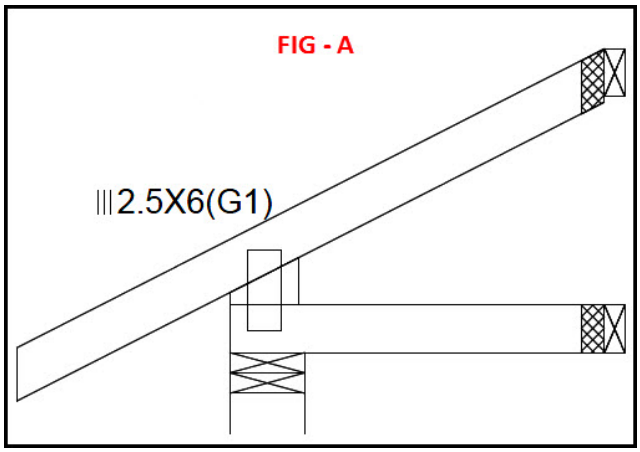
Inside VIEW

Optimizing Component Design Production

November 2015

Understanding Plate Names and Position Codes

iDesign plates the truss using the plating defaults and your plate inventory file. Key information about the plate is displayed using specific names, codes and symbols on the Component Draw.



The connector plate required for the joint connection is determined by the truss analysis. Plate sizes are generally identified as Width x Length (in inches), and the plate position is specified by the position code following the connector name on the heel joint. The symbol preceding the connector name is the slot indicator and shows the directional positioning of the plate upon the joint. While the directional position is shown for every plate, the position code is only provided for heel plates.

In example FIG-A, the plate has vertical position (III), is 2.5" wide by 6" long (2.5X6) and has a G1 plate position (G1).

Connector Name

Alpine iDesign Help Documentation - Table of Contents path: Tips & Examples > Plating > Plate Identification - Label Names

Wave Plate
The Wave Plate is a 20-gauge product that serves as our standard plate line. All plates on engineered drawings are Wave Plates unless otherwise noted. The plate label on engineered drawings defines the width by length size of the plate in inches, i.e., 2X4, 5X8, 12X14, etc.

H Plate

The H Plate is a 20-gauge, high-strength product, denoted by the capital letter H preceding the plate size on engineered drawings, i.e., H0508, H1014, etc. The plate label represents an approximation of the actual plate size.

SS Plate
The SS Plate is an 18-gauge Super Strength product, denoted by the capital letters SS preceding the plate size on engineered drawings, i.e., SS0612, SS1012, etc. The plate label represents an approximation of the actual plate size.

Trulox (Nail-On) Plate
The Trulox Plate is a 20-gauge product with 0.131"-diameter holes located in a grid pattern and no integral teeth. This product is intended to be fastened to wood using separately applied 0.131" x 1.5" nails.

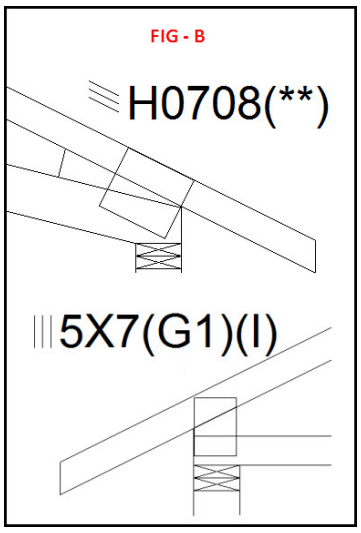
Gusset Plate
The Gusset Plate is plywood sheathing applied to a joint or joints on a truss typically used for truss repairs or other special engineering considerations, such as field splices. The Component Drawing output provides information regarding the size, thickness and number of required fasteners.

Plate Position Code

Every heel plate that is applied to a truss is assigned a plate position, as indicated by the code after the connector label. A list of every corresponding plate position can be found on our website at http://alpineitw.com/resources/standard-details/plate-positioning/.

Special Characters

The connector label may display a special character to indicate additional information. A few commonly seen characters are listed below and shown in **FIG-B** :



(R) A label showing an (R) indicates that the plate is rotated 90 degrees to the typical location.

