

## Importance of firestop in mission critical facilities

Milan, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018 Jessica Bello Salguero





### Introduction

What is firestop and why is it especially important when designing cable runs in critical facilities?

#### How can firestop affect:

- server contamination from dust during cabling changes?
- spread of airborne disease in a hospital?
- patient recovery time as a result of noise?

What do designers need to understand?

To answer these questions we must first understand some basics...





## Fire statistics in Italy



Every year

- **30-50.000** fires
- 152 deaths (in 2012)
- 200 M€ in property damage



A fire department responds to a fire every 44 seconds



More than 6 out of 10 civilian deaths caused by fire were due to fires in buildings









## Why passive fire protection is so important for data centers?

7.000 €/min

Most non-home fires (78 %) begin with electronic equipment

Sources:

Research published by Ponemon institute in Dec 2013 John R Hall report – Issues Mar 2012 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Report





### Fires in Data Centers



Date	Location	Datacenter
2014	Thailand	Cowboyminers
2014	South Korea	Samsung
2014	Argentina	Iron Mountain
2014	USA	Iowa Legislative Building
2013	USA	NSA Spy Center
2012	Canada	Shaw Data Center





### More recent on July 26<sup>th</sup>

A nearly-complete AWS (Amazon Web Services) data center was on fire for 8 hours.

It was comprised of seven levels, three above and four below ground, where the fire started.

Around 300 workers were on site. 5 men died. 50 people were injured.





## Why Smoke & Fire are key concerns?

- 3/4 of all fire deaths are caused by smoke inhalation
- Approximately 57% of people killed in fires are not in the room of the fire's origin
- 47% of survivors caught in a fire could not see more than 3.5 metres.
- Smoke travels 0.6 2.2 meters per second under fire conditions

#### Sources:

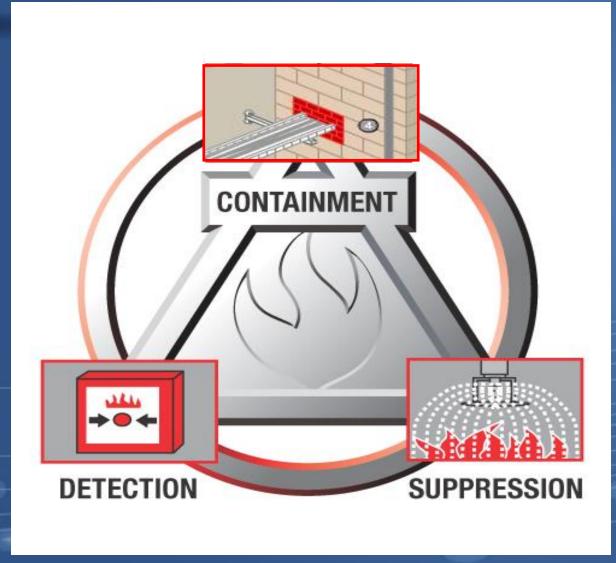
Hall, Jr. John R. NFPA Fire Analysis & Research, Quincy, MA. "Burns, Toxic Gases, and other Hazards". NFPA Fire Protection Handbook, 18th Ed. Table 8-1P. Pg. 8-17 NFPA Fire Protection Handbook, 18th Ed. Table 1-1P. Pg.1-15. Estimate based upon ceiling jet velocity calculations for typical ceiling heights and heat release rates.







## We can't rely on a single action to keep people and assets safe



The balanced approach to Fire Protection



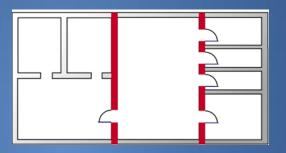


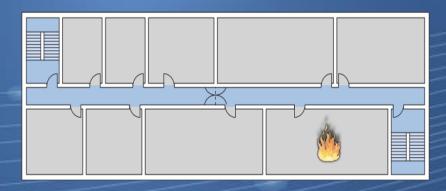
## The Elements of Compartmentation

The spread of fire can be restricted by dividing a building into separate compartments with fire-resistive walls and floors increasing the availability of escape routes for occupants.

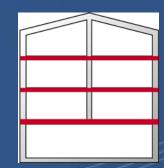
Compartmentation protects escape routes such as corridors or stairs.

