



**AWI** ARCHITECTURAL  
WOODWORK  
INSTITUTE

# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

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Following recent casework performance testing and research conducted at the Architectural Woodwork Institute's (AWI) National Testing Center, the AWI Technical Committee has determined that when 5 mm diameter single-pin shelf support fittings are used in casework construction where cabinet sides are fabricated from veneer core or MDF panel products, support for the adjustable shelves may be inadequate when the shelf loading weights approach the load values stated in the *Architectural Woodwork Standards Edition 2 (2014)*.

Relevant sections of **AWS 2.0** regarding load values are located on page 318:

- **10.3.7.16.9.1.5** Total weight applied uniformly dispersed on an individual shelf not exceeding 200 lbs. (90.7 kg) on any one shelf while being subject to load capacities of:
- **10.4.7.16.9.1.5.1** 40 lbs. per square foot (195.3 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) for commercial shelving.
- **10.4.7.16.9.1.5.2** 50 lbs. per square foot (244.1 kg/m<sup>2</sup>) for schools, hospitals, and library book shelves.

The same load values were also published in the *Architectural Woodwork Standards Edition 1 (2009)*.



The above images illustrate the deflection of a single-pin shelf support system in veneer core tall cabinets loaded to the tolerances indicated on page 318 of the **AWS Ed. 2 (2014)**.