

## Construction Code Requirements

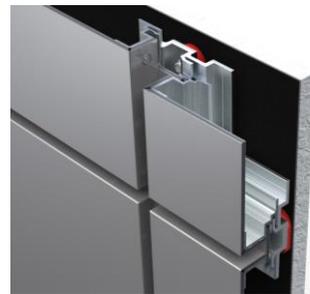
# COMBUSTIBLE EXTERIOR WALL ASSEMBLIES: FIREBLOCKING & TESTING REQUIREMENTS

The 2022 NYC Building Code (BC) includes new fireblocking requirements applicable to exterior wall coverings, specifically those composed of combustible materials. This Bulletin clarifies and describes the 2022 NYC Building Code requirements for fireblocking of combustible wall assemblies and for construction documents and deviations of such assemblies. The Bulletin also discusses the testing of combustible exterior wall assemblies where required by the 2022 Building Code.

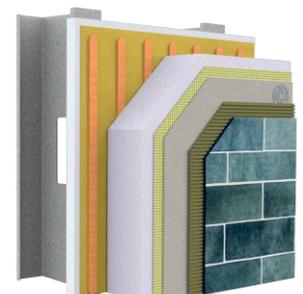
## HIGHLIGHTS

### FIREBLOCKING

- Fireblocking is required within concealed spaces of exterior wall coverings, including exterior wall assemblies that contain combustible components even when such wall assembly previously passed the NFPA 285 test.
- Noncombustible fireblocking is required around wall openings, at the floor level for a height of not less than 8 inches, and between different occupancy groups – vertically or horizontally as applicable. The fireblocking shall be of adequate thickness to cut off concealed gaps and form an effective barrier. See [Bulletin](#) for limited exceptions.



SOURCE: sobotec.com



SOURCE: stocorp.com

### CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

- Construction documents must include documentation of the NFPA 285 tested assembly from the manufacturer for the proposed exterior wall assembly.
- Construction documents must also include a statement from the applicant certifying that any deviation will be evaluated and approved, and no deviation would result in an assembly that would otherwise fail to pass the acceptance criteria of NFPA 285. See [Bulletin](#) for specific statement required.



SOURCE: sobotec.com



SOURCE: sika.com

### TESTING

- The 2022 BC does not prescribe how test specimens for the NFPA 285 test are to be assembled, including the exact location of any required fireblocking. Instead, NFPA 285 states that details of the construction of the test specimen shall be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the construction of the wall assembly should be typical of actual product use. See [Bulletin](#) for details.

## BACKGROUND

Read the full [Buildings Bulletin 2022-013](#) for more details on the requirements.

Send questions to [constructioncodes@buildings.nyc.gov](mailto:constructioncodes@buildings.nyc.gov).