



CERTIFICATION



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Technical Evaluation Report

TER 1907-02

Big Timber® BL & GL Screw Properties

**Western Builders Supply
DBA Big Timber**

Products:

**BL Log, Timber & Landscape
Screws**

GL Gray Structural Screws

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DIVISION: 06 00 00 - WOOD, PLASTICS AND COMPOSITES

SECTION: 06 05 23 - Wood, Plastic, and Composite Fastenings

1 PRODUCTS EVALUATED¹

- 1.1 BL Log, Timber & Landscape Screws
GL Gray Structural Screws

2 APPLICABLE CODES AND STANDARDS^{2,3}

2.1 Codes

- 2.1.1 *IBC—12, 15, 18: International Building Code®*
- 2.1.2 *IRC—12, 15, 18: International Residential Code®*

2.2 Standards and Referenced Documents

- 2.2.1 *AISI S904: Standard Test Methods for Determining the Tensile and Shear Strength of Screws*
- 2.2.2 *ANSI / AWC NDS: National Design Specification (NDS) for Wood Construction*
- 2.2.3 *ASTM A153: Standard Specification for Zinc Coating (Hot-Dip) on Iron and Steel Hardware*
- 2.2.4 *ASTM A510: Standard Specification for General Requirements for Wire Rods and Coarse Round Wire, Carbon Steel, and Alloy Steel*
- 2.2.5 *ASTM D1761: Standard Test Methods for Mechanical Fasteners in Wood*
- 2.2.6 *ASTM D2395: Standard Test Methods for Density and Specific Gravity (Relative Density) of Wood and Wood-Based Materials*

¹ Building codes require data from valid [research reports](#) be obtained from [approved sources](#). Agencies who are accredited through ISO/IEC 17065 have met the [code requirements](#) for approval by the [building official](#). DrJ is an ISO/IEC 17065 ANSI-Accredited Product Certification Body – Accreditation #1131.

Through ANSI accreditation and the [IAF MLA](#), DrJ certification can be used to obtain product approval in any [jurisdiction](#) or country that has [IAF MLA Members & Signatories](#) to meet the [Purpose of the MLA](#) – “certified once, accepted everywhere.”

Building official approval of a licensed [registered design professional](#) (RDP) is performed by verifying the RDP and/or their business entity complies with all professional engineering laws of the relevant [jurisdiction](#). Therefore, the work of licensed RDPs is accepted by [building officials](#), except when plan (i.e. peer) review finds an error with respect to a specific section of the code. Where this TER is not approved, the [building official](#) responds in writing stating the reasons for [disapproval](#).

For more information on any of these topics or our mission, product evaluation policies, product approval process, and engineering law, visit drjcertification.org or call us at 608-310-6748.

² Unless otherwise noted, all references in this TER are from the 2018 version of the codes and the standards referenced therein (e.g., *ASCE 7*, *NDS*, *ASTM*). This material, design, or method of construction also complies with the 2000-2015 versions of the referenced codes and the standards referenced therein.

³ All terms defined in the applicable building codes are italicized.

- 2.2.7 *ASTM D2915: Standard Practice for Sampling and Data-Analysis for Structural Wood and Wood-Based Products*
- 2.2.8 *ASTM D4442: Standard Test Methods for Direct Moisture Content Measurement of Wood and Wood-Based Materials*
- 2.2.9 *ASTM F1575: Standard Test Method for Determining Bending Yield Moment of Nails*

3 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

- 3.1 Big Timber® BL Log, Timber & Landscape Screws (BL) and GL Gray Structural Screws (GL) were tested and evaluated to determine their structural resistance properties, which were used to develop reference design values for allowable stress design (ASD). The following properties were evaluated:
 - 3.1.1 Withdrawal strength in accordance with *ASTM D1761*.
 - 3.1.2 Lateral shear in accordance with *ASTM D1761*.
 - 3.1.3 Bending yield in accordance with *ASTM F1575*.
 - 3.1.4 Tensile strength in accordance with *AISI S904*.
 - 3.1.5 Shear strength in accordance with *AISI S904*.
 - 3.1.6 Head pull-through in accordance with *ASTM D1037*.
 - 3.1.7 Corrosion resistance of fasteners meeting or exceeding the protection afforded hot dipped galvanized fasteners in accordance with *ASTM A153, Class D*.
- 3.2 Use of fasteners in locations exposed to saltwater or saltwater spray is outside the scope of this evaluation report.
- 3.3 Any code compliance issues not specifically addressed in this section are outside the scope of this TER.
- 3.4 Any engineering evaluation conducted for this TER was performed on the dates provided in this TER and within Dr.J's professional scope of work.

