

Intumescent Fireblocking

ALCOSAN EAST Headworks Expansion



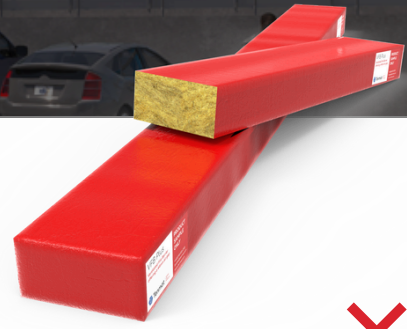
 FF102Plus Fire Block



Pittsburgh, PA



2024-2025



THE CHALLENGE

2024- Responsible for providing Pittsburgh and nearby municipalities with 250mgd (million gallons per day) of treated, clean water, ALCOSAN East Headworks is a primary function in this ever-growing community.

To meet future demand and improve system resiliency, ALCOSAN committed to a significant expansion of its operations. Once complete, the facility will be able to treat up to 600 million mgd, an impressive increase of 350 mgd from its original capacity.

Design Decision Triggers New Compliance Requirements

As part of the expansion, the developer selected an engineered stone cladding system for the building façade.

While offering durability and aesthetic advantages, this choice also triggered important fire-safety requirements under **IBC Section 718.2.6 – Exterior Wall Coverings**, which mandates proper fireblocking within exterior wall cavities when certain cladding materials are used.

A Unique Challenge: An Unusually Wide Ventilated Air Cavity

Unlike typical exterior wall assemblies, the engineered stone system incorporated a significantly wider ventilated air cavity. This design difference introduced a unique challenge. The wider cavity meant that the project team not only had to ensure fireblocking was installed, but also had to identify a fireblocking solution capable of spanning the full width of the cavity.

THE SOLUTION



To meet both the requirements of IBC Section 718.2.6 and the unique width of the ventilated air cavity, the project team selected Tenmat's FF102/50Plus Intumescent Fire Block for the ALCOSAN expansion. This solution offered the versatility and performance needed to accommodate the wider cavity while delivering reliable fire protection.

By integrating the FF102/50Plus into the wall assembly, ALCOSAN was able to confidently move forward with its preferred engineered stone cladding design. The fire block not only met the stringent fireblocking criteria required by code but also preserved the assembly's airflow and moisture-management performance.



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