

PRESS RELEASE

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UARK LIBRARY ANNEX IS FIRST ARKANSAS BUILDING TO USE CLT PANELS

The new library storage building at the University of Arkansas took an innovative and eco-friendly approach by using wooden CLT panels instead of traditional steel.

The project was a collaboration between the university and DFW-based construction firm, Con-Real.

As alumni of the University of Arkansas, Con-Real founders Gerald and Troy Alley were thrilled to bring their shared passion and expertise to this project.

"The significance in the completion of this project is huge to the Con-Real team; as alumni, the Con-Real founders are honored to be able to leave their legacy on campus in more ways than one," says Con-Real's Gina Alley. "It's extremely rewarding to be able to use the gifts the university gave you to create opportunities for future students."

The Library Storage Annex's purpose is to preserve knowledge for the next generation, so it's fitting that it be built in a way that respects the need to make long-term changes for a sustainable future.

The CLT (cross laminated timber) beams used in this record-setting project are a cleaner alternative to traditional metal materials, made up of wood and 0.6% glue.

In addition to the panels themselves being environmentally friendly, using CLT panels in place of traditional metal material allows for a faster, cleaner build, reducing the overall carbon footprint of the project.

At the heart of Con-Real's mission is the desire to better the community, which means constantly evolving the construction process to be more eco-friendly and mindful of each project's impact on the quality of life of the surrounding residents.

Con-Real and the University of Arkansas are proud of this progress towards a more sustainable future, and hope to see it inspire others in the industry to step up to the challenge of building responsibly.

The University of Arkansas Library Storage Annex was completed in September 2018.