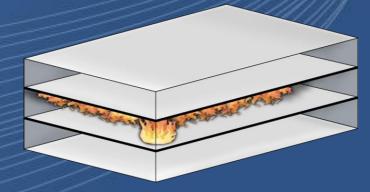
#### **Fire walls**





#### **Fire floors**





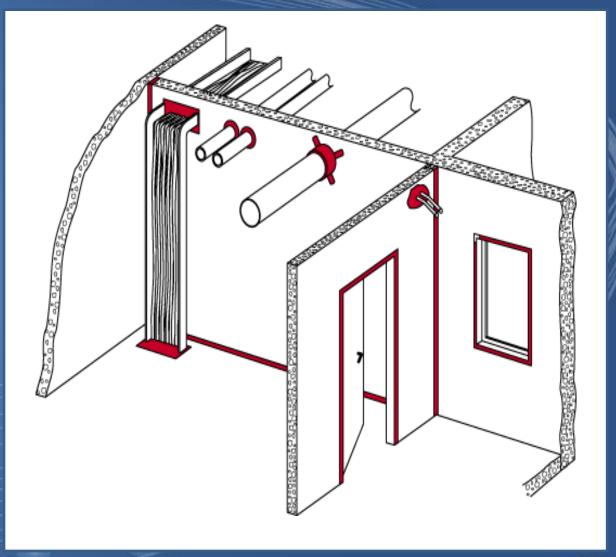




### What is Firestop?

• Firestop systems (if installed correctly), help restore the integrity of a floor or wall as it is penetrated by an object or joint and resist the spread of smoke and fire.

• Firestop is part of the life safety plan in building structures.







## Firestop required by codes and building regulations



PROGETTAZIONE ANTINCENDIO PER GLI IMPIANTI ELETTRICI

3/04/2018









## Codes and standards by location

- Codes in most countries require firestopping to be tested, designed and installed per a testing standard.
- Firestop systems are tested according to international standards such as:

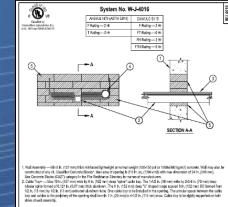
**Europe: EN 1363, DIN 4102** 

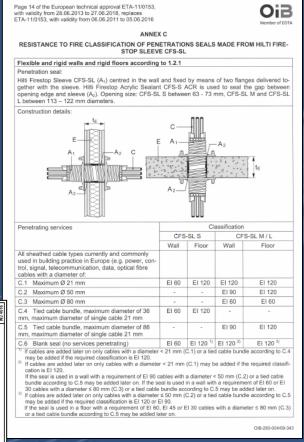
**USA: ASTM E 814 / UL 1479** 

Canada: CAN/ULC S-115

A successful test yields an approval or firestop listing.











## Steps in fire test procedure



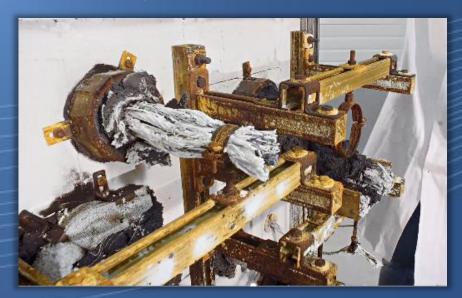
1. Assembly is placed on furnace.



3. Assembly is subjected to hose stream test (if required)



2. Assembly is exposed to fire test.



4. Assembly results after hose stream.













### Officially approved systems

The ETA (European Technical Assessment) is the official document granted to a manufacturer based on third-party tests.

















designated according to Article 29 of the Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 and member of EOTA (European Organisation for Technical Assessment, www.eota.eu)

#### European Technical Assessment

#### ETA 17/0081

Technical Assessment Body issuing the ETA and designated according to Article 29 of the

U) NO 305/2011: UL Interna

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Product family to which the construction Fire Stopping and Sealing Product: product belongs • Penetration Seals

nufacturer Hilti AG, Feldkircherstrasse 100

FL-9494 Schaan Liechtenstein Internet: www.hilti.com

Manufacturing plant(s) HILTI plant 14

This European Technical Assessment contains 24 Pages including 3 Annexes which form are integral part of this Assessment.

