

<p style="text-align: center;">DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner</p> <p>TO: DIRECTOR, HOUSING DIVISION DIRECTOR, MULTIFAMILY DIVISION DIRECTOR, SINGLE FAMILY DIVISION</p>	<p>STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING BULLETIN NO. 681 Rev. 7 (Supersedes issue dated December 9, 1993)</p>
	<p>ISSUE DATE: January 22, 1997</p>
	<p>REVIEW DATE: January 22, 2000</p>

SUBJECT: 1. Item Description Shop Fabricated Wood Frame Single Family Modular Units

2. Name and address of Manufacturer Benchmark Homes, Inc.
630 Hay Avenue
Brookville, OH 45309

This Structural Engineering Bulletin (SEB) should be filed with other SEBs and related bulletins on materials or products as required by prescribed procedures.

The technical description, requirements and limitations expressed herein do not constitute an endorsement or approval by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) of the subject matter, and any statement or representation, however made, indicating approval or endorsement by HUD is unauthorized and false, and will be considered a violation of the United States Criminal Code, 18 U.S.C. 709.

NOTICE: THIS BULLETIN APPLIES TO DWELLING UNITS BUILT UNDER HUD HOUSING PROGRAMS. NON-HUD INSURED UNITS MAY OR MAY NOT BE IN CONFORMITY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE HUD MINIMUM PROPERTY STANDARDS.

Any reproduction of this Bulletin must be in its entirety and any use of all or any part of this Bulletin in sales promotion or advertising is prohibited.

1. General:

This Bulletin sets forth specific requirements under the Technical Suitability of Products Program for determining the eligibility of housing to be constructed under HUD mortgage insurance or other HUD housing programs.

2. Scope:

This Bulletin applies only to the structural features of this method of construction. Final determination of eligibility is made by the appropriate HUD Field Office. Other factors considered by the Field Office will be valuation, location, architectural planning and appeal, mechanical equipment, thermal characteristics, and market acceptance. Consideration is also necessary to determine whether a specific property will qualify under the specific HUD program when constructed according to the method outlined in this Bulletin and where the structure is to be located.

In geographical areas subject to hurricanes, earthquakes, or other severe conditions affecting dwelling structures, the HUD Field Office shall require additional safeguards in proposed designs, when necessary.

3. Minimum Property Standards (MPS):

Compliance with HUD MPS will be determined by the HUD Field Office on the same basis as submissions involving conventional construction, except for the special features described in this Bulletin.

4. Inspection:

Field compliance inspections covering conventional items of construction and any special features covered in this Bulletin shall be made in accordance with prescribed procedures.

The appropriate HUD Field Office shall furnish a copy of a HUD field inspection report to Headquarters, Manufactured Housing and Standards Division, Office of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, when there is:

- a. Evidence of noncompliance with any portion of the system of construction described in this Bulletin.
- b. Faulty shop fabrication, including significant surface defects.
- c. Damage to shop fabricated items or materials due to improper transportation, storage, handling, or assembly.
- d. Unsatisfactory field workmanship or performance of the product or system.
- e. Any significant degradation or deterioration of the product or evidence of lack of durability or performance.

Periodic plant inspections will be made by HUD Field Office or State Agency personnel in accordance with prescribed procedures. Factory inspection reports shall be submitted to HUD Headquarters, upon request.

5. Certification:

The manufacturer named in this Bulletin shall furnish the builder with a written certification stating that the product has been manufactured in compliance with the HUD Minimum Property Standards (MPS), except as modified by this Bulletin. The builder shall endorse the certification with a statement that the product has been erected in compliance with HUD MPS, except as modified by this Bulletin, and that the manufacturer's certification does not relieve the builder, in any way, of responsibility under the terms of the Builder's Warranty required by the National Housing Act, or under any provisions applicable to any other housing program. This certification shall be furnished to the HUD Field Office upon completion of the property.

OUTLINE DESCRIPTION, CATEGORY I CONSTRUCTION

GENERAL:

Completely shop fabricated wood frame modular dwelling units, from 12 to 14 feet wide and up to 60 feet in length, are furnished in this method of construction. Units are factory finished on both the interior and the exterior. Units are transported to the building site where they are set on conventional foundations and joined together.

Construction is basically of conventional wood framing which may include various types of interior and exterior finish materials. All materials and methods of installation shall be in accordance with HUD Minimum Property Standards, Use of Materials Bulletins (UM), and Materials Releases (MR), except as may be specifically noted herein. Plumbing, heating and electrical systems are shop installed and field connected.

This Bulletin is based on a structural review of the Wayne model of the Benchmark Homes, Inc. (The Manufacturer), but may be considered applicable to all structurally similar units of this company. Foundation design and nonstructural items (such as architectural, plumbing, heating and electrical features) are not covered by this Bulletin.

SPECIFICATIONS:

Form HUD-92005, "Description of Materials" specifying only the structurally related items (Nos. 1 to 12, 14, 26 and 27), as originally submitted for technical suitability determination, describes the materials that shall be used in construction of housing units under this system of construction. Form HUD-92005, furnished with each application for use under HUD housing programs, shall include as a minimum the same structural materials.

