



North American
Pultrusion Conference

Laminate Design Considerations & Tools for Lower Mass and Cost, with Higher Performance

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Vectorply Corporation



Uncertainty of Laminate Design Optimization

So Many Options!

Type of fabric construction
Fiber Type
Orientation
Areal Weight
Fiber Fraction
Layer Sequence



Get It Right

Win the Business
Good Margins
Happy Customers
Smooth Launch
Good Performance
Achieve Mass Targets

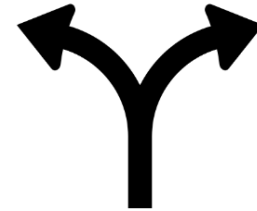
Get It Wrong

Lose the Business
Low Margins
Frustrated Customers
Stressful Launch
Miss Performance Targets
Part is too heavy



Preview

1. Show a tool to quickly develop and compare different materials and laminate designs
2. Low Cost / Low Performance Materials
OR
Higher Cost / High Performance Materials
3. Material Selection Methodology that you can consider applying to your own products



Continuous Filament Mat vs Non-Crimp Fabric

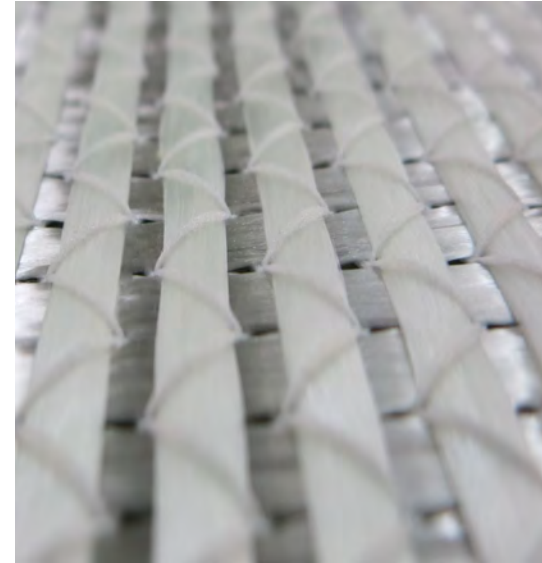
CFM



Lower cost (per lb.)
Lower performance
Use more for equal performance



NCF



Higher cost (per lb.)
Higher performance
Use less for equal performance

Why so much uncertainty in the material selection process?

1. It is very difficult and time-consuming to adequately compare alternative laminates and materials.
2. There is a possibility that engineers did a thorough study in the past and applied the same conclusion to all similar products.
 - A comfort level with existing material may be present.
3. Some people may be under the impression that NCF's are too expensive.



Fabrics for Pultrusion

	Continuous Filament Mat (CFM)	Non-Crimp Fabric (NCF)
Method to hold fibers together	Chemical Binder	Stitching
Fiber Type	Typically Glass Only	Nearly any fiber can be used R-Glass, S-Glass, E-Glass, Carbon, Aramid, Natural Fibers, and others
Standard Areal Weight Units	oz / ft ²	oz / yd ²
Areal Weight Ranges	3/4 oz/ft ² - 3 oz/ft ²	6 oz/yd ² - 100+ oz/yd ²
Fiber Orientation	Random	Unidirectional Plies in "Zeros only", [+/- 45], [+/- 60], [0/90], [45/90/45], [0/45/45], [0/45/90/45]
Fiber Length	Continuous	Continuous and Oriented
Cost (for E-Glass)	X	X + (0% - 30%) with some scenarios where NCF is less than CFM
Fiber Volume Fraction	20-50%	50-60%
Mechanical Properties	X	X + (10%-200%)



When does it make sense to use CFM?

When is it better to use NCF?

