THE NEXT EVOLUTION IN DECKS

PRODUCT CATALOG
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THE BIRTH OF EVOLUTION STEEL FRAMING

A few years ago, a Colorado deck builder approached Fortress Building Products and, knowing our capabilities for steel building materials, recommended we create a metal deck framing system to fill a void in the North American market. We investigated and found that places like Australia and South Africa had already moved to metal framing systems, while most North American builders still relied on wood products. Fortress met with deck builders, and it quickly became clear the market needs a steel system that is affordable, looks and assembles like wood, and is easy to install. To answer these requests, we introduced Evolution by Fortress Framing, a steel system designed by deck builders, for deck builders.

TRUST IN FORTRESS

In 2002, Fortress opened its doors and quickly became a market leader in alternative fence and railing solutions that are durable, low maintenance, high strength, and easy to install. Through the years, Fortress has expanded its line-up and now specializes in alternative outdoor building products, including railings, fence, pergola, and bamboo-based composite decking.
EVOLUTION

A SMARTER STEEL FRAMING SYSTEM
DESIGNED BY DECK BUILDERS,
FOR DECK BUILDERS.
BUILDING MATERIALS, THEN AND NOW

We’ve relied on wood construction for centuries – for bridges, oil derricks, and even warships. Once we learned to work with steel, however, builders abandoned many wood structures in favor of durable steel. Today, leading deck builders around the world are choosing sustainable steel framing over old-fashioned wood framing.

WOOD VS STEEL COMPARISON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Wood Framing</th>
<th>Steel Framing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easy to Install</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Straight, Uniform Pieces</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build Beyond Limitations</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td>✔️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compatibility</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long-Life Warranty</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Smart Investment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aesthetically Beautiful</td>
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<td>✔️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire- and Insect-Resistant</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td>✔️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EASY TO INSTALL

Designed and engineered to look and install like wood. If you know how to frame with wood, you can frame with Evolution.

STRAIGHT, UNIFORM PIECES

Light-gauge steel provides a perfectly flat surface without crowning, warping, or cracking over the life of your deck. Builds flat, stays flat!
BUILD BEYOND LIMITATIONS

Our steel deck framing has been engineered to provide greater spans between supports, resulting in fewer columns for less obstructed views.

COMPATIBILITY

Evolution steel deck framing is compatible with any type or brand of decking, including composite, PVC, aluminum, tile, wood, and tropical hardwoods.

IT’S WHAT YOU DON’T SEE THAT COUNTS
A SMART INVESTMENT

Like all Fortress products, Evolution by Fortress Framing is designed on our core concepts of low-maintenance, durability, ease of installation, and safety.

LONG-LIFE WARRANTY

We believe your framing should last at least as long as the decking it supports. Evolution carries a 25-year limited manufacturer warranty.

LIFETIME COST OF YOUR DECK

Half the cost, none of the worry.

Estimated professionally installed cost for a 20’ x 20’ deck. Based on company market research. Cost for decking and railing are based on wood alternative products.
AESTHETICALLY BEAUTIFUL

The premium Black Sand powder coat provides an aesthetically pleasing look that virtually disappears when you’re above or below your deck. Now you can build with or without fascia.

FIRE- AND INSECT-RESISTANT

Evolution steel deck framing is noncombustible material, resistant to fire and invulnerable to rotting, warping, splitting, and pesky insect damage.

A SOLID FOUNDATION
INSECTICIDE-FREE

Wood boards are often soaked with insecticide and fungicide. Because steel doesn’t attract bugs and microorganisms, it doesn’t require this type of treatment.

SUSTAINABLE

Steel is recycled and recyclable, making it more sustainable than wood. Learn more on page 9.
GREAT FOR THE PLANET...
The environment will thank you for choosing steel. While wood is renewable, steel is sustainable. We’ll tell you why.

90%
Of all steel is recycled, while 70% of wood is single use.

Recycling steel requires less energy than it originally took to make it.

