

Gypsum Association Posts User's Guide

The Gypsum Association has posted a user's guide on its website. The guide consists of a series of pages that provide detailed descriptions of the most common gypsum board applications. These pages are intended to permit everyone from the novice to the experienced installer, the design professional, and the code official to quickly reference general information on gypsum products, various gypsum board applications, nail and screw spacing, adhesive attachment, joint treatment, decoration, and jobsite safety.



The Table of Contents page, found at <http://www.gypsum.org/UsersGuideTOC.html> provides links to nine sections:

- Gypsum Board Construction
- Supporting Construction
- Single-Ply Application
- Multi-Ply Application
- Joint and Fastener Treatment
- Decorating
- Special Construction
- Mold, Moisture, Vapor and Air Penetration
- Material Handling and Storage, Stocking, Safety

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VISIT THE GYPSUM
ASSOCIATION
WEBSITE AT
WWW.GYPSUM.ORG

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Board Information
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Gypsum Association and Drywall Finishing Council Begin Work on New Finishing Document



The Gypsum Association, working with the Drywall Finishing Council (DWFC), is in the preliminary stage of drafting a new document that will describe the recommended levels of finish for non-paper-faced panel products. Similar to the publication GA-214, *Recommended Levels of Gypsum Board Finish*, the new document is intended to describe the necessary procedures for achieving the various levels of finish required on non-paper-faced panels prior to decoration.

“Our members have requested that we explore the potential for a document similar to the traditional Levels of Finish document that can be used to address finishing issues with non-paper-faced panels” says Michael Gardner, Executive Director of the Gypsum Association. “Gaining input from the DWFC during the early stages of the process will help us work through some of the issues involved. We fully recognize the need to involve the contracting organizations in the process and we will approach them for input on the document once we have something tangible for them to assess.”

The DWFC is a not-for-profit organization, founded in 1992, that seeks to represent the issues that are commonly faced by manufacturers of materials used in the finishing of drywall. It, like the Gypsum Association and three other organizations, is a sponsor of the traditional Levels of Finish document. 

ASTM Begins Work On Whole Building LCA Guide



ASTM Committee E60.01 on Buildings and Construction has started work on WK28938 - New Guide for Whole Building LCA. The intent of the project is to create a standard that focuses on the criteria used for Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) at the whole building level. The proposed standard is not intended to supersede or modify existing standards for the application of LCA at the product level, nor is it intended to address the aggregation of building product Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) at the whole building level. The focus is on defining the criteria to be imposed to ensure fair comparisons across building design, irrespective of the LCA tool that is used.

Criteria to be considered in the standard include: life cycle stages; activities such as on-site construction; material/product maintenance and replacement; the treatment of service life; variation in building type and ownership (e.g., owner-occupied versus rental); end-of-life considerations such as reuse, recycling, and disposal activities; the treatment of operating energy; LCA impact measures and characterization factors; weighting or scoring systems; and life cycle inventory (LCI) data sources.

Robert Wessel, the Gypsum Association's Assistant Executive Director and representative on ASTM Committee E60, explains that as sustainability becomes an increasingly important factor in new construction design, the use of LCAs and EPDs will become more commonplace, and consequently even contractors and trades people will need to be aware of their role in achieving a building's intended "green" rating. "Drywall contractors need to be aware that their own sustainability practices will have an effect on the overall building LCA." Wessel predicts that the first edition of the finalized standard will likely be released no sooner than the fall of 2012. 🍁

Tile Council Publishes Revised Standard

While the Gypsum Association has created a substantial library of technical documents addressing the installation of gypsum board, as an organization we often find it appropriate to defer to other resources for information on materials that interface with gypsum board.

Such a situation is exemplified by our relationship with The Tile Council of North America, Inc. (TCNA) and its flagship publication: *The TCNA Handbook for Ceramic, Glass, and Stone Tile Installation*. The Handbook was first published in 1963 and has been regularly revised since then. The 2011 edition has vastly expanded the scope of the document, growing it from 84 pages in the 2010 edition to 304 pages in the new 2011 edition.



"We refer inquiries to the TCNA Handbook quite often," says Robert Wessel Gypsum Association Assistant Executive Director, "because the document contains information on the means and methods for applying tile to gypsum substrates. With the changes in tile backing materials that have occurred over the past decade, applicators often don't realize that there are still many non-wet building locations where it is fully acceptable to install tile and stone over traditional gypsum board materials. The Handbook includes information on those applications as well as many other situations."

Long recognized as the key industry reference document for ceramic tile installation, this new edition of the TCNA Handbook is the product of many thousands of hours of work performed over the last two years by the members of TCNA Handbook Committee, several TCNA and NTCA technical committees, TCNA staff, and hundreds of individual contributors, who all endeavored to make this updated version possible. The final product is a document that, as it approaches almost 50 years in circulation, during which it was revised from one edition to the next using a piecemeal approach, has received a complete editorial overhaul.

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(Gypsum Association Posts User's Guide, continued from page 1)

Each section offers written explanations, tables, labeled diagrams, and photographs to fully describe most standard gypsum board application methods, practices, techniques, and practices to avoid. While some of the information in the guide parallels that contained in other Gypsum Association documents, the new guide is not intended to function as a replacement for the traditional specification and technical documents that are produced by the Association.