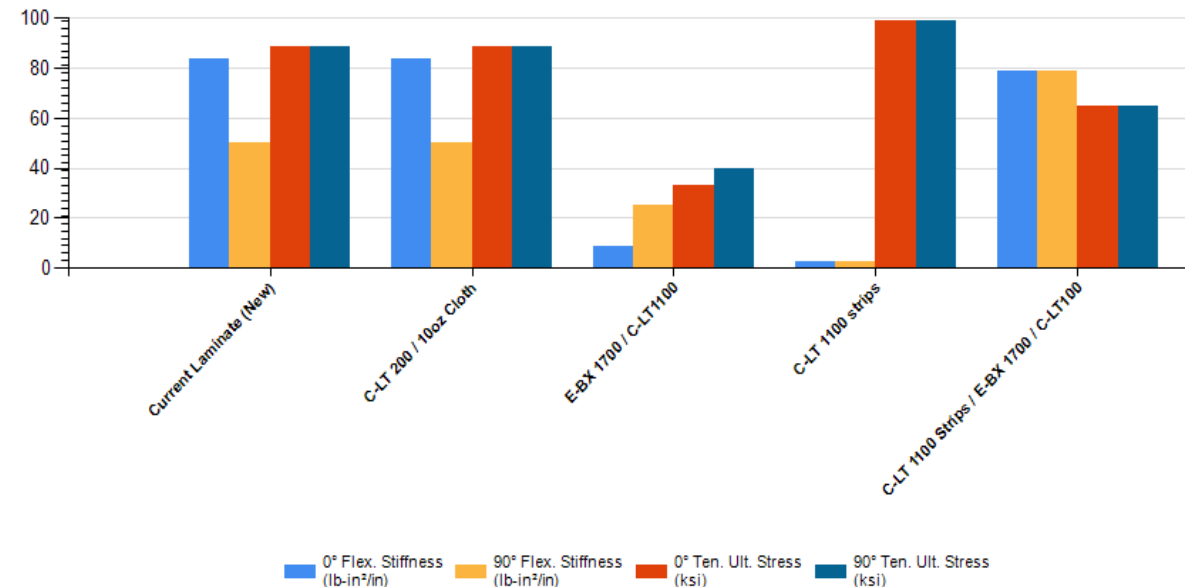
VectorLam Introduction



- VectorLam is a tool to quickly compare alternative laminates.
- This is a FREE online tool that is available to anyone with an internet connection.
- Virtually, you can design and compare several laminates per project and layers per laminate.
- Use the existing database of materials or create your own “My Materials” database from a global list of fibers, fabrics, cores, and other materials.
- Analyze laminates with graphical comparisons, customizable laminate comparison tables, or ABD matrices.

#	Product	% Fiber Wt.	% Fiber Vol.	Top Up/Dn	Rotation	Fiber Wt. oz/sq yd	Thickness in	Total Wt. lb/sq ft	Fiber Cost	Total Cost \$/sq ft	
1	1oz Nexus Veil - pultruded	30.000%	27.149%	Up	0.00°	1.000	0.004	0.023	7.93 \$/lb	0.08	
2	M8643 CFM 2oz - pultruded	36.100%	21.067%	Up	0.00°	18.000	0.045	0.346	2.25 \$/lb	0.61	
3	M8643 CFM 2oz - pultruded	36.100%	21.067%	Up	0.00°	18.000	0.045	0.346	2.25 \$/lb	0.61	
4	113 yield Roving; 13 EPI - pultruded	72.122%	55.000%	Up	0.00°	66.238	0.063	0.638	0.85 \$/lb	0.66	
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Laminates:							140.238	0.250			
Core/Solids:							0.000	0.000			
Total:							140.23800	0.25007	2.06950	\$3.27	

Laminate Comparison



VectorLam Inputs



Layers of the Laminate: Including
Layers of direct roving

The screenshot shows the Vectorply software interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Vectorply logo and links for Home, Current Project, and settings. Below this is a project name field containing "NA... rusion Conference (1-27-23)" and buttons for "Calculate", "Copy Project", "Tools and Analysis", and a "Private" checkbox. The "Current Laminate" section shows a dropdown menu set to "CFM Laminat...", a resin selection of "Resin: Polyester", and a resin cost of "\$/lb: 1.50". There are buttons for "Add Laminate", "Copy Laminate", and "Delete Laminate". The "Layers" section is titled "Layers (top to bottom) + add new" and contains a table with the following columns: #, Product, % Fiber Wt., % Fiber Vol., Top Up/Dn, Rotation, Fiber Wt. oz/sq yd, Thickness in, Total Wt. lb/sq ft, Fiber Cost \$/lb, and Total Cost \$/sq ft. The first seven rows of the table are highlighted with a red border, and a blue arrow points to the first row. The table data is as follows:

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VectorLam Inputs



VECTORPLY PERFORMANCE. DEPENDABLE. TECHNOLOGY. Home Current Project Settings

NA Pultrusion Conference (1-27-23) Calculate Copy Project Tools and Analysis Private

Current Laminate

CFM Laminate #2 Resin: Polyester Resin Cost (\$/lb): 1.50 Add Laminate Copy Laminate Delete Laminate

Layers (top to bottom) + add new

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Layer sequence – drag and drop to change the order of the layers.



VectorLam Inputs



Fiber Volume Fraction OR Weight Fraction. Thickness is auto updated as a dependent variables

VECTORPLY

Home Current Project

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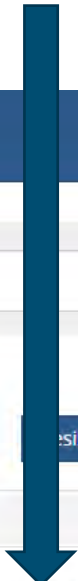
Core/Solids: 0.000 0.000

Total: 140.23800 0.25007 2.06950 \$3.27

VectorLam Inputs



UP / Down Orientation for each layer



VECTORPLY Home Current Project Settings

NA Pultrusion Conference (1-27-23) Calculate Copy Project Tools and Analysis Private

Current Laminate: CFM Laminate #2 Resin: Polyester Resin Cost (\$/lb): 1.50 Add Laminate Copy Laminate Delete Laminate

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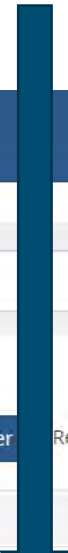
Core/Solids: 0.000 0.000

