



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7318**



Date March 31, 2014

Edition 2010

Section R302.11 (4)

Question:

Is it the intent of R302.11 (4) to use any foam material not rated to prevent fire spread, or does it only need to resist passage of flame?

Answer

No

Commentary:

The key to the section is the the words "an approved material", which is intended to block the "free" passage of flame and products of combustion. The section referenced addresses fireblocking in combustible construction. The material does need to resist the free passage of flame as well as smoke and other products of combustion. This is not a "firestop" as would be found in rated construction, but, merely a way of slowing the spread of fire and permitting the flame and products of combustion from communicating freely with other areas. A product acceptable to the designer and the AHJ should be specified on the plans and used for the purpose.

The product would be required to provide performance equivalent to any of the seven items listed in Section R302.11.1.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This

interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.