Tech Notes SBCA

Position Statement on Sealed Truss Placement Diagrams for Commercial Projects in the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Updated August 21, 2006

Issue:

Reviewing Truss Placement Diagrams (TPD) (also known as a truss placement plan, truss layout, framing plan or framing layout) is normally the responsibility of the Building Designer or Registered Design Professional (RDP). This information is based on the Kentucky Revised Statutes[1] (KRS) and the *2002 Kentucky Building Code* along with the 2003 Kentucky Building Code supplement (Effective 3-24-03)[2]. *Appendix A* defines some of the terminology used in this article.

Background:

The TPD is not to be viewed as an engineering document except as stated below; rather it is provided to assist the installer in properly locating the trusses within the structure. All the necessary truss engineering and analysis is found on the Truss Design Drawings (TDD).

If a TPD is provided, it is recommended that the project's Building Designer or RDP, if the local jurisdiction requires one for residential projects, review and approve the TPD to ensure that the intended load paths have not been altered.

According to ANSI/TPI 1-1995 (TPI 1) *(see Appendix B)*, which is adopted by reference in the *2002 Kentucky Building Code* through Sections 101.4, 2303.4, and Part IV provisions *(see Appendix C)*, a Building Designer is defined as:

> Section A.1.2.2 "Building Designer" is the individual or organization having responsibility for the overall building or structure design in accordance with the state's statutes and regulations governing the professional registration and certification of architects or engineers. This responsibility includes but is not limited to foundation design, structural member sizing, load transfer, bearing conditions, and the structure's compliance with the applicable building codes. Also referred to as a registered architect or engineer, building designer, and registered building designer, but hereinafter will be referred to as Building Designer.

The *2002 Kentucky Building Code* defines RDP as follows:

> REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL. An individual who is licensed to practice their respective design profession as defined by the statutory requirements of the professional registration laws of the state of Kentucky.

If a Truss Designer were to seal a TPD, it has been suggested that they could inappropriately be held responsible for ensuring the proper flow of loads through the truss to the bearing and support structure below the truss and into the foundation.

---

[1] www.lrc.ky.gov/statrev/frontpg.htm

[2] The 2002 *Kentucky Building Code* governs the construction of all other buildings and it is based on the 2000 *International Building Code*, with Kentucky changes incorporated within. www.ohbc.ky.gov/bce/FormsPublications.htm

SBCA Kentucky Chapter

Prepared with assistance from SBCA-Kentucky, a local chapter of SBCA.
View all SBCA *Tech Notes* at www.sbcindustry.com/technotes.php

SBCA • 6300 Enterprise Lane • Madison, WI 53719
608/274-4849 • 608/274-3329 (fax) • www.sbcindustry.com

Truss Designers would only undertake Building Designer responsibilities under a special set of circumstances, including that they are professionally capable of taking on such responsibility and that they are properly compensated for the work.

Analysis:

Commercial Construction Documents

In most jurisdictions, the Building Designer of a non-residential structure must be a RDP, as defined above; pursuant to the *2002 Kentucky Building Code* Section 106.1 *(see Appendix C)*:

> 106.1 Submittal documents. …Construction documents involving the practice of professional architecture or engineering, as defined by KRS Chapters 322 and 323, shall be prepared by Kentucky-licensed design professional and all construction documents required for a building permit application for the work shall bear the required signature and seals of the professionals as required by Section 122 of this Chapter. ...

The construction documents should in turn clearly define the scope of the work proposed by the Building Designer or RDP:

> 106.1.1 Information on construction documents. ...Construction documents shall be of sufficient clarity to indicate the location, nature and extent of the work proposed and show in detail that it will conform to the provisions of this code and relevant laws, ordinances, rules and regulations...