Total: 140.23800 0.25007 2.06950 \$3.27

VectorLam Inputs



Rotation for each layer



VECTORPLY Home Current Project Settings

NA Pultrusion Conference (1-27-23) Calculate Copy Project Tools and Analysis Private

Current Laminate: CFM Laminate #2 Resin: Polyester Resin Cost (\$/lb): 1.50 Add Laminate Copy Laminate Delete Laminate

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VectorLam Inputs



Areal Weight for each layer (populated directly by material selection)

VECTORPLY

Home Current Project

NA Pultrusion Conference (1-27-23) Calculate Copy Project Tools and Analysis Private

Current Laminate

CFM Laminate #2 Resin: Polyester Resin Cost (lb): 1.50 Add Laminate Copy Laminate Delete Laminate

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VectorLam Inputs



Cost Per Pound

VECTORPLY Home Current Project Settings

NA Pultrusion Conference (1-27-23) Calculate Copy Project Tools and Analysis Private

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VectorLam Outputs

Laminate Comparison Table

- 20 different metrics shown in this table
- Total Weight
- Laminate Cost
- Density
- Thickness
- Fiber Volume and Weight Fraction
- Tensile Modulus
- Flex Modulus
- Thickness
- Ultimate Tensile
- 0 and 90 Degree Properties

VECTORPLY		Home	Current Project	Settings
Laminate Comparison Table		Unit: US	Add Property: Add Property	Compare Graph ABD Matrix Data Sheet
Laminate # »	11	12		
Laminate	CFM Plate Laminate #3	NCF Plate Laminate #3		
Total Wt.	1.839	1.765	lb/ft²	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Thickness	0.236	0.177	in	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
0° Modulus, Ex	1.132	3.640	Msi	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
90° Modulus, Ey	1.132	3.640	Msi	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Shear Modulus, Gxy	0.435	0.731	Msi	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
0° Flex. Stiffness	1,260.346	1,388,281	lb-in²/in	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
90° Flex. Stiffness	1,260.346	1,507.074	lb-in²/in	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
0° Ten. Ult. Stress	18.560	59.691	ksi	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
90° Ten. Ult. Stress	18.560	59.691	ksi	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
0° Comp. Ult. Stress	22.634	68.907	ksi	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
90° Comp. Ult. Stress	22.634	68.907	ksi	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Shear Ult. Stress	14.284	23.989	ksi	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Vf	22.847	54.304	%	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Wf	38.132	71.359	%	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Poisson Ratio, PRxy	0.299	0.155		<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
0° Ult. B. Moment	194.287	304.838	in lb/in	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
90° Ult. B. Moment	194.287	330.922	in lb/in	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

VectorLam Outputs



Comparing only selected laminates

VECTORPLY
COMPOSITE LAMINATE ANALYSIS

Home Current Project

Laminate Comparison Table Unit: US Add Property: Add Property Compare Graph ABD Matrix Data Sheet

Laminate # »	11	12		
Laminate	CFM Plate Laminate #3	NCF Plate Laminate #3		
Total Wt.	1.839	1.765	lb/ft²	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thickness	0.236	0.177	in	<input type="checkbox"/>
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VectorLam Outputs



VECTORPLY
COMPOSITE LAMINATE ANALYSIS

Home Current Project

Laminate Comparison Table Unit: US Add Property: Add Property Compare Graph ABD Matrix Data Sheet

Laminate # »	11	12		
Laminate	CFM Plate Laminate #3	NCF Plate Laminate #3		
Total Wt.	1.839	1.765	lb/ft ²	<input type="checkbox"/>
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You Select US or Metric Units

