

ASFP Advisory Note 10:

'Framing Out' of Drywall Partitions



The issue of correctly firestopping around services penetrating compartment walls and floors is well documented. The ASFP has published a number of technical documents on this subject (see annex at end). The subject of this Advisory Note concerns running penetrating services through drywall type partitions without providing adequate protection to the completed installation.

In order to run a service through a dry wall partition it is obvious that a hole of the correct size and shape needs to be made in it. It is also generally well understood that some form of fire stopping needs to be provided to maintain the fire resistance performance of the partition. This fire stopping or penetration sealing systems can take a variety of forms from sealants pipe wraps to intumescent 'collars' for combustible e.g. plastic pipes. Such a seal also need to be suitable for use in lightweight flexible partitions.

However, for some dry wall partitions and penetration sealing systems, there is a need to 'frame out' the opening provided for the service to ensure that should fire enter the partition, it cannot spread and degrade the rest of the penetration sealing system or the partition itself. The manufacturer's instructions supplied with the penetration sealing system should inform the installer if framing out is required.*

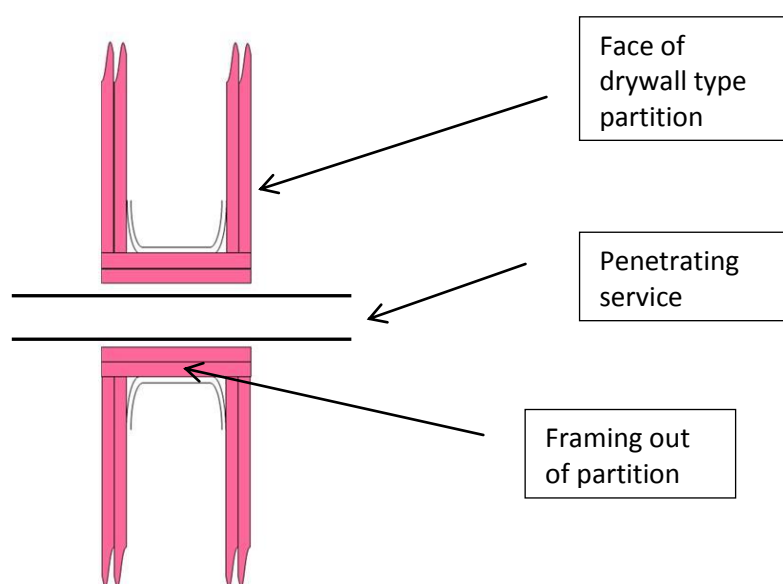


Figure: Example of framing out of a dry wall partition

Specifiers, installers and other persons responsible for installed penetration sealing systems should take care to ensure that installed penetration sealing for services running through dry wall type partitions are either framed out as required or use a penetration sealing system that does not require framing out.

*Some penetration sealing systems on the market that have been especially designed so that 'framing out' is not necessary.

Annex – ASFP Publications relevant to fire stopping

ASFP Red Book Fire Stopping & Penetration Seals for the Construction Industry (Red Book)

<http://is.gd/tfg8YP>

ASFP TGD 17 Code of Practice for the installation and inspection of fire stopping systems in buildings <http://is.gd/FCjaV1>

ASFP FAQs on fire stopping <http://is.gd/rrs2gv>

Advisory notes <http://is.gd/I31BOH>

- ASFP Advisory Note 1 – Safe use of horizontal fire stopping
- ASFP Advisory Note 2 – Combustible 40 mm pipes
- ASFP Advisory Note 6 – Use of firestopping components from different manufacturers/systems
- ASFP Advisory Note 7 – Horizontal linear gap seals used in curtain walling systems
- ASFP Advisory Note 8 – Issues surrounding service support centres
- ASFP Advisory Note 9 – Selection of Fire seal materials to amend or refurbish existing penetration seals