Tech Notes SBCA

Position Statement on Sealed Truss Placement Diagrams for Commercial Projects in the State of Louisiana

June 5, 2007

Issue:

Certain jurisdictions in Louisiana are requesting engineering seals on Truss Placement Diagrams (TPD) (also known as a truss placement plan, truss layout, framing plan or framing layout). Reviewing TPD is normally the responsibility of the Building Designer or Registered Design Professional (RDP). The following information should be used to provide insight into why component manufacturers should seriously consider all the ramifications of providing seals on TPD for commercial projects.

This information is based on the Louisiana Revised Statutes[1], the Louisiana Administrative Code[2], and the 2006 International Building Code (IBC) which was adopted as part of the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code[3].

Key Definitions:

TRUSS DESIGN DRAWING (TDD):
The graphic depiction of an individual truss, which describes the design and physical characteristics of the truss.

TRUSS PLACEMENT DIAGRAM (TPD):
The illustration supplied by the Truss Manufacturer identifying the location assumed for each Truss, which references each individually designated 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.

CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS:
Written, graphic and pictorial documents prepared or assembled for describing the design, location and physical characteristics of the elements of a project necessary for obtaining a building permit. Construction drawings shall be drawn to an appropriate scale.

REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL (RDP):
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 Louisiana.

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[1] www.lapels.com/pdf/Law03152006.pdf
[2] www.lapels.com/pdf/rules.pdf
[3] Effective January 1, 2007, pursuant to LA. R.S. 40:1730.21, et seq. The minimum code is the 2006 edition of the International Building Code, excluding Chapter 27-Electrical and Chapter 29-Plumbing Systems *(see Appendix A)*.

SBCA Mid South Component Manufacturers Association

Prepared with assistance from Mid South Component Manufacturers Association, a local chapter of SBCA.
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Unique Definitions for Structures that require a RDP:

BUILDING DESIGNER:
The Owner of the Building contracts with a Registered Design Professional for the design of the Building Structural System and who is responsible for the Construction Documents.[4]

TRUSS DESIGN ENGINEER:
The individual or organization responsible for the design of Trusses. Each individual truss design drawing shall bear the seal and signature of the Truss Design Engineer.[5]

Unique Definitions for Structures that do not require a RDP:

BUILDING DESIGNER:
The Owner of the Building or the individual or organization that contracts with the Owner for the design of the Building Structural System and/or who produces the Construction Documents.[6]

TRUSS DESIGNER:
The individual or organization responsible for the design of trusses.[7]

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 review and approve the TPD to ensure that the intended load paths have not been altered.

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.

Truss Designer Engineers 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 IBC Section 106.1 *(see Appendix B)*:

> 2006 IBC 106.1 Submittal documents. …The construction documents shall be prepared by a registered design professional where required by the statutes of the jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed. ...

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

> 2006 IBC 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...

[4] Adapted from IBC section 106.1.
[5] Adapted from IBC section 2303.4.
[6] Adapted from IBC 106.1
[7] Adapted from IBC 2303.4

In preparing the construction documents, the RDP needs to provide the Truss Designer with the information necessary to properly design the trusses for the building. According to ANSI/TPI 1-2002 Chapter 2 *(see Appendix C)*, which is adopted by reference in *IBC 2006* [*see Appendix B* (102.4), (2303.4), and (Chapter 35 "Reference Standards")], the following information should be provided:

> ANSI/TPI 1-2002 Chapter 2
> 2.5.2 The Building Designer…shall provide the following:
> - 2.5.2.1 All Structural Element and Truss orientations and locations;
> - 2.5.2.2 Information to fully determine all Truss profiles;
> - 2.5.2.3 All Structural Element and Truss bearing conditions;
> - 2.5.2.4 The location, direction, and magnitude of all dead and live loads applicable to each Structural Element and Truss...
> - 2.5.2.5 All Structural Element and Truss anchorage designs required to resist uplift, gravity, and lateral loads;
> - 2.5.2.6 Allowable vertical and horizontal deflection criteria and any specific criteria...
> - 2.5.2.7 Proper transfer of design loads affecting the Structural Elements and Trusses;
> - 2.5.2.8 Adequate connections between Trusses and between Structural Elements...but not Truss to Truss girder connections...
> - 2.5.2.9 Permanent bracing design for the Building…and permanent bracing for all Structural Elements and Trusses...
>
> 2.5.3 The Building Designer shall be responsible for the adequacy of the design of the Building Structural System [and]…shall evaluate the effect of the Trusses and the Structural Elements supplied, on the Building Structural System.

