



**RINELL WOOD SYSTEMS, INC.**

## Mid Span Bridging

Bridging is often required in floors or roofs when solid-sawn lumber joists are used. This addition provides lateral support to twisted joists to help maintain a vertical orientation. It also facilitates load sharing. Load sharing can be important because of the large variation in material properties found between joists within any solid-sawn lumber grade-group.

TJI®s are made with no observable twist and have minimal material variation between joists within any specification group. Consequently, they do not see any significant benefit from bridging. Our code report (ICC ESR-1153) specifically states that **bridging is not required for floor and roof TJI® joist applications.** iLevel® has found that the addition of bridging does little to improve floor performance and may create squeaks. **It is the policy of iLevel® to recommend against installation of bridging unless an unusual condition exists that would be improved by this addition.**

TJI® ceiling joists may also require bridging to provide lateral support to the top (compression) edge of the ceiling joists. This would only be necessary when sheathing or flat lumber bracing is not attached to the top of these joists.