Cross-lam construction as a resilient building technique in highly seismic zones

> Univ. Prof. Civ-eng. Ario Ceccotti director CNR-IVALSA Trees and Timber Institute National Research Council Italy



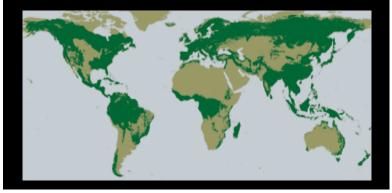
#### Timber is a renewable resource





1

1/3 of the entire earth surface is covered by forests and other wooded lands





Earthquakes!

and the timber construction....

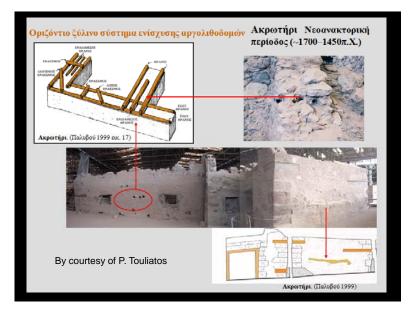


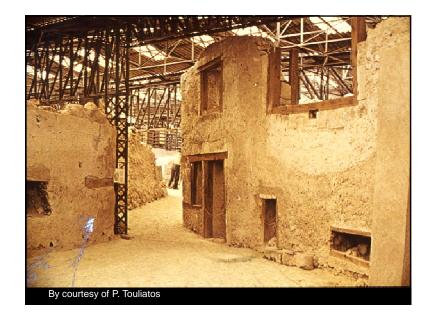
The general awareness of the need to reduce environmental impact supports the use of timber for buildings

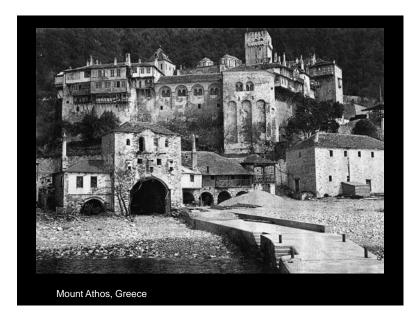
...the experience from the past...