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 individual 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 Design Engineers and many times are the Truss Manufacturer's salespeople or are individuals who work as truss technicians or truss take-off specialists (Truss Designers). All these people are highly trained and skilled in the work they do but are generally non-engineers. Because these TPD are typically prepared outside the Truss Designer Engineer's scope of work, they may not be reviewed or even seen by the Truss Design Engineer and are therefore not prepared under the Truss Design Engineer's direct supervision.

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

Because TPD are generally neither created by nor created under the immediate personal supervision of a licensed design professional, they cannot be sealed. Requesting a Truss Design Engineer to seal a non-registered person's work is illegal in Louisiana per Title 46 of the Louisiana Administrative Code Chapter 27 Section 2701 *(see Appendix D),* which state in pertinent part:

> Chapter 27. Use of Seals
> §2701. Seal and Signature
> 3. Seal Responsibility
> a. The application of the licensee's seal, signature, and date shall constitute certification that the work thereon was done by the licensee or under his/her responsible charge. ...
> b. Responsible Charge
> ...ii. No licensee shall affix his/her seal or signature to reports, plats, sketches, working drawings, specifications, design calculations, or other engineering and land surveying documents developed by others not under his/her responsible charge and not subject to the authority of that licensee...

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.

Going well beyond the TPD, Louisiana Revised Statutes *(see Appendix E)* recognizes that it would be perfectly appropriate for a Truss Manufacturer employee to design the trusses without the involvement of an engineer, as follows:

> 37:701. Public and private work; application of provisions
> ...C. This Chapter shall not apply to, affect, interfere with, or in any way regulate employees of firms engaged in industrial operations, including but not limited to producing, processing, manufacturing, transmitting, distributing, or transporting, when performing services within the state of Louisiana in the course and scope of the business of said firms or affiliates thereof.

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

Subsequent versions of the International Codes did not clearly define TPD. As such, some wrongly inferred that they were part of the "Truss Design Drawings" which are defined as follows [2303.4.1 *(see Appendix B)*]:

> 2006 IBC 2303.4.1.2 Truss design drawings.
> …Where required by one of the following, each individual truss design drawing shall bear the seal and signature of the truss designer:
> 1. Registered design professional; or
> 2. Building official; or
> 3. Statutes of the jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed. ...

To clear up any confusion on this issue, Section 2303 of the 2006 International Building Code (IBC) was 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.

Conclusion:

The Louisiana professional engineering law and the *2006 IBC* provide the basis upon which to evaluate the need to provide an engineer's seal on a Truss Placement Diagram (TPD). Based on the building code regulations and professional engineering law, TPDs do not require a professional engineer's seal.

Appendix A

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.

Louisiana Administrative Code
Title 55
Louisiana Register Vol. 32, No. 09 September 20, 2006

NOTICE OF INTENT
Department of Public Safety and Corrections
State Uniform Construction Code Council
Uniform Construction Code
(LAC 55:VI.Chapters 1-11)
In accordance with the provisions of Act 12 of the 2005 First Extraordinary Session, R.S. 40:1730:22(C) and (D), R.S. 40:1730.26(1), R.S. 40:1730.34(B) and 40:1730.35(E) relative to the authority of the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council to promulgate and enforce Rules, the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council hereby proposes to enact the following Rules which will establish a new Part of the Louisiana Administrative Code.

