Solana used LVL (laminated veneer lumber) panels, beams and posts as both the structure of the building and the finish. The elevator shaft is constructed of 60-foot long by 8-inch LVL panels screwed together. All the decks and walkways are made of 5.5-inch LVL panels on LVL posts and beams fastened with Heco Topix screws without having to use steel plates, which sped up construction time and provided a unique wood finish to the building. Clear cedar siding was used for some soffits and as accent siding on the building.

Eight-inch SIP panels were used as insulation over the entire wall system. The wall structure is conventional 2x6 framing with R20 batt insulation for a well-insulated, airtight wall system. All the units have an HRV supplying fresh air with heat recovery. To complete the wall system, triple-pane windows were used. The roof is wood trusses with R70 insulation. Using wood lowered the project’s carbon footprint and reduced the size and cost of the foundations. Using wood as both the finished product and the building structure further reduced materials and embodied energy required for a beautiful finished building. Using wood reduced thermal bridging in the structure and improved the energy performance of the building envelope.

“The multiple uses of wood products effectively demonstrates the versatility of wood. A beautifully engineered project.”
- jury comments