



NEW FIRE SAFETY PROVISIONS IN 2023 NFPA 285 AND 2024 IBC

The 2023 edition of NFPA 285 will contain a new Annex B Guide for Extensions of Results from Assemblies that Meet NFPA 285 Test Requirements.

- Provides non-mandatory guidance for the extension of NFPA 285 test data for extension letters and engineering judgements (EJs).
- Developed by a task group of subject matter experts, testing and certification agencies, and other interested parties based on their collected knowledge and experience.
- Provides guard rails that will improve consistency, and transparency of data extensions and engineering judgements.

The 2024 Edition of the International Building Code (IBC) will include several revisions to the use and application of NFPA 285:

- Revisions made to Section 1402.5:
 - Clarify that testing and compliance with NFPA 285 for exterior walls of Type I through IV construction is triggered when either of the exterior wall covering, insulation, or water-resistive barrier is combustible.
 - Added references with more specific requirements for several specific building products and materials.

- Added a new section under Section 1402 prescribing three compliance methods for vertical and lateral flame propagation:
 - Test, and meet the acceptance criteria of, NFPA 285.
 - Recognition in a third-party design listing for compliance with NFPA 285.
 - An approved analysis based on an assembly tested and meeting the acceptance criteria of NFPA 285.
- Added a new section under Section 1402 requiring that exterior wall veneers using a combustible adhesive are tested to, and meet the acceptance criteria of, NFPA 285 when used in exterior wall assemblies on Type I, II, III, or IV construction that are greater than 40 feet in height.
- Added a new Section to Chapter 14 specific to Insulated Metal Panel (IMP) products that includes NFPA 285 for IMP with combustible cores.
- Added new exceptions to Section 1405.1.1(2) clarifying specific combustible exterior wall coverings on Type I through IV construction are permitted to exceed 40 feet in height. The exceptions include references to other sections in Chapter 14 with specific requirements that include testing and compliance with NFPA 285.



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Additional resources regarding NFPA 285 Engineering Judgements:

- NFPA 285 - Extending Data with Comparative Engineering Analysis, IIBEC Interface, March 2021.
- NFPA 285 Engineering Judgements: A Practical Compliance Option, The Construction Specifier, June 2021.

Triggers for NFPA 285 testing under the 2024 IBC:

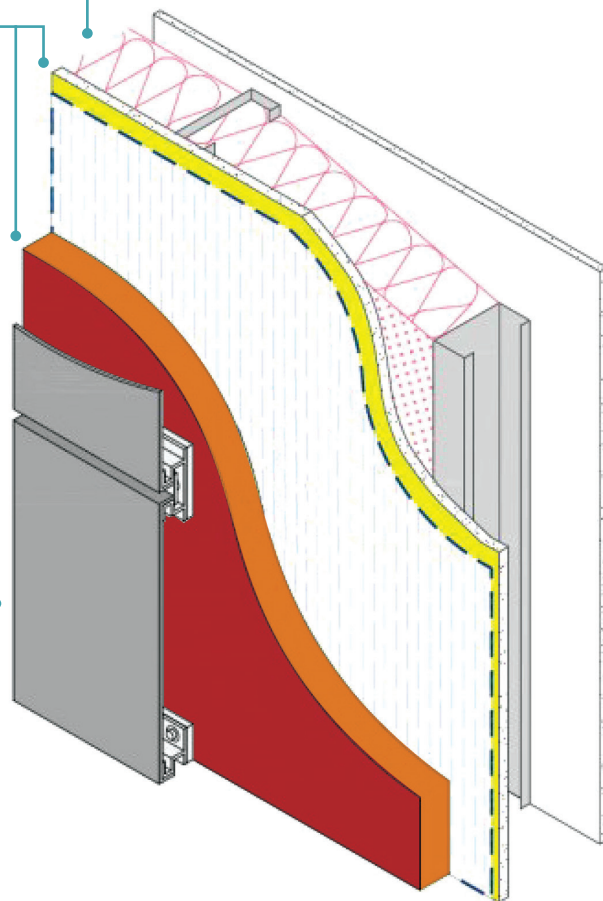
- Foam Plastic Insulation - § 2603.5
- Exterior Wall Coverings / Claddings - §1402.5 [revised for 2024 IBC]
 - Combustible Water-resistive Barriers (WRB) [with additional reference to §1402.6]
 - Metal Composite Materials (MCM) [with additional reference to §1406]
 - Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS) [with additional reference to §1407]
 - High-pressure Decorative Exterior-grade Compact Laminates (HPL) [with additional reference to §1408]
 - Foam Plastic Insulation [with additional reference to §2603]

Other Claddings / Veneers

- Fiber-reinforced Polymer (FRP) - §2613 (via reference to §2603.5)
- Veneers manufactured with combustible adhesives - §1402.8 [new for 2024 IBC]

Other

- Insulated Metal Panels (IMP) - §1409 [new for 2024 IBC]



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