



Jeanie Bourke &lt;jmb@portlandmaine.gov&gt;

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## Sample T Rating Firestopping Assemblies

16 messages

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**Christopher Lynch** <ChrisL@crctfire.com>  
To: "jmb@portlandmaine.gov" <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Dec 13, 2018 at 3:33 PM

Hi Jeanie,

Good talking with you earlier today. Attached is a compilation of various through floor penetrations with T ratings that achieve 2 hours. All of these happen to be STI since that is what is planned for this project but based on my experience you would find the same general conditions with the other manufacturers as well. You will see several of the assemblies specify the additional insulation or duct wrap. The last few you will see that there are notes indicating no T rating is provided for certain penetrating items (generally metallic) where insulation is not provided.

Let me know if you would like any additional information. I would be happy to provide samples from other manufactures as well for your reference.

Best Regards,

Chris

Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

**Code Red Consultants, LLC**

154 Turnpike Road, Suite 200 Southborough, MA 01772

t: 617.500.9448 | c: 617.763.8453 | f: 617.500.2074

[ChrisL@crctfire.com](mailto:ChrisL@crctfire.com) | [www.crctfire.com](http://www.crctfire.com)



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 **Sample T Rating Through Floor Penetrations- MMC.pdf**  
2115K

**Jeanie Bourke** <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 11:27 AM

To: ChrisL@crcfire.com

Cc: Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, TBraun2@mmc.org

Hi Chris,

Thanks for discussing my questions last Friday, sending the firestop examples, and for confirming that the alternative will only be used in cases where a penetrating item is not able to comply with the 1 Hr T-rating, in an otherwise listed system. I left you a voice message and thought I would follow up with the items for clarifying. For instance, as you pointed out, the last 2 systems have penetrations that do not meet the 1 hour T rating, it looks like none do on the last one, even for nonmetallic conduit, though it specifies up to 2 Hr could apply for this system. We would appreciate any additional information you can provide on the following items:

1. If no method is given to achieve the T rating compliance for particular penetrating material(s) in an approved system, is this typically not approved on your inspection? What would allow these systems to be approved if the wrap is not specified, are there different systems specified for each individual item? Has this alternative approach been used on any projects your company has inspected to date?

2. In the memo requesting the proposed alternative method, the reason given for not using the insulation is that it presents practical challenges relative to maintenance and longevity over the life of the building, and code conflicts for electrical installations. The IBC Sec. 714.4.1.2, exception 3, eliminates the T-rating in cases where electrical conduit enters a switchgear box. If this is about damage and potential replacement of the wrap, it seems the designated clearance area would mitigate this, but it could also be redundant. Can you please elaborate on this?

3. In assessing this with Jason Grant, our life safety reviewer, he brought to my attention that in addition to the local authority, the State Fire Marshal's office also has jurisdiction for permitting and CMS inspections for health care occupancies. They should also be consulted for AHJ acceptance of this NFPA exception.

We understand this is a time sensitive ruling due to active construction, and we are available to further discuss these items prior to determination of this request. I have included Jason, Tim and John on this email as well.

Best,  
Jeanie

*Jeanie Bourke*  
*Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer*  
*Team Leader*

City of Portland  
Permitting and Inspections Department  
389 Congress St. Rm 315  
Portland, ME 04101  
[jmb@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jmb@portlandmaine.gov)  
(207)874-8715

[Quoted text hidden]

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**Christopher Lynch** <ChrisL@crcfire.com>

Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 1:30 PM

To: Jeanie Bourke <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, "TBraun2@mmc.org" <TBraun2@mmc.org>

Hi Jeanie,

Sorry I missed your call back on Friday. I will try and connect with you today or tomorrow over the phone to review your email. I put in responses in red below to each as well.

