

THE BURN

Winter 2026 Wrap Up

Innovation Built for the Way It's Applied



Stephen Bennett

Product Manager

For more than 35 years, Specified Technologies Inc. has remained solely focused on firestopping, smoke, and sound solutions. That singular focus has shaped a team of engineers and scientists dedicated to solving real construction challenges, from product selection and system design through installation, inspection, and long-term performance.

At STI, innovation is not driven by features alone. It's driven by how products are used in the field. Every formulation decision is made with one question in mind: Does this make the applicator's job easier while delivering consistent performance and results?

[That philosophy is at the core of SpecSeal® Smoke 'N' Sound Acoustical Spray.](#)

Performance Where Smoke and Sound Still Matter

Many building assemblies are not required to meet fire-resistance ratings, yet still play a critical role in controlling smoke migration, airborne particulates, and sound transmission. These conditions are common throughout modern construction and often represent a significant portion of a project's scope.

Architects, building owners, and inspectors still expect these assemblies to be sealed cleanly, consistently, and in a way that supports acoustic performance and long-term durability.

For contractors, that expectation creates a clear requirement: the material must apply cleanly, tolerate real world jobsite conditions, and produce a uniform, professional finish without excessive rework.

SpecSeal® Smoke 'N' Sound Acoustical Spray

[SpecSeal® Smoke 'N' Sound \(SNS\) Acoustical Spray](#) is engineered to seal gaps, seams, and openings associated with smoke control and sound attenuation in non-fire-rated wall, floor, and ceiling assemblies. It is formulated to adhere to all common construction

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 Innovation Built for the Way It's Applied
- 3 SpecSeal® Quick Clip™
- 4 Weather Doesn't Stop Development
- 5 Training Beyond the Textbook
- 6 Spotlight on UL Systems
- 8 Case Study: Healthcare
- 9 Product Field Shots
- 10 Upcoming Trade Shows
- 10 Meet the Team: Dana Buglovsky

Enhanced for more control.
Engineered for high-build performance.
Consider it a smooth upgrade.



Innovation Built for the Way It's Applied
(continued)

substrates and can be applied using airless spray equipment or a brush for smaller areas and touch-ups.

Once cured, SNS Spray forms a flexible, durable seal that limits the passage of smoke, airborne particulates, and sound while maintaining a clean, consistent appearance.

The water-based acrylic latex formulation contains no inorganic fibers, asbestos, or solvents. SNS is acoustically tested and designed to deliver reliable performance over the life of the assembly.

A Legacy Product Refined for Today's Jobsites

SpecSeal® SNS Smoke 'N' Sound Acoustical Spray was the first acoustical spray of its kind, setting the standard in the industry. The latest SNS formulation continues that legacy with targeted refinements focused on application control, build consistency, and finish quality.

The product hasn't changed its purpose. It's changed how confidently it gets applied.

Designed for Thicker, Cleaner Applications

The updated SNS formulation features increased viscosity and improved rheology to support heavier builds with better hang. Applicators can achieve the required thickness in fewer passes, particularly on vertical and overhead surfaces where sagging and slumping slow production.

SNS stays where it's applied. It builds evenly, maintains shape, and supports wet applications up to approximately 5/16" while retaining control and consistency.

Forgiving by Design

No two crews spray exactly the same way and they shouldn't have to.

SNS is engineered to tolerate a wide range of spray pressures, tip sizes, and application techniques while maintaining a uniform appearance. Applicators can spray wide or narrow patterns, apply lighter or heavier coats, and adjust distance from the substrate without fighting the material.

This forgiving behavior reduces downtime spent dialing in equipment and helps crews stay productive across varying jobsite conditions.

Coverage That Works with the Substrate

Uneven mineral wool, rough surfaces, and imperfect transitions are a reality of construction. The thicker consistency of SNS allows it to fill and cover these conditions effectively in a single application, reducing the need for corrective passes or multiple coats.

The result is a smooth, professional finish with less material handling, less rework, and more predictable results.

Durable Results Contractors Can Rely On

Once cured, SNS forms a flexible seal that maintains adhesion and performance over time. The formulation is designed to resist cracking and visual defects, supporting acceptance and reducing callbacks, reapplication, or repeat visits.

Clean installations stay clean. Performance remains consistent. Projects move forward.

Built for the Hands That Use It.