In preparing the construction documents, the Building Designer needs to provide the Truss Designer with the information necessary to properly design the trusses for the building. According to TPI 1, the following information should be provided *(see Appendix B for complete text)*:

> ANSI/TPI 1-1995 Appendix A
> A.3.0 BUILDING DESIGNER RESPONSIBILITIES
> A.3.2 (The Building Designer shall) prepare the Construction Design Documents, showing all trussed areas, which must provide as a minimum the following:
> A.3.2.1 All truss orientations and locations;
> A.3.2.2 Information to fully determine all truss profiles;
> A.3.2.3 Adequate support of the Truss and all truss bearing conditions;
> A.3.2.4 Permanent bracing design for the structure including the Trusses,...
> A.3.2.5 The location, direction and magnitude of all dead and live loads applicable to each Truss
> A.3.2.6 All Truss anchorage designs required to resist uplift, gravity, and lateral loads;
> A.3.2.7 Allowable vertical and horizontal deflection criteria;
> A.3.2.8 Proper transfer of design loads affecting the Truss; and
> A.3.2.9 Adequate connections between Truss and non-Truss components,
> A.3.3 Review and approve the Truss Placement Plan and each Truss Design Drawing for conformance with the requirements and intent of the Construction Design Documents, the effect of each Truss Design Drawing and Truss Placement Plan on other parts of the structure, and the effect of the structure on each Truss.
> A.3.4 ... specify how the permanent lateral bracing is to be anchored or restrained to prevent lateral movement if all truss members, so braced, buckle together.

Truss Design and Preparation of Truss Design Drawings

Assuming the requisite information is provided within the construction documents issued by the RDP or Building Designer, the Truss Designer's sole responsibility is to properly design the trusses according to this information. Once designed, a truss is then depicted on a TDD. The Truss Designer is therefore specifically responsible for the single truss design depicted on each TDD.

Who Typically Prepares Truss Placement Diagrams?

Assuming the requisite information is provided in the construction documents, TPD are prepared by component manufacturer personnel who are not typically Truss Designers. The individuals preparing

TPD are trained individuals who work as truss technicians, truss take-off specialists or truss salespeople. Because these TPD are typically prepared outside the Truss Designer's scope of work, they may not be reviewed or even seen by the Truss Designer and are therefore not prepared under the Truss Designer's direct supervision.

Why are Truss Placement Diagrams Prepared?

TPDs are intended to assist customers, erectors and code enforcement officials in positioning or locating the trusses and related structural components supplied by the component manufacturer.

Their function is to serve as detailed installation instructions. They indicate the component manufacturer's assumed location for each truss or related component that has been designed and manufactured.

For example, a truss or related structural building component is no different than a window that is manufactured and in turn installed within a building. A window may be a highly engineered component of a house with specific installation specifications and instructions. However, there is no requirement to provide an engineer's seal on the installation instructions for windows.

To Require Truss Placement Diagrams to be Sealed Would Violate Kentucky Law.

Because TPD are generally neither created by nor created under the immediate personal supervision of a licensed design professional they cannot be sealed. To require that they be sealed is contrary to Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) violating Sections 322.180 and 322.340 *(see Appendix D)*, which state in pertinent part:

> 322.180 Grounds for denial of licensure and for disciplinary action. The board may refuse to issue, refuse to renew, suspend, or revoke a license, may reprimand, place on probation, or admonish a licensee, may impose a fine on a licensee not to exceed one thousand dollars ($1,000), or may impose any combination of these penalties when it finds that an applicant or licensee:
> (5) Aided or abetted a person not licensed to practice engineering or land surveying in this state…
> (12) Engaged in conduct likely to deceive or defraud the public;
> (16)Provided certification for any plan, specification, plat, report, or physical description not prepared by him or her or under his or her direct supervision.
> (17) Applied the seal, stamp, signature, or title block of another professional engineer or professional land surveyor to a plan, specification, plat, report, or physical description that was not prepared by the other professional engineer or land surveyor.
>
> 322.340 Licensee to obtain seal or stamp -- Use of seal or stamp.
> (4) The seal or stamp and signature shall be used by licensees only if the work being stamped was under the licensee's complete direction and control.