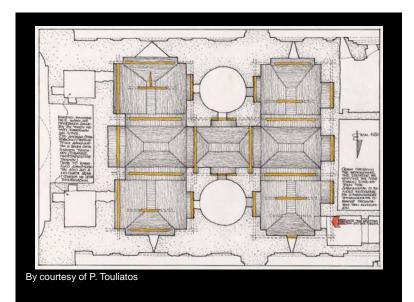


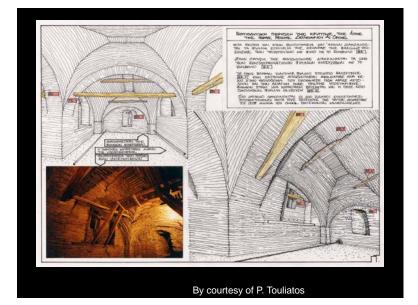


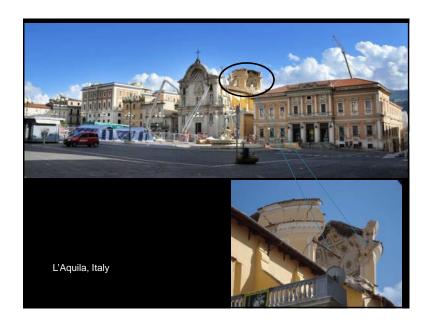






















Turkey By courtesy of R. Langenbach



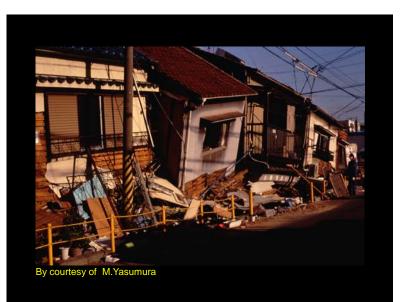




Vancouver, Canada



Anchorage, Alaska, 1964

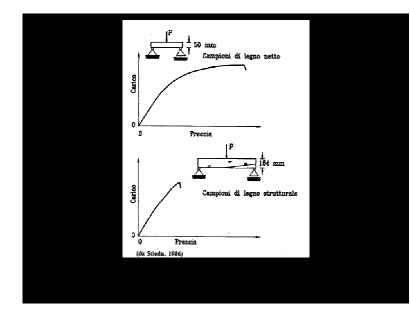




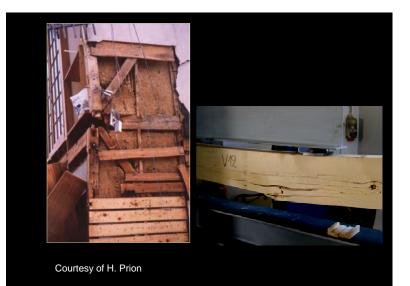
Kobe, Japan, 1995









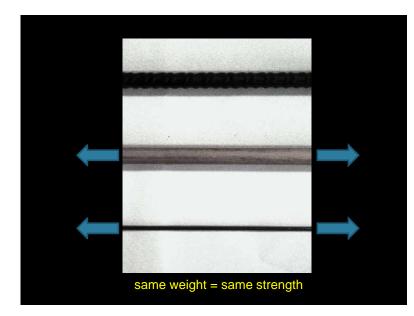




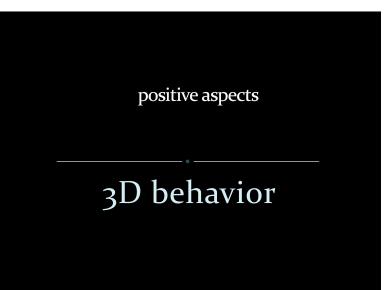


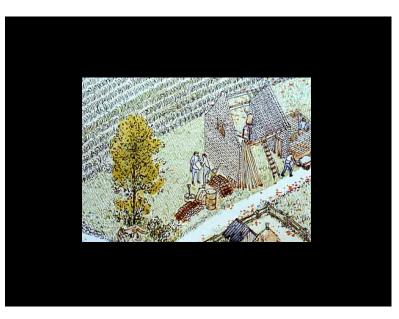
positive aspects

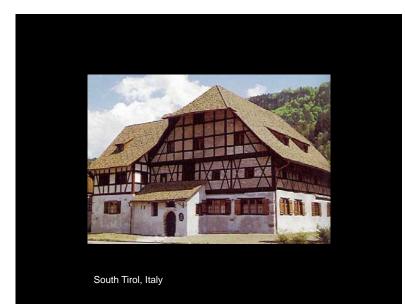
#### strength/density

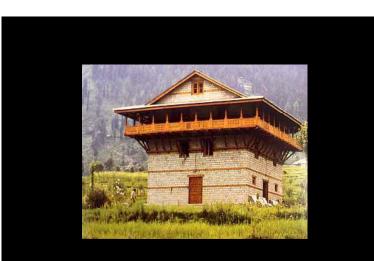




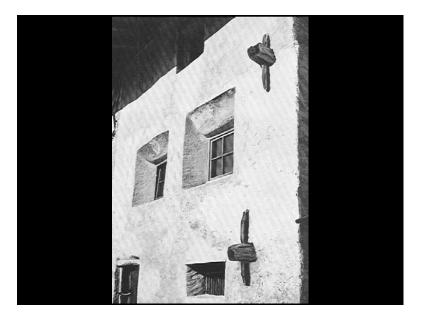








Himachal Pradesh, India

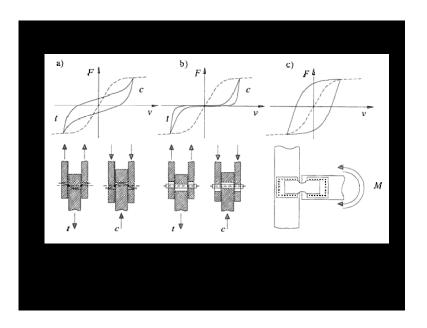


positive aspects

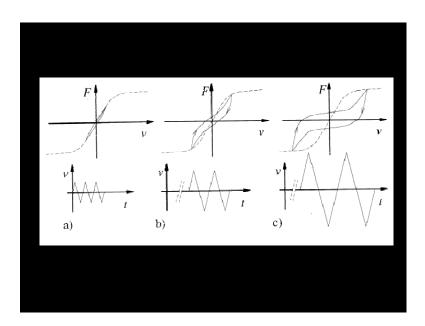
#### energy dissipation

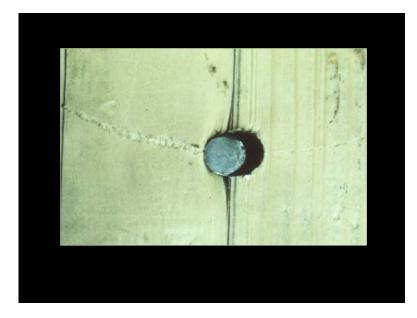


Germany, Europe

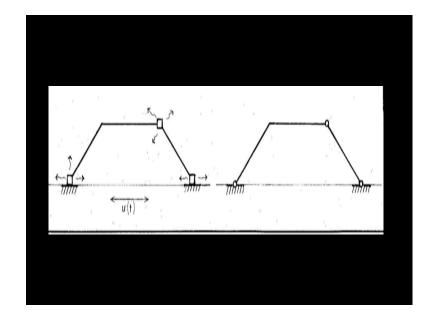