Best Regards,

Chris

Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

**Code Red Consultants, LLC**

t: 617.500.9448 | c: 617.763.8453 | f: 617.500.2074

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**From:** Jeanie Bourke <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 17, 2018 11:27 AM  
**To:** Christopher Lynch <ChrisL@crcfire.com>  
**Cc:** Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>; Jonathan M. Klages <JKlages@mmc.org>; TBraun2@mmc.org  
**Subject:** Re: Sample T Rating Firestopping Assemblies

Hi Chris,

Thanks for discussing my questions last Friday, sending the firestop examples, and for confirming that the alternative will only be used in cases where a penetrating item is not able to comply with the 1 Hr T-rating, in an otherwise listed system. I left you a voice message and thought I would follow up with the items for clarifying. For instance, as you pointed out, the last 2 systems have penetrations that do not meet the 1 hour T rating, it looks like none do on the last one, even for nonmetallic conduit, though it specifies up to 2 Hr could apply for this system. We would appreciate any additional information you can provide on the following items:

1. If no method is given to achieve the T rating compliance for particular penetrating material(s) in an approved system, is this typically not approved on your inspection? **Correct. Per code, where a T rating is required we would need to listed assembly to identify that is has a T rating of the specified rating.** What would allow these systems to be approved if the wrap is not specified, are there different systems specified for each individual item? **Only the systems that achieve the T rating would be approved unless an alternative form of compliance as MMC is proposing here was previously approved by the building official.** Has this alternative approach been used on any projects your company has inspected to date? **Yes, the photo you saw is from the new Encore Casino in Everett, MA. A similar process was followed there as what is being proposed here for building official approval.**

2. In the memo requesting the proposed alternative method, the reason given for not using the insulation is that it presents practical challenges relative to maintenance and longevity over the life of the building, and code conflicts for electrical installations. The IBC Sec. 714.4.1.2, exception 3, eliminates the T-rating in cases where electrical conduit enters a switchgear box. **For specifically exempted locations like a conduit entering a switch gear, the proposed compliance alternative method would not need to be applied and a listed fire stop assembly would not need to identify a T rating because it is specifically exempt by code. The additional insulation is only required to be applied for through floor penetrations that are not exempt by one of the other exceptions.** If this is about damage and potential replacement of the wrap, it seems the designated clearance area would mitigate this, but it could also be redundant. Can you please elaborate on this? I believe we would have the following applications on the project:

- a. A through floor penetration that is exempt from meeting the T rating because it is in a wall cavity, qualified for the switch gear exceptions, or qualifies for the floor drain exception in the IBC. These penetrations only need an F rating and would not have any additional insulation or need floor markings and signage.
- b. Through floor penetrations that do not qualify for a T rating exception in the code where the listed assembly options all require the use of an additional insulating material to achieve a T rating. In these applications it is proposed to use the compliance alternative approach of signage and markings per MMC on the basis of the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code Exception. If there is a situation where the conditions of the alternate compliance method cannot be maintained (i.e. 12" separation cant be achieved) the additional insulation material will be applied to maintain the T rating.

3. In assessing this with Jason Grant, our life safety reviewer, he brought to my attention that in addition to the local authority, the State Fire Marshal's office also has jurisdiction for permitting and CMS inspections for health care occupancies. They should also be consulted for AHJ acceptance of this NFPA exception. **Agreed. We started with the Building Department on this approach because the life safety code contains the exception while the building code does not. Thus, if the alternative approach isn't permitted from the building officials standpoint, it wouldn't be an option on the fire officials side.**

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**Christopher Lynch** <ChrisL@crcfire.com>

Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 1:03 PM

To: Jeanie Bourke <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, "TBraun2@mmc.org" <TBraun2@mmc.org>

Hi Jeanie,

Happy New Year. I hope you had a good holiday break. I am following up on our discussion regarding the T rating compliance alternative request for the Maine Medical Center East Tower Expansion. I have updated the proposed

approach based on our conversation. Please find a new document attached for your review. Please let me know if have any comments or questions on its contents.

Best Regards,

Chris Lynch

Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

**Code Red Consultants, LLC**

t: 617.500.9448 | c: 617.763.8453 | f: 617.500.2074

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**2019-0103- MMC East Tower through Floor Firestopping T Rating Compliance Alternative.pdf**  
921K

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**Jeanie Bourke** <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>  
To: Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>

Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 2:29 PM

Hi Chris,

As you can see, this was sent to Jason, but not to you. We should probably discuss this week sometime. If it is acceptable to us, they will also go to the fire marshal with it as well.

*Jeanie Bourke*  
*Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer*  
*Team Leader*

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Permitting and Inspections Department  
389 Congress St. Rm 315  
Portland, ME 04101  
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**2019-0103- MMC East Tower through Floor Firestopping T Rating Compliance Alternative.pdf**  
921K

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**Jeanie Bourke** <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>  
To: Christopher Lynch <ChrisL@crctfire.com>

Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 3:01 PM

Cc: Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, "TBraun2@mmc.org" <TBraun2@mmc.org>, Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>

Good Afternoon Chris,

Happy New Year to you as well.

