



Product Update

AUGUST 1, 2010

#P321

Revision 01

USE OF FUSIBLE LINK LOUVERS IN 20-MINUTE LABELED DOORS

VT Industries quoting and order entry systems have been conditioned to not allow a louver pick for 20-minute labeled doors.

Under the old model codes, based on neutral pressure applications, allowance was made to use fusible link louvers in 20-minute labeled doors provided they were not in doors considered "Means of Egress" (such as classrooms, offices, meeting rooms, etc.) Typically, their use is restricted to applications such as mechanical/electrical rooms.

In the IBC, based on positive pressure, all 20-minute applications prohibit the use of louvers. In this code, all 20-minute applications are considered smoke control, require the "S" label, and specifically state that louvers are not allowed.

Where the enforceable code or AHJ allow the use of fusible link louvers both UL and Warnock Hersey allow their use. This is a smoke management issue, not a fire approval issue. Where this situation exists, the application will be directed to the technical department for approval and a letter from the AHJ will be required for the order file.

See the "Hardware Tables" for specific agency approvals, restrictions, and requirements such as allowable sizes, margins, constructions, etc.