This European Technical Assessment is issued in accordance with regulation (EU) No

This version replaces ETA 17/0081, Dated 21/06/2017

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ETA 17/0081 of 08/08/2018

305/2011, on the basis of

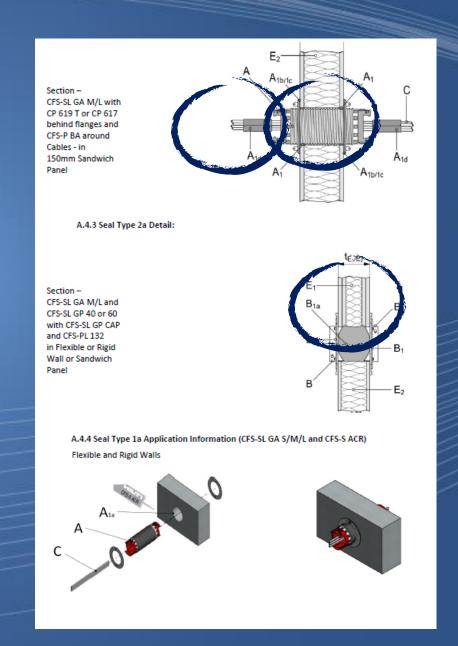




## Officially approved systems

It contains the **field of application** consisting of:

- 1. Base material (a fire-rated wall or floor assembly)
- 2. A penetrating item or items passing through an opening in the assembly
- 3. The materials designed to help prevent the spread of fire through the openings.







## What is the average hourly rating of any firestop product?

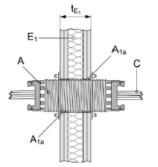




Seal Type			Ancillary product 100mm Sandwich 150mm Sandwich	
Variation		Wall	Panel	Panel
1a	Single Devices	CFS-S ACR	-	-
1b	Single Devices	-	-	CP 619 T or CP 617. And CFS-P BA
2a	Ganged Devices	CFS-SL GP 40 or 60, CFS-SL GP CAP & CFS-PL 132		

Section – CFS-SL GA S/M/L and CFS-S ACR in Flexible or Rigid Wall

Recommended A<sub>1a</sub> (CFS-S ACR) installed to 25mm depth into wall

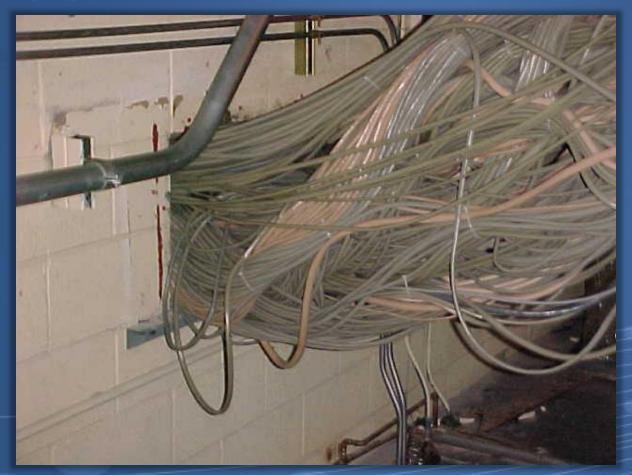


Only Firestop Systems have ratings!





## How do you address this application?



Not all firestop applications are tested What if the site condition deviates from tested design?



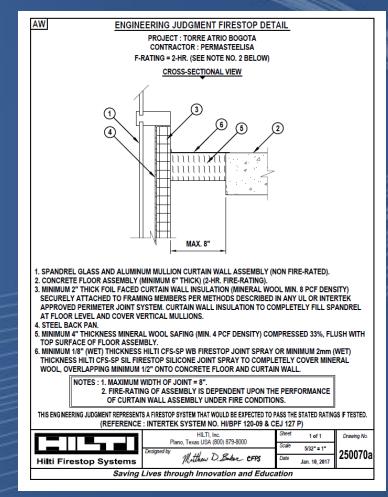


## In absence of tested system: Engineering Judgements

- Based upon interpolations of previously tested firestop systems (referenced on the form)
- Limited only to the specific conditions upon which it was rendered.
- Site specific; Not transferrable
- If no related testing data available, the EJ is unlikely.

#### **Typical Engineering Judgment Conditions:**

- Annular space larger/smaller than tested
- Irregular hole shape
- Hole shape different than tested...







