

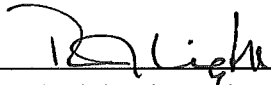
BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, POABC

File No: 12-0061

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	October 20, 2015
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2012
Subject:	Foamed Plastic Insulation on Ducts
Keywords:	Foamed Plastic, Supply Air, Return Air
Building Code Reference(s):	9.33.6.2.(5) and (6); 9.33.6.4.(5) and (6); 3.1.5.12.(2)
Question:	
In a residential occupancy, is it acceptable to install sprayed foam insulation directly onto a supply air duct?	
Interpretation:	
No.	
Sentences 9.33.6.2.(5) and (6) permit combustible ducts that are contained entirely within a dwelling unit, but this is not intended to include foamed plastic. Sentence 9.33.6.4.(5) prohibits foamed plastic insulation from being used as part of an air duct or for insulating an air duct. There is an exception in Sentence 9.33.6.4.(6) which permits foamed plastic insulation in a ceiling space that acts as a return air plenum, but only where the foamed plastic is covered by one of the thermal barriers described in Sentence 3.1.5.12.(2), such that the foamed plastic is not exposed to the plenum. This exception applies only to a return air plenum in a ceiling space, and not to a supply air duct.	
 _____ R. J. Light, Committee Chair	
The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, APEGBC, BOABC, and POABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The purpose of the committee is to encourage uniform province wide interpretation of the BC Building Code. These views should not be considered as the official interpretation of legislated requirements based on the BC Building Code, as final responsibility for an interpretation rests with the local <i>Authority Having Jurisdiction</i> . The views of the joint committee should not be construed as legal advice.	
1107875 April 22, 2010	