

A Guideline for the Proper Use of E-LAM® Poles in Class Equivalent Applications

E-LAM® poles can be substituted for round wood class equivalent poles when used properly. The primary difference between a laminated wood pole and a round wood pole is the fact that a round wood pole has the same strength rating in all (360°) directions, while a rectangular laminated pole is strongest in the transverse direction. As long as laminated poles are oriented in a straight line, tangent direction, they can be substituted for the same round wood class equivalent size pole, provided they meet the extreme wind requirements of NESC Rule 261.A.

LWS supplies certain special hardware items and adapter plates that can accommodate virtually every hardware attachment application. However, there are some incompatibilities with certain standard round wood pole line hardware items such as pole bands and guying attachments.

It is not recommended that laminated wood poles be used with down guys unless LWS engineers have analyzed the loading criteria and recommended the properly sized pole. LWS makes no claims that the rectangular poles can be used in every application that a symmetrically round pole is used. We recommend LWS engineers review the applications to confirm the fitness of use for any non-tangent application.

The guidelines in this technical bulletin outline the general rules that need to be observed when substituting laminated wood poles in class equivalent applications.

ACCEPTABLE APPLICATIONS:

- Tangent, in-line installations of single pole or h-frame structures
- Installations utilizing specific LWS hardware & adapter plates

APPLICATIONS REQUIRING LWS ENGINEERING REVIEW:

- Non-tangent, installations of single pole or h-frame structures
- Installations requiring down-guys

