEU) credits, along with an extensive library of resource materials on the structural building components industry. The site is designed to serve as a year-round resource for those in professions who work with roof trusses, floor trusses, wall panels and related components to help them better understand how to work with these structural products.

Originally developed as live presentations, TTWs were created to reach out to professionals in the construction industry, such as architects, engineers and contractors, to provide a unified industry message and specialized training on topics related to structural building components. Today, in addition to live presentations, TTWs have evolved into online courses, ranging from one to three hours in length, that offer users convenient and flexible CEU opportunities without having to leave the office.

Companies can purchase a one-year subscription to TTW for their employees, which includes unlimited, 24/7 access to all TTWs and the site's online resource library. All the user needs is a computer, an Internet connection and an email address to access comprehensive and up-to-date information on structural components.

Customized Training

The new site offers six main categories or sections, so visitors can quickly locate their area of interest and learn more about the TTWs tailored just for them. Workshops are divided into sections recommended specifically for:

- Architects and Engineers
- Builders, Framers and Contractors
- Building Inspectors and Home Inspectors
- Members of the Fire Service
- Industry Suppliers
- Component Manufacturers—Present Your Own TTWs!

When visitors enter the site, they can click on their profession or area of interest to see a listing of suggested TTWs for that profession. Visitors can view a short demo for each course as well as read course descriptions; which include major topics discussed, course length, and level of difficulty (beginner, intermediate or advanced).

The new site allows users to easily build their own training program or fulfill CEU requirements. Within each section, the recommended TTWs for each profession or area of interest are divided into the following subcategories:

- Specifying and Designing with Structural Building Components
- Field Issues—Installing, Bracing and Inspecting Components
- Building Components in the Building Codes
- Fire and Wood Trusses
- Truss Basics: Part of the Truss Technician Training Series

at a glance

- ❑ WTCA's new Truss Technology Workshop (TTW) web site, ttw.woodtruss.com, offers a one-stop shop for continuing education (CEU) credits.
- ❑ The site is designed to serve as a year-round resource for those in professions who work with roof trusses, floor trusses, wall panels and related components.
- ❑ Users who purchase a year-long subscription also receive unlimited access to the site's online resource library.
- ❑ The site offers component manufacturer members all the materials necessary to present their own live TTWs for free.

Many TTWs are approved by the Florida Construction Industry Licensing Board. When applicable, individual course descriptions include when a workshop qualifies for continuing education credit.

The latest additions to the site discuss some of the most critical issues today for those working with metal plate connected wood trusses and wood framed construction. Brand new TTWs include:

- Overview of BCSI 1-03
- Four Steps to Safe Truss Installations
- Storage, Handling, Installation and Bracing of Metal Plate Connected Wood Trusses

All TTWs have been reformatted in an improved interface that allows users to access and view presentations more quickly, as well as navigate more easily between topics and access course download materials.

Online Resource Library

TTW's online courses provide a wide range of educational opportunities, but the learning doesn't stop there. Users who purchase a year-long subscription also receive unlimited access to the site's online resource library, which provides a plethora of information about the struc-

tural building components industry. With resources for those just learning about trusses to those who have extensive knowledge about component construction, TTW's library provides a wealth of information and practical tools for those designing or working with roof trusses, floor trusses and wall panels. The library includes:

Intro to SBC Industry	Technical Publications	Design Tools	Web Links	Continuing Education
Truss Configurations	Wood Truss Handbook	The Load Guide (TLG)	woodtruss.com	Regional Workshop & Conferences
Truss Plant Virtual Tour	Truss Technology in Building	Structural Details for CAD	WTCA Online Catalog	
Photo Gallery	Building Component Safety Information (BCSI)	Span Tables	List of WTCA Truss Manufacturers	
Component Construction		Wood Truss Specification	SBC Magazine	
		Fire & Wood Trusses	Truss Knowledge Online	
			Truss Plate Institute	

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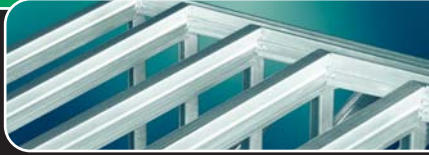
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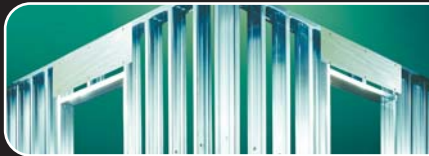
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Truss Technology Workshops

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TTW Subscriptions

Year-long subscriptions to TTW are available to help users get the most out of the site's many features. Need to take courses for continuing education credits? Want to view part of a TTW as a refresher for a project you're working on? Looking for a span table or specifications? No problem—with full access, TTW lets you use the site however and whenever you want.

The cost for a one-year subscription, which includes unlimited access to all TTWs and the online resource library, is based on how many seats a company purchases. Per-hour

Number of Seats per Company or Municipality	Cost Per Seat
1	\$80/seat
2 - 5	\$65/seat
6 - 9	\$55/seat
10 - 19	\$50/seat
20+	\$48/seat

pricing is also available for \$20 per course hour (does not include access to the online resource library).

Just for Component Manufacturers

In addition, the site offers component manufacturer members all the materials necessary to present their own live TTWs—for free. The special component manufacturer section of the site (login required) houses TTWs (as PowerPoint[®] files) for download at no cost. Component manufacturers can view a list of all current TTWs, along with course descriptions and the recommended audience for each workshop. Associate members interested in giving a live TTW presentation can contact WTCA staff for more information and to obtain access to TTW files. All TTWs presented in a live format are approved by the American Institute of Architects, and many are approved by the Florida Construction Industry Licensing Board. Contact WTCA staff for more information.

When applicable, course descriptions include links to handouts and presenter guides. The site also offers tips for giving live presentations and a link for component manufacturers who wish to rent a projector from WTCA for their presentation. In addition, component manufacturers have full access to the online resource library.

The site provides a link for component manufacturers to contact WTCA staff to let them know that they'll be putting on a presentation. Staff can help presenters customize their program for a specific audience or timeslot, as well as recommend other resources to help component manufacturers make the most of their presentations. WTCA can also put presenters in touch with their local chapter representatives to help coordinate a presentation and create a united industry voice when educating their marketplace.

To learn more about TTW and to preview the site, visit ttw.woodtruss.com. **SBC**

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6300 Enterprise Lane • Suite 200 • Madison, WI 53719
608/310-6706 phone • 608/271-7006 fax
www.sbcmag.info • admgr@sbcmag.info