The latest SNS Spray formulation reflects STI's belief that performance doesn't end at test data; it shows up in the way a product applies, finishes, and holds up on the jobsite.

By focusing on control, forgiveness, and consistency, SNS empowers applicators to work efficiently and confidently while delivering results that meet project requirements and contractor expectations.

We engineer peace of mind.

For more than 35 years, Specified Technologies Inc. has been a global leader in passive fire protection, focused exclusively on firestopping solutions for penetrations, joints, and perimeter fire containment. With products proudly Made in America, STI combines engineered systems, industry-leading brands like SpecSeal®, and a growing suite of digital tools to help project teams solve complex challenges with confidence. Specified Technologies sets the standard for firestopping products that offer peace of mind for contractors.

For more information, please visit our LinkedIn page here: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/sti-firestop/>



This article originally appeared in [AWCI Manufacturer's Corner](#).

Specified Technologies Inc. Expands SpecSeal® Quick Clip™ Bracketing System to Support Up to 6 Inches of Insulation and Advanced Curtain Wall Designs

Specified Technologies Inc. Product Management

Specified Technologies Inc. (STI), a global leader in firestopping solutions, has announced the expansion of its innovative [SpecSeal® Quick Clip™ Bracketing System](#), now engineered to accommodate insulation thicknesses of up to **6 inches** and support a wider range of **nontraditional and high-performance curtain wall designs**.

Originally developed to meet the demand for a single, versatile bracket suitable for both field and shop applications, the Quick Clip system is compatible with virtually all curtain wall system types. These include standard tubular curtain wall assemblies, hurricane- and blast-resistant walls, internal draining systems, and designs incorporating spandrel insulation.

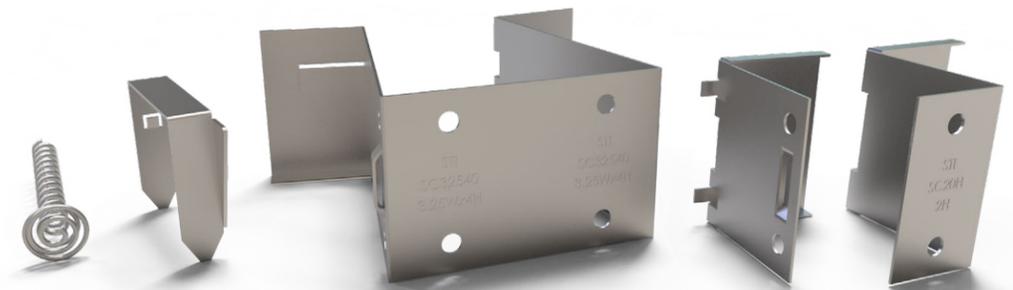
The SpecSeal® Quick Clip™ system significantly streamlines installation by eliminating impaling pins, spikes, and other traditional fastening methods. Instead, it uses **self-locking fasteners** that insert and secure directly into the bracket—dramatically reducing labor time and installation complexity. The system requires only **one screw per bracket** and removes the need for metal backers or stiffeners for insulation applications exceeding 2 inches.

Designed with flexibility in mind, the expanded Quick Clip system accommodates a broad range of mullion shapes and sizes, insulation thicknesses, and curtain wall configurations—making it an ideal solution for today's increasingly complex building envelopes.

"From a speed perspective, the Quick Clip system versus traditional methods—it's **75% faster**," said Justin Hand, Firestopping Superintendent for **Colorado Mechanical Insulation**. "It's an A+. It's something that has definitely changed the game of curtain wall insulation."

Will Fenwick, VP of Business Development, from Colorado Mechanical Insulation says, "We've used different types of brackets. Quick Clip is by far the easiest and cleanest to install."

With this expansion, STI continues its commitment to delivering innovative, labor-saving solutions that enhance performance, simplify installation, and meet the evolving demands of modern construction.



