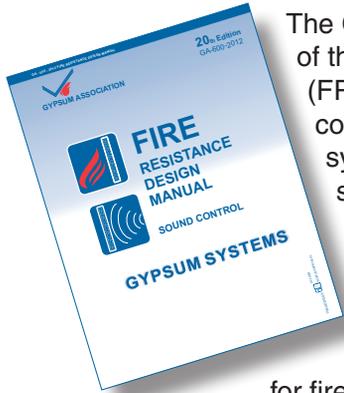


Gypsum Association to Release 20th Edition of Flagship Publication



The Gypsum Association is pleased to announce the release of the 20th edition of *GA-600, Fire Resistance Design Manual* (FRDM). Since 1958, the Association has regularly published its collection of the latest in fire-resistance rated gypsum building system designs. Over the years, the manual has become the standard industry reference document for architects and design professionals, builders and drywall contractors, and the building code enforcement community. The FRDM is currently referenced by the *International Building Code*, and *The National Fire Codes*, as well as many state and local jurisdictions in the US and Canada as a source document for fire-resistance and sound-control rated designs that incorporate gypsum board in a variety of building systems.

The FRDM opens with introductory sections that describe the requirements necessary for correctly assembling fire-resistant and noise-attenuating building systems. Following the introductory sections, the FRDM depicts laboratory tested designs for both fire-resistance- and sound-attenuation-rated gypsum board building systems. Fire resistance ratings range from one to four hours; sound attenuating systems

(Continued on page 3)

Gypsum Association Posts New Website

The Gypsum Association has recently launched a new website to better address the growing need for information about gypsum products.

The GypsumBuilds website, found at: <http://www.gypsumbuilds.org>, is designed to help the public better understand the origins, uses, and many safety and environmental features of gypsum board. It also includes economic information as well as updates on relevant current issues involving gypsum board.

The new site offers five sections, each designed to provide general information and supporting links to specific information on a particular topic.

The **Fast Facts** section itemizes how the gypsum industry adds value to the US economy while providing environmentally sustainable building materials for the built environment.

The **Gypsum 101** section discusses the chemical composition and uses of gypsum, with links to the history of

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VISIT THE GYPSUM ASSOCIATION WEBSITE AT WWW.GYPSUM.ORG

We're Your Gypsum Board Information Resource!

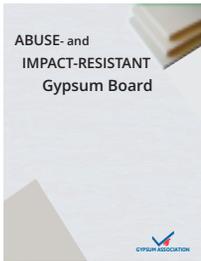


the gypsum industry and a description of how gypsum products are made.

The **Gypsum and the Environment** section explains how the gypsum industry reclaims materials that would otherwise be sent to our landfills and how gypsum products contribute to a sustainable environment.

(Continued on page 2)

Gypsum Association Releases New Publication



The Gypsum Association is pleased to announce the release of its newest publication, “*Abuse- and Impact-Resistant Gypsum Board*.” This four-page brochure explains in plain language how to select one of two specialty gypsum product types designed for high-traffic or high-use areas. It also explains the benefits of using these gypsum products instead of other building products.

The brochure begins by describing the various conditions that might benefit from the use of one of these products and how their use can contribute to a sustainable built environment. It then explains whether it is better to use a product primarily designed for abuse-resistance or impact-resistance in a particular high-use area. That discussion is followed by brief descriptions of the different types of gypsum products available for creating abuse- and impact-resistant surfaces.

The brochure also describes the testing standard, ASTM C1629, *Standard Classification for Abuse-Resistant Non-decorated Interior Gypsum Panel Products and Fiber-Reinforced Cement Panels*, by which these products are rated. The categories covered by the standard include surface abrasion resistance, indentation resistance, soft body impact resistance, and hard body impact resistance. Products tested in a given category that pass are rated one, two, or three for the particular attribute tested. A rating of one is the lowest passing score, and three is the highest achievable score.

The new publication is now available as a free downloadable PDF on the Association website at www.gypsum.org. It can be found as the first offering on the Complimentary Brochures page, which is at the bottom of the dropdown box that appears after selecting the Publications item from the main menu. 🍷

Gypsum Association Pursues Code Change



Language that last appeared in the 2007 edition of GA-216, *Application and Finishing of Gypsum Panel Products*, which required that ceiling joists supporting ceilings using water resistant gypsum backing board (aka “green board”) be spaced 12 inches on center, read as follows: “Section 15.3.2: Water-resistant gypsum backing board shall be permitted to be used on ceilings where ceiling framing is spaced not more than 12 in. (305 mm) o.c. for 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) thick water-resistant gypsum backing board and not more than 16 in. (406 mm) o.c. for 5/8 in. (15.9 mm) thick water-resistant gypsum backing board.”

Prior to the development of the 2010 edition of GA-216, sagging tests were conducted on green board that revealed the narrower-than-standard joist spacing was unnecessary. So, when the section addressing water resistant gypsum board in GA-216-10 was modified, the passage with the requirement was removed. In January of 2012 similar language that appeared in the ASTM standard C840, *Standard Specification for Application and Finishing of Gypsum Board*, was also removed.

