

**Guide for interpretation of Fire Equipment – Passive
(Penetration and joint sealing) licence category under the
Queensland Building Services Authority
Regulation No. 173, 2003**

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION



**Alliance for Fire & Smoke Containment
Industry Best Practice Guideline**

IBPG-Q-0001

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(Penetration and joint sealing) licence category under the
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Background

From September 1st, 2003, the new Queensland Building Services Authority Regulation No.173, 2003 will take effect. These regulations contain, in Part 23, a new licence class relating to Fire Equipment – Passive (penetration and joint sealing).

Objective

The objective of this guide is to provide guidance to the Building Services Authority, Accreditation Bodies, manufacturers, installers, repairers & certifiers of Passive penetration and joint sealing systems, and other interested parties relating to interpretation and implementation relating to Part 23 of the new Queensland Building Services Authority Regulation No.173, 2003.

Abbreviations

The Regulations = Queensland Building Services Authority Regulation No.173, 2003

Scope of licence class

The Regulations should be interpreted as including all fire stopping materials and systems used to fire stop openings, penetrations and joints.

The types of openings, penetrations and joints include but are not limited to:

- Blank openings containing no services
- Opening including pipes
- Openings including electrical cables, conduits and cable trays
- Openings including ducting and dampers
- Openings containing other service types
- Openings containing multiple services
- Control joints or deflection heads
- Building defects

The types of materials or systems include but are not limited to the following:

- Fire collars
- Fire dampers
- Fire joint fillers
- Sealants
- Mastics
- Mortars
- Caulks
- Putties
- Fire cushions and pillows
- Board materials

Technical qualifications

The Regulations state the following as requisite technical qualifications:

Certification from the manufacturer or supplier of specified fire equipment that the applicant has satisfactorily completed a course of instruction which would enable the installation of the specified passive fire equipment in accordance with the manufacturers specifications and the Building Code of Australia.

In the context of the technical qualifications, the following definitions apply:

Manufacturer or supplier

Manufacturer – the company that manufacture the penetration or joint sealing materials being employed

Supplier – the manufacturer’s appointed and approved regional distributor or agent, who has delegated authority to act on behalf of the manufacturer

NOTE – It is important that the manufacturer support the sale of their product and ensures that trained and licensed installers are used for its installation, repair and certification. It is therefore incumbent on manufacturers to ensure that

approved suppliers of the manufacturers materials, where appointed, are required to act on behalf of the manufacturer in this regard

Specified fire equipment

Specified fire equipment – is the materials or systems listed above in the scope of licence section

Course of instruction

Course of instruction -

Any course of instruction must include the following elements:

- It must be fully documented
- It must include both written and practical components.
- It must include a procedure for assessment of competent persons.

Minimum requirements should include the following:

Written

- Documentation of course material which may be in the form of training course notes, PowerPoint presentation or both
- Documented Manufacturers Specification for installation, certification and maintenance as applicable
- Documented test questions for assessment of competency

Practical

- Demonstrate installation of all variations of the standard configurations of the material or system

Assessment of competency

Final assessment of competency by the manufacturer or supplier, shall include:

- Written or verbal test against the documented test questions
- Practical work should be conducted at a training location or on site, and shall include demonstrations of successful installations of all variations of the standard configurations of the material or system.

Certificate of achievement or competency

After successful completion of the course of instruction, a certificate of achievement or competency shall be issued to the applicant by the manufacturer or supplier.

The final certificate should clearly state which materials or system have been covered by the course of instruction.

It is recommended that an expiry date is included on the certificate of achievement or competency so that a refresher course can be implemented to ensure currency of competencies.

Manufacturer's specifications

Manufacturer's specifications are documented procedures to allow installation, certification, maintenance and repair in accordance with the relevant fire test approvals and the Building Code of Australia.

Restricted License categories

As the technical qualification relate to specific manufacturers or suppliers and their specific materials or systems, a uniform set of restricted licence categories are required.

The following licence categories have been identified

Generic material or system types

Pipe (plumbing) penetration systems

These include penetrations breached by pipes, such as those made of plastic and metal.

NOTE – This category may be applicable to competent and licenced plumbers doing their own penetration or joint sealing or of course to specialised fire-stopping companies.

Electrical penetration systems

These include penetrations breached by electrical services such as cables, conduits and cable trays

NOTE – This category may be applicable to competent electricians doing their own penetration or joint sealing or of course to specialised fire-stopping companies.

Duct (mechanical) penetrations systems

These include penetrations breached by mechanical services such as ducting (eg. Fire dampers)

NOTE – 1 This category may be applicable to competent HVAC contractors doing their own penetration or joint sealing or of course to specialised fire-stopping companies.

Joint sealing systems

These include sealing of control joints and deflection heads

NOTE – This category may be applicable to competent joint sealing / caulking contractors doing their own penetration or joint sealing or of course to specialised fire stopping companies.

Special systems

These include other system not covered by the above systems.

The following manufacturers have been identified:

Fireball Collars

Firepro

Hilti

Holyoake Industries

Lorient

Promat

Riley Air Control Systems

Tyco

Typical restricted licence format

Licences for Fire Equipment – Passive (Penetration and Joint Sealing) should include the following information:

- Generic material or system types covered (see above), **AND**
- Manufacturers or suppliers for which the licence applies for **EACH** generic material or system type

Example 1

Pipe (plumbing) penetration systems

Suppliers – Hilti, Promat

Example 2

Pipe (plumbing) penetration systems

Suppliers – Hilti, Promat, Fireball

Electrical penetration systems

Suppliers – Firepro, Hilti, Tyco

Duct (mechanical) penetrations systems

Suppliers – Lorient, Holyoake Industries, Riley Air Control Systems

About the Alliance for Fire & Smoke Containment

The Alliance for Fire and Smoke Containment (The Alliance) was formed in early 2002 with the support of [founding members](#) and today caters for building certification, manufacturing, installing, designing, consulting and other building professionals.

The shared goals of The Alliance members are to:

- Promote passive fire protection as part of a total fire safety design approach
- Promote property protection and public welfare as well as life safety
- Promote fire fighter safety and facilitate fire fighting activities
- Disseminate technical information to the Fire Safety Community
- Promote and support regulators with the implementation of competency based training, accreditation and licensing for installers, repairers and certifiers of Fire and Smoke Containment Systems

The Alliance for Fire and Smoke Containment is managed by J-RAK Consulting, (visit www.rakman.com.au).

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Development of IBP Guidelines

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Appendix 1

Part 23 – Queensland Building Services Authority Regulation No.173, 2003

PART 23—FIRE EQUIPMENT—PASSIVE (PENETRATION AND JOINT SEALING) LICENCE

1 Licence class

Fire equipment—passive (penetration and joint sealing).

2 Scope of work

(1) Install, maintain, repair and certify fire collars, fire joint fillers, sealants, mastics, mortars, fire cushions and pillows (each being “**passive fire equipment**”).

(2) Incidental work of another class.

3 Technical qualifications

Certification from the manufacturer or supplier of specified passive fire equipment that the applicant has satisfactorily completed a course of instruction which would enable the installation of the specified passive fire equipment in accordance with the manufacturers specifications and the Building Code of Australia.

4 Managerial requirements

An approved managerial qualification.

5 Experience requirements

Two years experience, which includes experience gained during an apprenticeship or other training, in—

(a) the scope of work for the class; or

(b) other work, if the authority considers experience in the other work is at least equivalent to experience in the scope of work for the class.

6 Financial requirements

The relevant financial requirements in the board’s policies.