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FORMAL INTERPRETATION 99-11

DOCUMENT: 2007 / 2002 / 1997 Kentucky Building Code (KBC)

SUBJECT: Penetrations of fire rated roof truss assembly
Sections 711.3.2 – 2007 & 2002 KBC
Sections 710.3.1.1 – 1997 KBC

QUESTION: Type VA construction requires the roof/ceiling assembly to have a minimum one hour fire resistance rating. When the roof structure consists of an open web truss system, the rating is achieved by attaching two (2) layers of 5/8 inch firecode drywall to the bottom chord of the truss. Can attic access openings be located in the ceiling membrane when the two layers of drywall are used to get the required fire rating?

ANSWER: Yes.

COMMENTARY: Attic access openings are available that have been tested and approved for application in fire rated ceiling assemblies. These access openings are to be installed as explained in the manufacturers' installation instruction to insure the continuity of the fire rated roof/ceiling assembly is maintained.


George E. Mann
Deputy Commissioner

May 31, 2009
Date

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