4 PRODUCT DESCRIPTION AND MATERIALS

- 4.1 BL and GL screws have a hex washer head and are partially threaded. The products evaluated in this TER are shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

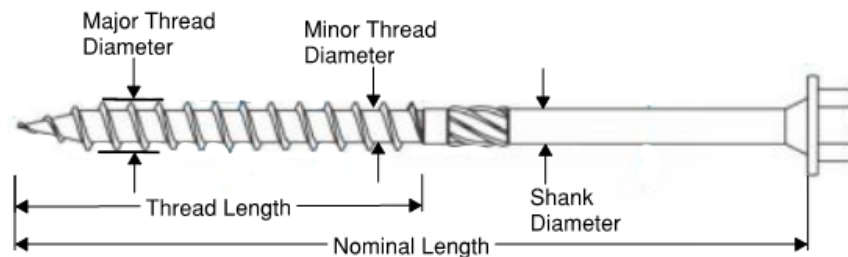


FIGURE 1. BL LOG, TIMBER & LANDSCAPING SCREW

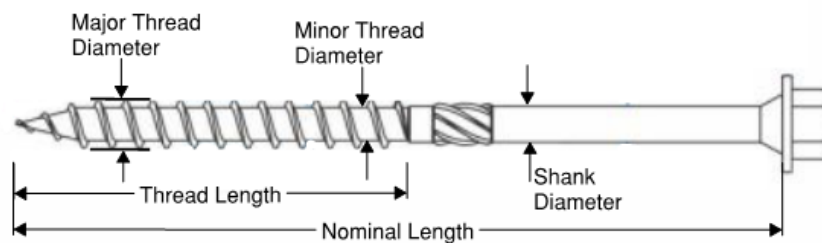


FIGURE 2. GL GRAY STRUCTURAL SCREW

- 4.2 BL and GL screws are manufactured using a standard cold-formed process followed by a heat-treating process.
- 4.3 BL screws are coated with a proprietary coating, designated as Black Log, which exceeds the protections provided by hot-dipped galvanized coatings conforming to *ASTM A153*.
- 4.4 GL screws are coated with a proprietary coating, designated as Gray Log, which exceeds the protections provided by hot-dipped galvanized coatings conforming to *ASTM A153*.
- 4.5 Fasteners are approved for use in chemically treated or untreated lumber where *ASTM A153, Class D* coatings are approved for use in accordance with *IBC Section 2304.10*⁴ and *JRC Section R317.3*.
- 4.5.1 The proprietary coating has been tested and found to exceed the protection provided by code-approved hot-dipped galvanized coatings meeting *ASTM A153, Class D* (*IBC Section 2304.10.5*⁵ and *JRC Section R317.3*), allowing for its use in pressure treated wood.
- 4.5.2 Fasteners are approved for use in fire-retardant-treated lumber, provided the conditions set forth by the fire-retardant-treated lumber manufacturer are met, including appropriate strength reductions.
- 4.6 The fasteners evaluated in this TER are set forth in Table 1.