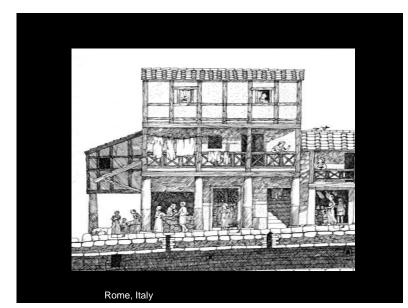






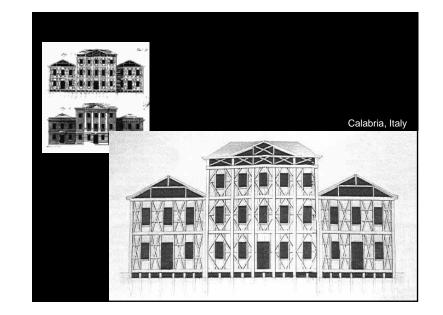






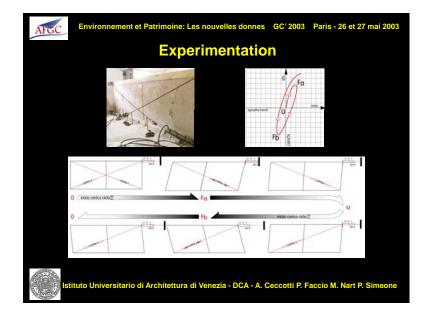


Cadore, Italy

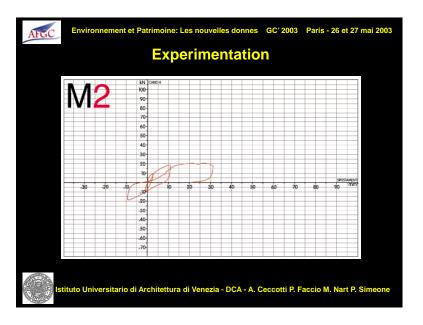


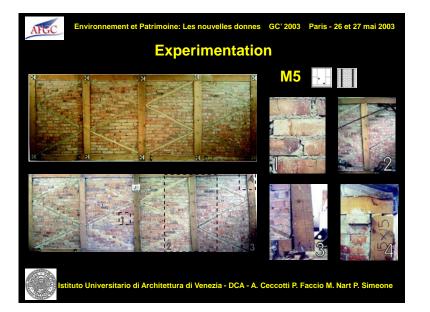


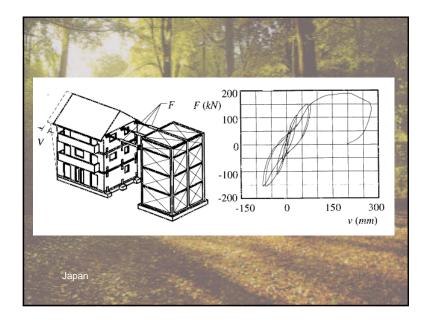


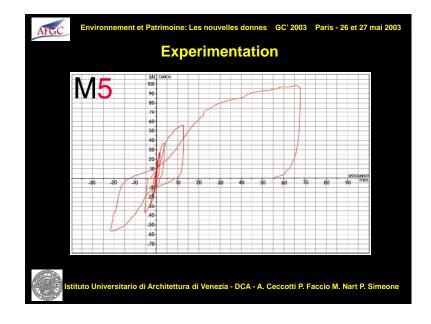










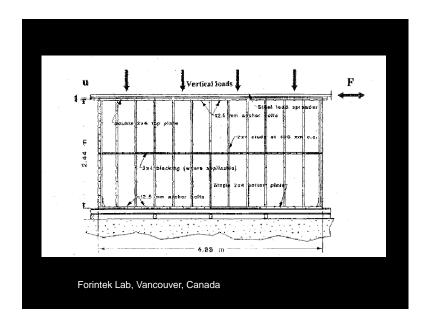


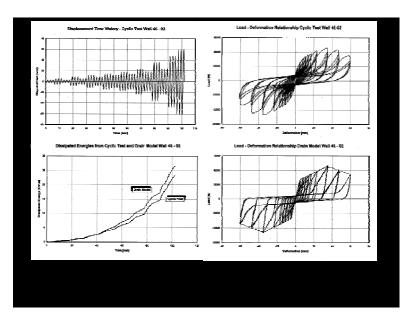
## 2x4 construction



Vancouver, Canada









Tsukuba, NIED Lab.









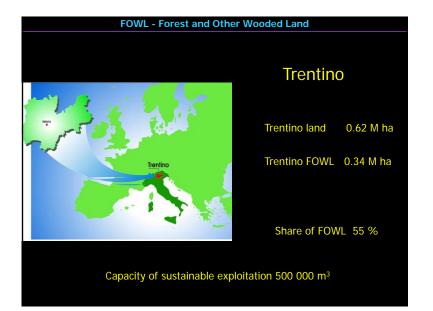






#### New developments in Europe...











#### SYSTEME XLAM

#### XLAM

(cross-laminated solid timber, a.k.a. CLT) has been invented in Germany around 14 years ago and has been spread rapidly across the most part of European Countries like Austria, Italy, Switzerland and Scandinavian Countries...



#### **The SOFIE Project**





progetto**sofie** 