VectorLam Outputs



VECTORPLY
COMPOSITE LAMINATE ANALYSIS

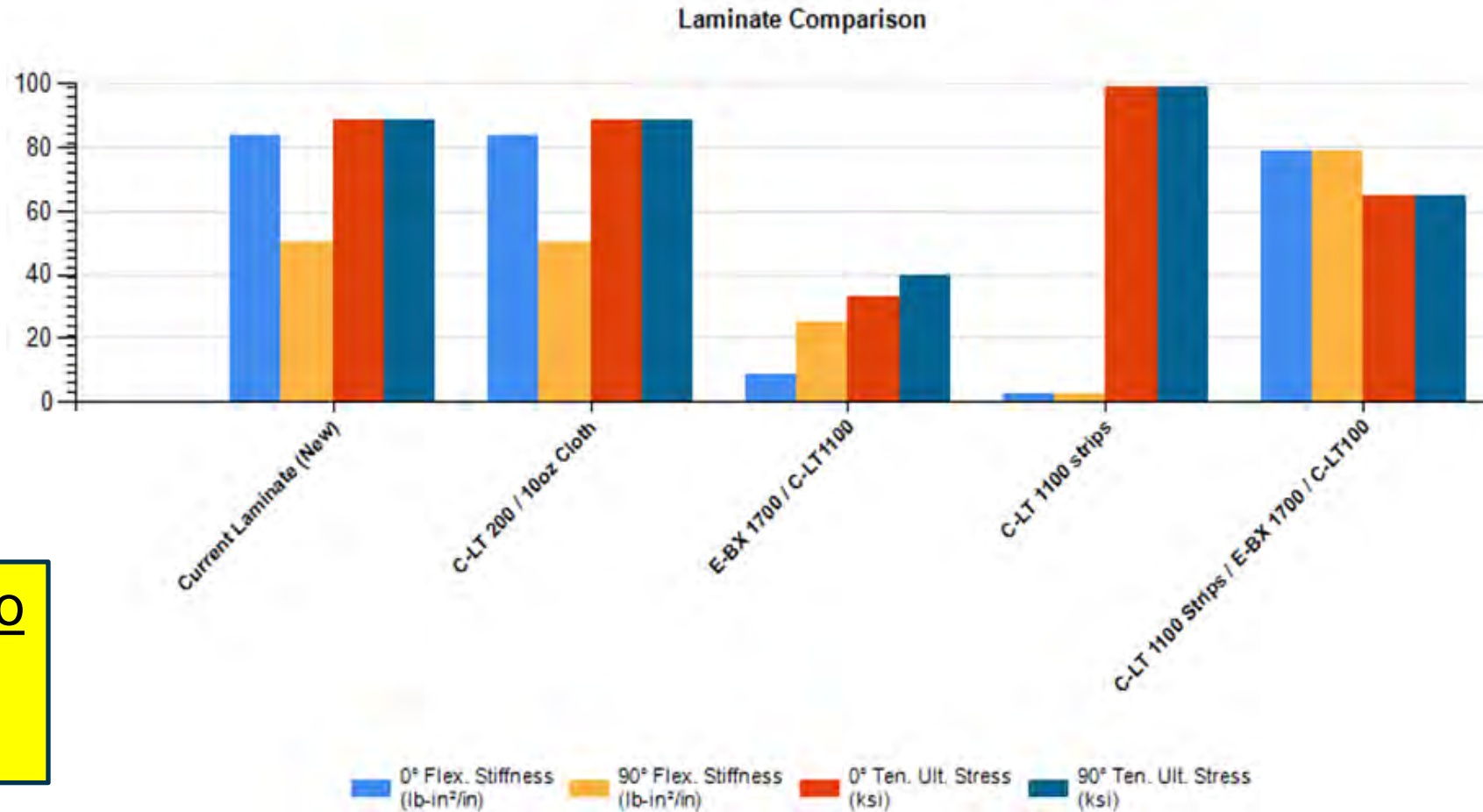
Home Current Project

Laminate Comparison Table Unit: US Add Property: Add Property

Laminate # »	11	12		
Laminate	CFM Plate Laminate #3	NCF Plate Laminate #3		
Total Wt.	1.839	1.765	lb/ft ²	<input type="checkbox"/>
Thickness	0.236	0.177	in	<input type="checkbox"/>
0° Modulus, Ex	1.132	3.640	Msi	<input type="checkbox"/>
90° Modulus, Ey	1.132	3.640	Msi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shear Modulus, Gxy	0.435	0.731	Msi	<input type="checkbox"/>
0° Flex. Stiffness	1,260.346	1,388.281	lb-in ² /in	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
90° Flex. Stiffness	1,260.346	1,507.074	lb-in ² /in	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
0° Ten. Ult. Stress	18.560	59.691	ksi	<input type="checkbox"/>
90° Ten. Ult. Stress	18.560	59.691	ksi	<input type="checkbox"/>
0° Comp. Ult. Stress	22.634	68.907	ksi	<input type="checkbox"/>
90° Comp. Ult. Stress	22.634	68.907	ksi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shear Ult. Stress	14.284	23.989	ksi	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vf	22.847	54.304	%	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wf	38.132	71.359	%	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poisson Ratio, PRxy	0.299	0.155		<input type="checkbox"/>
0° Ult. B. Moment	194.287	304.838	in lb/in	<input type="checkbox"/>
90° Ult. B. Moment	194.287	330.922	in lb/in	<input type="checkbox"/>

