

TECHNICAL SERVICES BULLETIN

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

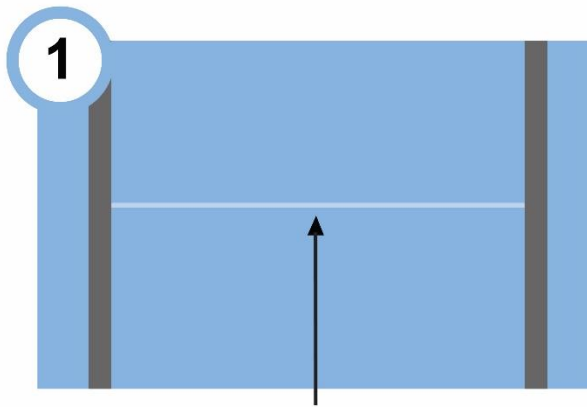
The 2 ½ hour fire rated ME Area Separation Firewall System was released to the industry in March 2022 as a way to isolate sound and protect from fire two (2) separate living units in townhomes, twin homes, duplexes, condominiums and apartments. At times during the installation of the ME ASF system, mistakes 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.

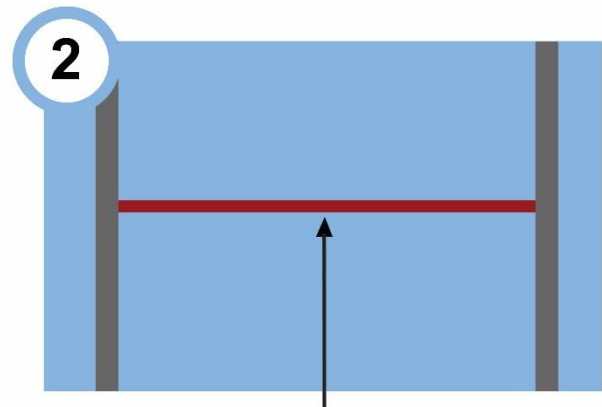
DAMAGE OR DEFECT:	HORIZONTAL JOINT IN 1/2" M-BLOC® EKCEL® TYPE X with MOLD & MOISTURE RESISTANCE
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ISSUE: The 1/2" x 10' M-Bloc Ekcel Type X wallboard panels are to be installed as full length pieces within the ME Area Separation Firewall framing system, but at times a contractor will mistakenly insert or use partial - not full size pieces. This type of installation voids the 2 ½ hour fire rating.

REPAIR: Where the two (2) pieces of 1/2" M-Bloc Ekcel Type X wallboard with Mold & Moisture Resistance meet, fill the horizontal joint with 3M Fire Barrier Sealant CP 25 WB+ fire caulk.



**Horizontal joint in
1/2" M-Bloc Ekcel Type X panel**



**Fill horizontal joint with 3M Fire
Barrier Sealant CP 25WB+
fire caulk**