

Thermafiber- Technical Bulletin

Factory Mutual (FM) Approval Inquiry

Dear Valued Customer,

In response to the recent inquiry concerning FM Approval of various Thermafiber products, Thermafiber has researched this option and has decided not to pursue this approval, at this time.

FM Approvals – Approval Standard for Firestopping, (Class 4990), only has programs that involve roof and joint systems. FM Approvals does not have a follow-up service for Curtain Wall systems; therefore, current Thermafiber Mineral Wool products have not been submitted for FM Approval due to the duplication of efforts and expenses associated with third party testing of any product.

Thermafiber products are currently UL Listed and Approved for use in many UL tested and listed assemblies and designs. Thermafiber products carry the UL Approved Label.

Both FM Approval and UL Approval follow the same process:

Step 1: Manufacturer Request

The manufacturer contacts the third party test facility with information on products intended to be submitted for approval.

Step 2: Proposal Issue and Manufacturer Authorization

The third party test facility replies with a proposal letter containing scope of project, test requirements, sample requirements, timing, and cost.

Step 3: Review, Testing, and First Audit

Comparisons of specifications to product are made, testing is scheduled and completed, and the third party testing facility completes an onsite review of quality control procedures.

Step 4: Report and Approval Listing

Once the review, testing and first audit are complete, with all aspects in conformance, a report is sent to the manufacturer stating approval and the product is listed and eligible for approval labeling.

Step 5: Follow up Audits

Follow up onsite audits are performed periodically to maintain approval.

With various Thermafiber products tested and listed in excess of 950 UL approved assemblies and designs, the expense of duplication with FM Approvals would not be cost effective in the current economy.

Thermafiber will continue to maintain UL Certification and Approval, and deliver only top quality firestop and insulating products to our customers.