Recycling steel does not degrade its quality, so it can be recycled over and over.

Old growth lumber provided a stronger, denser product that is not sustained in the fast growth lumber of today.
**GREAT FOR BUILDERS...**

Evolution was designed to be installed like wood, without the difficulty and confusion of typical steel profiles. Evolution consists of a Ledger, Joists, Beams, Posts, and Blocking, making installation quick and easy!

**PARTS SHOWN**

1. S-Ledger (pre-spaced 12" & 16" O.C.)
2. Ledger Bracket
3. Joist (2”x6”)
4. F50 Bracket
5. Strap (mid-span blocking)
6. Beam (2”x11”)
7. Beam Cap
8. Post to Beam Bracket
9. Post (3½”x3½”x10’)
10. Blocking (12" & 16” O.C.)
11. Post to Pier Bracket
12. Single Hanger Brackets
13. Rim Joist (pre-spaced 12" & 16” O.C.)

**PARTS NOT SHOWN...** but available to cover virtually all needs/applications.

SYSTEM COMPONENTS

BUILD SAFE DECKS WITH LESS LABOR.
OUR INTERLOCKING JOIST AND LEDGER SYSTEM PIECES FIT TOGETHER EASILY.
Evolution’s Joists are a familiar shape that install quickly and easily with minimal fasteners. The steel joists will hold their shape, providing a perfectly flat deck surface that will not sag or warp over the life of your deck.

16 Gauge Joist
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.
Lengths available:
12’ | 14’ | 16’ | 18’ | 20’

Joist Cap
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

18 Gauge Joist
Galvanized.
Lengths available:
12’ | 14’ | 16’ | 18’ | 20’

18 Gauge Joist

Joist Cap
Covers open joist to provide clean, finished look and deter pests and animals.
Evolution’s S-Ledger is an engineered interlocking design with the Ledger Bracket that eliminates the need for excessive fasteners and drastically speeds up installation. The “S” shape provides a sturdy, safe deck connection that will offer peace of mind for decades. The S-Ledger is available with pre-punched, standard spacing options that simplify deck construction.

12" O.C. S-Ledger
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.
Lengths available: 12’ | 20’

16" O.C. S-Ledger
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.
Lengths available: 12’ | 20’

Blank S-Ledger
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.
Lengths available: 12’ | 20’

Ledger Bracket
Used with the S-Ledger and joist or fastened to a flush beam

Blank
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.
Lengths available: 12’ | 20’
Evolution’s Beam has been engineered to achieve longer spans between supports, eliminating excessive posts and obstructed views.

**Beam**
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.
Lengths available:
8’ | 12’ | 16’ | 20’

**Beam Cap**
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

**Double Beam Track**
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.
Lengths available:
4’
Sold in pairs

**Double Beam Track**
Used to connect two beams to create a double beam (attaches to top and bottom of double beam)
Evolution’s Rim Joist incorporates the same pre-punched and non-punched system as the S-Ledger for consistent, quicker installation without the hassle. Evolution’s Rim Joists provide a solution for any installation application, including an option for curved decks. The Rim Joist attaches to the Joist with minimal fasteners and provides a perfectly flat surface to attach trim or fascia.

12” O.C. Rim Joist
For use with fascia only

16” O.C. Rim Joist
For use with fascia only

Blank Rim Joist
For use with or without fascia

Curved Rim Joist
For use with or without fascia
Evolution’s steel post and brackets provide the perfect solution to support your deck. The black powder coated posts look great on their own or can be customized with the trim of your choice.