Title 55
PUBLIC SAFETY
Part VI. Uniform Construction Code
Chapter 1. Preliminary Provisions
§101. Request for Rule Change
A. Anyone petitioning the Undersecretary, Department of Public Safety, for the adoption of, or change of, any rule shall submit in writing to the Council Administrator at 8181 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, an application containing the following basic information organized and captioned:

1. the name, address, telephone number and email address of the applicant;
2. a brief description of the facts supporting the applicant's request for the adoption of a rule or the change of a rule that has already been adopted;
3. suggested specific language or language setting forth the substance of the rule or rule change which is being requested;
4. an indication as to whether or not a public hearing is requested;
5. a copy of each and every document upon which the applicant bases his request for a rule or a citation of the information and where it can be easily obtained for review by this office.

B. Whenever the council administrator determines that a public hearing or public hearings should be held prior to the adoption of any rule or rule change, a notice of the meeting date and place and the agenda will be recorded in the *Louisiana Register*; however, whenever that is not possible, a copy of the meeting notice including the date, time, and place, and agenda of the meeting will be mailed to the official journals of the cities of Lafayette, Alexandria, Shreveport, Monroe, Lake Charles, Baton Rouge and New Orleans.
C. Within 90 days of the request for adoption of or change of a rule, the council administrator will notify the applicant and each individual who request a copy of either his denial of the application or notice of intent to adopt the requested rule.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D).
HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 32:

Chapter 3. Adoption of the Louisiana State Uniform
Construction Code
§301. Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code
A. In accordance with the requirements set forth in R.S. 40:1730.28, effective, January 1, 2007, the following is hereby adopted as the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code.
1. International Building Code, 2006 Edition, not including Chapter 1-Administration, Chapter 11-Accessibility, Chapter 27-Electrical and Chapter 29-Plumbing Systems. The applicable standards referenced in that code are included for regulation of construction within this state.
2. International Existing Building Code, 2006 Edition, not including Chapter 1-Administration, and the standards referenced in that code for regulation of construction within this state.
3. International Residential Code, 2006 Edition, not including Parts I-Administrative, V-Mechanical, VII-Plumbing and VIII-Electrical. The applicable standards referenced in that code are included for regulation of construction within this

state. Appendix J, Existing Buildings and Structures, is also included for mandatory regulation. For the purposes of this Part, IRC R301.2.1.1
(Design Criteria) shall be amended as follows and shall only apply to the International Residential Code, 2006 edition:

a. Amendment of R301.2.1.1 (Design Criteria);

b. item 6, the American Concrete Institute, *Guide to Concrete Masonry Residential Construction in High Winds Areas*, shall be added;

c. item 7, Institute for Business and Home Safety, *Optional Code-plus Fortified for Safer Living*, shall be added;

d. item 8, Federal Alliance for Safe Homes, *Optional Code-plus Blueprint for Safety*, shall be added.

4. International Mechanical Code, 2006 Edition, and the standards referenced in that code for regulation of construction within this state.

5. The Louisiana State Plumbing Code [Part XIV (Plumbing) of the State Sanitary Code] as amended by the state health officer acting through the Office of Public Health of the Department of Health and Hospitals. Nothing in this Part shall be construed so as to prevent the state health officer from enforcing Part XIV (Plumbing) of the State Sanitary Code, the enforcement of which is his statutory and regulatory responsibility.

6. International Fuel Gas Code, 2006 Edition, and the standards referenced in that code for regulation of construction within this state.

7. National Electrical Code, 2005 Edition.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1730.22(C) and (D) and 40:1730.26(1).
HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, State Uniform Construction Code Council, LR 32:

Appendix B

International Building Code
Chapter 1 ADMINISTRATION
SECTION 102: APPLICABILITY

102.4 Referenced codes and standards. The codes and standards referenced in this code shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference. Where differences occur between provisions of this code and referenced codes and standards, the provisions of this code shall apply.

SECTION 106: CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

106.1 Submittal documents. Construction documents, statements of special inspection, and other data shall be submitted in one or more sets with each application for a permit. The construction documents shall be prepared by a registered design professional where required by the statutes of the jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed. Where special conditions exist, the building official is authorized to require additional construction documents to be prepared by a registered design professional.

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.

Chapter 23 WOOD
SECTION 2303: MINIMUM STANDARDS AND QUALITY

2303.4 Trusses.

2303.4.1 Design. Wood trusses shall be designed in accordance with the provisions of this code and accepted engineering practice. Members are permitted to be joined by nails, glue, bolts, timber connectors, metal connector plates or other approved framing devices.