TABLE 1. FASTENER SPECIFICATIONS

Fastener Name	Designation	Head (in)		Nominal Length ¹ (in)	Thread Length ¹ (in)	Shank Diameter ² (in)	Thread Diameter (in)		Specified Minimum Core Hardness ⁴ (HV 0.3)	Nominal Bending Yield, f_{yb} (psi)	Allowable Fastener Strength (lbf)	
		Diameter	Drive Type				Minor	Major			Tensile	Shear ³
BL	14 x 4	0.487	Hex ⁵ / ₁₆	4	2	0.189	0.171	0.258	300	177,700	1,085	725
	14 x 6			6	2							
	14 x 8			8	2½							
	14 x 10			10	2½							
	14 x 12			12	2½							
	14 x 14			14	2½							
GL	17 x 4	0.570	Hex ⁵ / ₁₆	4	2	0.224	0.211	0.297	355	172,600	1,990	1,240
	17 x 5			5	3							
	17 x 6			6	3							
	17 x 7			7	3							
	17 x 9			9	3							
	17 x 11			11	3							

SI: 1 in = 25.4 mm, 1 lb = 4.45 N, 1 psi = 0.00689 MPa

- Fastener length is measured from the underside of the head to the tip. Thread length includes tapered tip (see Figure 1 and Figure 2).
- Shank diameter based on manufactured thickness. Finished dimensions are larger, due to the proprietary coatings added.
- Shear determined at smooth shank diameter.
- Based on a 300 gram load using the Vickers indenter.

⁴ 2012 *IBC Section 2304.9*
⁵ 2012 *IBC Section 2304.9.5*

5 APPLICATIONS

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 BL and GL screws are used to attach wood framing members in conventional light-frame construction and provide resistance against withdrawal, head pull-through, axial, and shear loads. See Section 6 for installation requirements.
- 5.1.2 BL and GL screws are installed without lead holes, as prescribed in *NDS*.
- 5.1.3 Where the application exceeds the limitations set forth herein, design shall be permitted in accordance with accepted engineering procedures, experience, and technical judgment.

5.2 Design

- 5.2.1 Design of BL and GL screws is governed by the applicable code and the provisions for dowel-type fasteners in *NDS*.
- 5.2.2 Unless otherwise noted, adjustment of the design stresses for duration of load shall be in accordance with the applicable code.

5.3 BL and GL Reference Lateral Design Values (Z)

- 5.3.1 Reference lateral design values (lbf) for shear load perpendicular to grain and parallel to grain for BL and GL screws are specified in Table 2.

TABLE 2. BL AND GL SCREW REFERENCE LATERAL DESIGN VALUES (Z), LBF

Screw Designation	Nominal Length (in)	Thread Length (in)	Minimum Side Member Thickness (in)	Minimum Main Member Penetration (in)	Wood Species (Specific Gravity)			
					HF/SPF (0.42)		SP (0.55)	
					Z _⊥	Z _∥	Z _⊥	Z _∥
BL14 x 4	4	2	3/4	3 3/4	155	155	170	215
BL14 x 6	6	2	3	3	255	300	250	415
BL14 x 8	8	2 1/2						
BL14 x 10	10	2 1/2						
BL14 x 12	12	2 1/2						
BL14 x 14	14	2 1/2						
GL17 x 4	4	2	1 1/2	2 1/2	160	200	230	290
GL17 x 5	5	3	1 1/2	3 1/2	265	260	290	300
GL17 x 6	6	3						
GL17 x 7	7	3	2 3/4	4 1/2	280	420	300	485
GL17 x 9	9	3						
GL17 x 11	11	3						

SI: 1 in = 25.4 mm, 1 lb = 4.45 N, 1 lb/in = 0.175 kN/m

- Reference lateral design values apply to two-member single shear connections where both members are of the same specific gravity, and the fastener is oriented perpendicular to grain. Where the members are of different specific gravities, use the lower of the two.
- For wood species with a specific gravity between 0.42 and 0.55, use the tabulated values for specific gravity of 0.42.
- Tabulated lateral design values (Z) shall be adjusted by all applicable adjustment factors per *NDS*, Table 11.3.1.
- Z_⊥ = Lateral Design Values Perpendicular to Grain, Z_∥ = Lateral Design Values Parallel to Grain.