The scope of the project was to define the performance and the potential of a construction system for multi-storey buildings whose loadbearing elements are wooden panels made of cross-laminated boards (Xlam or CLT) through testing analysis and study of every single aspect : (seismic, fire, building physics, durability).

The project was funded by the Autonomous Province of Trento



VESTI

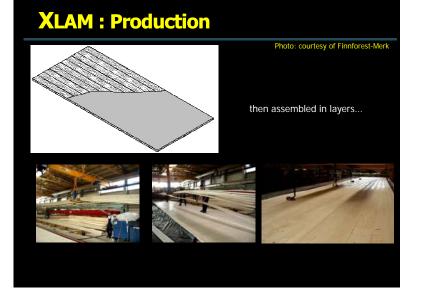
#### **XLAM SYSTEM : Production**



Spruce boards of thicknesses varying from 17 to 27 mm and width from 160 to 200 are machine dried up to 10-12 % of moisture content and planed...

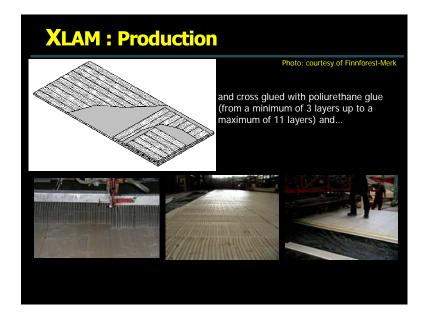


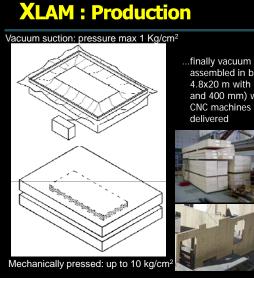
Photo: courtesy of Finnforest-Merk



# XLAM: Production Image: Stress of the stress of t

Photo: courtesy of Finnforest-Merk





...finally vacuum or clamp pressed and assembled in big size panels (up to 4.8x20 m with thicknesses between 50 and 400 mm) which are then cut with CNC machines to the desired sizes and