Going well beyond the TPD, Kentucky law recognizes that it would be perfectly appropriate for a Truss Manufacturer employee to design the trusses without the involvement of an engineer. In a 2003 survey[3], the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) asked all State Engineering Licensing Boards the following question: What exemptions to the Practice Act does your jurisdiction law recognize? Kentucky listed a manufacturer's exemption for engineering:

> Employee or subordinate of professional engineer; Employee of public utility or public transportation; Manufacturing or scientific research; Officer or employee of U.S. government; Employee of industrial or manufacturing firm; Miscellaneous building

[3] www.ncees.org/licensure/licensing_requirements/2003_survey_results/e_22.pdf

The International Code Committee (ICC) Has Recently Codified That Truss Placement Diagrams Should Not Be Sealed

Current versions of the *Kentucky Building Code* do not clearly define TPD. As such, some may wrongly infer that they are part of the "Truss Design Drawings" which are defined as follows [2303.4.1 *(see Appendix B)* (IBC 2003)]:

> 2303.4.1 Truss design drawings. Truss construction documents shall be prepared by a registered design professional and shall be provided to the building official and approved prior to installation. ...

To clear up any confusion on this issue, Section 2303 of the 2006 International Building Code (IBC), which is the nationally recognized model building code the *Kentucky Building Code* is based upon, has been revised to include the following regarding "Truss Placement Diagram":

> 2006 IBC 2303.4.3 Truss Placement Diagram. A diagram supplied by the truss manufacturer that identifies the proposed location for each individually designated truss and references the corresponding Truss Design Drawing. The Truss Placement Diagram shall be provided as part of the Truss Submittal Package, and with the shipment of trusses delivered to the job site. Truss Placement Diagrams shall not be required to bear the seal or signature of the Truss Designer.
>
> Exception: When the Truss Placement Diagram is prepared under the direct supervision of a registered design professional, it is required to be signed and sealed.

This change will provide much greater clarity and better communication and will appear in the 2006 Edition of the International Building Code.

Conclusion:

The Kentucky professional engineering law and the *2002 Kentucky Building Code* provide the basis upon which to evaluate the need to provide an engineer's seal on a Truss Placement Diagram (TPD). Based on this evaluation, TPD do not require a professional engineer's seal.

Appendix A[4]

Definitions:

a. Architect: Any licensed design professional practicing architecture who designs all or a part of the Building Structural System and/or who produces all or part of the Construction Documents and which may include all or part of the Structural Design Documents.
b. Bottom Chord: Inclined (e.g., scissors truss) or horizontal member that establishes the bottom of a truss, usually carrying combined tension and bending stresses.
c. Building: Any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy.
d. Building Structural System: The completed combination of Structural Elements, Trusses, connections and systems, which serve to support the Building's self weight, the applicable live load(s), and environmental loads.
e. Building Designer (See also Registered Design Professional): Individual or organization having responsibility for the overall building or structure design in accordance with the state's statutes and regulations governing the professional registration and certification of architects or engineers. This responsibility includes but is not limited to foundation design, structural member sizing, load transfer, bearing conditions, and the structure's compliance with the applicable building codes. Also referred to as registered architect or engineer, Building Designer, and registered Building Designer.
f. Construction Documents: Written, graphic and pictorial documents, including the Structural Design Documents, prepared or assembled for describing the design, location and physical characteristics of the elements of a project necessary for obtaining a permit and constructing a building.
g. Contract: A legally recognized document between two or more parties that includes the agreement between the Truss Manufacturer and its customer which sets forth the terms and conditions and scope of responsibilities applicable to the Truss Manufacturer.
h. Contractor: The Owner of the Building or the individual or organization who contracts with the Owner and is responsible for the construction of the Building Structural System in accordance with all Legal Requirements. The term "Contractor" shall include those subcontractors who have a direct contract with the Contractor to perform all or a portion of the storage, handling, installation, and bracing (temporary and permanent) of the Trusses.
i. Conventional Light-frame Wood Construction: A type of construction whose primary structural elements are formed by a system of repetitive wood-framing members. This includes wood Truss construction.
j. Cross Bracing: Bracing installed in the web member plane of trusses to transfer lateral loads out of the truss system and up into the roof and down into the ceiling diaphragms.
k. Diagonal Bracing: Used in conjunction with lateral bracing to transfer brace forces into the supporting structure. Diagonal braces are installed in the same plane as lateral bracing but at 45-degree angle to the lateral brace.
l. Engineer: Any Licensed Design Professional practicing engineering who designs all or a part of the Building Structural System and/or who produces all or a part of the Structural Design Documents.
m. Gable End Frame: A component manufactured to complete the end wall of a building. The bottom chord of the gable end frame is continuously supported by the end-bearing wall. Verticals between the top and bottom chords are typically spaced at 24" on center. The verticals function as load carrying members and as attachment members for sheathing or other end wall coverings. The gable end frame must be incorporated into the end shear wall by the Building Designer.
n. Hip Roof: Roof system in which the slope of the roof at the end walls of the building is perpendicular to the slope of the roof along the sides of the building.
o. Jurisdiction: The governmental unit that has adopted this standard under due legislative authority.
p. Lateral Bracing (also Continuous Lateral Bracing): Members installed at right angles to a chord or web member of a truss to provide stability to the truss.
q. Legal Requirements: Applicable provisions of all statutes, laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, codes, or orders of any governmental authority or Jurisdiction of the United States of America, any state, and any political subdivision or quasi-governmental authority or Jurisdiction of any of the same, including, but not limited to, departments, commissions, boards, bureaus, agencies, counties, municipalities, provinces, and other instrumentalities.