2303.4.1.1 Truss designer. The individual or organization responsible for the design of trusses.

2303.4.1.2 Truss design drawings. The written, graphic and pictorial depiction of each individual truss shall be provided to the building official and approved prior to installation. Truss design drawings shall also be provided with the shipment of trusses delivered to the job site. Truss design drawings shall include, at a minimum, the information specified below:

1. Slope or depth, span and spacing;
2. Location of 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 as applicable;
10. Controlling wind and earthquake loads as applicable;
12. Each reaction force and direction;
13. Metal connector plate type, size, thickness or gage, 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;
    15.2. Truss ply to ply; and
    15.3. Field splices.
16. Calculated deflection ratio and maximum vertical and horizontal deflection for live and total load as applicable;
17. Maximum axial tensile and compression forces in the truss members; and
18. Required permanent individual truss member bracing and method per Section 2303.4.1.5, unless a specific truss member permanent bracing plan for the roof or floor structural system is provided by a registered design professional.

Where required by one of the following, each individual truss design drawing shall bear the seal and signature of the truss designer:
1. Registered design professional; or
2. Building official; or
3. Statutes of the jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed.

Exceptions:
1. When a cover sheet/truss index sheet combined into a single cover sheet is attached to the set of truss design drawings for the project, the single sheet/truss index sheet is the only document that needs to be signed and sealed within the truss submittal package.
2. When a cover sheet and a truss index sheet are separately provided and attached to the set of truss design drawings for the project, both the cover sheet and the truss index sheet are the only documents that need to be signed and sealed within the truss submittal package.

2303.4.1.3 Truss placement diagram. The truss manufacturer shall provide a truss placement diagram 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 sealed.

2303.4.1.4 Truss submittal package. The truss submittal package shall consist of each individual truss design drawing, the truss placement diagram for the project, the truss member permanent bracing specification and, as applicable, the cover sheet/truss index sheet.

2303.4.1.5 Truss member permanent bracing. Where permanent bracing of truss members is required on the truss design drawings, it shall be accomplished by one of the following methods:
1. The trusses shall be designed so that the buckling of any individual truss member can be resisted internally by the structure (e.g. buckling member T-bracing, L-bracing, etc.) of the individual truss.
The truss individual member buckling reinforcement shall be installed as shown on the truss design drawing or on supplemental truss member buckling reinforcement diagrams provided by the truss designer.
2. Permanent bracing shall be installed using standard industry bracing details that conform with generally accepted engineering practice. Individual truss member continuous lateral bracing location(s) shall be shown on the truss design drawing.

2303.4.1.6 Anchorage. All transfer of loads and anchorage of each truss to the supporting structure is the responsibility of the registered design professional.

2303.4.1.7 Alterations to trusses. Truss members and components shall not be cut, notched, drilled, spliced or otherwise altered in any way without written concurrence and approval of a registered design professional.

Alterations resulting in the addition of loads to any member (e.g., HVAC equipment, water heater) shall not be permitted without verification that the truss is capable of supporting such additional loading.

2303.4.2 Metal-plate-connected trusses. In addition to Sections 2303.4.1 through 2303.4.1.7, the design, manufacture and quality assurance of metal-plate-connected wood trusses shall be in accordance with TPI 1. Manufactured trusses shall comply with Section 1704.6 as applicable.

International 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—2002	National Design Standards for Metal-plate-connected Wood Truss Construction	2303.4.2, 2306.1

ANSI/TPI 1-2002
National Design Standard for Metal Plate Connected Wood Truss Construction
Chapter 2 – Standard Responsibilities in the Design Process Involving Metal Plate Connected Wood Trusses

2.5 BUILDING STRUCTURAL SYSTEM DESIGN DOCUMENTS

2.5.1 The Building Designer, through the Structural Design Documents shall provide that the Structural Elements and Trusses shall not be subjected to adverse influences including, but not limited to moisture, temperature, and corrosive chemicals and gases. This provision shall specifically include notice for the Truss Designer of environments expected to result in wood moisture content exceeding 19 percent, and temperatures and/or corrosion potential that are unusually high relative to typical wood buildings.