#### **XLAM SYSTEM : Advantages**

- The cross lamination method gives a material with high stability and good overall mechanical properties, good thermal insulation, and a fairly good behaviour in case of fire
- The XLAM system allows both for single unit housing and multi-storey buildings. The construction process is very quick and possible even for non-highly-skilled manpower

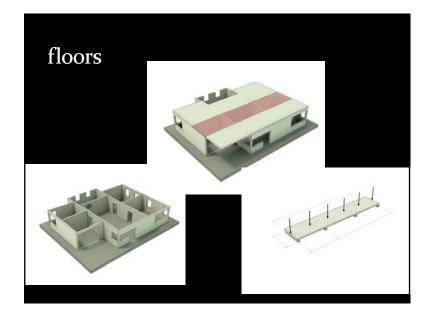
#### XLAM SYSTEM : Advantages

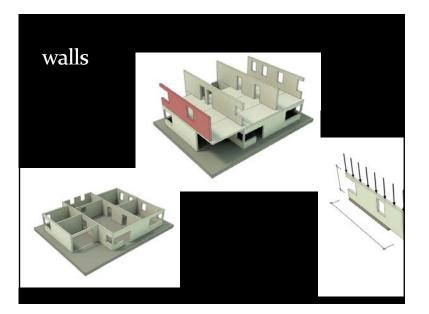
 XLAM panels are extremely strong and stiff whatever is the timber quality, therefore they allow the use of medium-low grades of home-grown sawn wood

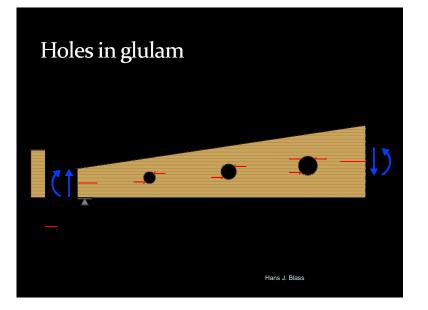
#### **XLAM SYSTEM : Advantages**

• But most of all, the XLAM System is more attractive to a large part of European public, unfavourable to "lightweight" timber buildings systems which are often considered only for cottages or temporary housing

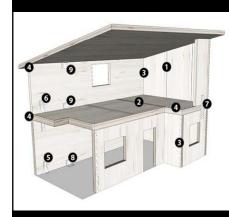








#### connections



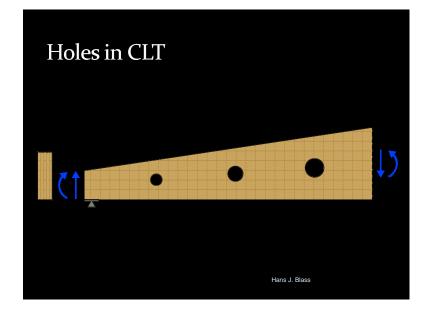
Points where design of connections must be undertaken:

screws 1 wall-wall 2 floor-floor 3 wall-corner wall 4 floor-wall

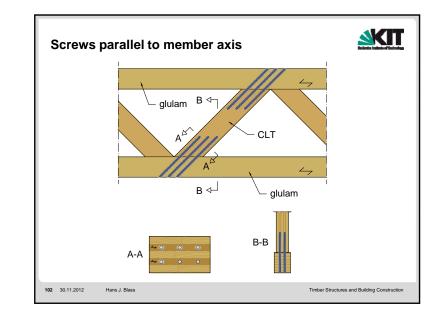
hold-downs 5 wall-foundation 6 wall-floor/floor-wall