[4] Definitions taken from IBC 2003 or ANSI/TPI 1-2002 Chapter 2, adopted by reference in IBC 2003. (See IBC 102.4, 2303.4, 2306.1, Chapter 35)

r. Local Building Official: The officer or other designated authority charged with the administration and enforcement of the applicable building code, or a duly authorized representative, who in accordance with the Legal Requirements may impose requirements on Truss Manufacturers and Truss Designers relating to the Trusses and the Truss Submittals.
s. Permanent Bracing: Bracing installed to provide support at right angles to the plane of the truss to hold it in its assumed design position. Permanent bracing stays in place for the life of the structure. The Building Designer may design the permanent bracing to resist lateral forces imposed on the completed building by wind load or seismic load.
t. Piggy Back Truss: Truss made in two pieces usually consisting of a hip type truss with a triangular cap fastened to it. Designed when shipping or manufacturing limitations are affected by overall truss height.
u. Owner: The individual or organization who owns the Building, and: (a) either designs and prepares, or retains the Building Designer to design and prepare, the Building's Structural System and the Structural Design Documents; and (b) either constructs, or retains the Contractor to construct, the Building's Structural System.
v. Registered Design Professional (See also Building Designer): An individual who is registered or licensed to practice their respective design profession as defined by the statutory requirements of the professional registration laws of the state or Jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed.
w. Span: Horizontal distance between outside edges of exterior bearings.
x. Structural Building Components: Specialized structural building products designed, engineered and manufactured under controlled conditions for a specific application. They are incorporated into the overall building structural system by the Building Designer. Examples are wood or steel roof trusses, floor trusses, floor panels, wall panels, I-joists, or engineered beams and headers.
y. Structural Design Documents: Written, graphic and pictorial architectural or structural documents, specifications and addenda prepared or assembled for the overall construction of the Building Structural System, which are part of the Construction Documents.
z. Structural Element: A single joist, rafter, beam, or other structural member (not including the Trusses) designed by others and supplied for the Building Structural System by either the Truss Manufacturer or others.
aa. Structural Element Submittals: Documentation relating to the Structural Elements that are supplied by the Truss Manufacturer, if required by the Contract, to the Local Building Official, Owner, Building Designer and/or Contractor for their review and/or approval.
bb. Temporary Bracing: Bracing installed for the purpose of holding trusses true to line, dimension and plumb. In addition, temporary bracing holds trusses in a stable condition until permanent truss bracing and other permanent components that contribute to the overall rigidity of the roof or floor are in place. Temporary bracing may consist of ground bracing, continuous lateral sheets or ties, diagonals, cross bracing or similar items. See WTCA's BCSI 1-03 for more information.
cc. Top Chord: Inclined or horizontal member that establishes the top member of a truss.
dd. Truss: An individual metal plate connected wood component supplied for the Building Structural System.
ee. Truss Designer: The individual or organization responsible for the design of Trusses.
ff. Truss Design Drawing: The written, graphic and pictorial depiction of an individual Truss.
gg. Truss Manufacturer: An individual or organization engaged in the manufacturing of Trusses.
hh. Truss Placement Diagram: The illustration supplied by the Truss Manufacturer identifying the location assumed for each Truss, which references each individually designated Truss Design Drawing.
ii. Truss Submittals: The Truss Design Drawings, and the Truss Placement Diagram if required by the Contract, submitted by the Truss Manufacturer to the Local Building Official, Owner, Building Designer and/or Contractor for their review and/or approval.
jj. Web Member: Members that join the top and bottom chords to form the triangular patterns typical of trusses. These members typically carry axial forces.