2.5.2 The Building Designer, through the Structural Design Documents shall provide information sufficiently accurate and reliable to be used for facilitating the supply of the Structural Elements and for developing the design of the Trusses for the Building, and shall provide the following:

2.5.2.1 All Structural Element and Truss orientations and locations;

2.5.2.2 Information to fully determine all Truss profiles;

2.5.2.3 All Structural Element and Truss bearing conditions;

2.5.2.4 The location, direction, and magnitude of all dead and live loads applicable to each Structural Element and Truss including, but not limited to, loads attributable to: roof, floor, partition including any directions other than given in ANSI/TPI 1-2002, mechanical, fire sprinkler, attic, storage, rain loads and ponding, design wind speed and exposure category, snow, snow drift, unbalanced snow load, and seismic forces;

2.5.2.5 All Structural Element and Truss anchorage designs required to resist uplift, gravity, and lateral loads;

2.5.2.6 Allowable vertical and horizontal deflection criteria and any specific criteria per ANSI/TPI 1-2002;

2.5.2.7 Proper transfer of design loads affecting the Structural Elements and Trusses;

2.5.2.8 Adequate connections between Trusses and between Structural Elements, including Truss to Structural Element connections, but not Truss to Truss girder connections except such connections that are excluded from the scope of the Truss Designer's responsibilities.

2.5.2.9 Permanent bracing design for the Building, including bracing to resist wind, seismic, or other lateral forces, and permanent bracing for all Structural Elements and Trusses. The permanent bracing design shall incorporate the continuous lateral chord and web member bracing that is designated on the individual Truss Design Drawings into the overall bracing for the entire Building Structural System.

2.5.3 The Building Designer shall be responsible for the adequacy of the design of the Building Structural System or the adequacy of the Structural Design Documents. The Building Designer shall evaluate the effect of the Trusses and the Structural Elements supplied, on the Building Structural System.

Appendix D

Louisiana Administrative Code
Title 46
PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS
Part LXI. Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

Chapter 27. Use of Seals
§2701. Seal and Signature
3. Seal Responsibility

a. The application of the licensee's seal, signature, and date shall constitute certification that the work thereon was done by the licensee or under his/her responsible charge. The licensee shall be personally and professionally responsible and accountable for the care, custody, control and use of his/her seal, professional signature and identification. A seal which has been lost, misplaced or stolen shall, upon discovery of its loss, be reported immediately to the board by the licensee. The board may invalidate the licensure number of said licensee, if it deems this necessary, and issue another licensure number to the licensee.

b. Responsible Charge

i. Plans, specifications, drawings, reports or other documents will be deemed to have been prepared under the responsible charge of a licensee only when:

(a). the client or any public or governmental agency requesting preparation of such plans, specifications, drawings, reports or other documents makes the request directly to the licensee or the licensee's employee as long as the employee works in the licensee's place(s) of business;

(b). the licensee supervises the initial preparation of the plans, specifications, drawings, reports or other documents and has continued input into their preparation prior to their completion;

(c). the licensee reviews the final plans, specifications, drawings, reports or other documents; and

(d). the licensee has the authority to, and does make any necessary and appropriate changes to the final plans, specifications, drawings, reports or other documents;

(i). if the plans, specifications, drawings, reports, or other such documents are prepared outside the licensee's office, the licensee shall maintain all evidence of the licensee's responsible charge including correspondence, time records, check prints, telephone logs, site visit logs, research done for project, calculations, changes, and all written agreements with any persons preparing the documents outside of the licensee's office accepting professional responsibility for such work;

(ii). a licensee failing to maintain written documentation of the items set forth above, when such are applicable, shall be considered to be in violation of R.S. 37:698(A)(6), and the licensee shall be subject to the disciplinary action procedure as set forth in the licensure law.

ii. No licensee shall affix his/her seal or signature to reports, plats, sketches, working drawings, specifications, design calculations, or other engineering and land surveying documents developed by others not under his/her responsible charge and not subject to the authority of that licensee, except:

