

Simpson Strong-Tie Introduces the Yield-Link® Connection to Reduce Structural Steel Framing Costs

Simpson Strong-Tie, the leader in engineered structural connectors and building solutions, has introduced a new, precision-made Yield-Link connection to simplify and streamline structural steel connections made in the field, without compromising structural strength. The Yield-Link connection requires no field welding, resulting in reduced onsite labor costs, licensing fees and construction time for contractors who are already facing a massive shortage of skilled field welders. According to the American Welding Society, there will be 290,000 unfilled welding positions in the US by 2020 as construction demand continues to outpace the skilled labor market.

By eliminating field welding, the Yield-Link connection also removes the need for field weld inspections. And because beams can be designed without supplemental lateral bracing, fewer fabricated steel elements and field connections are required. With a smaller restricted zone, MEP coordination is eased.

The Yield-Link is designed to absorb forces in a seismic event, and as a bolted connection, it is easier to replace than welded beams and posts, greatly simplifying repairs following a natural disaster.

“The Yield-Link connection builds on the Simpson Strong-Tie heritage of connection innovation by offering designers, fabricators, erectors and building owners a lower-cost, faster path to safer structural steel construction that’s not dependent on field welding or third-party engineering designs with high licensing fees,” said Sam Hensen, vice president of connectors and lateral systems for Simpson Strong-Tie. “Replaceable, bolted Yield-Link connections also allow for less costly repairs and shorter recovery times after natural disasters, providing the resiliency that communities need to get back on their feet more quickly.”

Software plugins and design support services are available to assist Designers, fabricators and erectors to incorporate the Yield-Link connections into their designs and shop details. The Yield-Link is a prequalified connection for steel special moment frames in ANSI/AISC 358-16 and is code listed in ICC-ES ESR-2802. For more information about Simpson Strong-Tie® Yield-Link technology, visit strongtie.com/yieldlink.

For more than 60 years, Simpson Strong-Tie has dedicated itself to creating structural products that help people build safer, stronger homes and buildings. Considered an industry leader in structural systems research, testing and innovation, Simpson Strong-Tie works closely with construction professionals to provide code-listed, field-tested products and value-engineered solutions. Our engineered structural products and systems are recognized for helping structures resist high winds, hurricanes and seismic forces. They include structural connectors, fasteners, fastening systems, lateral-force-resisting systems, anchors and product solutions for repairing, protecting and strengthening concrete. From product development and testing to training and engineering and field support, Simpson Strong-Tie is committed to helping customers succeed. For more information, visit strongtie.com and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and LinkedIn.