

# Wood WORKS! BC



## 2011 WOOD DESIGN AWARDS - WINNER

### Green Building Award

Russell Acton, Acton Ostry Architects Inc.

Salt Building, Vancouver



High resolution images available. Please e-mail [mmclaughlin@wood-works.ca](mailto:mmclaughlin@wood-works.ca)

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This project involved the restoration and rehabilitation of a designated historic structure that was used for the refining and processing of salt that was shipped up to Vancouver from San Francisco. The original Salt Building was built in the 1930's, squeezed between two lumber operations, on a City-owned waterfront lot, with only the south west corner situated above the historic high water line. The original structure was supported on timber piles. The shell is a heavy timber structure made up of beams, columns and a spectacularly complex, heavy timber, longspan roof truss system that directs loads onto columns located in the lateral walls and down the centre of the floor to create a large, open

space. The restoration and rehabilitation process required that any new wood integrated into the building be complementary in appearance, but not imitative of, the historic timber, i.e. new wood was not distressed or aged in any manner to make it appear to be original.

The Salt Building is one of very few heritage projects in Canada to target Gold certification under LEED-CS. To summarize, wood was used for the project simply because it was the most appropriate means by which to restore and rehabilitate the historic Salt Building in a sustainable manner that reduces the environmental impact of the project.