

TECHNICAL SERVICES BULLETIN

REPAIRING DAMAGE/DEFECTS IN A 2-HOUR AREA SEPARATION WALL SYSTEM

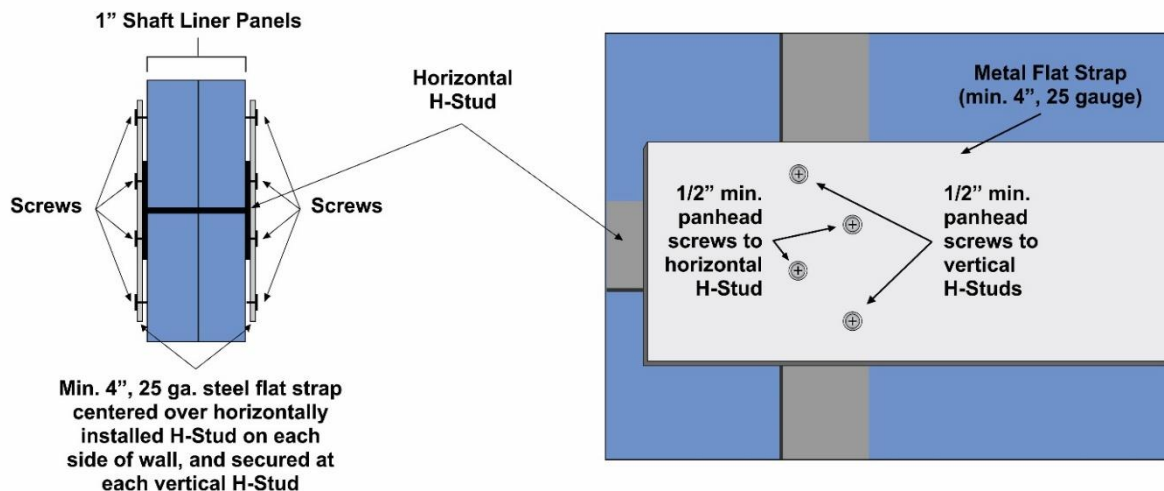
The 2-hour fire rated Area Separation Wall System was developed over 50 years ago as a way to economically protect from fire two (2) separate units in apartments, townhomes, condominiums and duplexes. At times during the installation of the ASW system, mistakes are made or damage occurs to this assembly - and for that reason American Gypsum's UL design U375/V345 has the "Alternate Construction" method found below to ensure that the 2 hour fire rating is maintained in the field.

DAMAGE OR DEFECT:	H-STUDS INSTALLED HORIZONTALLY IN AN AREA SEPARATION WALL SYSTEM
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ISSUE: At times during the installation of the Area Separation Wall System, a framing crew will mistakenly install an H-Stud horizontally - instead of the required 2" C-Runner Track, to cap or finish off a wall section. This error during installation does void the fire rating of the ASW System, but American Gypsum - working with UL, has developed the following corrective action to restore the 2 hour fire rating.

REPAIR: When "H" studs are erroneously installed horizontally to cap the Area Separation Wall in lieu of 2" C-Runner Tracks, do the following:

- ❑ As shown in the detail below, secure a minimum 4" wide metal flat strap (min. 25 gauge) the full length of the horizontally installed H-Stud - on each side of the wall.
- ❑ Ensure that the metal flat strap is centered over the horizontal "H" stud, and attach with four (4) 1/2 in. min long panhead screws, at the location of the vertical H-Stud
- ❑ Two (2) of the screws are used to secure flat strap to vertical "H" stud
- ❑ The other two (2) screws are used to secure the metal flat strap to the horizontal "H" stud, in alternating pattern



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