Winter Weather Doesn't Stop Development



Justin Pine

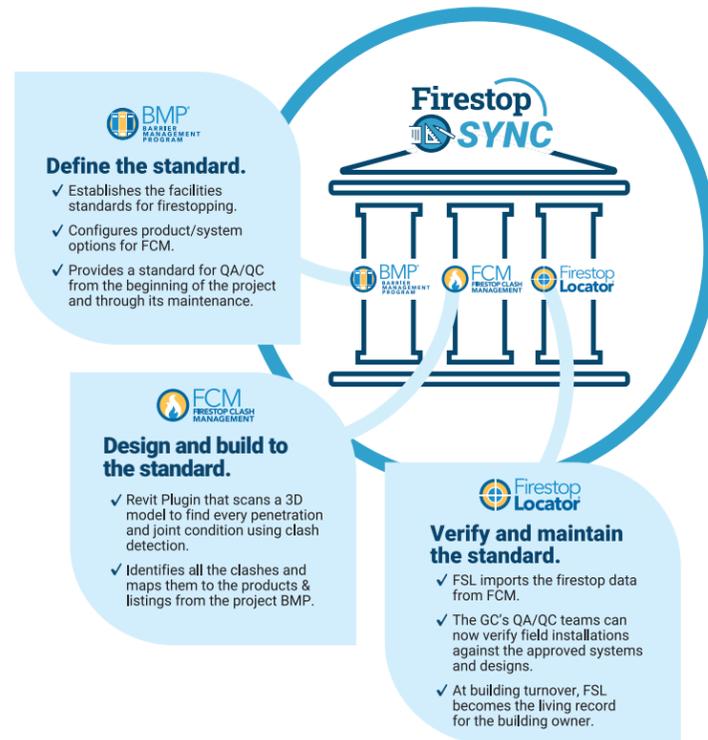
Senior Manager, Software & Services

In spite of record-breaking cold and snow falls here in the Northeastern US the STI Digital Team has made great strides in advancing our suite of Digital Solutions. Kicking the year off we released our Brazil (www.stifirestop.com.br) and Canada (www.stifirestop.ca) sites with content targeting the unique needs of these two regions, work has already started on a Latin America site (www.stifirestop.com.mx) with content in English and Mexican Spanish to better support our customers and partners. We're expecting this new addition to the family to go live in late March/early April of this year!

Our team has been hard at work refining the experience of using Firestop Clash Management (FCM), implementing requested quality of life improvements from our users. These enhancements improve workflows within FCM as well as interoperability with third party tools such as StrucSoft Metal and Wood plugins. Expect to see the update notification pop up in your Revit Nav Bar soon to let you know this update is available.

We're in the home stretch of a major update to the sync functionality of Firestop Locator (FSL). This update overhauls the sync process that FSL uses targeting increased transfer speed, improved fault tolerance during transfer, as well as laying the groundwork for continuous background sync. Expect this update to land early Q2 of this year with continuous background sync planned for the end of this year.

Closing out our updates for this edition of The Burn, a minor update is in progress for our Barrier Management (BMP) tool that improves interoperability with FCM. This new feature will enable BMP users to export their approved listings and ingest them into Autodesk Revit using our FCM plugin. These imported listings take priority over all other solutions that FCM recommends for conditions that FCM finds in your Revit model. The team is testing this new feature and are excited to have this properly implemented and pushed live for our customers to leverage on their next project!



Training Beyond the Textbook

Preparing UMD SFPE students to connect passive and active fire protection in real assemblies



John Zalepka

Director of Training & Industry Engagements

Recently, I had the opportunity to spend time with the University of Maryland SFPE (Society of Fire Protection Engineers) student chapter talking about the penetrations from active suppression systems and the role passive fire protection plays in overall building performance. We covered the fundamentals of rated assemblies and how sprinkler systems interface with those barriers, not just from a code standpoint, but from a real-world standpoint. We discussed what happens when a pipe passes through a wall or floor, what inspectors look for, where coordination breaks down, and where performance is either restored or compromised.

To keep the room active, we wrapped the classroom portion with a short Kahoot session, which sparked good discussion, clarified a few misconceptions, and kept the energy high before we transitioned fully into application. Seungjun (Victor) Jeong, President of the SFPE Student Chapter at UMD, shared this: "From descriptive imageries detailing code regulations, to the hands-on demonstration, the students were engaged and actively participating from the beginning all the way to the end."

In the hands-on portion, we put the students to work, setting up portable wall assemblies and installing caulk and collar systems for typical sprinkler pipe penetrations. Students reviewed system listings, examined annular space conditions, discussed material compatibility, and compared compliant details to common field mistakes. It quickly became less about theory and more about responsibility. Diego Hernandez, an SFPE undergrad added, "It was a great experience learning about a part of FPE that's often overlooked and underappreciated."

