




**OCEAN CITY FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

Subject: Quality Assurance for Firestopping of Penetrations and Joints in Fire Resistive Assemblies	Memo #: 2023-001
	Effective: May 1, 2023
Authority: Deputy Chief Josh Bunting, Fire Marshal 	External

This memo shall serve to clarify requirements of NFPA 1, *Fire Code* for a Quality Assurance Program for the installation of firestopping of penetrations and joints in Fire Resistive Assemblies, in an effort to provide consistent minimum requirements for contractors and owners.

In the 2021 edition of NFPA 1, the scoping provisions limiting this requirement to buildings three stories or greater in height will be moved from the 12.3.2 (2018) Code verbiage into the Annex. It will be the practice of this office to continue to require the prescribed Firestop Quality Assurance Program on new buildings three stories in height or greater.

NFPA 1, 12.3.2, states the following:

**Quality Assurance for Penetrations and Joints.**

A quality assurance program for the installation of devices and systems installed to protect penetration and joints shall be prepared and monitored by the RDP [*Registered Design Professional*] responsible for design. Inspections of firestop systems and fire-resistive joint systems shall be in accordance with 12.3.2.1 and 12.3.2.2.

Inspection of firestop systems of the types tested in accordance with ASTM E814, *Standard Test Method for Fire Tests of Through-Penetration Fire Stops*, or UL 1479, *Standard for Fire Tests of Through-Penetration Firestops*, shall be conducted in accordance with ASTM E2174, *Standard Practice for On-Site Inspection of Installed Fire Stops*. (NFPA 1, 2021: 12.3.2.1)

Inspection of fire-resistive joint systems of the types tested in accordance with ASTM E1966, *Standard Test Method for Fire-Resistive Joint Systems*, or UL 2079, *Tests for Fire Resistance of Building Joint Systems*, shall be conducted in accordance with ASTM E2393, *Standard Practice for On-Site Inspection of Installed Fire Resistive Joint Systems and Perimeter Fire Barriers*. (NFPA 1, 2021: 12.3.2.1)

To comply with the requirements, the following shall be the minimum requirements of this office:

1. A firestop and design-assembly submittal, either as part of the building plans, or as a supplement to, shall be submitted to this office for review prior to scheduled inspections. The submittal shall include:
  - a. Design assemblies for each rated wall, ceiling, and floor assembly
  - b. Firestop assemblies for each penetrating item or condition
  - c. Indication of compatibility of firestop products, where different products/manufacturers are expected to be used
  - d. Firestop Installer training/proof of competency
  - e. Signed approval from the Registered Design Professional
2. All firestop submittals and design assemblies shall be approved by the Registered Design Professional (RDP-Architect and/or Engineer) prior to review by this office.
3. Contractor / Owner / RDP shall provide documentation that all installers of firestops have appropriate training, which may include manufacturer specific training, training from the International Firestop Council, or other equivalent training.
4. Contractor / Owner shall contact this office to schedule and complete an inspection of the completed firestopping prior to close-in or concealment of any penetrations.
5. Contractor / Owner shall provide this office with written documentation stating that all firestopping has been completed per the manufacturer's specifications upon completion of the project.