Thank you for sending this updated compliance alternative proposal, I just wanted to let you know that Jason, Chris and I will be meeting to discuss this week and I will be getting back to you.

Best,  
Jeanie

*Jeanie Bourke  
Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer  
Team Leader*

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---

**Christopher Lynch** <ChrisL@crfire.com>

Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 4:01 PM

To: Jeanie Bourke <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, "TBraun2@mmc.org" <TBraun2@mmc.org>, Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>

Thanks for the update Jeanie. Feel free to contact me with any comments/questions.

Thanks,

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[Quoted text hidden]

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a. A through floor penetration that is exempt from meeting the T rating because it is in a wall cavity, qualified for the switch gear exceptions, or qualifies for the floor drain exception in the IBC. These penetrations only need an F rating and would not have any additional insulation or need floor markings and signage.

b. Through floor penetrations that do not qualify for a T rating exception in the code where the listed assembly options all require the use of an additional insulating material to achieve a T rating. In these applications it is proposed to use the compliance alternative approach of signage and markings per MMC on the basis of the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code Exception. If there is a situation where the conditions of the alternate compliance method cannot be maintained (i.e. 12" separation cant be achieved) the additional insulation material will be applied to maintain the T rating.

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**Jeanie Bourke** <jmb@portlandmaine.gov> Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 2:31 PM  
To: Christopher Lynch <ChrisL@crcfire.com>  
Cc: Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, "TBraun2@mmc.org" <TBraun2@mmc.org>, Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>

Good Morning Chris,

Jason and I reviewed the updated documents of your proposal requesting to use the alternative method of compliance as allowed in IBC Sec. 104.11 for the firestop T Rating of specific through floor penetrations located outside of wall cavities. The supporting data includes sufficient evidence that the proposed method will satisfactorily provide an equivalent and effective solution that complies with the intent of the code.

This alternative method is approved to be installed per both IBC and NFPA code allowances, and the criteria detailed in the proposal. Additional approval is required by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. I understand that this will be presented to them for review, please let us know the outcome of their decision.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,  
Jeanie

*Jeanie Bourke  
Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer  
Team Leader*

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[Quoted text hidden]

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**Christopher Lynch** <ChrisL@crcfire.com> Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 6:53 AM  
To: Jeanie Bourke <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>  
Cc: Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, "TBraun2@mmc.org" <TBraun2@mmc.org>, Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>

Great thank you for your time and attention to this issue. We will follow up with the Fire Marshal's office and keep you apprised of that result.

Thanks again,

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**Timothy Braun** <TBraun2@mmc.org> Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 11:17 AM  
To: Christopher Lynch <ChrisL@crcfire.com>, Jeanie Bourke <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>  
Cc: Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>

Jeanie,

[Thank you for assistance with this issue.](#)

If possible, it would be helpful to have a letter from you, on City Letterhead, with the approval to go ahead with this policy. We are also asking that this policy will be integrated throughout Maine Medical Center as well as our new Congress Tower.

Thank you,

**Timothy Braun, RA**

Facilities Project Manager II

**Maine Medical Center | Facilities Management**

22 Bramhall Street, Portland, Maine 04102

t (207) 662-2437 | m (207) 671-8919 | pager (207) 741-0308 | tbraun2@mmc.org

---

**From:** Christopher Lynch [mailto:ChrisL@crfire.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 16, 2019 6:53 AM  
**To:** Jeanie Bourke  
**Cc:** Jason Grant; Jonathan M. Klages; Timothy Braun; Chris Beaumont  
**Subject:** RE: Sample T Rating Firestopping Assemblies

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**Jeanie Bourke** <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 4:02 PM

To: Timothy Braun <TBraun2@mmc.org>

Cc: Christopher Lynch <ChrisL@crfire.com>, Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>

Good Afternoon Chris,

My apologies for not getting back to you sooner, I have been assigned to several priority permits that have demanded my attention. I can provide a letter, but it may be as late as next week before I will have a chance to compose this and send it out.

I appreciate your patience on the delay.

