

The Newsletter of the Gypsum Association Supplement to Construction Dimensions Magazine

Gypsum Association Releases 2015 Fire Resistance Design Manual

Flagship publication features latest fire-resistance rated gypsum building system designs.

In July, the Gypsum Association (GA) released the twenty-first edition of the *Fire Resistance Design Manual* (GA-600-2015). Revised on a three year basis, GA-600 has been referenced by the model building codes as a source of fire resistive designs for more than 40 years. Now 306 pages, the 2015 manual contains nearly 100 new systems that supplement existing assemblies for walls and partitions, floor-ceiling systems, area separation walls, and column, beam and girder protection, among many others. For example, 20 new head-of-wall and base-of-wall systems are included, significantly expanding the options for perimeter relief.

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A much more interactive digital version of the 2015 *Fire Resistance Design Manual* is available with this edition. More like an e-reader than previous PDF versions, the new e-Book is searchable, easy to navigate, delivered on demand, and allows users to print specific pages for reference. An added bonus: Customers who purchase the electronic

version receive a complimentary hardcopy of GA-600-2015.

The Manual is currently referenced by *The National Fire Codes*, as well as many state and local jurisdictions in the US and Canada as a source document for fire-resistance and sound-control rated designs that incorporate gypsum board in a variety of building systems. A recently revised ICC-ES Report (ESR-1338) incorporates a reference to the 2015 edition of the *Fire Resistance Design Manual* as an acceptable source of generic fire-resistance and sound-control systems. The report indicates compliance with the 2015, 2012, and 2009, *International Building Code* and the 2015, 2012, and 2009 *International Residential Code*.

Over the years, the scope of the GA's flagship publication has steadily broadened to address sound and other factors of interest for designers, builders, and code officials. Featuring more than 700 systems, the 2015 *Fire Resistance Design*

Manual remains among the best organized and easiest to use of the design reference manuals. Visit the Gypsum Association Bookstore to purchase your hardcopy or e-Book/hardcopy combination, today.

