

Disclaimer: These standards and practices are for educational purposes only and are not a mandate. These standards and practices may vary depending on geographic region, type of work and member preference.

Question: Can standard products manufactured by SFIA members be used in the Fire Rated assemblies published by the recognized testing agencies?

Answer: Except where the word “proprietary” appears in system or element descriptions, all systems contained within the major fire rated directories (published by the Gypsum Association, UL, Factory Mutual, etc.) are considered generic assemblies utilizing any product of any manufacturer provided that the products meet the appropriate standards.

The steel framing members included in the SFIA Product Technical Guide are considered “generic”, and have been reviewed for compliance with the governing standards, including AISI 2012, the International Building Code (2018), California Building Code (2016) and Florida Building Code (2014), including (HPVZ), and therefore may be used in any rated assemblies published by the GA, UL, FM, or other recognized testing agency. In addition, steel framing members produced by SFIA member companies participate in a code compliance certification program administered by an independent third-party.

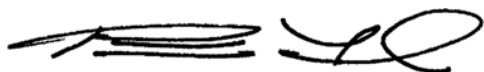
SFIA generic framing members that meet the minimum requirements for web depth, thickness, and other characteristics and therefore may be used in the generic published rated assemblies.

Underwriters Laboratories Rated Designs

The individual listings of UL rated designs identify the main elements of an assembly as numbers in a series (for U465: 1. Floor and Ceiling Runners, 2. Steel Studs, 3. Batts and Blankets, 4 Gypsum Board, 5. Joint Tape and Compound, 6. Resilient Channel, 8. Mineral and Fiber Board (optional), etc.). Unless a proprietary product is identified as being the component in the description, that element is generic and any standard product that meets this description is permitted for use in this design.

Alternative products may also be used in place of the standard or generic, and the permitted products identified in three ways, as a second level in the numerical series (i.e., 1A., 1B., 1C., etc.), with an asterisk (*), and with the wording “as an alternate to....” or “in lieu of...”. The products that have been approved for use in lieu of the standard products are then listed in the UL Design.

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