Best,  
Jeanie  
*Jeanie Bourke*  
*Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer*  
*Team Leader*

City of Portland  
Permitting and Inspections Department  
389 Congress St. Rm 315  
Portland, ME 04101



[jmb@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jmb@portlandmaine.gov)  
(207)874-8715

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**Christopher Lynch** <ChrisL@crcfire.com>

Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 9:22 AM

To: Jeanie Bourke <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>, Timothy Braun <TBraun2@mmc.org>

Cc: Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>, Zach Blanchard <zblanchard@crcfire.com>

Hi Jeanie,

No problem on the delay. I did want to get you a separate letter for the Congress Street Tower project so you have one for each permit that will be coming in for your files. Please find a copy of both attached. Whenever you get around to sending back the written approval it will be appreciated. We also are meeting the State Fire Marshal's Office this week and will present this approach to them as well.

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## 2 attachments



**2019-0206- MMC Congress Street Tower through Floor Firestopping T Rating Compliance Alternative.pdf**  
921K



**2019-0103- MMC East Tower through Floor Firestopping T Rating Compliance Alternative.pdf**  
921K

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**Jeanie Bourke** <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>

Mon, Feb 11, 2019 at 4:22 PM

To: Christopher Lynch <ChrisL@crcfire.com>

Cc: Timothy Braun <TBraun2@mmc.org>, Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages"

<JKlages@mmc.org>, Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>, Zach Blanchard <zblanchard@crcfire.com>

Hi Chris,

Thanks for the separate reports, how did your meeting go with the state fire marshal, were they able to give you a determination at this juncture? This would be helpful to know prior to crafting any letters of acceptance for the alternative compliance.

Additionally, in terms of this alternative being used throughout the MMC complex, in looking over the report, I do not find this specifically noted anywhere, please direct me to the location if I missed it. Will Code Red be conducting inspections, or have you done an assessment on all existing similar penetrations throughout to confirm either compliance per the T rating, or the alternative as the case may be? It would be good to know the scope of the potential existing conditions, and the proposal for follow up.

Can you please let me know your thoughts on how to account for this moving forward so that this can be made abundantly clear?

Let me know if you would like to discuss.

Best,  
Jeanie

*Jeanie Bourke*  
*Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer*  
*Team Leader*

City of Portland  
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Portland, ME 04101  
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[Quoted text hidden]

---

**Christopher Lynch** <[chrisl@crfire.com](mailto:chrisl@crfire.com)>

Fri, Apr 12, 2019 at 10:26 AM

To: Jeanie Bourke <[jmb@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jmb@portlandmaine.gov)>

Cc: Timothy Braun <[TBraun2@mmc.org](mailto:TBraun2@mmc.org)>, Jason Grant <[jgrant@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jgrant@portlandmaine.gov)>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <[JKlages@mmc.org](mailto:JKlages@mmc.org)>, Chris Beaumont <[cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov)>, Zach Blanchard <[zblanchard@crfire.com](mailto:zblanchard@crfire.com)>

Hi Jeanie,

Thanks for your patience, as the timing for the follow up with the state fire marshal took longer than anticipated. Attached you will find an email from Ron Peaslee from the State Fire Marshal's office documenting that they do not have any issue with the proposed approach on the T ratings. We submitted letters to them for the East Tower and Congress Street projects specifically.

Relative to the question of applying this approach to existing conditions, I believe the best path for all parties would be to request use of this protocol on a permit by permit basis. The language in the building code on compliance alternatives is tied to a particular permit. I reviewed this with MMC and they understand that if they have internal work that they would like to employ this protocol, then a specific request and permit would be needed to document it. My read of the administrative requirements of the code does not appear to have an avenue for a blanket approval. If you see a permissible approach to achieve this please let me know.

Please let us know if you have any additional questions or concerns on this issue.

Best Regards,

Chris

Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

**Code Red Consultants, LLC**

t: 617.500.9448 | c: 617.763.8453 | f: 617.500.2074

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---

**From:** Jeanie Bourke <[jmb@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jmb@portlandmaine.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2019 4:22 PM

**To:** Christopher Lynch <[ChrisL@crfire.com](mailto:ChrisL@crfire.com)>

**Cc:** Timothy Braun <[TBraun2@mmc.org](mailto:TBraun2@mmc.org)>; Jason Grant <[jgrant@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jgrant@portlandmaine.gov)>; Jonathan M. Klages