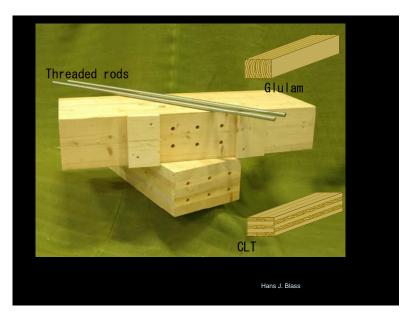
steel straps 7 wall-wall

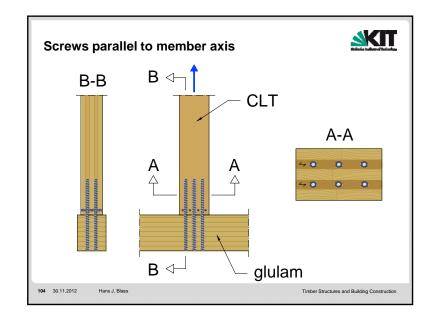
steel angles 8 wall-foundations 9 wall-floor/ wall-wall (in vertical)



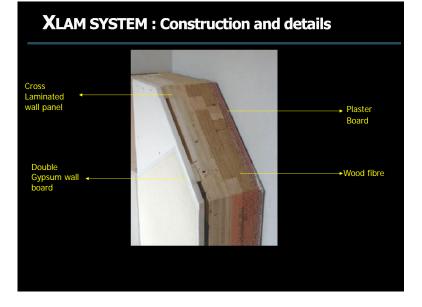












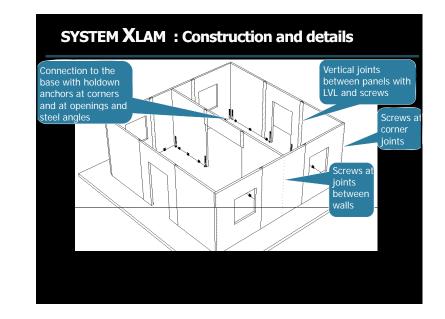


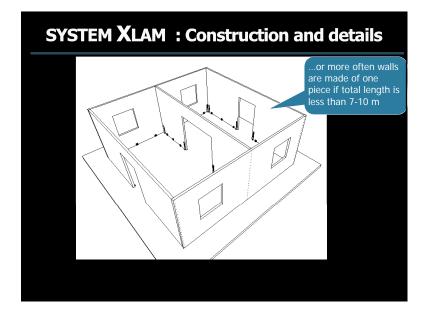


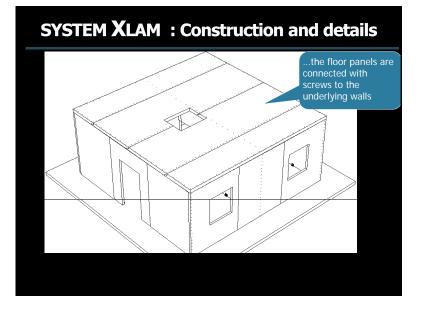


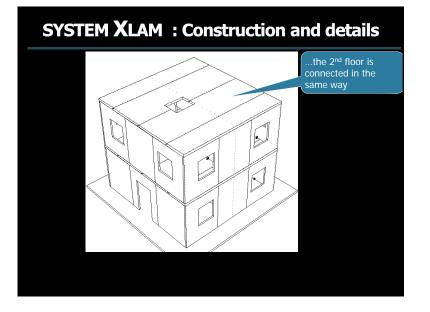
#### SYSTEM XLAM : Construction and details

