

**Ad Hoc Committee – Tall Wood Buildings
Standards/Definitions Work Group
Draft Code Change Proposal
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Developed: 8/23/2017

Revised: xx/xx/17

File name: Chapter 7 – Section 718.2.1 – Fire and Smoke Protection

The following is a draft code change proposal that has been developed by the Standards/Definitions Work Group (WG) of the Ad Hoc Committee on Tall Wood Buildings (TWB). This draft proposal has been reviewed by the TWB Committee and is posted for information and comments. Please direct comments to the Chair of the WG: Jonathan Humble at jhumble@steel.org. **This is a draft only and is subject to change prior to submittal to cdpACCESS by the January 8, 2018 deadline.**

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IBC Chapter 7 – Fire and Smoke Protection Features

(Add new item #9)

718.2.1 Fireblocking materials. *Fireblocking* shall consist of the following materials:

1. Two-inch (51 mm) nominal lumber.
2. Two thicknesses of 1-inch (25 mm) nominal lumber with broken lap joints.
3. One thickness of 0.719-inch (18.3 mm) wood structural panels with joints backed by 0.719-inch (18.3 mm) wood structural panels.
4. One thickness of 0.75-inch (19.1 mm) particleboard with joints backed by 0.75-inch (19 mm) particleboard.
5. One-half-inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board.
6. One-fourth-inch (6.4 mm) cement-based millboard.
7. Batts or blankets of *mineral wool, mineral fiber* or other *approved* materials installed in such a manner as to be securely retained in place.
8. Cellulose insulation installed as tested for the specific application.

9. Mass timber complying with Section 2304.11

Reason: To recognize that mass timber as a suitable fireblocking material. The current list of acceptable materials lists “nominal lumber”, therefore since mass timber (e.g. Sawn, glued-laminated, and cross laminated timbers) are of greater mass the correlation from single nominal lumber to mass timber was determined to be of equal or greater blocking resistance to reduce the ability of fire, smoke and gasses from moving to different part of the building through combustibile concealed spaces.

The Code Council Board of Directors approved the establishment of an ad hoc committee for tall wood buildings in December/2015. The purpose of the ad hoc committee is to explore the science of tall wood buildings and to investigate the feasibility and take action on developing code changes for tall wood buildings. The committee is comprised of a balance of stakeholders with additional opportunities for interested parties to participate in the four Work Groups established by the TWB, namely: Code; Fire; Standards/Definitions; and Structural. For more information, be sure to visit the [TWB website](#).

Cost impact: No impact.

Informational Note: As a final submission to the ICC, this proposal is intended to be combined with another code change proposal whose subject is related to this definition.(e.g. Chapter 7 Fire and Smoke Protection Features)

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