

## Eagle Point Software Instructions

### Design Considerations When Using Finnforest USA Software

- 1) Under the drop down window - Edit - Geometry, double-check that inputs are identical to the beam that you are using.
- 2) Under the drop down window - Edit - Code and Area Loads, double-check all load conditions and make sure that they match your design condition. Are you using predefined load conditions or are you going to put in your own PLF loads?

A key consideration in this window is: Are you going to include the self-weight of the beam in the calculation, or not? Typically the self-weight is included in the dead load that is applied to the beam. If you include the self-weight, the dead load increases.

- 3) Under the drop down window - Edit - Additional Loads, double-check all load conditions and make sure that they match your design condition. This is typically where you would add PLF loads for both live and dead load conditions and any concentrated loads you might have.
- 4) Under the drop down window - Design - Timber, double-check all settings. Key settings here are:
  - Mode - set it on design and it will select several beams for you. Set it on check and it will check a size that you want to use specifically.
  - Bottom Flange and Top Flange Bracing - these are critical to set properly to get the proper design. Typical settings are bottom flange bracing at the supports; top flange bracing is continuous. Always double-check these settings.
  - Master Plank 2.0 E is the default setting.
  - Repetitive Member Use is an important setting. If you have a 3-ply or larger beam this should be checked.
  - Double-check all Deflection Limits. Typical floor deflection limits are:  
Floors - Live Load -  $L/360$  & Total Load -  $L/240$ .  
Roofs - Live Load -  $L/240$  & Total Load -  $L/180$ .
- 5) You can check the span, applied load conditions, beam and moment diagrams by checking the appropriate button on the tool bar. You should be sure to do these checks.
- 6) Under the drop down window - Options - Graphics and Reports, you can define the information you want shown in the graphics and printed out in a report. The default word processor is MS Word® as an .rtf file. This is set under the drop down window - File - Settings. The system default will be checked.
- 7) The final step is to go to the drop down window - Solve, and click OK to get a result.
- 8) Finally, always have a test beam whose properties you know to use as a double-check of all your software settings. Use it to run the test periodically or if you run into a situation that does not make sense. Since you know what the test beam settings should be, it will help you identify where your problem is.