<JKlages@mmc.org>; Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>; Zach Blanchard <zblanchard@crcfire.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Sample T Rating Fire stopping Assemblies

==== External Sender =====

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Peaslee, Ronald J" <Ronald.J.Peaslee@maine.gov>  
To: Timothy Braun <TBraun2@mmc.org>  
Cc: "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, "Mathew L. Thornton" <MThornton@mmc.org>, Christopher Lynch <chrisl@crcfire.com>, "McCarthy, Richard" <Richard.McCarthy@maine.gov>, "Day, Gregory J" <Gregory.J.Day@maine.gov>, "Veilleux, Marc" <Marc.Veilleux@maine.gov>  
Bcc:  
Date: Fri, 5 Apr 2019 15:29:37 +0000  
Subject: RE: East Tower and Congress Tower T- Ratings

==== External Sender =====

Tim,

In regards to the fire stopping requirements of NFPA 101 Life Safety Code 2012 edition chapter 8 section 8.3.5. As long as the hospital follows the code requirements set forth within the applicable chapter and section of the LSC 2012 edition the Fire Marshal's office will not require additional safeguards and we accept Code Reds Alternative Compliance letter dated 1-31-2019.

Thank you,

Ronald J. Peaslee

Maine State Fire Marshal's Office

45 Commerce Drive

Suite #1

Augusta Maine 04330

(207) 441-1293

**From:** Timothy Braun [mailto:TBraun2@mmc.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 03, 2019 11:30 AM  
**To:** Peaslee, Ronald J <Ronald.J.Peaslee@maine.gov>  
**Cc:** Jonathan M. Klages <JKlages@mmc.org>; Mathew L. Thornton <MThornton@mmc.org>; 'Christopher Lynch' <chrisl@crcfire.com>  
**Subject:** East Tower and Congress Tower T- Ratings

**EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Ron,

Attached are the Letters for the East Tower and Congress Tower T-Ratings for both the City and SFM.

I have also included the email from the City of Portland.

We are planning to require an 18-24" clearance area at the through floor penetrations.

Any areas that don't meet the NFPA Code Requirements we will discuss with the SFM and City to determine an acceptable solution.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Thank you,

**Timothy Braun, RA**

Facilities Project Manager II

**Maine Medical Center | Facilities Management**

22 Bramhall Street, Portland, Maine 04102

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**Timothy Braun** <TBraun2@mmc.org> Tue, Apr 23, 2019 at 1:44 PM  
To: Christopher Lynch <chrisl@crcfire.com>, Jeanie Bourke <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>  
Cc: Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>, Zach Blanchard <zblanchard@crcfire.com>

Jeanie,

I just wanted to follow up on the letter from the City of Portland regarding the T-Rating for the East Tower and Congress Street Projects.

When you have a chance, can you send me an update. We are at a critical point in the project where we need to have final approval.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Thank you,

**Timothy Braun, RA**

Facilities Project Manager II

**Maine Medical Center | Facilities Management**

22 Bramhall Street, Portland, Maine 04102

t (207) 662-2437 | m (207) 671-8919 | tbraun2@mmc.org

---

**From:** Christopher Lynch [mailto:[chrisl@crfire.com](mailto:chrisl@crfire.com)]

**Sent:** Friday, April 12, 2019 10:27 AM

**To:** Jeanie Bourke

**Cc:** Timothy Braun; Jason Grant; Jonathan M. Klages; Chris Beaumont; Zach Blanchard

**Subject:** RE: Sample T Rating Fire stopping Assemblies

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Hi Jeanie,

Thanks for your patience, as the timing for the follow up with the state fire marshal took longer than anticipated. Attached you will find an email from Ron Peaslee from the State Fire Marshal's office documenting that they do not have any issue with the proposed approach on the T ratings. We submitted letters to them for the East Tower and Congress Street projects specifically.

Relative to the question of applying this approach to existing conditions, I believe the best path for all parties would be to request use of this protocol on a permit by permit basis. The language in the building code on compliance alternatives is tied to a particular permit. I reviewed this with MMC and they understand that if they have internal work that they would like to employ this protocol, then a specific request and permit would be needed to document it. My read of the administrative requirements of the code does not appear to have an avenue for a blanket approval. If you see a permissible approach to achieve this please let me know.

Please let us know if you have any additional questions or concerns on this issue.