Active systems often claim the spotlight, but without properly detailed and protected penetrations, the rated barrier is compromised. When passive and active layers are understood together, buildings perform the way they were designed to perform. It was encouraging to see a room full of future fire protection engineers asking practical questions and thinking beyond the textbook. At STI, we believe that investing in that mindset matters.



Spotlight on UL Systems



David Vail

P.E., Project Manager & Codes/Standards

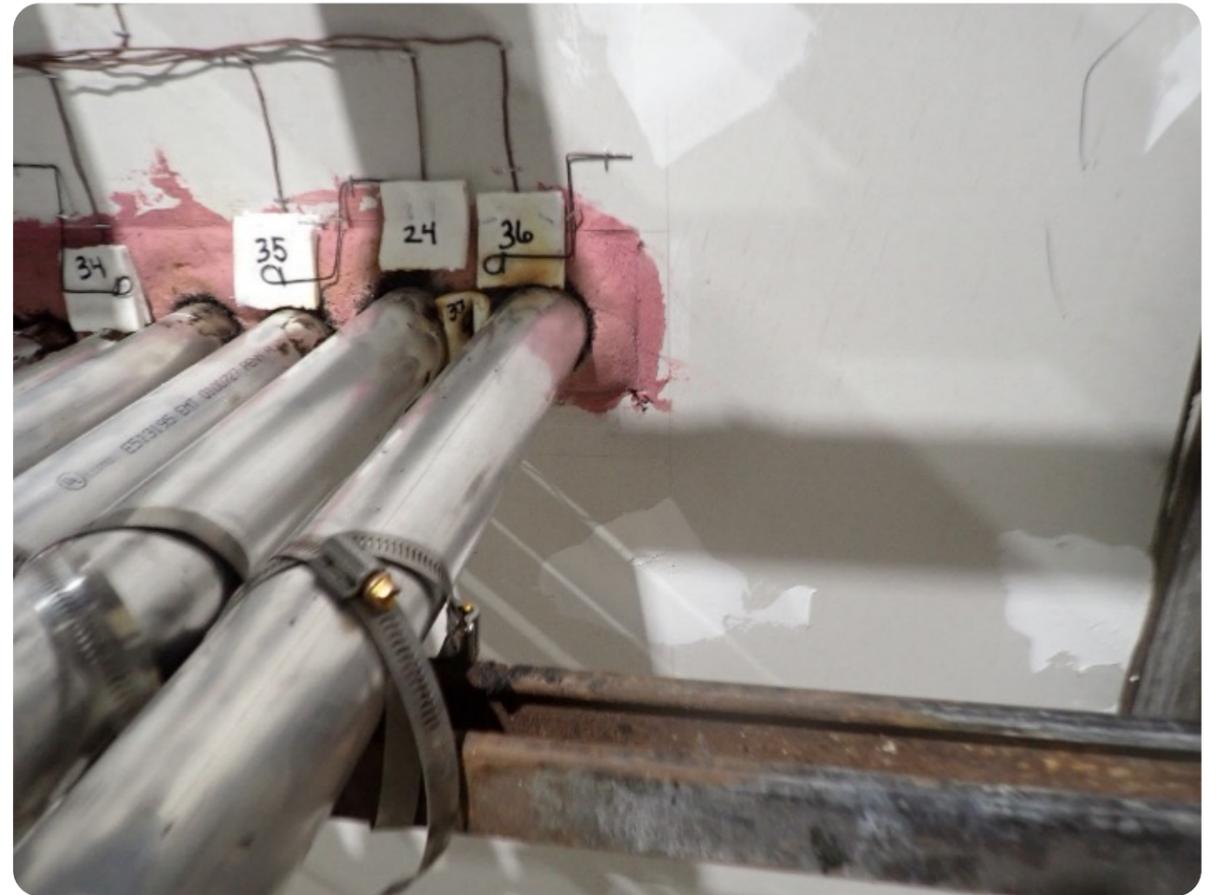


Firestop Block Installation (C-AJ-0191)

Firestop Blocks! [SpecSeal® Firestop Blocks](#) were first announced in the Burn within the [Summer 2024](#) issue and we supplemented the systems from that initial launch last year in the [Winter 2025](#) issue. The latest batch of block systems has arrived and these new systems provide coverage for blank openings in either concrete floor/wall assemblies or gypsum wallboard assemblies. Large openings of up to 1024 square inches (max 32-inch dimension) can be addressed through [C-AJ-0189](#) or [W-L-0066](#) for concrete or gypsum assemblies, respectively. Wire mesh is required for these large openings. When opening sizes can be captured within a max 12-inch by 24-inch range then the wire mesh is not required and the appropriate systems are [C-AJ-0191](#) or [W-L-0067](#). All the new SpecSeal® Firestop Block systems provide up to a 2 Hr F Rating, enjoy L Ratings of less than 1 CFM/sq ft and are great solutions for firestop applications requiring retrofit capabilities or where access might be limited to one side of an assembly.