Appendix B

The language in RED signifies sections of the code or law that have been used in the foregoing document to make it easier for the reader to see the language in context.

ANSI/TPI 1-1995
National Design Standard for Metal Plate Connected Wood Truss Construction
Appendix A – Standard Responsibilities in the Design Process Involving Metal Plate Connected Wood Trusses

A.1.0 SCOPE AND DEFINITIONS

A.1.2.2 **"Building Designer"** is the individual or organization having responsibility for the overall building or structure design in accordance with the state's statutes and regulations governing the professional registration and certification of architects or engineers. This responsibility includes but is not limited to foundation design, structural member sizing, load transfer, bearing conditions, and the structure's compliance with the applicable building codes. Also referred to as a registered architect or engineer, building designer, and registered building designer, but hereinafter will be referred to as Building Designer.

A.1.2.8 **"Truss Designer"** is the design professional, individual or organization, having responsibility for the design of metal plate connected wood trusses. This responsibility shall be in accordance with the state's statues and regulations governing the professional registration and certification of architects or engineers. Also referred to as truss engineer, design engineer, registered engineer, and engineer, but hereinafter will be referred to as Truss Designer.

A.3.0 BUILDING DESIGNER RESPONSIBILITIES

A.3.1 Design a structure suitable to ensure that the intended function of each Truss is not affected by adverse influences including, but not limited to, moisture, temperature, corrosive chemicals and gases;

A.3.2 Prepare the Construction Design Documents, showing all trussed areas, which must provide as a minimum the following:

- A.3.2.1 All truss orientations and locations;
- A.3.2.2 Information to fully determine all truss profiles;
- A.3.2.3 Adequate support of the Truss and all truss bearing conditions;
- A.3.2.4 Permanent bracing design for the structure including the Trusses, except as provided in A.3.4 *(see below)* and A.6.2.12 *(required permanent Truss member bracing location)*.
- A.3.2.5 The location, direction and magnitude of all dead and live loads applicable to each Truss including, but not limited to, loads attributable to: roof, floor, partition, mechanical, fire sprinkler, attic, storage, wind, snow drift and seismic;
- A.3.2.6 All Truss anchorage designs required to resist uplift, gravity, and lateral loads;
- A.3.2.7 Allowable vertical and horizontal deflection criteria;
- A.3.2.8 Proper transfer of design loads affecting the Truss; and
- A.3.2.9 Adequate connections between Truss and non-Truss components, except as noted in Section A.6.2.9 *(Truss to Truss girder; Truss ply to ply; and Field Splices)*.

A.3.3 Review and approve the Truss Placement Plan and each Truss Design Drawing for conformance with the requirements and intent of the Construction Design Documents, the effect of each Truss Design Drawing and Truss Placement Plan on other parts of the structure, and the effect of the structure on each Truss.

