BENSONWOOD

Like a home, the construction industry needs a solid foundation.

Open-Built®: The new foundation for construction

Open-Built® is an innovative approach to home building, developed over thirty years in the residential construction industry. It was created in reaction to the low status-quo in the design/build process. Our goals with Open-Built® are:

- To improve consistency, quality, and efficiency in home building
- To reduce the cost and complexity of custom architecture
- To reduce on-site construction time and waste of materials

Proven in the Office and in the Field

Bensonwood has been building Open-Built® homes since 2000. We already have a library of hundreds of Open-Built® components, used by our designers on a daily basis. The Bensonwood standard package includes the timberframe, as well as a roof system, exterior wall system, second floor system, and ceiling system, all developed as Open-Built® components. These components are already in use in our homes.

Ten Principles for a Better Way to Build

1. *Homes should be unique and adaptable*

People should live in buildings that provide vibrant environments, can easily adapt to needed changes and, respect the living requirements of their occupants.

2. *Disentangle*

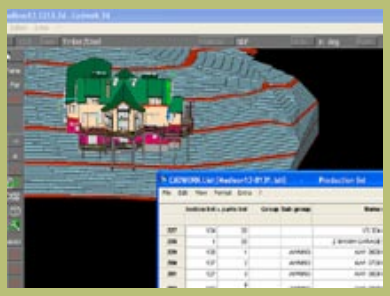
Homes should be well organized, from design through construction. With Open-Built®, the structural and mechanical systems are separated from one another for ease of replacement or repair.

Each home component has a different life expectancy. Over time, parts will wear out or perhaps become less useful for subsequent occupants. Using Open-Built® components, alterations or replacements can be provided easily and efficiently.

3. *Precise Positioning*

A well-defined and precise 3D measurement and positioning system, used by designers and manufacturers, allows for efficient decision making and less waste: materials can be "built to rule."

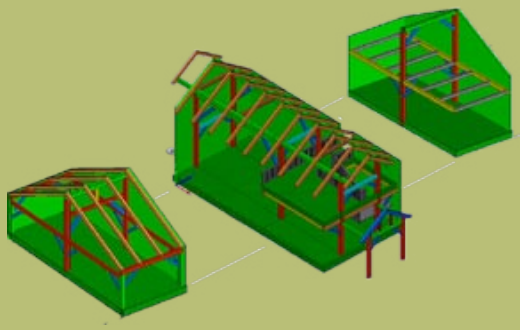
4. *Build it twice*



In a robust CAD environment, a routine part of the design process is the creation of a 3D 'virtual construction' of a home. Potential problems are solved in computer space, rather than on the construction site.

5. *Design assemblies, assemble designs*

A home is 'assembled' from pre-designed components, which can be an item as large as a roof or as small as a cabinet door. The components are designed and engineered, assuring quality, variety, cost, and fit. A component library, a collection of designs for hundreds of pre-designed parts of a home, eliminates the need for standardized home plans. The client is provided a custom home at 'standard home' prices.



6. *Involve everyone*

The design process involves the client, architects, engineers, builders and construction specialists. The client communicates with the builder and designer throughout the process. Architects and engineers decide what works in the shop and on site; builders provide input into the design process. Everyone wins.

7. *Build systems, don't supply raw materials*

Factory-built systems ensure the quality and consistency of the product. Industry suppliers can offer systems that can be used in construction, renovation, and/or expansion.

8. *Modular components, not modular homes*

Retain the beauty and design flexibility of custom homes by using the best manufacturing expertise. Components,SIPS (structural insulated panel systems), plumbing systems, electrical systems, etc.) offer as rich a design palate as raw materials.

9.*Build in the factory, assemble on site*

The shop is the best place to ensure quality control. Shipping components is as efficient as shipping raw materials since components use less space than typical 'pre-fab' units. Factory built components are shipped to the site and then assembled there, reducing site time and construction waste.

10. *Non-proprietary*

Open-Built®, developed by Bensonwood, is the equivalent of 'open-source software.' It is an open-access system, designed to be shared with architects, builders, and manufacturers. Bensonwood is partnering with software developers, manufacturers, and builders to make Open-Built® a new standard in the building industry.

Bensonwood

- Builds throughout the US.
- Provides highest quality products.
- Employs a number of master craftsmen.
- Has experienced engineers, architects, and designers on staff.
- Provides 'end-to-end' customer service; from initial design through construction.
- Was founded by Tedd Benson, author of four books on timberframing.

For more information

If you wish to learn more about Open-Built®, you can visit the Bensonwood website: http://www.bensonwood.com/ or e-mail us at info@bensonwood.com