

FlashPoint



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by Fire Rated Product Specialties Corp

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PASSIVE FIRE PROTECTION

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Passive fire protection has been reevaluated and has been determined to be equally as important as active fire protection.

Passive fire protection solutions when properly installed will contain a fire and allow the active systems to perform to their optimum effectiveness.

Though passive fire protection is *not* an alternative to active systems, it is a quality control measure that restricts fire from migrating beyond fire resistant membranes into unprotected concealed spaces.

Comprehensive building codes establish minimum regulations for building systems using prescription and performance-related provisions. Each code is designed to meet the needs through model code regulations that safeguard the public health and safety in all communities large and small.

Generally buildings are classified as one of five construction types. The building elements shall have a fire-resistance rating not less than that specified. When required to have a fire-resistance rating, building elements shall comply and protection of the openings in the building elements shall not be required unless required by provisions of the code.

These materials, systems or devices must be tested *as part of* a fire-rated assembly, building element, component or assembly to be in compliance. Sufficient data must be provided to the building code official demonstrating that the fire resistance has not been reduced by the penetrating items (i.e. recessed lighting, bathroom fans, speakers, shower valves, etc.).

Many products have been classified and are *eligible* to be installed in a fire rated assembly. However, *unless the product has been tested and is called out as a member of a Design Listing followed by a listing number issued by a certified testing agency, the product is not approved.*

Always review the Design Listing, confirm the test listing number, and review the assembly along with the installation instructions to ensure code compliance.

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