5.4 *BL and GL Reference Withdrawal Design Values (W) in Side Grain Applications*

5.4.1 Reference withdrawal design values (lbf/in) for BL and GL screws are specified in Table 3.

TABLE 3. BL AND GL SCREW REFERENCE WITHDRAWAL DESIGN VALUES (W) – SIDE GRAIN APPLICATIONS, LBF/IN

Screw Designation	Nominal Length (in)	Thread Length (in)	Wood Species (Specific Gravity)	
			HF/SPF (0.42)	SP (0.55)
BL14 x 4	4	2	195	215
BL14 x 6	6	2		
BL14 x 8	8	2½		
BL14 x 10	10	2½		
BL14 x 12	12	2½		
BL14 x 14	14	2½		
GL17 x 4	4	2	150	240
GL17 x 5	5	3	210	240
GL17 x 6	6	3		
GL17 x 7	7	3		
GL17 x 9	9	3		
GL17 x 11	11	3		

SI: 1 in = 25.4 mm, 1 lb = 4.45 N, 1 lb/in = 0.175 kN/m

1. Tabulated withdrawal values (W) shall be adjusted by all applicable adjustment factors per NDS, Table 11.3.1.
2. Fastener penetration is the threaded length embedded in the main member, including the tip.
3. For wood species with a specific gravity between 0.42 and 0.55, use the tabulated values for specific gravity of 0.42.
4. The full design withdrawal value is equal to the reference withdrawal value multiplied by the length of the threaded portion of the fastener embedded in the main member.

5.5 BL and GL Reference Head Pull-Through Design Values (P)

5.5.1 Reference design values for head pull-through (lbf) for BL and GL screws are specified in Table 4.

TABLE 4. BL AND GL SCREW REFERENCE HEAD PULL-THROUGH DESIGN VALUES (P), LBF

Screw Designation	Nominal Length (in)	Thread Length (in)	Wood Species (Specific Gravity)	
			HF/SPF (0.42)	SP (0.55)
BL14 x 4	4	2	210	240
BL14 x 6	6	2		
BL14 x 8	8	2½		
BL14 x 10	10	2½		
BL14 x 12	12	2½		
BL14 x 14	14	2½		
GL17 x 4	4	2	270	340
GL17 x 5	5	3		
GL17 x 6	6	3		
GL17 x 7	7	3		
GL17 x 9	9	3		
GL17 x 11	11	3		

SI: 1 in = 25.4 mm, 1 lb = 4.45 N, 1 lb/in = 0.175 kN/m

1. Tabulated pull-through values (P) shall be adjusted by all applicable adjustment factors per NDS, Table 11.3.1.
2. Fastener penetration is the threaded length embedded in the main member, including the tip.
3. For wood species with a specific gravity between 0.42 and 0.55, use the tabulated values for specific gravity of 0.42.
4. Pull-through design values apply to connections having a minimum wood side member thickness of at least ¾ inch.

6 INSTALLATION

- 6.1 Installation shall comply with the manufacturer's installation instructions and this TER. In the event of a conflict between the manufacturer's installation instructions and this TER, the more restrictive shall govern.
- 6.2 Minimum penetration is 1", unless otherwise stated in this TER. Install fasteners with head flush to the surface of the wood member.
- 6.3 Lead holes are not required.
- 6.4 Screws shall be installed with the appropriate rotating powered driver.
- 6.5 Minimum requirements for screw spacing, edge distance, and end distance shall be in accordance with Table 5.

TABLE 5. BL AND GL SCREW SPACING, EDGE DISTANCE, AND END DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS¹, INCH

Connection Geometry	BL 14	GL 17
Edge Distance – Load in any direction	1½	1⅝
End Distance – Load parallel to grain, towards end	2⅞	3⅝
End Distance – Load parallel to grain, away from end	1⅞	2¼
End Distance – Load perpendicular to grain	1⅞	2¼
Spacing between Fasteners in a Row – Parallel to grain	2⅞	3⅝
Spacing between Fasteners in a Row – Perpendicular to grain	1⅞	2¼
Spacing between Rows of Fasteners – In-line	1	1⅞
Spacing between Rows of Fasteners – Staggered	½	⅝
SI: 1 in = 25.4 mm 1. Edge distances, end distances, and spacing of fasteners shall be sufficient to prevent splitting of the wood or as shown in this table, whichever is the more restrictive. 2. Values for "Spacing between Rows of Fasteners-Staggered" apply where the screws in adjacent rows are offset by one half of the "Spacing between Fasteners in a Row"		

