



## What's in a name?

*"Didn't some English guy say that once?"*

As of January 2, 2007, the log home company formerly known as Colorado LogSystems, Inc. has a new name. We are now Colorado Cedar LogSystems, Inc.

To confuse matters a bit less, we will use the trade name "Cedar LogSystems" on all our literature, advertising, and when answering the telephone.

*Why this change and why now? With our planned expansion, plant move (more about that in the next newsletter) we thought it was time to have a national rather than a regional name.*

*Besides, we are a Cedar Log mill and we thought it time to emphasize that fact.*

Questions or comments - 800.600.5647

## Cedar... the best wood around your log home

### **Cedar costs more than pine."**

Of the many stories we hear while discussing log homes with clients, this comment has to rank near the top.

The cost of Cedar vs. pine varies from company to company. A typical 2000 sf Cedar log home, when completed, should cost only \$5,000-6,000 more than a comparable pine log home. A small difference in price for a big difference in quality.

All things considered, Cedar is the least expensive wood species for your log home.

Cedar twists and warps far less than common whitewoods. It also shrinks and settles less. Cedar has less future maintenance, saving cost now and in the future.

Less future maintenance with Cedar is

due in part to Cedar's natural resistance to insects, rot, and decay. There is no need to treat and retreat your home with insecticides and other chemicals.

Cedar has fifty percent better insulation than whitewoods (pine, spruce, etc). This results in lower utility costs.

Cedar's lighter weight allows for easier handling and faster build time. And, with its lighter weight, shipping is on one truck rather than two, which cuts freight in half.

If anyone tells you that whitewoods are just as good as Cedar, then ask what they recommend for use as roof fascia. If the answer is Cedar (which is the best choice due to weather resistance), then you might have "your final answer".

For more information about Cedar, check out our website at [www.logs.net](http://www.logs.net) or better yet, check for yourself by searching the web for "incense cedar".

## Air Tight by Design vs. air tight by maintenance (revised)

Cedar LogSystems' air and moisture seal is an integral part of our log home system. If you have a great log (Cedar) and a great window and door (Eagle), then all you need is an incredible seal system (ButyLog).

Our logs have the "look" of Swedish cope saddle notch (see "A" on drawing). That's where the similarity stops.

The ButyLog is placed on both sides of the wide tongue (see "B" on drawing). This creates a 5" air seal barrier between the interior and exterior air temperatures.

The horizontal interface between logs is one of the "energy bandits" in a log home. In a Cedar LogSystems' log wall that interface area is nearly 6" in width.

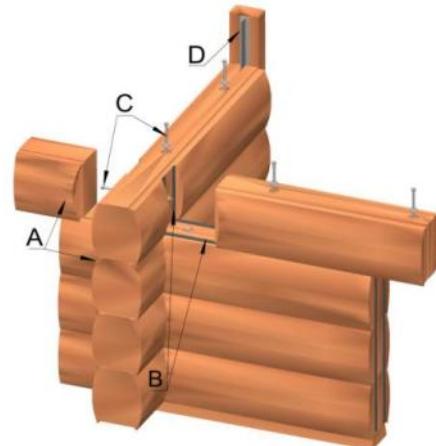
ButyLog is also used at all vertical joints (see "B" on drawing). The Colorado Corner is mortise and tenon, not butt and pass, with a 12" lag (see "C" on drawing) placed horizontally to secure the tenon into the mortise at all corners.

Cedar LogSystems uses 12" lags (see "C" on drawing) to secure logs together. This allows for a much tighter fit between individual log courses. No other fastening system has the "pull down" of lags. This helps to minimize the effects of shrinkage and settling.

All logs (and all woods) move. Cedar LogSystems uses cedar bucks (see "D" on drawing) with aluminum "t-channel" to allow for that movement. These bucks allow the logs to move up and down without affecting the window or door operation. The window and door trim is applied to the buck and not to the log. This creates a "unit" around which the logs can move, independent of the window or door.

Your Cedar LogSystems' log home will be low maintenance and energy efficient for centuries to come.

Ask for a demonstration of the Colorado Corner and of the Cedar "LogSystem".



Colorado Corner - "get into our corner"

### Remember

Caulk is a "maintenance" product.

If you don't caulk your log home, you'll never have to re-caulk your log home! (Dumb, but true)

## For everything there is a first time...(or should we say, a second time!)

After sixteen years Cedar LogSystems can no longer say we've never sold the same log home plan twice.

That record breaking event occurred when Tim Townzen, a residential builder from Texas, decided to build a spec log home and ski retreat near Pagosa Springs, CO.

Tim chose the Enchanted Forest model for his first Colorado project.

The photo at right shows the "work in progress" in late fall. (Yes, though it comes as a complete surprise to many "flatlanders", you can build in Colorado year round.)

The home is one of our "original" 26' x 40' Enchanted Forest models. Everyone modifies plans, but this being a spec, Tim chose to use an "as is - no change" approach to this home.

Although he hasn't set a selling price yet, there have been a large number of interested log home enthusiasts that

have expressed interest or requested more information. If you count yourself among that group, feel free to contact your CLS Sales Associate for updates on this "soon to be" second of its kind Rocky Mountain retreat.