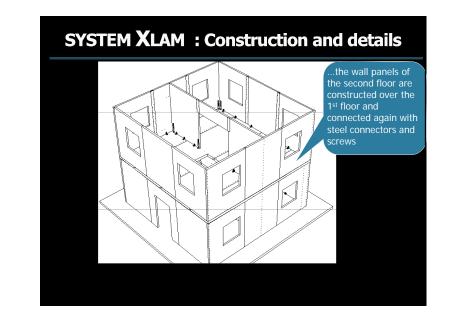


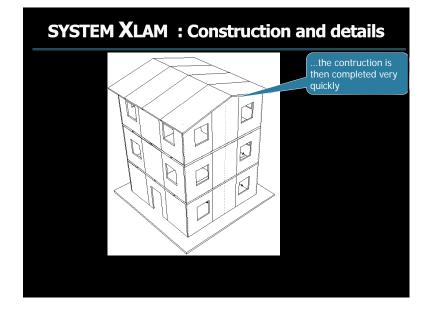


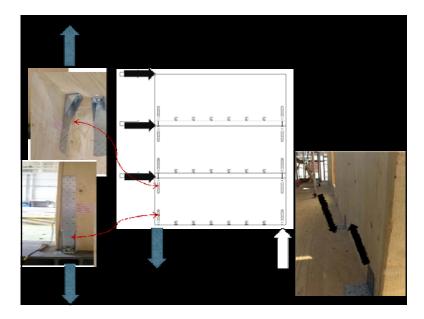














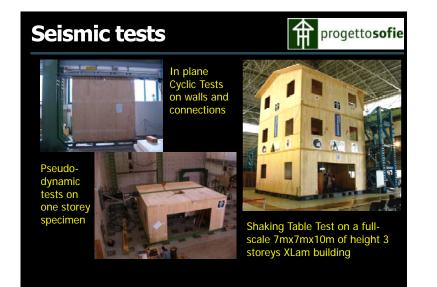




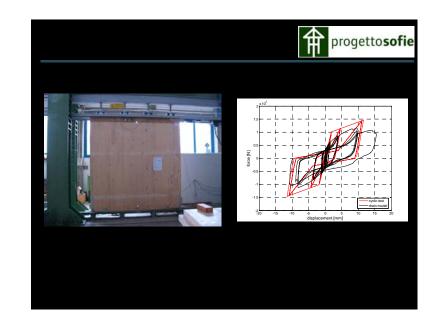


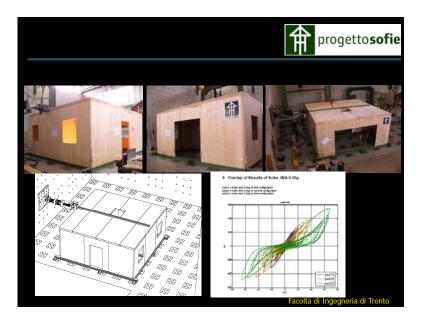
#### SYSTEM XLAM : Construction and details











#### XLAM SYSTEM : Comparison with 2by4

3storey house 7x7x10m

Total weight XLAM: 20 ton (3<sup>rd</sup> grade timber) Ultimate Lateral Load carrying capacity

