

# FRAMING THE AMERICAN DREAM

## WALL PANELS

*Framing the American Dream* conducted two controlled experiments to allow for apples-to-apples framing comparisons. In 1995, and again in 2015, two identical houses were framed side-by-side.



The only difference between the two homes was one house was entirely stick-framed, while the other home was framed using structural components, including roof trusses, wall panels and floor trusses.

### What We Learned

According to NAHB, 90 percent of all exterior walls are site built. However, these experiments clearly indicate there's a better way to frame walls in that it takes considerably more labor, and more skill, to stick-frame walls:

#### 1995



TOTAL JOBSITE HOURS TO ERECT

#### STICK BUILT

93 HRS

#### COMPONENT

26.5 HRS

#### SAVINGS

66.5 HRS

#### 2015



TOTAL JOBSITE HOURS TO ERECT

#### STICK BUILT

177 HRS

#### COMPONENT

36.5 HRS

#### SAVINGS

140.5 HRS

*Framing the American Dream* data suggests that installing wall panels completes the task of framing a building's walls in a fifth the time, requires less framer skill and experience, and ultimately results in a product that is more precise.



### Additional Benefits

One factor that contributes to the swift installation of wall panels is that framers don't need to construct rough openings.

As the building codes push for a tighter building envelope, the need to have rough openings built

precisely to specification becomes more and more critical.

Wall panels built in a controlled manufacturing environment with the help of computer-aided machinery and a rigorous quality control program ensure rough openings are built correctly every time.