

TECHNICAL SERVICES BULLETIN

REPAIRING DAMAGE/DEFECTS IN THE 2 ½ HOUR ME AREA SEPARATION FIREWALL SYSTEM

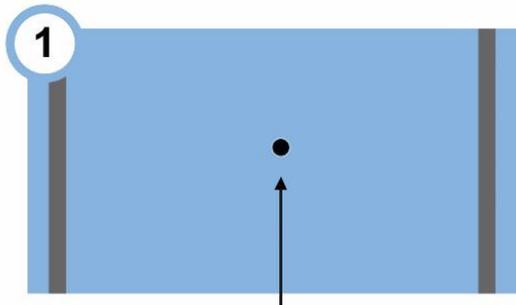
The 2 ½ hour fire rated ME Area Separation Firewall System was released to the industry in March 2022 as a way to isolate sound and protect from fire two (2) separate living units in townhomes, twin homes, duplexes, condominiums and apartments. At times during the installation of the ME ASF system, mistakes are made or damage occurs to this assembly, and for that reason American Gypsum performed a full scale fire test per ASTM E119, with repairs to defects in this wall system. (Report - WFCi 21080)

Below is one of the defects that was built into American Gypsum's ME Area Separation Firewall System (UL design V344), and if needed how to successfully repair it in the field to ensure that the 2 ½ hour fire rating is preserved.

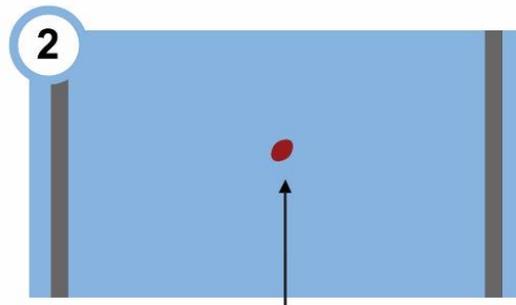
DAMAGE OR DEFECT:	1" HOLE THROUGH 1/2" M-BLOC® EKCEL® TYPE X with MOLD & MOISTURE RESISTANCE
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ISSUE: Once the ME Area Separation Firewall System is installed, a hole up to 1" in size can occur through all layers of the 1/2" M-Bloc Ekcel Type X wallboard with Mold & Moisture Resistance panel(s), which voids the 2 ½ hour fire rating.

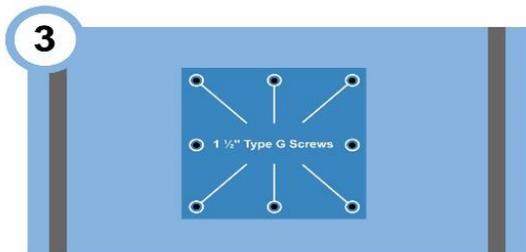
- REPAIR:**
- ❑ Fill the entire hole or penetration with 3M Fire Barrier Sealant CP 25 WB+ fire caulk
 - ❑ Center a 12" x 12" (minimum) piece of 1/2" M-Bloc Ekcel Type X wallboard over the hole or penetration and secure with 1-1/2" Type G laminating screws, spaced 6" o/c. If 12" x 12" patch comes in contact with a metal H-Stud or C-Runner track, use 1 ¼" drywall screws to secure – again 6" o/c.
 - ❑ Apply 3M Fire Barrier Sealant CP 25 WB+ fire caulk around the perimeter of the wallboard patch.
 - ❑ If the hole or penetration occurs through all four (4) pieces of the 1/2" M-Bloc Ekcel Type X wallboard, duplicate the wallboard patch on both sides of the wall



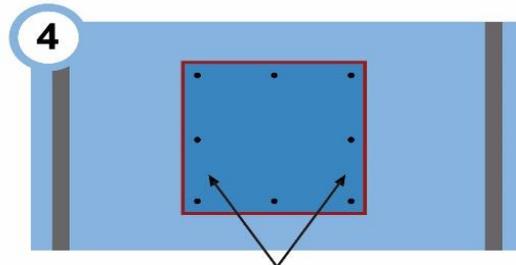
1" hole in a layer or layers of
1/2" M-Bloc Ekcel Type X wallboard



Fill entire hole with 3M Fire Barrier
Sealant CP 25WB+ fire caulk



Center minimum 12" x 12" piece of 1/2"
M-Bloc Ekcel Type X wallboard over the
filled hole and secure with 1 ½" Type G
laminating screws spaced 6" o/c



Apply 3M Fire Barrier Sealant CP
25WB+ fire caulk to the perimeter
of the drywall patch
(repeat patch on opposite side of the wall)

THE PRODUCTS YOU NEED FROM THOSE YOU TRUST

FireBloc® | M-Bloc® | LightRoc® | M-Bloc® Ekcel® Type X

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