



Enhancing Structural Performance: Yield-Link® Brace Connection Software Demonstration - Part 3 Webinar Q&A

Here is the Q&A Report from our live webinar, **Yield-Link® Brace Connection Software Demonstration - Part 3**, held on July 26, 2023.

Thank you for submitting your questions.

You can also [view this webinar's recording](#) and the [slide deck](#). Here are recording links to [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#).

Please send any additional questions to Vince Yang (viyang@strongtie.com).

QUESTION	ANSWER
Are all of these calculations always done by the EOR, or is there a portion of this that is deferred and designed by Simpson like it is for a BRB?	All our tools are intended to provide solutions that the engineer can design completely on their own. However, Simpson engineers are available to help you optimize the design. If it's your first time using the software, we can help walk you through how to use it for your specific project all the way to detailing.
Similar question to the one asked above. If we are going to use this system, is it intended that we incorporate Simpson's standard details into the stamped construction documents, or is that more of a shop drawing item?	The standard details are intended to be on the stamped drawings that you submit to the city, so you would want to include that on your submittal package to the city plan check department. The Tekla plugin will help the fabricators create the shop drawings, which you can then review. Simpson can help take a look at that, as well.
Does the software apply for other Codes outside of US?	The YLBC is code listed under ICC ESR-4342, which references the 2021 IBC and 2021 IEBC. Our software tools correspond with the design procedure listed in ESR-4342 and therefore would apply to any jurisdiction that accepts 2021 IBC and 2021 IEBC.
What is the approximate cost increase when compared to a traditional X- braced frame?	Single-Story X-Configuration is not allowed in BRBF; however, you can use YLBC in a Single-Story X-configuration braced frame. Depending on job location and size, the YLBC's cost is generally competitive with that of BRBFs. Please contact our sales team for your project design and pricing information.
Will this be available in RISA 3D?	We initiated a discussion with RISA. But if you would like to see YLBC in RISA 3D, please email RISA and put in a new feature request.
Is this available in RAM Only?	Vince is currently showing a design using RAM Structural. He will present designs using our free downloadable Excel Design tool, SAP plugin, and ETABS plugin. Stay tuned for more!
Is there a plan to integrate with SDS2?	Yes, we are working on a plugin/script for SDS2. It should be available by the end of the year.
Will this be available in STAAD PRO?	Not at this time. We'll keep track of your request. However, we do have a modeling guide showing how to model our YLBC connection in different software.



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Webinar Q&A

Is there a plugin available for Tekla?	We have a plugin for Tekla Structure (for detailing), but we currently don't have a plugin yet for Tekla Structural Designer (design).
What about Altair S-Frame?	We don't have any plugins for S-Frame. However, we do have a YLBC modeling guide that you can use for modeling our YLBC connections in S-Frame.
Who else uses SkyCiv?	We have not received any requests for cloud apps yet. If you do use SkyCiv, we do have a modeling guide that can help with the modeling of our YLBC connection.
Is the Excel file required for the complete design of frames?	Currently, RAM can perform and design the members (beam/column/brace) and the YLBC fuses. It can't do the connection design. This is where our Excel tool comes in. You can export data from RAM and import it into our Excel tool to finish the connection designs.
Does the software have an option for HSS sections?	Currently, HSS sections are not included for the beam and columns in our Excel Design Tool. It's on our list of features we'll update in our next versions.
Sorry, I missed the beginning of this webinar. Is this Excel spreadsheet available to us, for free?	Yes, our tools are linked below: https://www.strongtie.com/products/go/structural-steel/yield-link-brace-connection-software-tools