

How Techlam Glulam is Manufactured.

Packets of rough sawn, kiln dried timber are loaded into our defecting line where the operator visually grades the sawn timber as it is released onto the rollers. This involves marking defects in the timber with a fluorescent crayon.

Once defects are marked, the pieces of timber are carried through the defecting line, which recognises the marks and automatically chops out the marked defects.

After defects are chopped out the remaining pieces of timber (lengths vary from 1m to 4.8m) are conveyed to the finger jointing line. This machine cuts a 'zigzag' pattern in both ends of all timber pieces, then applies structural adhesive to the ends of each piece and clamps them together. From the finger joint press onwards the timber is transformed into a continuous length. A chopsaw then cuts the continuous length of finger-jointed timber into lengths according to whatever beam length is specified.

The finger-jointed timber is then fed through a four sided planer and transferred to the glue line. Each stack will contain the timber required to make one beam. The glue line draws each piece of timber through the adhesive spreader at a set speed to maintain a consistent coverage of adhesive.

Upon exit of the glue line, the timber is transferred onto the press beds. The clamps are tightened using hydraulics. The clamps can be arranged to produce curved or straight beams.

After curing, the beams are removed from the clamps, placed on a roller table then fed through another large four sided planer to machine them to their final dimensions.

The product then moves through into the finishing area, where they are finished, sanded and detailed according to the client's requirements. Once the product has been finished, it is coated with a single coat of water based factory sealer for protection during transit and installation. They are then wrapped in protective plastic and moved to despatch for shipping.

All product manufactured by Techlam is manufactured strictly in accordance to the following standards:

- AS/NZS 1328:1998, Glued Laminated Structural Timber – Licence No. 2929
- AS 5068, Timber Finger Joints in Structural Products – Licence No. 2930

Techlam is Audited 3 times annually to ensure full compliance to these standards.

Our production facilities operate under a rigid TQM (Total Quality Management) system. Staff hold a minimum of level 3 qualification in CMI (Competitive/Lean Manufacturing), giving us the ability to respond quickly and accurately to the demands of the market.