CLAIM AMENDMENTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 19

What is claimed is:

1. A shear tie system for a vented roof ridge, comprising:

a ridge beam which is supported via rafters;

sheathing located on the rafters and a gap or slot is provided between a top edge of the sheathing and the ridge beam that extends along a majority of the ridge beam in order to provide an air flow path for building ventilation;

a shear tie strap connected to the ridge beam, the sheathing and the rafters on either side of the ridge beam, the shear tie strap includes a center nailer strip for attachment to the ridge beam, and two cross straps that extend at an acute angle to the ridge beam and include at down slope ends thereof nailer strips,

wherein the shear tip strap comprises a center where the two cross straps intersect or cross, a first longitudinal end including the respective nailer strips displaced from the center of the shear tie strap in a first direction toward a first longitudinal end of the ridge beam, and a second longitudinal end including the respective nailer strips displaced from the center of the shear tie strap in a second direction toward a second end of the ridge beam and opposite to the first direction.

2. The shear tie system of claim 1, wherein the shear tie strap has a width that is adapted to a spacing between adjacent rafters on the roof.

3. The shear tie system of claim 1, wherein the shear tie strap comprises a first sheet metal body and a second sheet metal body, each comprising one of the two cross straps, wherein the two cross straps overlap in an intermediate region such that the overlapping intermediate regions form at least part of the center nailer strip.

4. The shear tie system of claim 1, wherein the shear tie strap further comprises a first connecting strap that extends over the ridge beam and connects the cross straps on the first longitudinal end of the shear tie strap.

5. The shear tie system of claim 4, wherein the shear tie strap further comprises a second connecting strap that extends over the ridge beam and connects the cross straps on the second longitudinal end of the shear tie strap.

6. The shear tie system of claim 5, wherein the first connecting strap is associated with the respective nailer strips on each of the cross straps at the first longitudinal end, and the second connecting strap is associated with the respective nailer strips on each of the cross straps at the second longitudinal end.

7. The shear tie system of claim 6, wherein the first connecting strap includes nailer strips and the second connecting strap includes nailer strips.

8. The shear tie system of claim 1, wherein the nailer strips at down slope ends of the two cross straps are integral with the two cross straps.

9. A shear tie strap comprising:

a first sheet metal body including a cross strap having a first intermediate region; and

a second sheet metal body including a cross strap having a second intermediate region;

wherein the first intermediate region and the second intermediate region intersect or cross to form at least part of a center nailer strip.

10. The shear tie strap of claim 9, wherein the first sheet metal body and the second sheet metal body are integral with one another.

11. The shear tie strap of claim 9, wherein the first sheet metal body and the second metal body are separate and the first intermediate region and the second intermediate region overlap to form at least part of a center nailer strip.

12. The shear tie strap of claim 9, wherein the shear tie strap has a width that is adapted to a spacing between adjacent rafters on a roof.

13. The shear tie strap of claim 12, wherein the spacing is 16 inches on center.

14. The shear tie system of claim 12, wherein the spacing is 24 inches on center.

15. The shear tie strap of claim 9, wherein the first sheet metal body has a first longitudinal end and a second longitudinal end and further includes a nailer strip at the first longitudinal end and a nailer strip at the second longitudinal end, and the second sheet metal body has a first longitudinal end and a second longitudinal end and further includes a nailer strip at the first longitudinal end and a nailer strip at the second longitudinal end, and

wherein the first longitudinal end of the first sheet metal body and the first longitudinal end of the second sheet metal body define a first longitudinal end of the shear tie strap displaced from the center nailer strip in a first direction, and the second longitudinal end of the first sheet metal body and the second longitudinal end of the second sheet metal body define a second longitudinal end of the shear tie strap displaced from the center nailer strip in a second direction opposite to the first direction.

16. The shear tie strap of claim 15 further comprising a first connecting strap adapted to extend over a ridge beam and connect the first sheet metal body and the second sheet metal body on the first longitudinal end of the shear tie strap.