In order to keep maintain consistent language between the International Codes and the noted standards, the Gypsum Association has submitted a code change proposal removing the more restrictive framing requirement from the International Building Code. The proposal is in process and will be considered during the Group A Final Action Hearings in October. A similar proposal will be submitted in 2013 for the International Residential Code. 🍷

(GA Posts New Website Continued from page 1)

The **Health & Safety** section explains how gypsum products add to the public safety and health by providing fire resistant and sound attenuating materials used to create living and work environments.

The **In the News** section provides links to articles that address current events where the gypsum industry and gypsum products are involved.

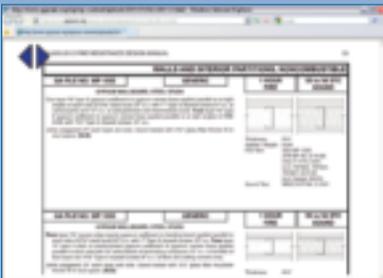
The GypsumBuilds website is found at: <http://www.gypsumbuilds.org> and can also be accessed from the Gypsum Association’s main site, <http://www.gypsum.org> by selecting the “Other GA Websites” link. 🍷

range from 30 to 69 in sound transmission class (STC). The rated systems include walls and partitions; floor-ceiling systems; roof-ceiling systems; column protection systems; and beam, girder, and truss protection systems.

New to this edition of the FRDM are several designs for protecting steel column systems that for the first time allow the use of horizontal joints. These new steel column systems offer fire-resistance ratings ranging between 1 to 4 hours. An entire new section has also been added to the manual that addresses Strain Relief Systems. This new section includes designs for 1- to 4-hour rated systems that protect control joints in walls, 1-hour systems for control joints in ceilings, and 1- and 2-hour rated perimeter relief systems. There is also a new discussion in the preliminary notes addressing the protection of wood columns and beams. There are also several new proprietary systems that offer protection for wood and steel pitched roof trusses, several 30 minute wall systems, and a 45 minute floor/ceiling system. In total, over 150 new designs have been added. The 20th edition of the FRDM consists of 230 pages.

Robert Wessel, Ph.D., the Association's Assistant Executive Director and Director of Technical Services explains: "The 2012 edition is the culmination of the most comprehensive review and revision to GA-600 since we completely changed the format in 1992. The addition of 150 new systems, about a third of which are generic, and the creation of a completely new section (strain relief systems) constitute the greatest number of new systems added in a single edition since the inclusion of the first gypsum wallboard systems in the second edition, which was published in 1961."

GA-600-2012 is available in both print and digital download versions through the Association's on-line bookstore at www.gypsum.org.



Gypsum Association Posts Online Viewable GA-600-12

To better serve the public and the design community, the Gypsum Association has posted a "view-only" version of its flagship publication, GA-600-12, Fire Resistance Design Manual on its website in the Download Publications Library section at: <http://www.gypsum.org/store/download-publications-library/>, where most of the Association's technical publications are available for free download.

By selecting the link titled GA-600-12 Read only Version, one can view each page of the manual by clicking the dark blue arrows in the upper left corner of the screen. To zoom in on a particular page or design, right click on the page and select "Zoom In" from the menu.

Technical Hotline



Q: As a drywall applicator, it seems like every job I take has at least one place where the framing has been damaged. How should I approach these situations?

A: The overarching principle is quite simple – if the grounds to which you attach the board are not properly installed, the overall gypsum board application runs the risk of being judged as inadequate. Assess each planar surface with simple tools like levels and measuring tapes. If it appears out of plumb, it should be corrected. Ceilings also need to be level based on an agreed benchmark point. A quick check of any framed surface is worth the time spent. Don't take the risk that might come from trying to fix damaged work. Inspect each surface to which you are applying board before you begin the application process. If it appears to be problematic, take action before you begin the board application process. For more detail, see the general provisions for framing (section 4.1) in GA-216-10, Application and Finishing of Gypsum Panel Products.

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-600-2012 20th Edition**

The 20th edition of the Gypsum Association's flagship publication depicts over 600 systems that may be used for fire-rated walls and partitions, floor/ceiling systems, roof/ceiling systems, and to protect columns, beams, and girders. This edition contains new designs for protecting steel column systems that allow the use of horizontal joints with fire-resistance ratings ranging between 1 to 4 hours; contains a new section addressing Strain Relief Systems with designs for 1- to 4-hour rated systems that protect control joints in walls, 1-hour systems for control joints in ceilings, and 1- and 2-hour rated perimeter relief systems. A new discussion in the preliminary notes addresses the protection of wood columns and beams. Several new proprietary systems that offer protection for wood and steel pitched roof trusses, several 30 minute wall systems, and a 45 minute floor/ceiling system. In total, over 150 new designs have been added. The FRDM is currently referenced by the International Building Code, and The National Fire Codes, as well as many state and local jurisdictions in the US and Canada as a source document for fire-resistance and sound-control rated designs that incorporate gypsum board in a variety of building systems. The 20th edition of the FRDM consists of 230 pages.

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. Over 80 proprietary building system designs are offered. 178 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
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301-277-8747 (Fax)

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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 2012

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