

# **WALL PENETRATIONS**

## **PURPOSE**

To ensure that all penetrations in fire and smoke rated walls are properly sealed.

## **POLICY**

University shall have a program to ensure that all penetrations in smoke or fire rated walls resulting from construction, repair or other work, are sealed with approved material.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **Requirements**

Pipes, conduits, bus ducts, cables, wires, air ducts, pneumatic tubes and ducts, cable trays, and similar building service equipment that pass through fire and smoke barriers shall be protected as follows to prevent the passage of flame, smoke, fumes and hot gases:

- a. The space between the penetrating item and the fire or smoke barrier shall:
  1. Be filled with a material capable of maintaining the fire resistance of the fire barrier,  
or
  2. Be protected by an approved device (see Section I.2.) designed for the specific purpose.

### **Responsibilities**

#### **Environmental Health and Safety**

1. Environmental Health and Safety will inspect for penetrations during hazard surveillance rounds.
2. Facilities maintenance personnel will report any unsealed penetrations which may be discovered during routine inspection or service to Environmental Health and Safety.

#### **Facilities Management**

1. Facilities Management shall repair penetrations they may find in the immediate area where they may be working.
2. Facilities Management has the responsibility of maintaining the building in a safe condition, and therefore, the ultimate responsibility for sealing all fire and smoke wall penetrations is with the Facilities Management Department.

#### **New Construction**

1. All bids and contracts will include the above requirements for wall penetrations. Compliance with this policy will be a condition for selection of all contracts.
2. All construction permits will include the above requirements for wall penetrations.

### Renovations / Equipment Installations

1. All renovations, upgrades and equipment installations performed by electricians, plumbers, HVAC, telephone workers, computer systems installers, fire alarm maintenance, TV Rental, or other workers, whether in-house or outside contractors, shall comply with the above requirements.
3. Notification of penetrations made and actions taken to seal penetrations must be provided to the Physical Plant on a routine basis by the department performing equipment installations or by the department hiring contractors to perform equipment installations.

For more information regarding these guidelines, contact the Department of Environmental Health and Safety (348- 2621).

### References:

1. National Fire Protection Association:
  - a. *Life Safety Code 101* Section 6-2.3.6
  - b. *Fire Walls and Fire Barrier Walls 221* Section 6-1
2. New York State Uniform Fire Protection and Building Code
  - a. Title 9 Section 771.6