## FORMAL TECHNICAL OPINION

## — Industrialized Buildings Commission —

**Effective Date:** November 15, 1998

**Subject:** Firestopping of Openings

**References:** CABO 1995 One and Two Family Dwelling Code 602.7 Item 4

CABO 1992 One and Two Family Dwelling Code R-402.7 Item 4

Based on written and verbal comments received during its meetings, the Industrialized Buildings Commission, at the recommendation of the Rules Development Committee, has determined that it is necessary to further clarify these sections.

- 1. The intent of these sections is to restrict the movement of flame and gases to other areas of a building through concealed passages. Therefore, if a penetration is not tight-fitting, the opening is required to be firestopped.
- 2. Noncombustible material, as used in these sections, is any material that is listed or labeled as noncombustible or a material that is used as part of a fire-rated assembly and is commonly known to be noncombustible (such as gypsum based joint-compounds).

Accordingly, manufacturers= compliance assurance documents must specify the material(s) and method(s) for firestopping openings.