Best Regards,

Chris

Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

**Code Red Consultants, LLC**

t: 617.500.9448 | c: 617.763.8453 | f: 617.500.2074

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**From:** Jeanie Bourke <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 11, 2019 4:22 PM  
**To:** Christopher Lynch <ChrisL@crfire.com>  
**Cc:** Timothy Braun <TBraun2@mmc.org>; Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>; Jonathan M. Klages <JKlages@mmc.org>; Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>; Zach Blanchard <zblanchard@crfire.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Sample T Rating Fire stopping Assemblies

==== External Sender ====

Hi Chris,

Thanks for the separate reports, how did your meeting go with the state fire marshal, were they able to give you a determination at this juncture? This would be helpful to know prior to crafting any letters of acceptance for the alternative compliance.

Additionally, in terms of this alternative being used throughout the MMC complex, in looking over the report, I do not find this specifically noted anywhere, please direct me to the location if I missed it. Will Code Red be conducting inspections, or have you done an assessment on all existing similar penetrations throughout to confirm either compliance per the T rating, or the alternative as the case may be? It would be good to know the scope of the potential existing conditions, and the proposal for follow up.

Can you please let me know your thoughts on how to account for this moving forward so that this can be made abundantly clear?

Let me know if you would like to discuss.

Best,

Jeanie

*Jeanie Bourke*  
*Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer*

*Team Leader*

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On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 9:22 AM Christopher Lynch <[ChrisL@crctfire.com](mailto:ChrisL@crctfire.com)> wrote:

Hi Jeanie,

No problem on the delay. I did want to get you a separate letter for the Congress Street Tower project so you have one for each permit that will be coming in for your files. Please find a copy of both attached. Whenever you get around to sending back the written approval it will be appreciated. We also are meeting the State Fire Marshal's Office this week and will present this approach to them as well.

Best Regards,

Chris

Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

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---

**From:** Jeanie Bourke <[jmb@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jmb@portlandmaine.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, January 28, 2019 4:03 PM

**To:** Timothy Braun <[TBraun2@mmc.org](mailto:TBraun2@mmc.org)>

**Cc:** Christopher Lynch <[ChrisL@crctfire.com](mailto:ChrisL@crctfire.com)>; Jason Grant <[jgrant@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jgrant@portlandmaine.gov)>; Jonathan M. Klages

<[JKlages@mmc.org](mailto:JKlages@mmc.org)>; Chris Beaumont <[cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Sample T Rating Fire stopping Assemblies

Good Afternoon Chris,

My apologies for not getting back to you sooner, I have been assigned to several priority permits that have demanded my attention. I can provide a letter, but it may be as late as next week before I will have a chance to compose this and send it out.

I appreciate your patience on the delay.

Best,

Jeanie

*Jeanie Bourke*  
*Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer*

*Team Leader*

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On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 11:17 AM Timothy Braun <[TBraun2@mmc.org](mailto:TBraun2@mmc.org)> wrote:

Jeanie,

Thank you for assistance with this issue.

If possible, it would be helpful to have a letter from you, on City Letterhead, with the approval to go ahead with this policy. We are also asking that this policy will be integrated throughout Maine Medical Center as well as our new Congress Tower.

Thank you,

**Timothy Braun, RA**

Facilities Project Manager II

**Maine Medical Center | Facilities Management**

[22 Bramhall Street, Portland, Maine 04102](#)

t (207) 662-2437 | m (207) 671-8919 | pager (207) 741-0308 | [tbraun2@mmc.org](mailto:tbraun2@mmc.org)



---

**From:** Christopher Lynch [mailto:[ChrisL@crfire.com](mailto:ChrisL@crfire.com)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 16, 2019 6:53 AM  
**To:** Jeanie Bourke  
**Cc:** Jason Grant; Jonathan M. Klages; Timothy Braun; Chris Beaumont  
**Subject:** RE: Sample T Rating Firestopping Assemblies

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Great thank you for your time and attention to this issue. We will follow up with the Fire Marshal's office and keep you apprised of that result.