20+ other properties to choose from

VectorLam Outputs

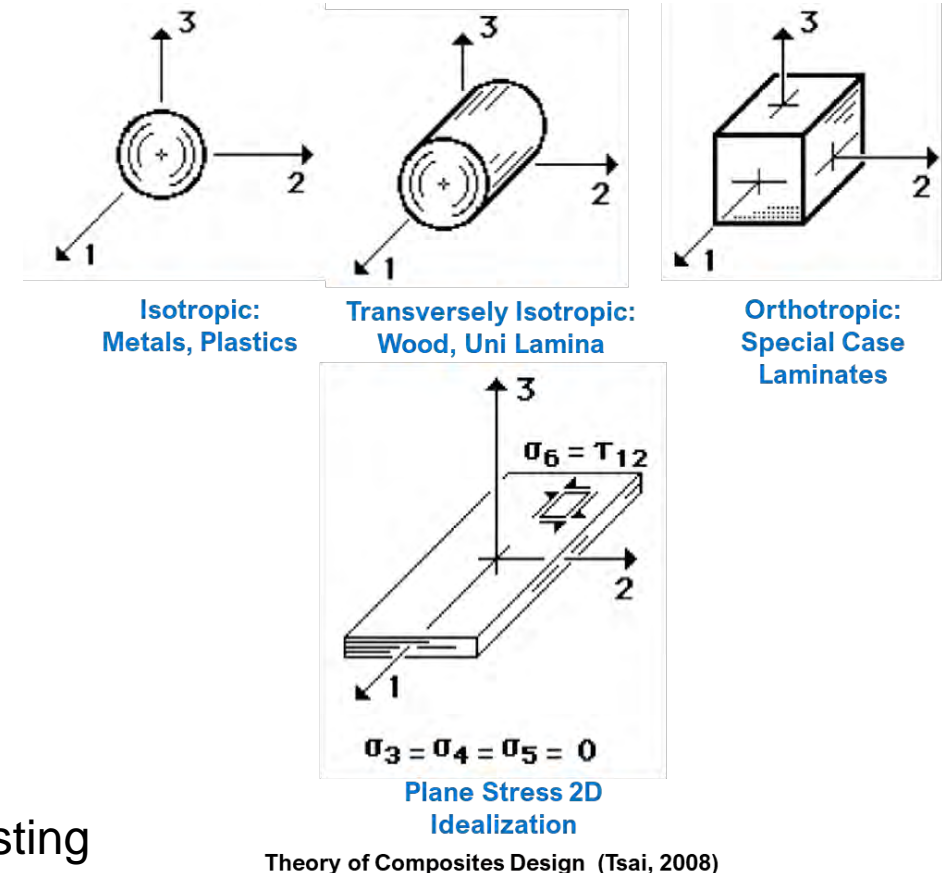


You can also
export to
Excel

How does VectorLam work?

