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STRUCTURE solutions

SIDEPLATE SYSTEMS Optimized. Minimized. Simplified.

S idePlate Systems is entering its 25th year of serving the structural engineering world with experience extending across 750-plus projects totaling over 115M square feet of building area. A design optimization process, SidePlate looks at the lateral structure for a building and finds the most efficient way to build it by engineering a system that puts steel where it is actually needed.

Working as an extension of the design team, SidePlate engineers will implement their connection technology to resist wind, seismic, or progressive collapse situations. The stiffness of the SidePlatedesigned connections offers incredible design opportunities. From elongated cantilevers to vast open showrooms to utilizing all the available space in a building by eliminating the need to hide vertical braces, a SidePlate engineered building helps an Engineer of Record fulfill almost any architectural requirement.

Inherent in the SidePlate designs are multiple opportunities for owners and general contractors to see significant cost reductions in a project. The stiffness of the SidePlate moment frames often minimizes the required number of connections by 20-30% as compared to conventional moment frame buildings. More savings are found in steel costs, as the inherent connection design stiffness allows the lateral system to reduce column and beam weights by 15-20% as compared to conventional moment frame packages. Even more savings come during the erection phase as SidePlate connections are field-bolted, requiring no on-site welding – or welding inspections. With a field-bolted connection, erectors can stay on schedule in almost any weather.

There is no question that the SidePlate design process is very technical – with a number of pre-approvals and prequalifications – but the fabrication process is incredibly simplified. Any fabrication shop can build a SidePlate design with no special or proprietary tools required. SidePlate's detailed drawings and calculations are included directly in the construction documents, helping to eliminate deferred submittals. The simplified approach carries into erection as field-bolted connections help keep a project on schedule. Beams can be installed in virtually any weather, and bolting requires no preheating or UT inspections.

A design process that specializes in optimized lateral systems, focusing on providing benefits to the entire project, SidePlate has a 25-year history of proven results in offering structural engineers an alternative to the same old thing.

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