A.3.4 Specify permanent lateral bracing where indicated by the Truss Designer on the Truss Design Drawings, to prevent buckling of the individual truss members due to design loads. The Building Designer shall specify how the permanent lateral bracing is to be anchored or restrained to prevent lateral movement if all truss members, so braced, buckle together. This shall be accomplished by: (a) anchorage to solid end

walls; (b) permanent diagonal bracing in the plane of the web members; or (c) other means when demonstrated by the Building Designer to provide equivalent bracing.

2002 Kentucky Building Code
Chapter 1 ADMINISTRATION
SECTION 101: GENERAL

101.4 Referenced codes. The other codes listed in Sections 101.4.1 through 101.4.7 and referenced elsewhere in this code shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference.

2002 Kentucky Building Code
Chapter 1 ADMINISTRATION
SECTION 106: CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

106.1 Submittal documents. One set of Construction documents, special inspection and structural observation programs, and other data shall be submitted with each application for a permit. Additional plans and documents may be required by the Kentucky Division of Plumbing or by local ordinance for buildings under local plan review jurisdiction. Construction documents involving the practice of professional architecture or engineering, as defined by KRS Chapters 322 and 323, shall be prepared by Kentucky-licensed design professional and all construction documents required for a building permit application for the work shall bear the required signature and seals of the professionals as required by Section 122 of this Chapter. Where special conditions exist, the building official is authorized to require additional construction documents to be prepared by a registered design professional.

Exceptions:

1. Seals of design professionals shall not be required for tenant space alterations unless the space itself is of a size that would require the design professional seals if it were a new building.
2. The building official is authorized to waive the submission of construction documents and other data not required to be prepared by a registered design professional if it is found that the nature of the work applied for is such that reviewing of construction documents is not necessary to obtain compliance with this code.

IBC 106.1.1 Information on construction documents. Construction documents shall be dimensioned and drawn upon suitable material. Electronic media documents are permitted to be submitted when approved by the building official. Construction documents shall be of sufficient clarity to indicate the location, nature and extent of the work proposed and show in detail that it will conform to the provisions of this code and relevant laws, ordinances, rules and regulations, as determined by the building official.

2002 Kentucky Building Code
Chapter 23 WOOD
SECTION 2302: MINIMUM STANDARDS AND QUALITY

2303.4 Trusses. Metal-plate-connected wood trusses shall be manufactured as required by TPI 1. Each manufacturer of trusses using metal plate connectors shall retain an approved agency to make unscheduled inspections of truss manufacturing and delivery operations. The inspection shall cover all phases of truss operations, including lumber storage, handling, cutting fixtures, passes or rollers, manufacturing, bundling and banding.

2303.4.1 Truss design drawings. Truss construction documents shall be prepared by a registered design professional and shall be provided to the building official and approved prior to installation. These

construction documents shall include, at a minimum, the information specified below. Truss shop drawings shall be provided with the shipment of trusses delivered to the job site.

1. Slope or depth, span, and spacing;
2. Location of all joints;
3. Required bearing widths;
4. Design loads as applicable;
5. Top chord live load (including snow loads);
6. Top chord dead load;
7. Bottom chord live load;
8. Bottom chord dead load;
9. Concentrated loads and their points of application;
10. Controlling wind and earthquake loads;
11. Adjustments to lumber and joint connector design values for conditions of use;
12. Each reaction force and direction;
13. Metal connector plate type, size, thickness or gauge, and the dimensioned location of each metal connector plate except where symmetrically located relative to the joint interface;
14. Lumber size, species and grade for each member;
15. Connection requirements for:
    15.1 Truss-to-truss girder;
    15.2 Truss ply-to-ply; and
    15.3 Field splices.
16. Calculated deflection ratio and/or maximum description for live and total load;
17. Maximum axial compression forces in the truss members to enable the building designer to design the size, connections and anchorage of the permanent continuous lateral bracing. Forces shall be shown on the truss drawing or on supplemental documents; and
18. Required permanent truss member bracing location.

