



NEW YORK CITY (NYC) REQUIRING NFPA 285 TESTS TO INCLUDE FIREBLOCKING

Did you know?

New requirements for exterior walls and exterior wall coverings in the 2022 New York City Building Code (NYC BC) are significantly different from the 2014 NYC BC and the model 2015 International Building Code® (IBC) upon which the 2022 NYC BC is based.

The most significant changes in the 2022 NYC BC are in relation to fireblocking in exterior wall coverings. The changes include:

- New prescriptive triggers for fireblocking of exterior wall coverings
- New prescribed locations for fireblocking in exterior wall coverings that include vertical and horizontal fireblocking, and that fireblocking that extends from the wall sheathing to the backside of the exterior cladding
- New limitations on fireblocking materials permitted for use in exterior wall coverings

The NYC BC now requires tested exterior walls and exterior wall covering assemblies to include fireblocking. [Buildings Bulletin 2022-013 \(Issued Sept 06, 2022\)](#), states that NFPA 285 test specimens, "... are required to be representative of the intended exterior wall covering to be installed, including the type and location of fireblocking used in the NFPA 285 tested assembly."

The bulletin also states that, "During testing, it shall be the manufacturer's responsibility to ensure that the tested fireblocking location is consistent with the intended use [...]."



How can QAI help?

QAI Laboratories (QAI) is North America's leading expert for testing and certification of building products and assemblies, including demonstrating compliance with NFPA 285. Our experts will help you through the process of demonstrating compliance with the NYC BC and NFPA 285 test requirements. For more information, please contact a member of our team at info@qai.org or 1.888.540.4024.