Thanks again,

Chris

Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

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**From:** Jeanie Bourke <[jmb@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jmb@portlandmaine.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 14, 2019 2:31 PM  
**To:** Christopher Lynch <[ChrisL@crfire.com](mailto:ChrisL@crfire.com)>  
**Cc:** Jason Grant <[jgrant@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jgrant@portlandmaine.gov)>; Jonathan M. Klages <[JKlages@mmc.org](mailto:JKlages@mmc.org)>; [TBraun2@mmc.org](mailto:TBraun2@mmc.org);  
Chris Beaumont <[cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Sample T Rating Firestopping Assemblies

Good Morning Chris,

Jason and I reviewed the updated documents of your proposal requesting to use the alternative method of compliance as allowed in IBC Sec. 104.11 for the firestop T Rating of specific through floor penetrations located outside of wall cavities. The supporting data

includes sufficient evidence that the proposed method will satisfactorily provide an equivalent and effective solution that complies with the intent of the code.

This alternative method is approved to be installed per both IBC and NFPA code allowances, and the criteria detailed in the proposal. Additional approval is required by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. I understand that this will be presented to them for review, please let us know the outcome of their decision.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Best,

Jeanie

*Jeanie Bourke*  
*Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer*

*Team Leader*

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On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 4:01 PM Christopher Lynch <[ChrisL@crfire.com](mailto:ChrisL@crfire.com)> wrote:

Thanks for the update Jeanie. Feel free to contact me with any comments/questions.

Thanks,

Chris

Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

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**From:** Jeanie Bourke <[jmb@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jmb@portlandmaine.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 9, 2019 3:02 PM  
**To:** Christopher Lynch <[ChrisL@crfire.com](mailto:ChrisL@crfire.com)>  
**Cc:** Jason Grant <[jgrant@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jgrant@portlandmaine.gov)>; Jonathan M. Klages <[JKlages@mmc.org](mailto:JKlages@mmc.org)>;  
[TBraun2@mmc.org](mailto:TBraun2@mmc.org); Chris Beaumont <[cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Sample T Rating Firestopping Assemblies

Good Afternoon Chris,

Happy New Year to you as well.

Thank you for sending this updated compliance alternative proposal, I just wanted to let you know that Jason, Chris and I will be meeting to discuss this week and I will be getting back to you.

Best,

Jeanie

*Jeanie Bourke  
Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer*

*Team Leader*

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On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 1:03 PM Christopher Lynch <[ChrisL@crfire.com](mailto:ChrisL@crfire.com)> wrote:

Hi Jeanie,

Happy New Year. I hope you had a good holiday break. I am following up on our discussion regarding the T rating compliance alternative request for the Maine Medical Center East Tower Expansion. I have updated the proposed approach based on our conversation. Please find a new document attached for your review. Please let me know if have any comments or questions on its contents.

Best Regards,

Chris Lynch

Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

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t: 617.500.9448 | c: 617.763.8453 | f: 617.500.2074

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**From:** Christopher Lynch

**Sent:** Monday, December 17, 2018 1:30 PM

**To:** 'Jeanie Bourke' <[jmb@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jmb@portlandmaine.gov)>

**Cc:** Jason Grant <[jgrant@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jgrant@portlandmaine.gov)>; Jonathan M. Klages <[JKlages@mmc.org](mailto:JKlages@mmc.org)>;  
[TBraun2@mmc.org](mailto:TBraun2@mmc.org)

**Subject:** RE: Sample T Rating Firestopping Assemblies

Hi Jeanie,

Sorry I missed your call back on Friday. I will try and connect with you today or tomorrow over the phone to review your email. I put in responses in red below to each as well.

Best Regards,

Chris

Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

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---

**From:** Jeanie Bourke <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 17, 2018 11:27 AM  
**To:** Christopher Lynch <ChrisL@crcfire.com>  
**Cc:** Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>; Jonathan M. Klages <JKlages@mmc.org>; TBraun2@mmc.org  
**Subject:** Re: Sample T Rating Firestopping Assemblies

Hi Chris,

Thanks for discussing my questions last Friday, sending the firestop examples, and for confirming that the alternative will only be used in cases where a penetrating item is not able to comply with the 1 Hr T-rating, in an otherwise listed system. I left you a voice message and thought I would follow up with the items for clarifying. For instance, as you pointed out, the last 2 systems have penetrations that do not meet the 1 hour T rating, it looks like none do on the last one, even for nonmetallic conduit, though it specifies up to 2 Hr could apply for this system. We would appreciate any additional information you can provide on the following items:

1. If no method is given to achieve the T rating compliance for particular penetrating material(s) in an approved system, is this typically not approved on your inspection? **Correct. Per code, where a T rating is required we would need to listed assembly to identify that is has a T rating of the specified rating.** What would allow these systems to be approved if the wrap is not specified, are there different systems specified for each individual item? **Only the systems that achieve the T rating would be approved unless an alternative form of compliance as MMC is proposing here was previously approved by the building official.** Has this alternative approach been used on any projects your company has inspected to date? **Yes, the photo you saw is from the new Encore Casino in Everett, MA. A similar process was followed there as what is being proposed here for building official approval.**

2. In the memo requesting the proposed alternative method, the reason given for not using the insulation is that it presents practical challenges relative to maintenance and longevity over the life of the building, and code conflicts for electrical installations. The IBC Sec. 714.4.1.2, exception 3, eliminates the T-rating in cases where electrical conduit enters a switchgear box. **For specifically exempted locations like a conduit entering a switch gear, the proposed compliance alternative method would not need to be applied and a listed fire stop assembly would not need to identify a T rating because it is specifically exempt by code. The additional insulation is only required to be applied for through floor penetrations that are not exempt by one of the other exceptions.** If this is about damage and potential replacement of the wrap, it seems the designated clearance area would mitigate this, but it could also be redundant. Can you please elaborate on this? I believe we would have the following applications on the project:

- a. A through floor penetration that is exempt from meeting the T rating because it is in a wall cavity, qualified for the switch gear exceptions, or qualifies for the floor drain exception in the IBC. These penetrations only need an F rating and would not have any additional insulation or need floor markings and signage.
  
- b. Through floor penetrations that do not qualify for a T rating exception in the code where the listed assembly options all require the use of an additional insulating material to achieve a T rating. In these applications it is proposed to use the compliance alternative approach of signage and markings per MMC on the basis of the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code Exception. If there is a situation where the conditions of the alternate compliance method cannot be maintained (i.e. 12" separation cant be achieved) the additional insulation material will be applied to maintain the T rating.

3. In assessing this with Jason Grant, our life safety reviewer, he brought to my attention that in addition to the local authority, the State Fire Marshal's office also has jurisdiction for permitting and CMS inspections for health care occupancies. They should also be consulted for AHJ acceptance of this NFPA exception. **Agreed. We started with the Building Department on this approach because the life safety code contains the exception while the building code does not. Thus, if the alternative approach isn't permitted from the building officials standpoint, it wouldn't be an option on the fire officials side.**

We understand this is a time sensitive ruling due to active construction, and we are available to further discuss these items prior to determination of this request. I have included Jason, Tim and John on this email as well.

Best,

Jeanie

*Jeanie Bourke  
Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer*

*Team Leader*

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On Thu, Dec 13, 2018 at 3:33 PM Christopher Lynch <[ChrisL@crfire.com](mailto:ChrisL@crfire.com)> wrote:

Hi Jeanie,

Good talking with you earlier today. Attached is a compilation of various through floor penetrations with T ratings that achieve 2 hours. All of these happen to be STI since that is what is planned for this project but based on my experience you would find the same general conditions with the other manufacturers as well. You will see several of the assemblies specify the additional insulation or duct wrap. The last few you will see that there are notes indicating no T rating is provided for certain penetrating items (generally metallic) where insulation is not provided.

Let me know if you would like any additional information. I would be happy to provide samples from other manufactures as well for your reference.

Best Regards,

Chris

Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

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[ChrisL@crcfire.com](mailto:ChrisL@crcfire.com) | [www.crcfire.com](http://www.crcfire.com)



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**Jeanie Bourke** <jmb@portlandmaine.gov>

Thu, Apr 25, 2019 at 1:40 PM

To: Timothy Braun <TBraun2@mmc.org>

Cc: Christopher Lynch <chrisl@crcfire.com>, Jason Grant <jgrant@portlandmaine.gov>, "Jonathan M. Klages" <JKlages@mmc.org>, Chris Beaumont <cbeaumont@portlandmaine.gov>, Zach Blanchard <zblanchard@crcfire.com>

Hi Chris,

This has been on my to do list, thank you for providing the Fire Marshal approval, I will be working on the letter early next week and hope to have it completed by Wednesday.

Best,  
Jeanie

*Jeanie Bourke*  
*Code Enforcement Officer/LPI/Plan Reviewer*  
*Team Leader*

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Christopher Lynch, P.E. | Principal

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