## Airflow mitigation

Data	Power	Cooling	Other
Data Cabling	Electric Cabling	Piping/Ducts	Fire, Gas Suppression
			Emergency Lighting
			Access & Security Control Cabling
Highest risk			

- Creates largest volume of openings through wall and floor assemblies
- ✓ Present unique challenge due to continuous cable re-penetration





## Cable Repenetration increases risks to people and assets







## Pre-engineered firestop eliminates the risk of human error

# New construction 23/12/2004

- Traditional systems are also the most often incorrectly installed
- Inspection failures are common yet don't catch all incorrect installations



- When repenetrating, there is lack of coordination resulting in wide-open penetrations
- Higher risks to fire protection
- Increase energy costs



- Cable pathway devices reduce risk
  - **Correct firestop**, built in
  - Easy to repenetrate, accommodates future cables



## Solutions should fit application needs

#### Performance Requirements

- ✓ Minimum Code compliance for firestop system rating
- ✓ Ensure life safety and property loss prevention
- ✓ Correct installation
- ✓ Re-penetrability (MAC work)
- ✓ Ease of inspection
- ✓ Prevent airborne disease transmission
- ✓ Prevent dust contamination
- ✓ Room pressurization
- ✓ Reduce cooling and heating costs

#### Solution

Traditional Firestop System (generates dust and greater potential to human error)

Pre-formed firestop system (fiber-free for easy cable changes)

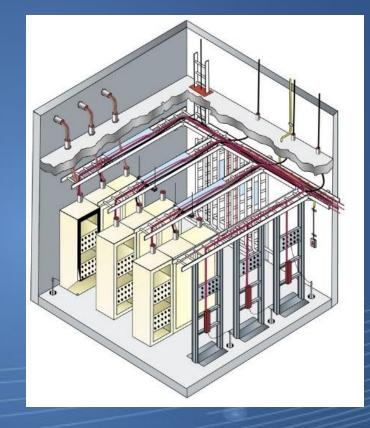


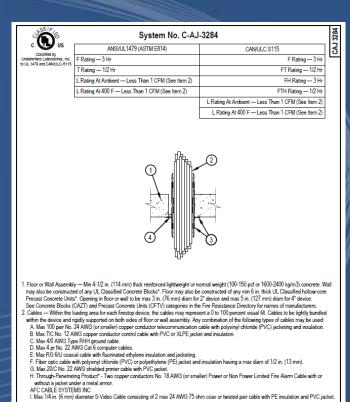




### Clearly convey your design intent

- Mandate cable pathway devices in <u>Master specs</u>
- <u>Draw</u> cable pathways devices on Datacom or Telecom details



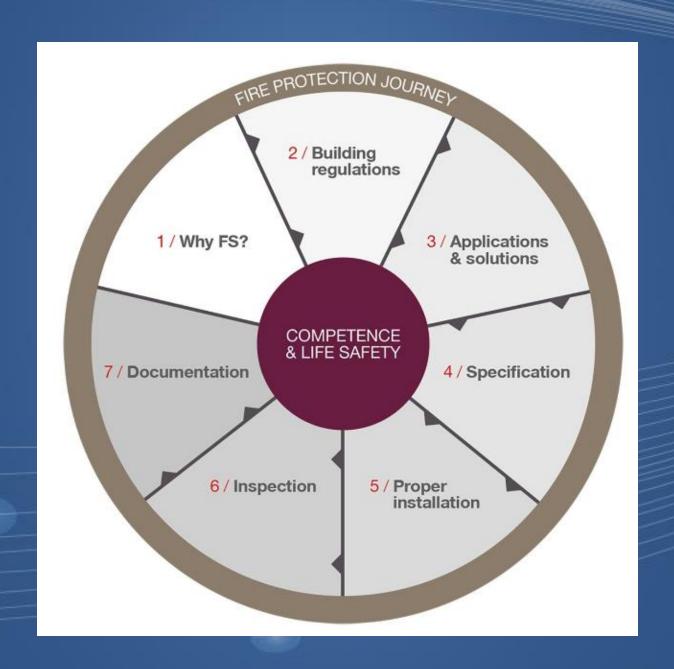


 Carry out installation with Hilti Documentation Manager for easy life during inspection





## The firestop journey







### 3 things to remember

 Fire & Smoke are devastating occurrence that happen more often than we think

Designers should consider maintenance and future cable capacity

Reach out to us for support!





## Thank you

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