

28 April 2017

Steve Cook

By email: wetzones@xtra.co.nz

Dear Steve,

C-BOX FIRE RATED PENETRATIONS SYSTEM

I was invited to view a modular box design prototype intended to provide an enhancement of the normal systems used to fire rate service penetrations through fire-rated walls. I have been asked to give opinion as to where it could be utilized and how it could benefit the Passive Fire Protection industry.

The design itself is simplistic although the reasoning behind it is a little more involved.

The design creates a much needed coordinated approach to penetrations through fire-rated plasterboard walls in the ceiling space. The proposed system is modular and can be manufactured to suit the required application in both new builds and refurbishments through to an individual modular to fit into existing framing where it is cost prohibitive to reroute cables and pipework.

As a Consulting Fire Engineer, I frequently see this lack of coordination on site. I believe that this design, if adopted, would create a clear path for both the main contractor and their subcontractors to follow. It would assist in tidying up the "first in, first served" mentality that exists on many sites and as noted, will also do away with the need to apply further builders work around penetrations along with the overlay to achieve the 26mm plasterboard minimum required by many of the current system testing criteria at each penetration.

Yours faithfully,

Crossfire

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Dixon".

Michael Dixon

BE(hons), ME(fire), MIPENZ, PMSFPE, CPEng