

# Notice of Non-Code Compliant Head-of-Wall Joint Assembly

## Use of Wallboard “Rip” to Create Offset

**Figure 1** below depicts a straight leg deflection track with a small rip of wallboard creating an offset in a Head-of-Wall design. This design is problematic in several different ways.

### Code Requirements:

- This design has not passed a current ASTM E 1966 or UL 2079 cycling/fire test and therefore does not meet current building code requirements.
- In fire rated walls, third party tested and listed assemblies must be used when available.

### Structural Integrity:

- The small rip of wallboard, after being pierced by two sets of screws and being subjected to cycling, does not have the structural integrity to support the overlapping wallboard in the subsequent fire test.

### Joint Failure:

- The Head-of-Wall joint is where heat and smoke are concentrated and where the fire is most likely to spread from room to room.
- In a typical building, there are more square feet of opening at the Head-of-Wall joints than there are square feet of through penetrations.

Only the Fire Trak system has passed current fire/cycle tests using the overlap board design where the overlap is attached to the track. The Fire Trak system is protected by U.S. Patent No.’s 5,471,805 and 5,755,066.

### Supporting Detail:

