The Ohio Building Codes, NFPA 101 - Life Safety Code only recognized fully tested UL Firestop Systems for treating penetrations and building joints and all CC structures must be maintained to the current standards regardless of age.

Because many of the buildings throughout the main campus and system hospitals were constructed prior to the current codes, frequently there are applications that fall outside of the parameters of the tested assemblies. Therefore must rely on Engineering Judgments in order to correct violations in our existing structures many of which contain archaic construction for which systems for modern construction may not apply.

The design standard clearly specifies that all new construction be planned to utilize fully tested UL systems as required by code; thus limiting any future liability.

Firestopping Rules
- Build to a Tested System
- Modify Construction to Meet the Requirements of a Tested System

There has been a trend to utilize Engineering Judgments in lieu of UL systems when project coordination has failed to allow UL systems to be utilized or as a cost saving alternate to avoid correcting improper construction that has already been installed. In either case these mistakes are avoidable and CC cannot assume the liability for knowingly accepting deficient construction.

- Engineering Judgments may be employed in cases of:
  - Existing or archaic construction for which no tested system exists
  - Minor deviations from tested systems for penetration / hole size / annular spacing

The goal of the CC Engineering Judgment process is to identify that it is the responsibility of the architect, engineer, construction manager and contractors who should have foreseen the problem to address and explore all other avenues of correcting the issue before employing a non-tested system.