



MiTek Publishes *Hardy Frame Prescriptive Design Guide*, Offering Alternative Braced Wall Solutions with HFX Panels that Comply with 2015 International Residential Code

Lateral Loads from Wind and Earthquakes Require Wood-Framed Structures to be Properly Braced. Hardy Frame® Prefabricated HFX Narrow Shear Wall Panels Offer a Ready Solution in Limited Spaces.

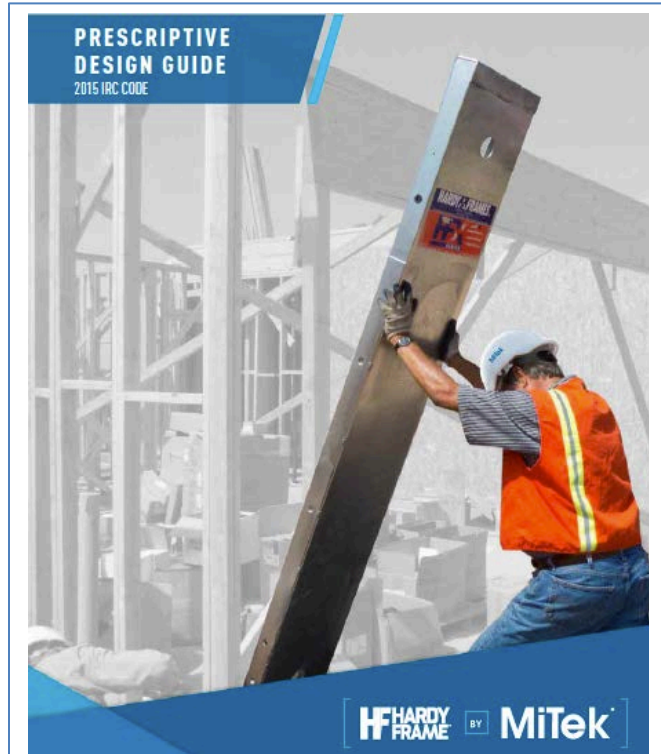
CHESTERFIELD, MO – November 7, 2017 – MiTek announced today that it has just published a new [Hardy Frame Prescriptive Design Guide](#) that provides an overview of braced wall design, a flow chart of the design and specification process, and specific instructions to properly apply the Hardy Frame Alternative Braced Wall Solution.

The [Hardy Frame Prescriptive Design Guide](#) describes the need to locate Braced Wall Lines, determine the Braced Wall Length, and identify the available Braced Wall Segments within each line. When the total length of the Segments is insufficient to meet the Braced Wall Length requirement, the Hardy Frame Alternative Braced Wall is the solution to meet the International Residential Code (IRC).

Garage fronts commonly have limited space that is problematic when specifiers need to meet Braced Wall Lengths and Braced Wall Panel requirements. The [Hardy Frame HFX Prefabricated Narrow Shear Wall Panel](#) – manufactured under a quality-control program – is a proven solution for these conditions.

The [Guide's prescriptive design flow chart](#), its tables for equivalent braced wall panel lengths, and the *Guide's* details for anchorage into concrete combine to provide a complete design tool for building officials, contractors, designers, and suppliers. Using the [Guide](#), building designers can gain insight into how Hardy Frame Panels can fit their needs by dovetailing with their specification process. With the *Guide*, building officials will obtain comprehensive information of products and their installation for use in both the plan-check and field-inspection processes. Contractors and suppliers will have a product listing that includes panels, corresponding accessory products, and easy-to-follow installation details.

"Meeting the IRC Braced Wall Panel requirements in narrow shear walls, like those so common at garage fronts, has been a challenge in the industry for many years. The Hardy Frame *Prescriptive Design Guide* provides solutions for those challenging areas, and a better end-product for the homeowner," said David Lopp, VP of Technical Support for Hardy Frames. "We've been providing Prefabricated Shear Wall solutions in engineered designs for close to 20 years, and now we have set a goal to do the same for prescriptive designs."



The Hardy Frame *Prescriptive Design Guide* provides solutions for meeting the latest IRC Braced Wall Panel requirements in narrow shear walls, like those so common at garage fronts.

About MiTek

MiTek is a diversified global supplier of software, engineered products, services, and equipment to the residential, commercial, and industrial construction sectors. MiTek Industries' passion for its associates' well-being, and its customers' success, is the company's hallmark. A Berkshire Hathaway company (NYSE: [BRK-A](#), NYSE: [BRK-B](#)) since 2001, MiTek has operations in more than 40 countries on six continents. Learn more: www.MiTek-us.com and www.mii.com.

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