**Post**
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand. 3½” x 3½” x 10’

**Post/Pier Bracket**
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

**Single Beam/Post Bracket**
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

**Double Beam/Post Bracket**
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

- Post
  - Used to support deck framing to concrete footings

- Post/Pier Bracket
  - Secures post to concrete landing or pier

- Single Beam/Post Bracket
  - Used to secure post to single beam

- Double Beam/Post Bracket
  - Used to secure post to double beam
BRACKETS

F-10 Bracket
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

F-50 Bracket
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

Single Hanger Bracket
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

Double Hanger Bracket
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

F-10 Bracket
Used to secure joist to a drop beam when non-standard spacing is required and as a cap on the bottom of the S-Ledger

F-50 Bracket
Used with S-Ledger, joist, and blocking as well as many other applications

Single Hanger Bracket
Used to secure joist to flush beam applications

Double Hanger Bracket
Used to secure double joist or create a double (2" x 6") carry beam
**BRACKETS (CONTINUED)**

**Ledger Bracket**
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

**45° Bracket**
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

**Rim Joist Bracket**
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.

**Ledger Bracket**
Used with the S-Ledger and joist or fastened to a flush beam

**Rim Joist Bracket**
Inserts into joist at the end of the deck for attaching the Curved Rim Joist

**45° Bracket**
Used with the Blank S-Ledger when joist extends at an angle to keep standard spacing
**Blocking**
Galvanized and powder coated with Black Sand.
12” O.C. + 16” O.C.

**Strap**
Manufactured to match the same spacing as the S-Ledger for easy mid-span blocking applications

**Blocking**
Manufactured to match the same spacing as the S-Ledger for easy blocking of joist on a dropped beam

**Screw**
Self-drilling metal screw
Head coated in black.

¾” Black self-drilling metal screw
PRODUCT GUIDE

EVOLUTION BY FORTRESS FRAMING HAS COMPONENTS TO COVER VIRTUALLY ALL NEEDS/APPLICATIONS
### JOIST - 16 GAUGE

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### JOIST - 18 GAUGE

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### S-LEDGER

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### BEAM

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<td>FF-EVOLUTION-BEAM 2X11-12’</td>
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<td>184116161</td>
<td>FF-EVOLUTION-BEAM 2X11-16’</td>
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<td>184120161</td>
<td>FF-EVOLUTION-BEAM 2X11-20’</td>
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### DOUBLE BEAM TRACK

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<tr>
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<td>FF-EVOLUTION-DBL BEAM TRACK-4’ (2 PACK)</td>
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### CAPS

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<td>FF-EVOLUTION-JOIST CAP</td>
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## RIM JOIST

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<td>FF-EVOLUTION-16OC U-RIM JOIST-2X6-8'</td>
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## RIM JOIST - BLANK

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## RIM JOIST - CURVED

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### POST

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### POST TO PIER BRACKET

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### SINGLE BEAM TO POST BRACKET

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### DOUBLE BEAM TO POST BRACKET

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### LEDGER BRACKET

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### F10 BRACKET

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### F50 Bracket

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### Single Hanger Bracket

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### Double Hanger Bracket

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### 45° Bracket

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### Rim Joist Bracket

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### Blocking

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### STRAP

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### SELF-DRILLING SCREW

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### BLACK SAND TOUCH UP PAINT

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PROTECT YOUR PROJECTS WITH A SOLID FOUNDATION
When compared with wood, Evolution Steel Deck Framing is surprisingly affordable and dependably durable, a win for both contractors and customers. Visit fortressframing.com now to find a distributor in your area.
ELIMINATE TIME AND HEADACHES

THE EVOLUTION STEEL STAIR SYSTEM IS A COMPLETE, ENGINEERED STAIR SOLUTION FOR ANY APPLICATION.
EVOLUTION STEEL STAIR SYSTEM
The stair components and brackets work with the Evolution Joist and Beams to provide a quick, easy assembly, dramatically decreasing installation time! The Black Sand powder coat delivers an aesthetically pleasing modern look on its own or use with fascia/trim for a more traditional look.