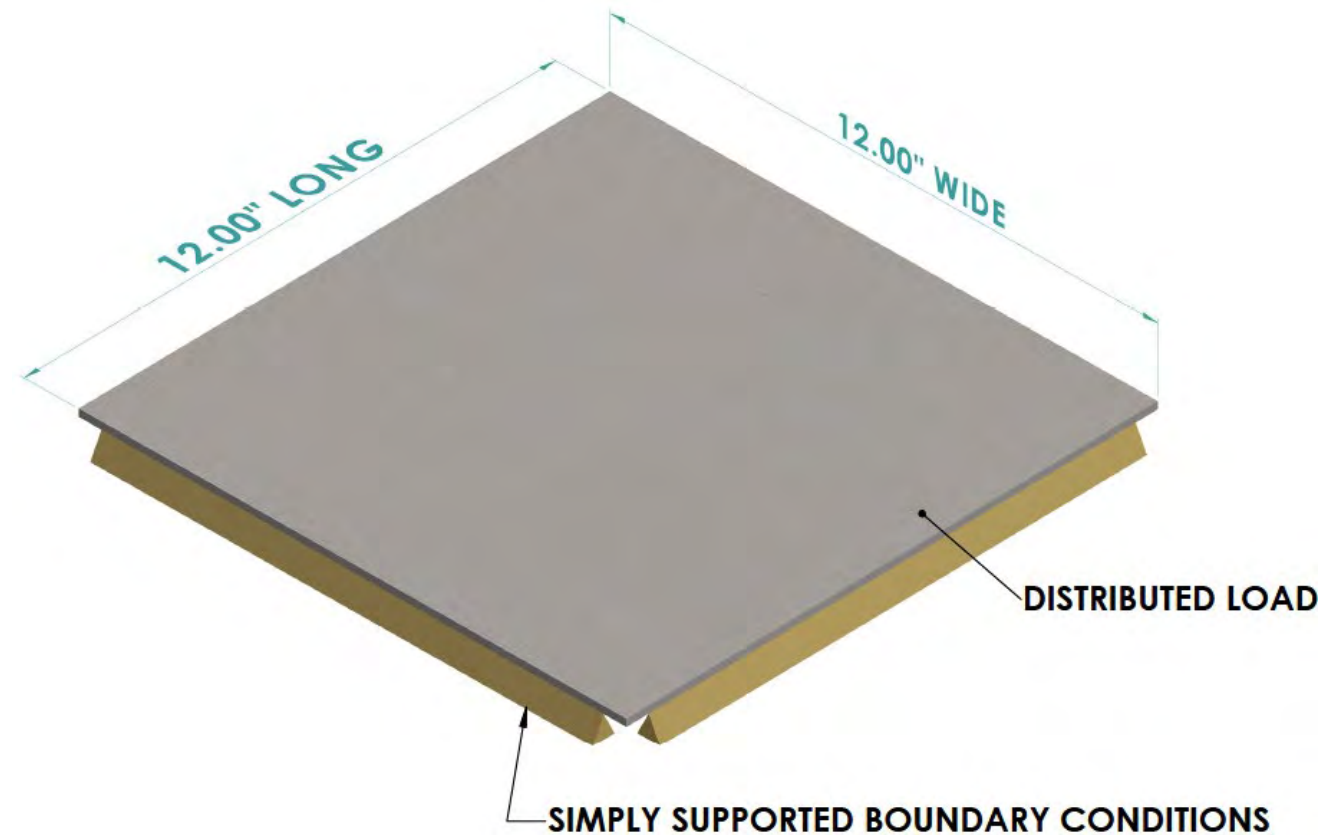


1. Uses Classical Laminate Theory & Hooke's Law
2. SQL Language is used in Cloud Based platform
3. The Lamina "Ply"
 - a) Made from Uni continuous fiber and matrix
 - b) This is the building block of the "Laminate"
4. Required ply properties for classical Lamination
 - a) Mechanical Properties along the fiber direction
 - b) Mechanical Properties transverse to fiber direction
 - c) Shear Modulus
 - d) Poisson's Ratio
 - e) Minor Poisson's Ratio
5. We have done correlation and correlate well to physical testing