(a). in the case of an individual licensee checking the work of and taking the professional responsibility for an out-of-state individual licensee, the Louisiana licensee shall completely check and have responsible charge of the design. Such responsible charge shall include possession of the sealed and signed reproducible construction drawings, with complete signed and sealed design calculations indicating all changes in design;

(b). certification of standard design plans which are initially prepared and sealed by a professional engineer properly licensed in the jurisdiction of origin of such plans. Standard design plans may then be reviewed by a Louisiana resident professional engineer for code conformance, design adequacy, and site adaption for the specific application within Louisiana. The professional engineer licensed in Louisiana assumes responsibility for such standard designs. Standard plans, which bear the seal of a professional engineer licensed in another state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, shall be sealed by the Louisiana resident professional engineer who is assuming responsibility. In addition to the seal, a statement shall be included as follows:

"These plans have been properly examined by the undersigned. I have determined that they comply with existing local Louisiana codes, and have been properly site adapted to use in this area."

iii. No licensee shall affix his/her seal or signature to documents having titles or identities excluding the licensee's name unless:

(a). such documents were indeed developed by the licensee under the licensee's responsible charge;

(b). the licensee shall exercise full authority to determine his/her development; and

(c). except as set forth in §2701.A.3.b.i.(a).

Appendix E

Louisiana Revised Statutes
TITLE 37. PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS
CHAPTER 8. PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND PROFESSIONAL SURVEYING

37:682. Definitions
The following words and phrases when used in this Chapter shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:
(1) "Applicant" shall mean any person seeking to practice engineering or land surveying in the state of Louisiana, that has applied to the board for authority to practice the respective profession and render such engineering or land surveying services in the state of Louisiana, or an individual who has applied to the board for certification as an engineer intern or land surveyor intern.
(2) "Board" shall mean the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board, provided for by this Chapter.
(3) "Certification", "certified", or "certificate holder" shall mean the recognition granted by the board and its issuance of a certificate to any individual seeking such recognition as an engineer intern or land surveyor intern, who has been successfully examined and is otherwise in good standing with the board.
(4) "Engineer" or "professional engineer" shall mean an individual who, by reason of his special knowledge and ability to apply the mathematical, physical, and engineering sciences and the principles and methods of engineering analysis and design, acquired by an engineering education and engineering experience, is qualified to practice engineering, as evidenced by his licensure as such by the board.
(5) "Engineer intern" shall mean an individual who has complied with the requirements for education, experience, and character and has passed an examination in the fundamental engineering subjects, as provided in this Chapter, and has been issued a certificate by the board.
(6) "Firm" shall mean any domestic or foreign firm, partnership, association, cooperative, venture, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, or any other entity.
(7) "Land surveyor" or "professional land surveyor" shall mean an individual who is qualified to practice land surveying, as evidenced by his licensure as such by the board.
(8) "Land surveyor intern" shall mean an individual who has complied with the requirements for education, experience, and character and has passed an examination in the fundamental surveying subjects, as provided in this Chapter, and has been issued a certificate by the board.
(9) "Licensee" shall mean any person practicing or seeking to practice engineering or land surveying in the state of Louisiana that has received a license from the board and is otherwise in good standing with the board. The term is often used synonymously with the term "registrant".
(10) "Licensed" or "licensure" shall mean the recognition granted by the board and its issuance of a license to any person to practice engineering or land surveying in the state of Louisiana. These terms are often used synonymously with the terms "registered" or "registration".
(11) "Person" shall mean any individual or firm.
(12)(a) "Practice of engineering" shall mean responsible professional service which may include consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, designing, or inspection of construction in connection with any public or private utilities, structures, machines, equipment, processes, works, or projects wherein the public welfare or the safeguarding of life, health, and property is concerned or involved, when such professional service requires the application of engineering principles and the interpretation of engineering data.
(b) A person shall be construed to practice or offer to practice engineering: who practices in any discipline of the profession of engineering; or who, by verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or in any other way represents himself to be a professional engineer; or who represents himself as able to perform; or who does perform any engineering service or work or any other professional service designated by the practitioner or recognized by educational authorities as engineering. The practice of engineering shall not include the work ordinarily performed by a person who himself operates or maintains machinery or equipment.
(13)(a) "Practice of land surveying" shall include the measuring of areas, land surfaces, streams, bodies of water, and swamps for correct determination and description, for the establishment, reestablishment, ascertainment, or