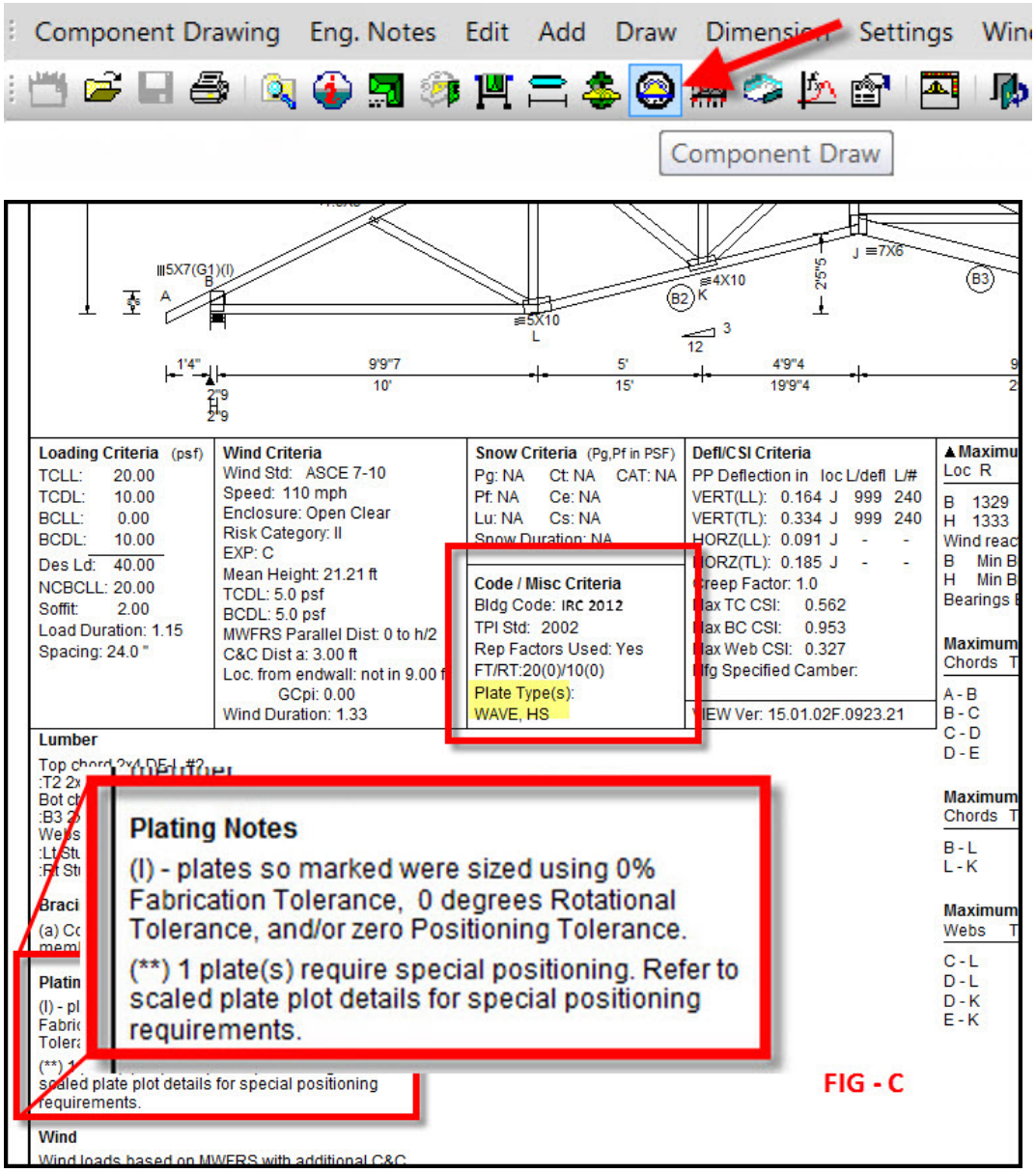
(**) A label showing (**) indicates that the connector requires special positioning.

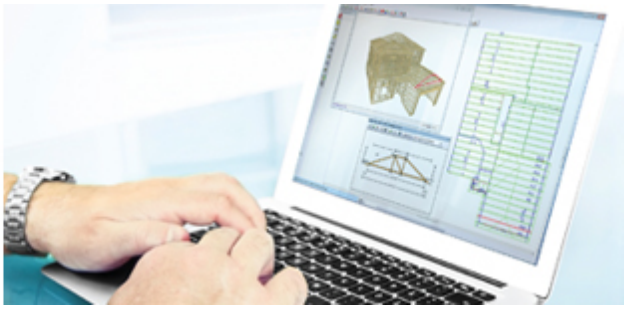
(I) A label showing an (I) indicates that the plates were sized using 0 percent Fabrication Tolerance, 0 degrees Rotational Tolerance and/or zero Positioning Tolerance.

(OL) A label showing an (OL) indicates that two plates are overlapping on the joint.

Component Draw

The connector labels and codes for the entire truss can be viewed in Component Draw. Each plate will be displayed, as well as additional information in the detail (FIG-C).





Do you know a handy shortcut or have a useful tip or trick to share? Please email us at training@alpineitw.com.

For technical assistance, please call the Alpine Help Desk at (866) 237-2878.