

COMPANION DOCUMENT

Companion to MP Drafting's Micro Topic article on fire safing in shop drawings.

Fire safing problems rarely show up in the shop drawing review. They show up in the field, after material is fabricated. This checklist gives PMs the 9 questions MP Drafting trains drafters to anticipate, so coordination gaps get caught before the cost of fixing them multiplies.

**01**  **IS THIS CONDITION AT A RATED FLOOR SLAB?**

Fire safing is required at perimeter joints where a curtain wall or storefront system meets a rated floor assembly. If the anchor is not at a rated floor slab, fire safing may not be required, even if the architectural drawings show it. Confirm the actual condition before pricing or fabricating.

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**02**  **WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FIRE SAFING AND FIRESTOP SUBMITTAL?**

This often falls between trades. The architect's specification should name the responsible party, but it does not always. Confirm in writing whether the firestop sub, the glazier, or the fireproofing contractor is preparing the submittal.

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**03**  **IS FIRE SAFING ACTUALLY IN THE GLAZIER'S SCOPE?**

Many specifications place fire safing with the fireproofing or firestop contractor, not the glazier. If the glazier is being asked to install safing, the bid should reflect that. If the scope is unclear, raise it during pre-construction, not after material arrives.

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**04**  **DOES THE GLAZING SHOP DRAWING SHOW A BACKPAN OR OTHER SURFACE FOR THE SAFING TO SEAL AGAINST?**

Fire safing needs a continuous surface to seal against. A spandrel backpan is the most common solution. If the drawing shows safing without a backpan, horizontal, or other backing surface, the detail is not field-ready.

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**05**  **DO ANCHORS, CLIPS, SHIMS, OR HORIZONTALS INTERFERE WITH THE SAFING PATH?**

Mineral wool has to be installed continuously across the joint. Anchors and clips can interrupt that path. The shop drawing should clarify how the safing installs around or between these obstructions, or where the firestop sub needs to coordinate with the glazier on sequencing.

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**FIRE SAFING PROJECT MANAGER CHECKLIST**

**06**  **HAS THE FIRESTOP SUB REVIEWED THE GLAZING CONDITION?**

The firestop sub is the trade installing the safing. They should review the slab edge condition on the glazing shop drawings to confirm the system is compatible with their listed assembly. If they have not seen the drawings, do not assume the detail will work.

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**07**  **DOES THE FIRE SAFING DETAIL MATCH THE ACTUAL CURTAIN WALL OR STOREFRONT SYSTEM?**

Default details are generic. The actual system on the project may have different framing depths, anchor types, or back-of-system conditions. Confirm the detail in the shop drawing matches the system being installed, not a manufacturer's template.

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**08**  **ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES CLEAR BETWEEN THE GLAZIER, FIRESTOP SUB, GC, ARCHITECT, AND INSPECTOR?**

Fire safing involves five parties on most commercial projects. If responsibility is ambiguous in the contract or submittal, it becomes ambiguous on inspection day. Put the lines of responsibility in writing during submittal review.

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**09**  **DOES ANYTHING NEED TO BE CLARIFIED BEFORE FABRICATION OR INSTALLATION?**

The cost of clarifying a detail at the desk is a phone call. The cost of clarifying it after fabrication is rework. If any of the above questions returned an unclear answer, flag it as an RFI before fabrication begins.

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**WHY THIS CHECKLIST EXISTS**

MP Drafting trains every drafter, every Monday, on technical topics like fire safing. Not so drafters can design firestop systems. So they can anticipate the questions a PM should be asking, recognize the conditions that cause field problems, and flag them while the fix is still a phone call.

MP drafters do not make design decisions. They make sure the people who can make them see the problem early. That is the difference between a drafting service that produces sheets and one that protects the project. This checklist is that training, condensed to one page.

**READ THE FULL MICRO TOPIC ARTICLE**

[mpdrafting.com/insights/fire-safing-detail-shop-drawings/](https://mpdrafting.com/insights/fire-safing-detail-shop-drawings/)

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