



Universal Forest Products®

## News release

-----AT THE COMPANY-----

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Wednesday, February 25, 2009**



Open Joist Open-Web Floor Truss

### **Universal Forest Products Open Joist™ all-wood floor truss passes one-hour fire test for modular industry.**

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Feb. 25, 2009 – Universal Forest Products (Nasdaq: UFPI) has announced that a unique Open Joist™ floor/ceiling assembly designed and constructed to match construction details found in manufactured housing (factory-built) structures recently passed a one-hour fire test, per ASTM E 119-08/UL 263, at an accredited, internationally recognized, independent fire testing laboratory. ***Results of this test allow the Open Joist framing product to be specified into factory-built multifamily and commercial building projects.***

Open Joist brings all of its great benefits to modular multifamily and commercial buildings, and provides additional labor savings including:

- The option of using a two-part polyurethane foam adhesive to be applied at the drywall/2x6 ceiling joist interface for ease of initial attachment.
- Long length of drywall sheets placed parallel to long length of joists.
- Drywall screws spaced at 12" on-center for both layers of 5/8" Type C drywall.
- The option of using a one-part construction adhesive to be applied between the first and second layers of ceiling drywall for ease of attachment.
- The use of 9-1/4" depth Open Joist incorporating 3x2 #2 SPF flanges.

*Note: ITW-TACC is the approved supplier of both the one- and two-part construction adhesive and polyurethanes used in testing.*

Open Joist is a cost-effective, versatile alternative to I-joists, dimension lumber and fixed-length, metal-plated trusses. The product offers exceptional strength and stiffness. Open Joist is a high-performance, economical product for wood framed projects. Open Joist features an open-web design for quick and easy installation of mechanical systems. Trimmable trusses offer flexibility at the building site, allowing builders to quickly compensate for dimensional changes. Open Joist is manufactured by Universal Forest Products and is available nationally through major building materials distributors.

Universal Forest Products engineers, manufactures and markets wood and wood-alternative products for DIY retail home centers; structural lumber products for the manufactured housing industry; engineered wood components for the site-built construction market; and specialty wood packaging and components for various industries. The company's consumer products division includes wood and wood-composite decking and railings, decorative balusters and post caps, and other outdoor living products for the spectrum of tastes and budgets. To learn more about Open Joist, call 866-243-7200 or log on to [www.openjoist.com](http://www.openjoist.com). For more information about Universal Forest Products, visit [www.ufpi.com](http://www.ufpi.com) or call 888-Buy-UFPI.

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