Important Fire Safety Information Regarding
Georgia-Pacific Fire Rated Products,
Standards, Testing and Certification

Georgia-Pacific Fire Rated Products include, but may not be limited, to the following: ToughRock® and Dens® gypsum panels bearing the Fireguard®, Fireguard X® or Fireguard C® brand; ⅝" ToughRock® Lite-Weight Fire-Rated Gypsum Board; DensGlass® Shaftliner; and 5/8" DensElement® Sheathing. Fireguard® and Fireguard X® brand gypsum panels are classified as "Type X" in accordance with ASTM C1396 for increased fire resistance beyond regular gypsum board. Fireguard C® brand gypsum panels are also classified as "Type X" but are reinforced for increased fire resistance beyond the minimum standards required by ASTM C1396.

Georgia-Pacific Fire Rated Products are required by standards established by third party organizations to provide certain levels of fire resistance (usually measured in time periods such as one-hour, two-hours, etc.) when tested in specified building assemblies/systems in a laboratory setting under certain controlled conditions and pursuant to certain procedures.

However, because actual fires vary both from lab conditions and from fire to fire based on a wide variety of factors -- such as the amount, nature and distribution of available fuel and ventilation, as well as the size, configuration, and other characteristics of the compartment in which the fire occurs -- fire tests are not representative of actual fire conditions. Fire test results should be regarded as only one among a variety of factors used to assess the potential of an assembly/system to perform as part of a structure. A product or assembly having a "one-hour" fire rating, for example, will not necessarily withstand the effects of an actual fire for one hour.

In the event of an actual fire, you should immediately take any and all action necessary for your safety and the safety of others without regard for any fire rating of any product or assembly.

Fire test standards often do not contain specific details for construction of the test furnaces or equipment to be used. Since test furnaces and equipment are subject to variation due to individual characteristics of construction, design and control, including, but not limited to, ventilation, atmospheric conditions, and general thermal tendencies, test results are typically not fully repeatable or reproducible from one laboratory to another. Test regimens may also vary.

Fire tests do not assess individual materials or products for their fire-resistance characteristics. Because fire tests typically are conducted on building assemblies/systems and not just on individual components, the ability of a particular product to pass a specific fire test may well depend on factors other than the fire resistance of the product itself. These factors include, but are not limited to, the other components used to construct the building system being tested and the manner in which the system is constructed.

Given the very different circumstances that may exist from one fire to another, the differences between conditions in an actual fire and the laboratory test conditions, and the inherent variability of fire tests, passing a fire test in a controlled laboratory setting or certifying or labeling a product as having a one-hour, two-hour, or other fire resistance rating and hence as acceptable for use in certain fire rated assemblies/systems, does not mean that either a particular

assembly/system incorporating the product or that any given piece of the product itself will necessarily provide “one-hour fire protection,” “two-hour fire protection,” or any other specified fire protection in an actual fire. It also does not mean that any given piece of a product will pass a fire test.

Third party organizations may authorize manufacturers to certify or label their fire rated products as having certain fire resistance or endurance characteristics, or as acceptable for use in fire rated systems based on criteria established by the third-party organizations. These criteria may or may not require fire testing. Accordingly, the fact that a particular Georgia-Pacific Fire Rated Product has been certified as having certain fire resistance or endurance characteristics or as acceptable for use in a particular fire rated system by a third-party organization does not necessarily mean that product was subjected to a fire test.

Once a third-party organization has certified that a product formulation used to manufacture a Georgia-Pacific Fire Rated Product has a particular fire protection or resistance rating, any product manufactured pursuant to this formulation may be stamped or labeled accordingly. The company is not required to conduct periodic fire tests as long as the company follows the procedures, if any, established by that third party organization to ensure that its product is manufactured in compliance with certain quality control procedures. Third party organizations may approve changes in certified formulations on criteria they establish, which criteria may or may not require fire testing.

The current version of this document and any modification or amendment thereto supersede all prior versions of this document. The most current version of this document may be found at the Georgia-Pacific website (www.buildgp.com/safetyinfo) and is otherwise available upon request.