



# HAWAII CARPENTERS APPRENTICESHIP & TRAINING FUND

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For Immediate Release

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**NEWS RELEASE  
HCATF ANNOUNCES NEW MASS TIMBER TRAINING PROGRAM**

HONOLULU, HI—The Hawaii Carpenters Apprenticeship & Training Fund (HCATF) is pleased to announce a new training offering for members of the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters (HRCC) and its signatory contractors, utilizing mass timber, a material that can help to reduce construction time.

Mass timber is a durable material that is lighter than concrete with a low burn-rate, cost efficient, and environmentally friendly. Its prefabricated panels allow for faster assembly, reduced timelines, and a lower carbon footprint—key advantages for addressing Hawaii’s housing needs and post-wildfire rebuilding efforts.

“We see how beneficial mass timber will be in our industry and want to ensure that our members have the skills to use this important material,” said Edmund Aczon, HCATF Executive Director. “We started off by offering the training in Maui in partnership with WoodWorks and University of Hawaii – Maui College to support the rebuilding efforts for families impacted by the Maui wildfires.”

These workshops, held at the University of Hawaii Maui College in November, drew strong participation and interest from member contractors, underscoring the growing demand for mass timber expertise.

“Maui, like the rest of the state, needs more affordable housing for our residents, and it was further exacerbated for our community following the wildfires last year,” said Chancellor Lui Hokoana of the University of Hawaii Maui College. “We were excited to partner with HCATF and WoodWorks to offer this training at our campus to get Maui carpenters trained using this material to build quicker and safer.”

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The workshops, developed in collaboration with the HCATF and WoodWorks – Wood Products Council, provide hands-on training in essential skills like timber framing, safety and cross-laminated timber techniques. They are offered at no cost to carpenters, drywallers and millwrights employed by HRCC signatory contractors.

“WoodWorks’ role is to help developers, building designers and contractors use wood to create quality projects that are safe, durable and sustainable,” said WoodWorks President and CEO, Jennifer Cover. “We wanted to make mass timber available for reconstruction efforts and ensure that members of the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters have the proper training to use this important technology.”

The Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters represents one of the largest construction unions in the state and represents nearly 6,000 members in carpentry, drywall and millwright work. The upcoming session will be held at the University of Hawaii Maui College Wood Shop on Jan. 25-26 and Feb. 1-2 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a total of 32 hours.

Key areas of learning will focus on the fundamentals of timber framing:

- Fundamentals of Timber Framing
- Reading Prints & Joinery Techniques
- Mass Timber Essentials: Materials, Tools, & Processes
- Safety Considerations in Timber Framing
- Cross Laminated Timber

More information on HCATF can be found at [hicarpenterstraining.com](http://hicarpenterstraining.com). To learn more about mass timber, visit [www.woodworks.org](http://www.woodworks.org).

Photos from the training sessions are available for download [here](#).

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