1. **What is it?** The product is designed to be used in a system to seal open penetrations and joints in fire rated walls and floor assemblies.

2. **Where is it necessary?** Anytime a rated wall or floor assembly is penetrated with a penetrating item or joint and anytime there is a gap between the rated floor assembly and the exterior wall.

3. **Why is it necessary?**
   - **SAVE LIVES AND PROPERTY ASSETS**
   - **LIMIT LIABILITY**
   - **REQUIRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH BUILDING CODES**

4. **How to find firestop systems?** UL directory or Firestop Manufacturer’s technical literature.

5. **What is an Engineering Judgment?** “EJ’s” are for applications that do not have a recognized laboratory tested system; generated by a manufacturer’s Fire Protection Engineer.

6. **Common incorrect products used for firestop:**
   - **DRYWALL MUD & TAPE OR “FIRE TAPE”**
   - **ACOUSTICAL SEALANT**
   - **FILLER FOAM (E.G. “GREAT STUFF”)**
   - **MIXED PRODUCTS**
   - **ANY COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS (NEWSPAPER, INSULATION, TISSUES)**
   - **NOTHING AT ALL**

7. **Products do not have ratings, only systems have ratings!**

8. **A tested system (or EJ) must match the field condition(s).** It is 100% right or 100% wrong.

9. **What information is necessary in order to find a tested system for through penetrations?**
   - **TYPE & THICKNESS OF WALL/FLOOR**
   - **TYPE & SIZE OF THE PENETRATING ITEM(S)**
   - **SIZE & SHAPE OF OPENING**
   - **TYPE & SIZE OF INSULATION (IF APPLICABLE)**
   - **FIRE RATING**
   - **TYPE & SIZE OF SLEEVE (IF APPLICABLE)**
   - **ANNULAR SPACE**

10. **Who can help?** Firestop Manufacturer or Technical Representative.
WEB RESOURCES

- http://database.ul.com/cgi-bin/XYV/template/LISEXT/1FRAME/fireressrch.html (UL’s website)

LIMITING LIABILITY

- Stringent project coordination and procedures
  - Detailed specifications & documents
  - Establish standard operating procedures
  - Require firestop installation training by manufacturer
- Firestop Specialty Contractors with Credentials
  - FM 4991 Contractors
  - UL Qualified Contractors
  - Manufacturer Accredited Firestop Specialty Contractors
- On-site assistance from Manufacturer
- Inspection - In-house or 3rd party

BEST PRACTICES

- Installation Stickers - aid in identification, inspection and tracking
- Wall Stencil (mandatory as of 2009 IBC) or Color Code wall types in field
- Mock Up Walls for various applications (prior to installation)
- Pre-Construction Meetings:
  - Key firestop details
  - Review Contract Document Requirements
  - Review applications for Engineering Judgments
    - Obtain approvals
    - Discuss constructability issues
- Compile Complete Firestop Submittal, Review in the Office & in the Field
- Coordination of Trades (if no single Firestop Specialty Contractor)
- Review applications for Engineering Judgments
  - Obtain approvals
  - Discuss constructability issues
- Establish Inspection Guidelines & Expectations
  - Mock-up of each application for reference
  - Submittal with UL Details available for every inspection
- Schedule installer training (if no single FSC)