

# Bridging or blocking & Dindas I-Joists

All series and depths of Dindas I-Joists manufactured by Roseburg Forest Products EWP (Engineered Wood Products) have been qualified for use in floor and roof systems **without** the need for mid-span blocking or added bridging.

This is substantiated in section 4.3 of ESR-1251, the ICC-ES code report for I-Joists, and stated in the Dindas EWP Design and Installation Guides.

Full-depth joist bridging (referred to as mid-span blocking) has traditionally been used for long-span dimensional timber as a load-sharing device. When joist bridging is properly installed, a localised load (for example, from a single person walking on the floor) can be effectively transferred to several joists at a time. This load-sharing mechanism reduces localised deflection, which can cause distress in sensitive finish materials. It also dampens vibration of the floor system, which makes the floor more comfortable for the occupant to walk on.

Mid-span blocking has to do with serviceability – **building performance** – not safety. There is no requirement for Dindas I-Joists to have mid-span blocking.

Typically, mid-span I-Joist blocking is installed by toenailing nails at the ends, each side of each top and bottom flange. Construction adhesive is recommended to reduce squeak from rubbing at wood-to-wood contact surfaces and at nails. The weakest link in this assembly is the nails. Better performance may be achieved with proprietary bridging products that allow for direct-nailing (face-nailing) instead of toenailing.

However, there are various brands of specialty bridging and/or blocking systems available should a Designer decide to utilise them in a floor or roof system. The manufacturers of such products may indicate certain span increase capacities and/or system performance enhancements with the use of their product.

Dindas does not prohibit the use of such mid-span blocking or bridging, proprietary or otherwise, nor does Dindas endorse any claims of specific span increases or enhanced system performance with the use of such blocking or bridging. There is a possibility that improperly installed mid-span blocking may result in squeaks in the floor system.

Dindas Australia warrants that Dindas I-Joists will perform to the published levels provided the joists are properly stored, handled and installed and designed correctly for the application.