



## SUBJECT

Fire-Resistant Penetrations and Joints – Special Inspections

**PIN:** 67

**Effective:** 3/06/2017



## POLICY

Special Inspections conducted by an approved inspection agency are required for fire-resistant penetrations and joints, and shall be in accordance with the 2016 California Building Code (CBC) Section 1701A.4, ASTM E 2174, and ASTM 2393. Individuals conducting the special inspections shall have OSHPD approved training and certifications.

## PROCEDURE

In order to be considered acceptable by OSHPD, training and certifications are required for individuals to conduct special inspections on fire-resistant penetrations and joints. The following are required:

**Special Inspectors** conducting inspections for an approved inspection agency  
or  
**Hospital Inspector Class “A”, “B” or “C”** certification,  
and  
**The following training or certifications;**

### 1. Intertek Qualified Personnel (IQP) Program - (For any hospital construction project including new buildings and additions)

- 40-60 hour IFC online training course
- 2 hour proctored exam
- Hands-on product training from at least four firestop product manufacturers
- Hands-on inspector training seminar
- Intertek review and Field Audit

Please see the following links for further program and contact information:

<http://www.intertek.com/IQP/firestop-inspector>

<http://www.firestop.org/inspection>

### 2. International Firestop Council (IFC) Premier Certificate - (For any hospital construction project, except new buildings and additions, but may include build-out of shelled spaces in an existing building)

- 40-60 hour IFC online training course
- 2 hour proctored exam
- Hands-on product training from at least four firestop product manufacturers

Please see the following link for further program and contact information:

<http://www.firestop.org/inspection>

### **3. Hands-on Product Training from at least 4 Firestop Product Manufacturers - (For remodel/renovation projects only)**

Such training or certifications shall, for the purposes of the office, be considered as acceptable for a period not to exceed three years.

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## **BACKGROUND**

ASTM E 2174 and ASTM E 2393 are the standards adopted by the CBC for special inspections of through-penetrations, membrane penetration firestops, fire-resistant joint systems, and perimeter fire barrier systems.

- ASTM E 2174-10AE1 Standard Practice for On-Site Inspection of Installed Fire Stops
- ASTM E 2393-10A Standard Practice for On-Site Inspection of Installed Fire Resistive Joint Systems and Perimeter Fire Barrier

The CBC requires inspections to be conducted by an approved inspection agency. OSHPD is often asked whether Hospital Inspectors (certification as Class “A”, “B” or “C”) can act as special inspectors; what qualifications are required for fire-resistant penetrations and joints special inspectors; and whether certification listed in Table 1 of AC 291: Minimum Qualification for Special Inspection Agencies are acceptable to OSHPD.

Table 1 of AC291-Minimum Qualifications for Special Inspection Agencies indicates the UL Firestop Examination or the FM Firestop Examination as the minimum required certifications for firestop agencies. This minimum qualification serves as a training program that is focused on the design and selection of firestopping assemblies. This training and this exam do not address training for the purpose of qualifying inspectors. ASTM E 2174 and ASTM E 2393 each identify the minimum qualifications for an inspector. Each of these referenced standards requires an inspector be acceptable to the AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction).

The OSHPD Preapproved Agency (OPAA) program is a voluntary program for approval of testing agencies and special inspection agencies.

Exclusions from the OPAA program include:

Special inspections permitted to be performed by the registered design professional in responsible charge, and engineer of record involved in the design of the project in accordance with CBC Sections 1704.2.1 and 1704A.2.1 are also outside the scope of the OPAA program.

Special inspections under the registered design professional in responsible charge and engineer of record involved in the design of the project in accordance with CBC Sections 1704.2.1 and 1704A.2.1 shall be permitted.

**POLICY INTENT NOTICE (PIN)**

On a case-by-case basis, special inspections performed by a Certified Class “A”, “B” or “C” Hospital Inspector under the responsible charge of the registered design professional and engineer of record shall be permitted.

Inspector’s approval shall be limited to the specialty for which the inspector is qualified, as verified by valid license, certification, and/or experience.

Original signed

3/06/17

Paul Coleman

Date