description of land boundaries, corners, divisions, distances, and directions, the plotting and monumenting of lands and subdivisions thereof, and mapping and topographical work.
(b) A person shall be construed to practice or offer to practice land surveying who engages in land surveying and who by verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or in any oth er way represents himself to be a land surveyor, or who represents himself as able to perform or who does perform any land surveying service or work, or any other service designated by the practitioner which is recognized as land surveying.
(14) "Responsible charge" shall mean the direct control and personal supervision of engineering or land surveying service or work, as the case may be.
(15) "Responsible professional services" shall mean the technical responsibility, control, and direction of the investigation, design, or construction of engineering service or work requiring initiative, engineering ability, and its use of independent judgment.

37:696. Certificates and licenses; seals and stamps
A. The board shall issue a license or certificate, as appropriate, containing such information and in the format as the board shall specify, in its discretion, to each engineer, land surveyor, engineer intern, land surveyor intern, and firm.
B. The board shall adopt rules and regulations providing for and governing the use of seals and stamps.

37:701. Public and private work; application of provisions
A. Persons performing subprofessional work as defined in the rules or regulations of the board, or acting as construction or process superintendents or foremen, need not be licensed under this Chapter, but their work shall be supervised by a professional engineer when their work involves the practice of engineering, and by a professional land surveyor when the work involves the practice of land surveying.
B. No planning, specifications, drawings, or construction by an individual for his own use of private homes or dwellings, domestic structures or works, or any agricultural works done on farmlands shall come under the jurisdiction of this Chapter.
C. This Chapter shall not apply to, affect, interfere with, or in any way regulate employees of firms engaged in industrial operations, including but not limited to producing, processing, manufacturing, transmitting, distributing, or transporting, when performing services within the state of Louisiana in the course and scope of the business of said firms or affiliates thereof. In the event any of the activities set forth in this Subsection shall fall within the definition of practice of engineering as defined in R.S. 37:682(12), such activities shall be under the responsible charge of a professional engineer. However, this Subsection shall not apply to persons practicing civil engineering or land surveying, who must at all times comply with the provisions of this Chapter.
D. All land surveying shall be performed by a professional land surveyor, who, for purposes of this Subsection, shall be any person who practices land surveying within the meaning and intent of this Chapter, and who, by verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or in any other way represents himself to be a land surveyor.
E. A person shall not be construed as practicing land surveying who establishes lines and elevations for canals or levees for irrigation or erosion control on lands owned, rented, or leased by him if such person performing the work received no remuneration of any kind for his services.
F. Services performed by employees in determining lines within established boundaries and between established corners of property owned by, leased to, or under the control of their employers in the course and scope of such employer's business, and in locating drilling sites, lines of pipe, or improvements on such property, shall not be construed as falling under the definition of "practice of land surveying" within the meaning of this Chapter, and are not covered by this Chapter.
G. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed as permitting any person, other than a professional engineer, to affix his signature as such to engineering plans, specifications, or estimates.
H.(1) Any licensed architect, professional engineer, or professional land surveyor, engaged by the owner of a particular piece or parcel of ground to perform architectural, engineering, or land surveying services, as such services are defined in R.S. 37:141 and 682(12) and (13), shall have a lien and privilege against the particular piece or parcel of ground with respect to which the services were rendered, when work on said piece or parcel of ground, as defined in R.S. 9:4808, has not begun.
(2) A written statement of the claim must be filed for registry with the recorder of mortgages of the parish in which the immovable property is located within ninety days of the date of rendition of the services and shall not be effective as

to third persons until such time as the statement of the claim is so filed, but thereafter shall be a first lien and privilege superior to any lien, privilege, or mortgage subsequently recorded. This lien or privilege shall be ranked as provided by R.S. 9:4821.

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