Methodology for a plate application

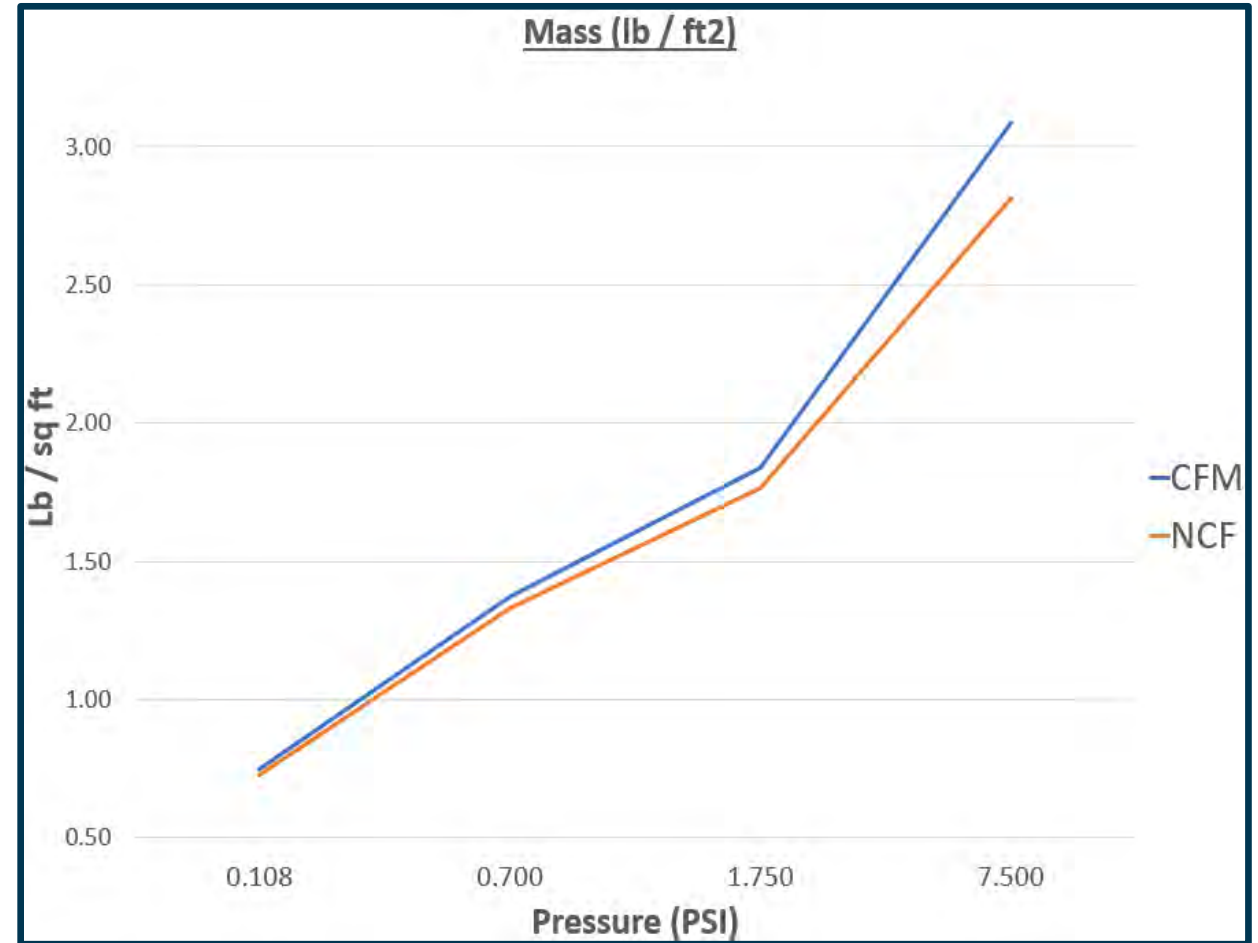
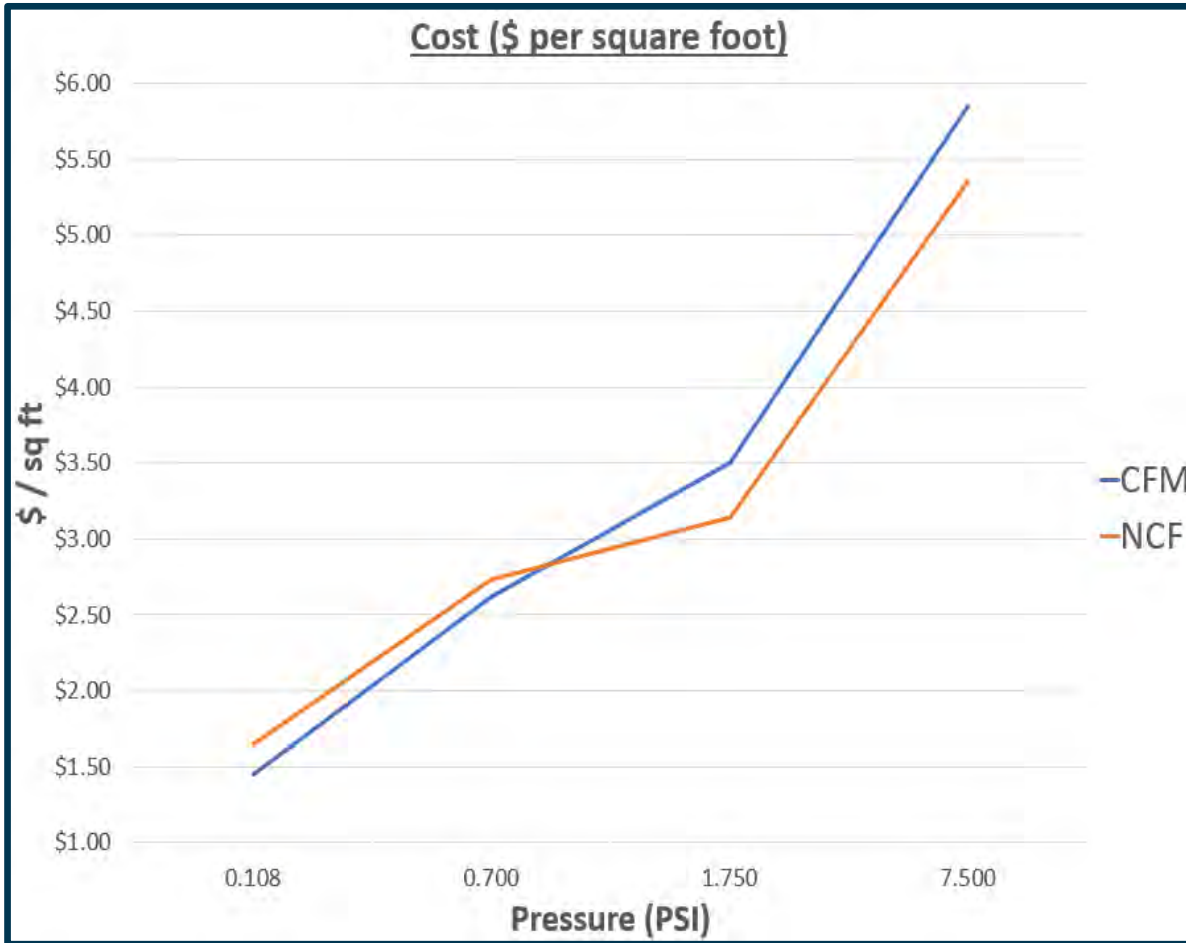
- Used VectorLam's Plate Tool to develop a laminate that would achieve a specified deflection at a given load.
- Goal: To Increase Load at several increments. Keep deflection the same by adding layers of fabric.
- We used a distributed load. Range from .108 psi to 7.5 psi
- Targeted Deflection for all loads = .110 inches
- We recognize that most pultruders would add direct rovings (zeros) to add thickness. For this analysis we added layers of either CFM or NCF to build thickness into the plate.



