

WHO KNEW

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Q Which of these Pierce County structures is the tallest?

1. Flight tower at McChord Air Force Base
2. Evergreen cranes at the Port of Tacoma
3. Log crane at Simpson Timber Company—Commencement Bay Operations
4. Hot Shop cone at the Museum of Glass

Answers on back



Simpson Investment Company headquarters is in Tacoma, Wash., where of its two subsidiaries have operations. Simpson Timber Company converts logs into dimensional lumber. Simpson Paper Company (whose subsidiary is Simpson Tacoma Kraft Company, LLC), manufactures bleached and unbleached kraft pulp and linerboard.

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ANSWERS

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1

More than 100 feet: The flight tower staff at McChord Air Force Base guides aircraft from a variety of units and missions of every Department of Defense component. The 62nd Airlift Wing is the active duty host wing at McChord and is joined by its Air Force Reserve partner the 446th Airlift Wing. Team McChord has flown continuous combat airlift missions every day since October 2001.

2

Just under 300 feet: Seven super post-Panamax cranes stand tall at Pierce County Terminal, the Pacific Northwest home of Evergreen Marine, Hatsu Marine and Italia Maritima. The electric cranes' operators are among the 43,000 Pierce County jobs connected to the Port. Everything from tennis rackets to DVD players comes through the Port, and Washington state apples and Almond Roca are exported in these containers.

3

120 feet: The blue gantry crane uses a large grapple to move truckloads of logs into the production line at Simpson Timber Company's Commencement Bay Operations. The high-tech sawmill opened in May 2001 and continues to beat its own production records. Fir and hemlock logs from around the Northwest are cut into lumber and shipped all over the country.

4

90 feet: The cone at the Museum of Glass houses a glass-blowing studio with state-of-the-art facilities and visitor seating. About 2,800 stainless steel panels cover the cone exterior, which was designed to echo wood-burning sawmills once common in the region.