2002 Kentucky Building Code
Chapter 35 REFERENCED STANDARDS

TPI

Truss Plate Institute
583 D'Onofrio Drive. Suite 200
Madison, WI 53719

Standard reference number	Title	Referenced in code section number
TPI 1-95	National Design Standard, for Metal Plate Connected Wood Construction ……	303.4, 2306.1

Kentucky Revised Statutes

KRS 322.180 Grounds for denial of licensure and for disciplinary action.
The board may refuse to issue, refuse to renew, suspend, or revoke a license, may reprimand, place on probation, or admonish a licensee, may impose a fine on a licensee not to exceed one thousand dollars ($1,000), or may impose any combination of these penalties when it finds that an applicant or licensee:
(1) Engaged in any practice of fraud or deceit in obtaining a license;
(2) Engaged in gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the practice of engineering or land surveying;
(3) Violated any provision of this chapter, the administrative regulations promulgated by the board, or the code of professional practice and conduct adopted by the board and incorporated in administrative regulations;
(4) Employed, procured, or induced a person not licensed to practice engineering or land surveying in this state;
(5) Aided or abetted a person not licensed to practice engineering or land surveying in this state;
(6) Been granted a license upon a mistake of material fact;
(7) Been convicted by a court of law of a felony involving moral turpitude;
(8) Become a chronic or persistent alcoholic or has become drug-addicted so that continued practice is dangerous to clients or to the public safety;
(9) Developed a physical or mental disability or other condition so that continued practice is dangerous to clients or to the public safety;
(10) Violated any order of suspension or the terms or conditions of any order of probation issued by the board;
(11) Had a license or registration certificate to practice as an engineer or land surveyor denied, limited, suspended, probated, or revoked in another jurisdiction on grounds sufficient to cause licensure to be denied, limited, suspended, probated, or revoked in this state;
(12) Engaged in conduct likely to deceive or defraud the public;
(13) Presented or attempted to use as his or her own the license, seal, or stamp of another;
(14) Falsely impersonated any other licensee;
(15) Attempted to use an expired, suspended, or revoked license;
(16) Provided certification for any plan, specification, plat, report, or physical description not prepared by him or her or under his or her direct supervision; or
(17) Applied the seal, stamp, signature, or title block of another professional engineer or professional land surveyor to a plan, specification, plat, report, or physical description that was not prepared by the other professional engineer or land surveyor.

KRS 322.340 Licensee to obtain seal or stamp -- Use of seal or stamp.
(1) Each professional engineer or professional land surveyor shall, upon licensure, obtain a seal or stamp of the design authorized by the board, bearing his or her name, license number, and the words "Licensed Professional Engineer" or "Licensed Professional Land Surveyor."
(2) Use of the stamp, seal, or signature in an electronic transaction shall be conducted in accordance with administrative regulations promulgated by the board under KRS 322.290(13).
(3) The seal or stamp, signature, and the date shall be used to provide certification for all reports, specifications, drawings, and plans, if presented to a client or any public or governmental agency. Reproduction of original signatures shall be adequate to meet the requirements of this subsection.
(4) The seal or stamp and signature shall be used by licensees only if the work being stamped was under the licensee's complete direction and control.
(5) Every survey plat and physical description prepared by a professional land surveyor and submitted to a client or any public or governmental agency shall display the certification by the professional land surveyor under whose supervision the plat or description was prepared.
(6) It shall be unlawful for a licensee to affix, or permit to be affixed, his or her seal, stamp, or signature to any document described in subsection (3) or (5) of this section:
(a) After the expiration of a license; or
(b) For the purpose of aiding or abetting any other person to evade or attempt to evade any provisions of this chapter.

(7) A professional engineer shall check and have complete dominion and control of the design and engineering work of any engineer not licensed to practice in this state. Complete dominion and control shall include possession of the sealed and signed reproducible construction documents with all supporting design calculations, indicating all changes in the design.

Prepared with assistance from SBCA-Kentucky, a local chapter of SBCA.
View all SBCA *Tech Notes* at www.sbcindustry.com/technotes.php