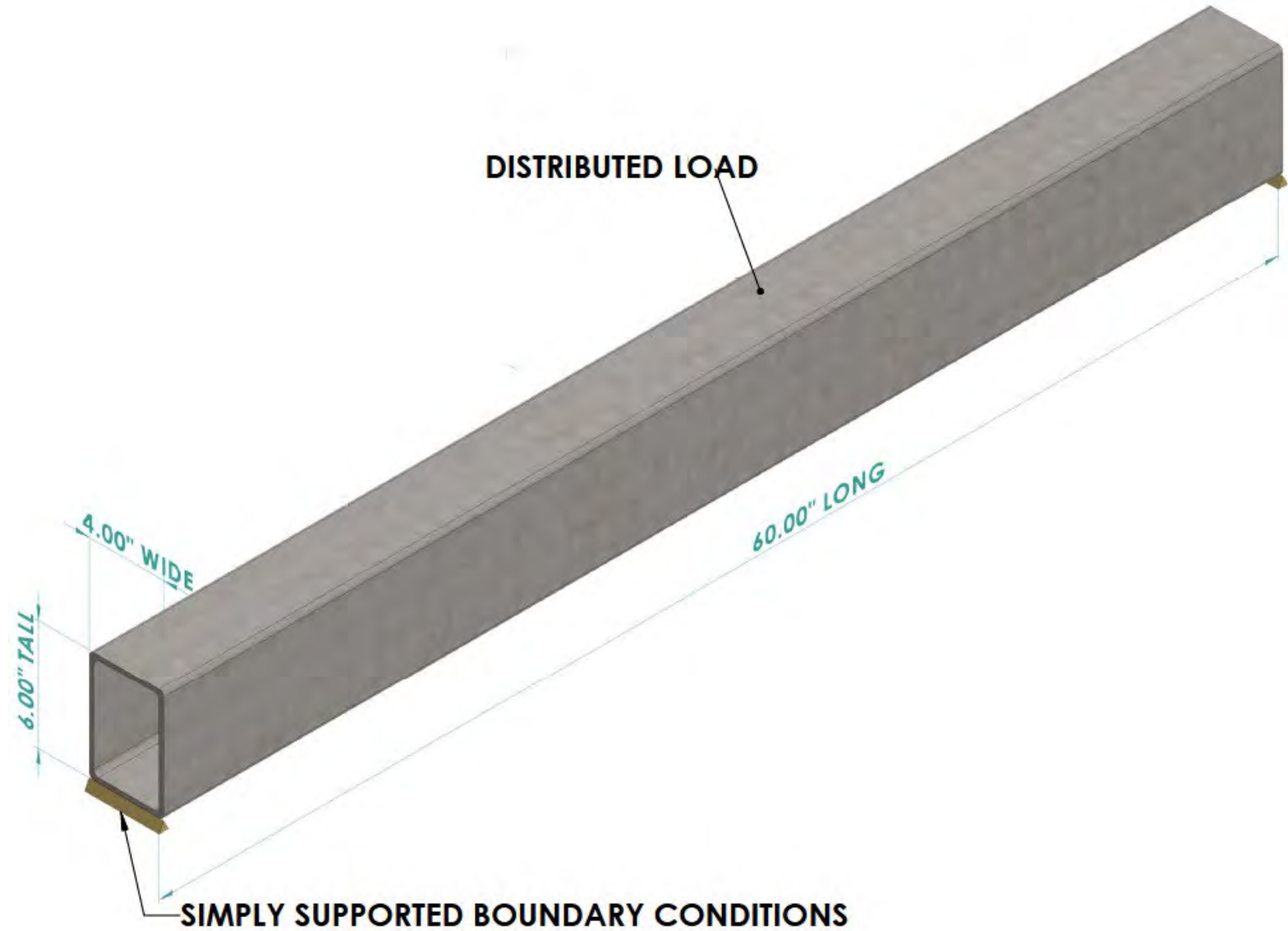
Laminate Construction

	Continuous Filament Mat (CFM)		Non-Crimp Fabric (NCF)	
Pressure	Layers	Thickness (inches)	Layers	Thickness (inches)
.11 psi	2	0.098	2	0.079
0.70 psi	4	0.177	4	0.138
1.75 psi	6	0.236	4	0.177
7.50 psi	10	0.394	4	0.295

Results / Outcome

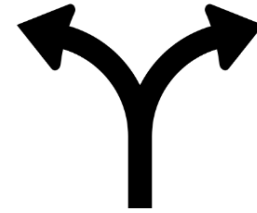


Beam Tool Option



Review

1. Show a tool to quickly develop and compare different materials and laminate designs
2. Low Cost / Low Performance Materials
OR
Higher Cost / High Performance Materials
3. Material Selection Methodology that you can consider applying to your own products





VectorLam – The Next Evolution in Laminate Design and Analysis Software

VectorLam is the latest edition of Vectorply's proprietary laminate analysis software. VectorLam provides a cloud-based, multi-platform compatible approach to classical laminate theory and provides a suite of services across diversified market segments. This upgrade from the Excel-based version of VectorLam allows users to build and access laminates on nearly any internet connected device.

VectorLam helps achieve goals of stiffness, strength, weight and cost by allowing users to design the perfect laminate for their application. Whether it is comparing materials, resin, or even manufacturing processes, VectorLam offers the best solution and reports it in clear, concise language. It has never been easier for users to build, review, and adjust their laminates to meet their specific requirements.

Most importantly, VectorLam is free to all users. Just sign in by clicking the logo to the right and start creating!



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