Posting the guide on the website enables the Association's staff to easily update the guide as new methods or developments in the industry emerge. Users are encouraged to visit the site regularly to stay abreast of any new developments. 🍷

(Tile Council Publishes Revised Standard, continued from page 2)

The new edition includes comprehensive guides to aid users in the selection of and in some cases the installation of ceramic tile, glass tile, natural stone, setting materials and grout, backer board, membranes, and green building standards and rating systems. The new edition also addresses substrate requirements, interior and exterior lighting, mortar coverage, lippage criteria, grout joint size and pattern considerations, accessibility guidelines, wet areas, and environmental classifications. New to this edition of the Handbook are dead-load weights for each floor detail, environmental classifications, and moisture condition ratings. TCNA staff also clarified language describing site responsibility, eliminated cross references, clarified recommendations, and included detailed membrane options.

Additional information on the TCNA Handbook can be found at www.tileusa.com. 🍷

Technical Hotline



Q: Can a fire-rated ceiling assembly incorporate a suspended membrane?

A: Gypsum Association publication GA-600-2009, "*Fire Resistance Design Manual*," lists several systems that were fire tested with a membrane suspended from the structural framing. Specific examples include FC 1105; FC 1110; and FC 3150 among others. The simple solution is to use one of the systems that were tested with a suspended membrane, while accounting for the guidance provided by General Explanatory Note 19 contained in the Manual. Note 19 allows a system fire tested at less than 36 inches total depth to be installed with a total depth greater than 36 inches.

The other alternative is to modify a system that was fire tested with a membrane installed directly to the structural framing members based on the language in General Explanatory Note 18. The note allows "systems tested with metal furring channels attached directly to the bottom chords of steel beams, bar joists, or wood trusses to be suspended." It describes one possible method for suspending the membrane.

Q: If a fire-resistance rated system was tested using mineral fiber insulation, may glass fiber insulation be used in its place to maintain the fire-resistance rating?

A: In general, no. Mineral fiber insulation of a given thickness generally carries a higher fire-resistance rating than the same thickness of glass fiber insulation; therefore, unless the system was specifically tested with glass fiber material, equivalent thicknesses of the two materials may not be interchanged. On the other hand, mineral fiber insulation may be substituted for glass fiber in most instances. 🍷

*When you have
technical questions just
contact the Gypsum
Association!*

Phone: 301-277-8686
8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. ET
Fax: 301-277-8747
Website:
www.gypsum.org

ESSENTIALS

FROM THE GYPSUM ASSOCIATION

FIRE RESISTANCE DESIGN MANUAL GA-600-2009 19th Edition

Includes fire-resistance ratings for over 420 gypsum protected wall, ceiling, roof, column, beam girder, and truss systems. Now contains laboratory tested designs for both fire-resistance and sound-attenuation-rated gypsum board building systems, including walls and partitions, floor-ceiling and roof-ceiling systems. Over 80 proprietary building system designs are offered. Referenced by the International Building Code, the BOCA National Building Code, the Uniform Building Code, the Standard Building Code and The National Fire Codes. Also referenced in major jurisdictions in the United States such as Florida, Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York City. Recognized in major jurisdictions in Canada. 178 pages.

FIRE RESISTANCE DESIGN MANUAL GA-600-2006 18th Edition

Includes fire-resistance ratings for over 370 gypsum protected wall, ceiling, roof, column, beam girder, and truss systems. Over 40 system designs have been added since the previous edition, including several new floor- and roof-ceiling systems and double-stud steel partition designs. Referenced by the International Building Code, Uniform Building Code, and the Building Construction and Safety Code, NFPA 5000. Also referenced in major jurisdictions in the United States such as Florida, Chicago, Los Angeles, and New York City. Recognized in major jurisdictions in Canada. 158 pages.

APPLICATION AND FINISHING OF GYPSUM PANEL PRODUCTS GA-216-2010

Describes the most up-to-date industry and building code recommendations for the proper installation and finishing of gypsum panel products, including related accessories, over a variety of substrates and framing. An invaluable resource for drywall contractors. 16 pages.

DESIGN DATA - GYPSUM BOARD GA-530

Our most complete collection of current Gypsum Association publications containing the most recent edition of the Fire Resistance Design Manual (GA-600) as well as GA-214, GA-216, GA-220, GA-221, GA-222, GA-223, GA-224, GA-225, GA-226, GA-229, GA-232, GA-234, GA-235, GA-236, GA-253, GA-254, GA-276, GA-290, GA-291, GA-406, GA-510, GA-515, GA-610, GA-618 and ICC-ES ESR-1338.

RECOMMENDED LEVELS OF GYPSUM BOARD FINISH (GA-214) RESOURCES

Levels of Finish resources provide information on the 5 levels of gypsum board finish and will enable you both to anticipate the final appearance of decorated wall and ceiling systems and to achieve a specified finish. Resources cover factors to be considered, terminology, where each level should be used, and the minimum requirements for each level. Featured resources include GA-214-VS, an 11 minute Levels of Finish video containing Spanish narration, and GA-214-CCD, an instructional CD-ROM (English).

To place your order, fax or mail this order form to:

Gypsum Association
6525 Belcrest Road, Suite 480
Hyattsville, MD 20782
301-277-8686
301-277-8747 (Fax)

To save time, order
publications online at:
www.gypsum.org

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PANEL PRODUCTS* GA-216-2010 X \$16.00 each = _____
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FINISH* GA-214-VS (Spanish) X \$10.00 each = _____

Prices include shipping charges. Sales tax will be added to orders sent to Maryland addresses.

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FREE MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

- Please send me the CD-ROM,
***Recommended Levels of Gypsum
Board Finish (GA-214-CCD)***.
- Please send me a *Catalog of
Publications, Resources, and Training
Materials*.

GYPSUM ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP 2011

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