XLAM: 35 kN/m Lateral Stiffness

XLAM: 2.5 kN/mm/m





2by4: 1 kN/mm/m



Seismic Test on NIED Shaking Table Facility in Tsukuba, Japan in July 2006





#### FIRE TEST AT BRI TSUKUBA MARCH 2007



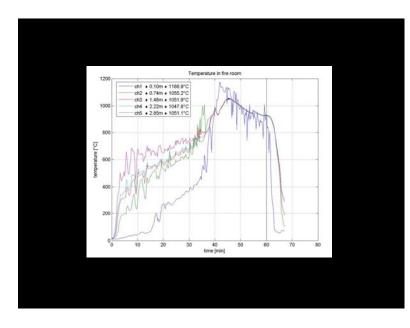


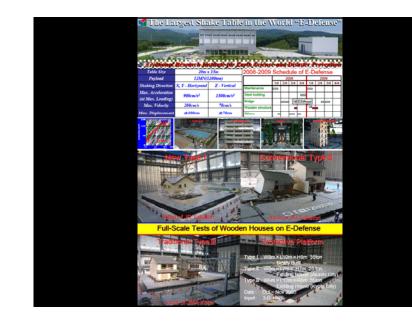


















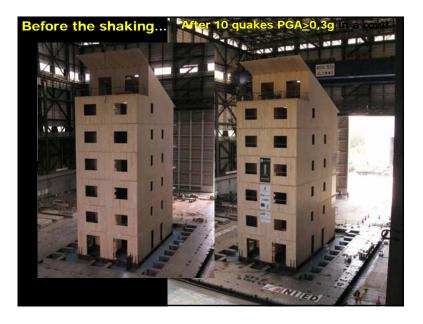








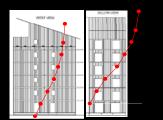


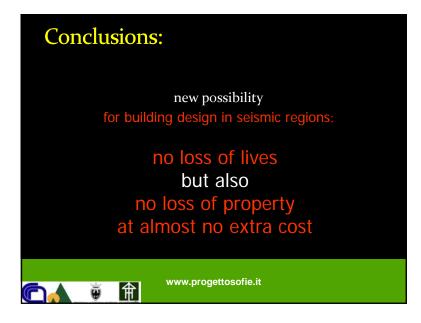


test number	input	dire ction	dimension	intensity	PGA	
					in x	in y
1	step	X, Y	2D		0.3g	0.3g
2	Nocera Umbra E-W	Y	1D	70%	-	0.35g
3	Nocera Umbra E-W	Y	1D	100%		0.5g
4	JMA Kobe N-S	Y	1D	60%	-	0.5g
5	JMA Kobe E-W	X	1D	50%	0.3g	-
6	step	X, Y	2D	-	0.3g	0.3g
7	JMA Kobe N-S	Y	1D	100%	-	0.82g
8	step	X, Y	2D		0.3g	0.3g
9	JMA Kobe E-W	X	1D	100%	0.6g	
10	step	X, Y	2D	-	0.3g	0.3g
11	step	X, Y	2D	-	0.3g	0.3g
12	JMA Kobe interrupted	X, Y, Z	3D	100%	0.6g	0.82g
13	step	X, Y	2D	-	0.3g	0.3g
14	step	X, Y	2D		0.3g	0.3g
15	Kashiwazaki R1	X, Y, Z	3D	50%	0.155g	0.34g
16	step	X, Y	2D		0.3g	0.3g
17	step	X, Y	2D		0.3g	0.3g
18	JMA Kobe	X, Y, Z	3D	100%	0.6g	0.82g
19	step	X, Y	2D		0.3g	0.3g
20	step	X, Y	2D		0.3g	0.3g
21	Kashiwazaki R1	X, Y, Z	3D	100%	0.311g	0.68g
22	step	X, Y	2D		0.3g	0.3g

#### **Test Observations**

- The building showed very good seismic behaviour under all severe earthquake motions
- Max top displacement of 287 mm (X)
  - and 175 mm (Y)
  - Max storey drifts
  - approx 2.4% (X)
  - and 1.6% (Y)
- The damage after all tests was negligible



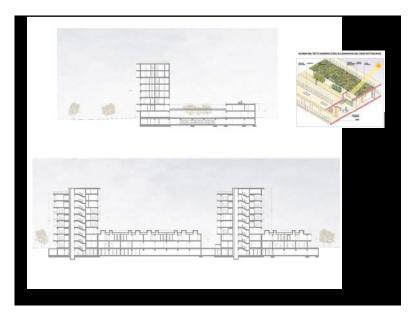






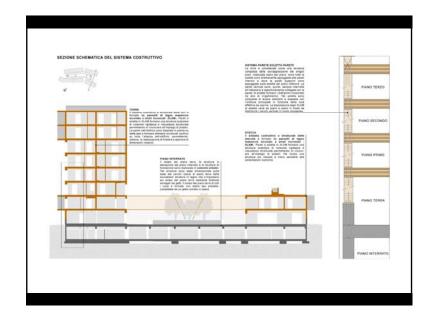






Via Cenni, in Milano

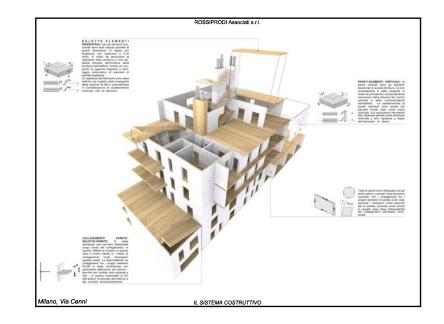


































### •Thank you for your attention!

