

CHANGE TYPE. Addition

CHANGE SUMMARY. Cementitious wallboard has been added to the exception for clearances from a Type I hood. Therefore, this material will be exempt from the 18-inch clearance to combustibles requirement.

2009 CODE: 507.9 Clearances for Type I Hood. A Type I hood shall be installed with a clearance to combustibles of not less than 18 inches (457 mm).

Exception: Clearance shall not be required from gypsum wallboard or 1/2-inch (12.7 mm) or thicker cementitious wallboard attached to noncombustible structures, provided that a smooth, cleanable, nonabsorbent and noncombustible material is installed between the hood and the gypsum or cementitious wallboard over an area extending not less than 18 inches (457 mm) in all directions from the hood.

CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE. The addition of cementitious wallboard to the exception will provide a bit of clarity and an added option when trying to eliminate the 18-inch clearance to combustibles. Accepting these cement type wallboard products, such as USG's Durock brand or any other manufacturer's brands, will provide a little flexibility in the choice of materials and allow the exception to be used for either gypsum-based or cement-based wallboard.

Because the base paragraph imposes the 18-inch clearance to "combustibles," this revision to the exception may not have truly been necessary. If a cementitious type of wall board were "noncombustible," then the 18-inch requirement would not be applicable and the use of the exception would be unnecessary. The IMC defines a noncombustible material as a product that complies with three criteria when tested in accordance with ASTM E 136. USG does indicate that its Durock product has been tested and determined to be noncombustible using ASTM E 136. However, if a cement-type wall board was not tested and shown to comply with the standard, then at that point the exception could be used to accept the cement-type wallboard in a manner similar to the acceptance of gypsum-based wallboard.

507.9

Clearances for Type I Hood