Townzen site near Pagosa Springs, CO



To see a floorplan of this home, please go to

[www.logs.net](http://www.logs.net) and follow the links to

Floorplans - Colorado Collection - Enchanted Forest - 26 x 40

**Log Homes - Custom Design - Custom Build - Nationwide**

## Your Dream Floor Plan - by Caleb Huftalin

After doing what might seem like endless amounts of research, you think you're ready to move forward with the process of building your dream log home. You've seen the full array of floor plans...from elaborate corners, roof lines and exterior architecture to simple rectangular plans. What effect do these choices make on cost?

It makes enough difference to put some serious thought into it. You've seen dazzling pictures of intricate log architecture on many websites, brochures and in magazines. The bottom line is that those details boost the price of the home quickly. Architectural design costs more. Elaborate corners and roof lines cost more to cut the logs as well as increase labor expenses.

The question to ask is: Would I rather use my construction funds to design an out-of-this-world floor plan, or should I increase the living space and functionality of my home?

If you desire living space and functionality, you're ready to talk to a log home designer. In addition to placing these factors at the top of the priority list, a log home designer will keep in mind the materials and labor needed to construct your home.

A designer will also have feedback from a number of previous clients who have actually lived in the different styles of floor plans. That feedback gives the designer a bent towards creating a true "lifestyle floor plan," which is focused on how you'll actually use the space in your log home.

The only true out-of-this-world floor plan is the one you create with help from your log home designer.

*Caleb Huftalin joined Cedar LogSystems in July of 2005. His background is in finance. After working in the CLS office in Colorado Springs (during which time he completely redesigned the CLS website - [www.logs.net](http://www.logs.net)).*

*He and his wife Stacy have recently moved to Cumming, GA. They have a new puppy, Lucy Cheyenne. Caleb is now our N. Georgia Sales Associate. You can reach Caleb at 800.600.5647 x53 or email at [caleb@logs.net](mailto:caleb@logs.net).*

## From Birmingham to Colorado Springs...the log (and Air Force) way!

When Mike and Donna Craig were at the Birmingham Log Home Show in 2005 their thoughts were of Mike's impending retirement from the US Air Force and their ideas to build their dream home near Colorado Springs.

Mike tells us that he's not the only Air Force officer with a desire to return to the Springs when they retire. It must be something in the air out here!

The Craigs had chosen a log home plan and pretty much decided on the log home company they were going with. But sometimes things change.

As Donna stopped by a "cooking booth" at the show (Mike had been walking the floor and she thought a break for her feet was in order), Mike decided to stop at "one more log home booth"

That's when he stopped in and met the folks at Cedar LogSystems. He knew Cedar was a better wood for log homes but had pretty much given up on the idea because of the cost. But because the home office for Cedar LogSystems was in Colorado Springs he stopped for a chat.

What he discovered was a company that specializes in Cedar. One that had prices comparable to whitewoods, but



with the product quality, durability, and longevity of Cedar. More questions!

When Donna joined him in the booth a few minutes later they discussed plans to visit Colorado Cedar LogSystems when they came to Colorado to look for land in the Spring.

In short, they did visit and find land. They did buy a Cedar LogSystems log home (see photo above) and they did retire to Colorado Springs (except for the retirement part). The floor plan can be found at [www.logs.net](http://www.logs.net).

### *The rest of the story...*

*Mike and Donna Craig are now ISAs for Cedar LogSystems. (Log Home first then a new career - not bad.) Mike also became a CAD designer with CLS and he is working on the new log plant design. The Craigs live in Peyton, NE of Colorado Springs, and have their two sons, daughters-in-law and 4 grand kids all nearby. Sounds like "a good start"!*

*Want to talk log construction or design? Give them a call at 800.600.5647 x81 or email Mike at [mike@logs.net](mailto:mike@logs.net).*

## Things to remember

### Three Log Questions:

- What species of wood and why?  
(without saying "all logs are the same")
- What corner system and lateral seal?  
(without using the words caulk or chink)
- How is log movement addressed?  
(don't fall for "our logs don't settle" routine)

### Cedar - nature's best

100% renewable resource

- 1 1/2 times the insulation of pine
- Lighter weight - faster build time
- Less checking, cracking and settling
- Resistant to insects - no chemicals
- Less log movement - no adjustments

### Comparisons that really matter:

- Logs - pre-cut, upper & main
- Wood species - efficiency, durability
- Air seal - permanence, performance
- Fastening system - strength, pre-drill
- Windows & doors - quality, efficiency
- Window/door buck system - movement
- Design & Construction plans - included
- On site expertise - 2-day minimum



## Cedar LogSystems

PO Box 25250, Colorado Springs, CO 80936

800.600.5647      719.264.1340  
www.logs.net      info@logs.net

Custom Cedar Log Homes  
"Your Home - Your Way"

**www.logs.net**

## Last Minute Addition - Dream Log Home for sale - Murphy, NC area

This just in...

A Cedar LogSystems log home in NC is available for resale. This doesn't happen often. Most of our owners build their Cedar log home as their last home.

With over 4,500 sf this home sits on approximately 2 acres. This property is in "horse country". The subdivision has riding paths, corrals, and barns.

If you like country living with your horses just down the road, then this is your dream home. Great design and décor. Seeing is believing.

Call our office at 800.600.5647 and let us refer you to the listing real estate office. (CLS is not a licensed real estate office.) Asking price \$895,000.

And, if you're curious... CLS is designing them another log home, this one on 35 acres in the Colorado Rockies!



Boyer Residence near Hayesville, NC