17. The shear tie strap of claim 16 further comprising a second connecting strap adapted to extend over the ridge beam and connect the first sheet metal body and the second sheet metal body on the second longitudinal end of the shear tie strap.

18. The shear tie strap of claim 17, wherein the first connecting strap is associated with the respective nailer strips on the respective first longitudinal ends of the first sheet metal body and the second sheet metal body, and the second connecting strap is associated with the respective nailer strips on the respective second longitudinal ends of the first sheet metal body and the second sheet metal body.

19. The shear tie strap of claim 18, wherein the first connecting strap includes nailer strips and the second connecting strap includes nailer strips.

20. The shear tie strap of claim 15, wherein at least one of the nailer strip at first longitudinal end of the first sheet metal body, the nailer strip at the second longitudinal end of the first sheet metal body, the nailer strip at the first longitudinal end of the second sheet metal body, or the nailer strip at the second longitudinal end of the second sheet metal body is integral with the respective sheet metal body.

21. The shear tie strap of any one of claims 9, 10, or 11, wherein the width of the shear tie strap is 17.5 inches.

22. The shear tie strap of any one of claims 9, 10, or 11, wherein the width of the shear tie strap is 25.5 inches.

23. The shear tie strap of any one of claims 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, or 20, wherein the first longitudinal end of the shear tie strap has a width of 17.5 inches, and the second longitudinal end of the shear tie strap has a width of 17.5 inches.

24. The shear tie strap of any one of claims 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, or 20, wherein the first longitudinal end of the shear tie strap has a width of 25.5 inches, and the second longitudinal end of the shear tie strap has a width of 25.5 inches.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A shear tie system for a vented roof ridge, comprising:

a ridge beam supported via rafters;

sheathing located on the rafters and a gap or slot between a top edge of the sheathing and the ridge beam in order to provide an air flow path for building ventilation;

a shear tie strap to extend over the ridge beam and comprising

a center, two cross straps that overlap or intersect each other at the center, a first longitudinal end displaced from the center of the shear tie strap in a first direction toward a first longitudinal end of the ridge beam when the shear tie strap is installed over the ridge beam and comprising a fastener strip on each cross strap, and a second longitudinal end displaced from the center of the shear tie strap in a second direction toward a second end of the ridge beam and opposite to the first direction when the shear tie strap is installed over the ridge beam and comprising a fastener strip on each cross strap.

2. The shear tie system of claim 1, wherein the shear tie strap has a width that is adapted to a spacing between adjacent rafters on the roof.

3. The shear tie system of claim 1, wherein the shear tie strap comprises a first sheet metal body and a second sheet metal body, each comprising one of the two cross straps, wherein the two cross straps overlap in an intermediate region such that the overlapping intermediate regions form at least part of a center fastener strip.

4. The shear tie system of claim 1, wherein the shear tie strap further comprises a first connecting strap that extends over the ridge beam and connects the cross straps on the first longitudinal end of the shear tie strap.

5. The shear tie system of claim 4, wherein the shear tie strap further comprises a second connecting strap that extends over the ridge beam and connects the cross straps on the second longitudinal end of the shear tie strap.

6. The shear tie system of claim 5, wherein the first connecting strap is associated with the respective fastener strips on each of the cross straps at the first longitudinal end, and the second connecting strap is associated with the respective fastener strips on each of the cross straps at the second longitudinal end.

7. The shear tie system of claim 6, wherein the first connecting strap includes fastener strips and the second connecting strap includes fastener strips.

8. The shear tie system of claim 1, wherein the fastener strips at down slope ends of the two cross straps are integral with the two cross straps.

9. A shear tie strap comprising:

a first sheet metal body including a cross strap having a first intermediate region; and

a second sheet metal body including a cross strap having a second intermediate region;

wherein the first intermediate region and the second intermediate region intersect or overlap to form a center of the shear tie strap.

10. The shear tie strap of claim 9, wherein the first sheet metal body and the second sheet metal body are integral with one another.