PARTS SHOWN
1. Beam (or deck/structure)
2. Stair Strap
3. Stringer Evolution 2"x6" Joist or 2"x11" Beam
4. Stair Stringer Anchor Bracket
5. Preset 7”/11” Stair Bracket
6. 48" Stair Tray

PARTS NOT SHOWN... but available to cover virtually all needs/applications.
• Preset 7¾”/11” Stair Bracket
• Adjustable Stair Bracket
The Evolution Stair Components have been designed and engineered to eliminate the need for excessive stringers and work with any composite, PVC and tropical hardwood deck boards.

48" Stair Tray
The Evolution Stair Tray allows quick and easy installation without all the stringers and hassle. The lateral supports are spaced to work with any kind of deck board and provides blocking for surface mounted posts.

Stair Stringer Anchor Bracket
The Evolution Stair Stringer Anchor Bracket is reversible, allowing a secure, connection from the stringer to the footing, slab or pier under the last tread. Providing an aesthetically seamless transition from the stairs.

Stair Strap
The Evolution Stair Strap allows flexibility when connecting the stairs to the deck, landing or structure, while securely holding the stringers in place.
BRACKETS

Preset 7”/11” Stair Bracket
The Evolution Preset 7”/11” Stair Bracket is engineered to slide over the top of an Evolution Joist and provide a perfect 7” rise and 11” run for the stringer. These brackets align directly with one another resulting in a rapid, worry-free stringer installation.

Preset 7¾”/11” Stair Bracket
The Evolution Preset 7¾”/11” Stair Bracket is engineered to slide over the top of an Evolution Joist and provide a perfect 7¾” rise and 11” run for the stringer. These brackets align directly with one another resulting in a rapid, worry-free stringer installation.

Adjustable Stair Bracket
The Evolution Adjustable Stair Bracket allows you to quickly and easily customize the stair’s rise and run using the two provided set pins. Simply place the set pins in the desired holes and slide the stair brackets over an Evolution Joist to complete the stinger installation.

Evolution Stair Brackets have been designed to accommodate virtually any rise/run options. The stair brackets attach directly to the top of the Evolution Joist or Beams for quick and easy installation without the irritation of traditional stair applications.
PRODUCT GUIDE

EVOLUTION STAIR SYSTEM BY FORTRESS FRAMING HAS COMPONENTS TO COVER VIRTUALLY ALL NEEDS/APPLICATIONS
### 48" STAIR TRAY

<table>
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![48" STAIR TRAY Diagram](image)

### STAIR STRINGER ANCHOR BRACKET

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![STAIR STRINGER ANCHOR BRACKET Diagram](image)

### STAIR STRAP

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![STAIR STRAP Diagram](image)
### ADJUSTABLE STAIR BRACKET

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### 7”/11” STAIR BRACKET

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### 7¾”/11” STAIR BRACKET

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STAIR CALCULATOR

Building with the Adjustable Stair Bracket is easy when you use the online custom stair calculator. Simply choose your stair configuration, enter a few parameters, and the calculator will show you how to build your stringer!
JOIN NOW

Put the power of the Fortress brand behind you when you become a member of the Fortress Preferred Program. By promoting and installing Fortress Building Products, you can offer your customers an extended 5 year labor coverage while earning rebates. As a valued and trusted Fortress partner you’ll be able to provide a quality customer experience through every step of the design/build process.

LET'S DO THIS!

5 Year Limited Labor Coverage

As a Fortress Preferred Partner, you can deliver an even greater peace of mind to your customers with five years of labor coverage. If any Fortress product fails to perform in accordance with its original warranty, adequate replacement costs will be covered.

BENEFITS & BEYOND

- Instant enrollment in the Fortress Preferred Rebate Program
- Ability to offer a 5-year Labor Coverage
- Listed as Fortress Preferred on the website
- Sales and Marketing Tools, such as samples, literature and branded merchandise
- Priority lead referral
- Priority support from the Fortress Sales and Customer Care Team

ON YOUR END

- Valid contractor license
- General liability insurance
- Continued promotion of Fortress Building Products to leads acquired from the Fortress Preferred Program membership
- Completion of any required ongoing continuing education
- Completion and submittal of all required registration information