7 TEST ENGINEERING SUBSTANTIATING DATA

- 7.1 Testing for withdrawal by Element, in accordance with *ASTM D1761*.
- 7.2 Testing for lateral strength by Element, in accordance with *ASTM D1761*.
- 7.3 Testing for head pull-through by Element, in accordance with *ASTM D1037*.
- 7.4 Testing for bending yield by Element, in accordance with *ASTM F1575*.
- 7.5 Testing for tensile strength by Element, in accordance with *AISI S904*.
- 7.6 Testing for shear strength by Element, in accordance with *AISI S904*.
- 7.7 Testing for corrosion resistance by Element.
- 7.8 Some information contained herein is the result of testing and/or data analysis by other sources which conform to *IBC Section 1703* and relevant professional engineering law. DrJ relies on accurate data from these sources to perform engineering analysis. DrJ has reviewed and found the data provided by other professional sources to be credible.
- 7.9 Where appropriate, DrJ's analysis is based on design values that have been codified into law through codes and standards (e.g., *IBC*, *IRC*, *NDS*®, and *SDPWS*). This includes review of code provisions and any related test data that aids in comparative analysis or provides support for equivalency to an intended end-use application. Where the accuracy of design values provided herein is reliant upon the published properties of commodity materials (e.g., lumber, steel, and concrete), DrJ relies upon the grade mark, stamp, and/or design values provided by raw material suppliers to be accurate and conforming to the mechanical properties defined in the relevant material standard.

8 FINDINGS

- 8.1 When used and installed in accordance with this TER and the manufacturer's installation instructions, the product(s) listed in Section 1.1 have the reference design value properties defined herein and are approved for use in accordance with the applicable code.

8.2 IBC Section 104.11 (IRC Section R104.11 and IFC Section 104.9 are similar) states:

104.11 Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment. The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been *approved*. An alternative material, design or method of construction shall be *approved* where the *building official* finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, not less than the equivalent of that prescribed in this code...Where the alternative material, design or method of construction is not *approved*, the *building official* shall respond in writing, stating the reasons the alternative was not *approved*.

8.3 This product has been evaluated in the context of the codes listed in Section 2 and is compliant with all known state and local building codes. Where there are known variations in state or local codes applicable to this evaluation, they are listed here.

8.3.1 No known variations

9 CONDITIONS OF USE

- 9.1 Wood main and side members must have a moisture content of less than 19 percent.
- 9.2 Use of fasteners in locations exposed to saltwater or saltwater spray is outside the scope of this evaluation report.
- 9.3 Where required by the *building official*, also known as the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) in which the project is to be constructed, this TER and the installation instructions shall be submitted at the time of *permit* application.
- 9.4 Any generally accepted engineering calculations needed to show compliance with this TER shall be submitted to the AHJ for review and approval.
- 9.5 Design loads shall be determined in accordance with the building code adopted by the *jurisdiction* in which the project is to be constructed and/or by the Building Designer (e.g., *owner* or *registered design professional*).
- 9.6 At a minimum, this product shall be installed per Section 6 of this TER.
- 9.7 This product is manufactured under a third-party quality control program in accordance with IBC Section 104.4 and 110.4 and IRC Section R104.4 and R109.2.
- 9.8 The actual design, suitability, and use of this TER, for any particular building, is the responsibility of the *owner* or the owner's authorized agent. Therefore, the TER shall be reviewed for code compliance by the *building official* for acceptance.
- 9.9 The use of this TER is dependent on the manufacturer's in-plant QC, the ISO/IEC 17020 third-party quality assurance program and procedures, proper installation per the manufacturer's instructions, the *building official's* inspection, and any other code requirements that may apply to demonstrate and verify compliance with the applicable building code.

10 IDENTIFICATION

- 10.1 The product(s) listed in Section 1.1 are identified by a label on the board or packaging material bearing the manufacturer's name, product name, TER number, and other information to confirm code compliance.
- 10.2 Additional technical information can be found at bigtimberfasteners.com.

11 REVIEW SCHEDULE

- 11.1 This TER is subject to periodic review and revision. For the most recent version of this TER, visit drjcertification.org.
- 11.2 For information on the current status of this TER, contact [DrJ Certification](#).