11. The shear tie strap of claim 9, wherein the first sheet metal body and the second metal body are separate and the first intermediate region and the second intermediate region overlap to form the center.

12. The shear tie strap of claim 9, wherein the shear tie strap has a width that is adapted to a spacing between adjacent rafters on a roof.

13. The shear tie strap of claim 12, wherein the spacing is 16 inches on center.

14. The shear tie system of claim 12, wherein the spacing is 24 inches on center.

15. The shear tie strap of claim 9, wherein the first sheet metal body has a first longitudinal end and a second longitudinal end and further includes a fastener strip at the first longitudinal end and a fastener strip at the second longitudinal end, and the second sheet metal body has a first longitudinal end and a second longitudinal end and further includes a fastener strip at the first longitudinal end and a fastener strip at the second longitudinal end, and

wherein the first longitudinal end of the first sheet metal body and the first longitudinal end of the second sheet metal body define a first longitudinal end of the shear tie strap displaced from the center in a first direction, and the second longitudinal end of the first sheet metal body and the second longitudinal end of the second sheet metal body define a second longitudinal end of the shear tie strap displaced from the center in a second direction opposite to the first direction.

16. The shear tie strap of claim 15 further comprising a first connecting strap connected to the first sheet metal body and the second sheet metal body on the first longitudinal end of the shear tie strap.

17. The shear tie strap of claim 16 further comprising a second connecting strap connected to the first sheet metal body and the second sheet metal body on the second longitudinal end of the shear tie strap.

18. The shear tie strap of claim 17, wherein the first connecting strap is associated with the respective fastener strips on the respective first longitudinal

ends of the first sheet metal body and the second sheet metal body, and the second connecting strap is associated with the respective fastener strips on the respective second longitudinal ends of the first sheet metal body and the second sheet metal body.

19. The shear tie strap of claim 18, wherein the first connecting strap includes fastener strips and the second connecting strap includes fastener strips.

20. The shear tie strap of claim 15, wherein at least one of the fastener strip at the first longitudinal end of the first sheet metal body, the fastener strip at the second longitudinal end of the first sheet metal body, the fastener strip at the first longitudinal end of the second sheet metal body, or the fastener strip at the second longitudinal end of the second sheet metal body is integral with the respective sheet metal body.

21. The shear tie strap of any one of claims 9, 10, or 11, wherein the width of the shear tie strap is 17.5 inches.

22. The shear tie strap of any one of claims 9, 10, or 11, wherein the width of the shear tie strap is 25.5 inches.

23. The shear tie strap of any one of claims 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, or 20, wherein the first longitudinal end of the shear tie strap has a width of 17.5 inches, and the second longitudinal end of the shear tie strap has a width of 17.5 inches.

24. The shear tie strap of any one of claims 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, or 20, wherein the first longitudinal end of the shear tie strap has a width of 25.5 inches, and the second longitudinal end of the shear tie strap has a width of 25.5 inches.

25. The shear tie strap of any one of claims 9–24 further comprising a hole adapted to receive a fastener, where the hole is optionally in one of the fastener strips.

26. The shear tie strap of any one of claims 9–25, wherein at least one of the fastener strips is a nailer strip.

27. The shear tie system of claim 1, wherein the shear tie strap is attached to the sheathing by fasteners through the fastener strips when installed over the ridge beam.

28. The shear tie system of claim 27, wherein the center is attached to the ridge beam by a fastener through the center.

29. The shear tie system of claim 28, wherein the center further comprises a fastener strip comprising a hole through the shear tie strap and the fastener is installed through the hole.

30. The shear tie system of claim 1 further comprising a ridge vent to be installed over the shear tie strap and the gap or slot.

31. The shear tie system of any one of claims 1–8 and 27–30, wherein at least one of the fastener strips includes a hole for receiving a fastener.

32. The shear tie system of any one of claims 1–8 and 27–31, wherein at least one of the fastener strips is a nailer strip.