DRAWINGS:

The following drawings by Benchmark Homes, Inc., shall be considered an integral part of this Bulletin:

<u>Drawing No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
1 of 15	3/26/90	Exterior Elevations
2 of 15	3/26/90	Floor Plans - Door Schedule
3 of 15	3/26/90	Crawl Space - Foundation Plan
4 of 15	3/26/90	Crawl Space - Cross Section
5 of 15	3/26/90	Basement - Foundation
6 of 15	3/26/90	Basement - Cross Section
7 of 15	3/26/90	Flashing & Optional Details
13 of 15	3/26/90	Single Car Garage Details
14 of 15	3/26/90	Two-Car Garage Details
15 of 15	3/26/90	Family Room Addition

The Builder shall submit construction drawings to the HUD Field Office with each application under HUD housing programs, which shall include the same or similar structural features as shown on the drawings listed above. Copies of these listed drawings shall also be furnished to the HUD Field Office by the Builder upon request.

SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION FEATURES:

1. Floor Construction: Floor joists are at 16" o.c. and have solid blocking. Floor construction consists of 1/2" particleboard over 1/2" plywood subfloor or 5/8" or 3/4" T&G, APA rated plywood or oriented strand board (OSB). Particleboard shall meet ANSI A208.1-93.
2. Exterior Walls: Top and bottom plates are single 2 x 6's with roof trusses located directly over supporting studs. When roof truss does not fall directly over supporting studs, a 2 x 6 brace not to exceed 30 1/2" in length shall be installed between studs under the top plate. Alternate: 2 x 4 Studs 16" o.c. w/double 2 x 4 top plates.
3. Roof Beams: Micro-lam beams, 1 1/2" x 12 (one for each half-section), are used as roof beams to span the interior bearing wall openings (16' - 6" maximum span).

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS:

Design Loads: The method described in this Bulletin is based on maximum design loads of 40 psf for snow, Seismic Zone 3 and a Basic Wind Speed of 90 mph and Exposure C (American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Standard 7-88). The Builder shall submit

structural calculations to the local HUD Office if housing units are to be located in geographical areas where these conditions are exceeded.

Framing of Loadbearing Walls: Wood-to-wood connections shall be provided between bearing walls and roof/ceiling or floor construction. Floor covering, including carpeting and vinyl tile, shall not be continued under loadbearing walls.

Roof Construction: Trussed rafters shall be designed and constructed in accordance with ANSI/TPI 1-1995 Standard (American National Standards Institute and Truss Plate Institute), "Design Specification for Metal Plate Connected Wood Construction."

MANUFACTURING PLANT:

Housing units covered under this Bulletin will be produced in the following plant:

Benchmark Homes, Inc.
600 Albert Road
Brookville, OH 45309

The Cincinnati HUD Office will inspect this plant in accordance with prescribed procedures.

QUALITY CONTROL:

The appropriate HUD Field Office in whose jurisdiction the manufacturing plant is located shall review and approve plant fabrication procedures and quality control program, and shall report to Headquarters in accordance with outstanding instructions. The quality control program shall include field erection and supervision by Benchmark Homes, Inc.

RECORD OF PROPERTIES:

The manufacturer shall provide a list of the first ten properties in which the component or system described in this Bulletin is used. The list shall include the complete address, or description of location, and approximate date of installation or erection. Failure of the manufacturer to provide HUD with the above information may result in cancellation of this Bulletin.

NOTICE OF CHANGES:

The manufacturer shall inform HUD in advance of changes in production facilities, transportation, field erection procedures, design, or materials used in this product. Further, the manufacturer must inform HUD of any revision to corporate

structure, change of address or change in name or affiliation of the prime manufacturer. Failure of the manufacturer to notify HUD of any of the above changes may result in cancellation of this Bulletin.

EVALUATION:

This SEB shall be valid for a period of three years from the date of initial issuance or most recent renewal or revision, whichever is later. The holder of this SEB shall apply for a renewal or revision 90 days prior to the Review Date printed on this SEB. Submittals for renewal or revision shall be sent to HUD Headquarters. Appropriate User Fee shall be sent to:

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 Technical Suitability of Products Fees
 P. O. Box 954199
 St. Louis, MO 63195-4199

The holder of this SEB may apply for revision at any time prior to the Review Date. Minor revisions may be in the form of a supplement.

If the Department determines that a proposed renewal or supplement constitutes a revision, the appropriate User Fee for a revision will need to be submitted in accordance with Code of Federal Regulations 24 CFR 200.934, "User Fee System for the Technical Suitability of Products Program," and current User Fee Schedule.

CANCELLATION:

Failure to apply for a renewal or revision shall constitute a basis for cancellation of the SEB. HUD will notify the manufacturer that the SEB may be canceled when:

1. conditions under which the document was issued have changed so as to affect production of, or to compromise the integrity of the accepted material, product, or system,
2. the manufacturer has changed its organizational form without notifying HUD, or
3. the manufacturer has not complied with responsibilities it assumed as a condition of HUD's acceptance.

However, before cancellation, HUD will give the manufacturer a written notice of the specific reasons for cancellation, and the opportunity to present views on why the SEB should not be canceled. No refund of fees will be made on a canceled document.

This Structural Engineering Bulletin is issued solely for the
captioned firm and is not transferable to any person or successor
entity.
