


BC BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

A joint committee with members representing
AIBC, EGBC, BOABC

File No: 24-0158

INTERPRETATION

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Interpretation Date:	March 10, 2026
Building Code Edition:	BC Building Code 2024
Subject:	Variations from Tables D-2.3.4.-A to G
Keywords:	Variations, Framing, Assemblies, Tables D-2.3.4.A to G
Building Code Reference(s):	D-1.2.1.(3), D-1.2.1.(4), D-2.3.4.(1), Tables D-2.3.4.-A to G
Questions:	<p>Can Appendix D, Tables D-2.3.4.-A to G for the component additive method be used to determine the fire-resistance ratings of wall, floor or roof assemblies that vary from the assemblies listed in the Table?</p>
Interpretation:	<p>No (with some exceptions).</p> <p>The general rule is that variations of assemblies in application of Tables D-2.3.4.A to G are not permitted, but there are some variations that would be acceptable.</p> <p>Here are some examples of acceptable variations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Table D-2.3.4.-A – double layer of 15.9 mm Type X gypsum board could be used in lieu of double layer of 12.7 mm Type X gypsum board, but the contribution to the fire-resistance rating would remain the same as for 12.7 mm Type X gypsum board.• Table D-2.3.4.-A – Note 4 – resilient channels @ 400 o.c. are permitted for stud walls with a double layer of 12.7 mm Type X gypsum board without reducing the fire-resistance rating.• Sentence D-2.3.4.(1) states that for loadbearing walls where resilient metal channels are installed with a single layer of gypsum board membrane, the fire-resistance rating must be reduced by 10 minutes.
	<p></p> <hr/> <p>Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair</p>
<p>The views expressed are the consensus of the joint committee with members representing AIBC, EGBC and BOABC, which form the BC Building Code Interpretation Committee. The Building and Safety Standards Branch, Province of BC and the City of Vancouver participate in the committee's proceedings with respect to interpretations of the BC Building Code. 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.</p>	

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- Sentence D-1.2.1.(3) – permits variations if they can be justified by the designer and accepted by the AHJ.
- Sentence D-1.2.1.(4) – this Sentence permits soft conversion of stud or joist spacing (16" & 24" spacing can be used in lieu of 400 mm & 600 mm spacing).

For other variations, tested and listed assemblies may be available.



Patrick Shek, P.Eng., CP, FEC, Committee Chair

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