Insulated Metal Panel Systems! Data center construction is featuring more and more insulated metal panel (IMP) assemblies and as there are a limited number of firestop systems for this type of application end users have been clamoring for firestopping solutions. STI has worked with UL to develop four new firestop systems for IMP construction. This initial batch of systems features a broad range of coverage and more listings will follow. [W-N-2004](#) utilizes wrap strip or factory collars to firestop up to 6 inch PVC/CPVC or ABS pipes. Max 6-inch PVC/CPVC pipes with up to 1-inch-thick fiberglass insulation can be addressed through [W-N-5011](#), which also features wrap strip collars. Various cable types and fills are covered by [W-N-3003](#), which features EZ-Path® Series Fire Rated Pathways as the firestop for the cable bundles. Similarly, cable trays and their associated loading can be firestopped with the [EZ-Path® Cable Tray Retrofit Device](#) via [W-N-4001](#). All these systems provide F Ratings of 1 or 2 Hr depending on the rating of the IMP assembly and include L Ratings.

Aluminum EMT Applications! STI has developed four new firestop systems that present easy solutions to installations where aluminum electrical metallic tubing is run through gypsum or concrete wall assemblies. SpecSeal® Series SSS or LCI Sealant are utilized in conjunction with mineral wool packing material within framed out or sleeved openings in gypsum walls between the aluminum EMTs and the opening for single or multiple penetrants in [W-L-1631](#) and [W-L-1630](#), respectively. Similar coverage is provided in concrete or concrete block walls through [W-J-1351](#) and [W-J-1350](#). These systems all enjoy F Ratings of up to 2 Hr and include an option for using OmegaFlex MediTrac® Corrugated Medical Tubing as penetrants. The new listings also include L Ratings with leakage rates less than 1 CFM/sq ft at both ambient and 400°F.



Aluminum EMT and LCI Sealant Fire Test at 2 Hours (W-L-1630)

Training That Sticks: How STI is Helping Elevate Firestopping Standards in Healthcare

Specified Technologies Inc. Case Studies

Introduction

Shamekia Holliday, CHFM, CLSS, was first introduced to Specified Technologies via Grainger over five years ago, needing Firestop Training on a yearly basis for her employees. Throughout the course of five years, Specified Technologies local field team members have maintained an annual presence at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, training employees and vendors on all things firestopping through STI's Firestop Instructional Training (FIT) class. This has resulted in educated staff applying the right products for the right systems, resulting in compliance, better aesthetics and higher patient satisfaction.

Annual Training

In the past, with other organizations, they would come for a thirty-minute training and sell some product but then it was silent until the next year when it was time for another training. If they were able to come sooner, there was still a six month wait time, which is a problem when dealing with the life safety environment of care. With STI's local team of experts, Shamekia and her team are able to get STI on site more frequently to assist when needed versus months down the line.

"When we really need someone's help, STI's team is there."

Finding the Right System

One resource that has become a regular use is [System Search and Submittal Builder](#) available as a web version and in the app store for iPhones and other devices.

"One of the most beneficial offerings from STI is the System Search. The number of systems that are available and how easy it is to put in the information about my building and penetrations and get back which systems are appropriate and what products can be used has been a huge help."

Everyone in her facility is required to have this app on their iPad, empowering all team members to continue their firestopping learning journey.

One challenge Shamekia faced, a common but non-compliant practice in many facilities, was the presence of scab patches. A scab patch is a gypsum board patch that is installed over mishappen openings in gypsum board walls. Scab patches are typically screwed in place with firestopping applied around the perimeter of the patch. Scab patches are not an acceptable form of firestopping as they are not a tested solution and are not supported by firestop

or gypsum board manufacturers as an acceptable solution in fire-rated assemblies. After completing training, and gaining a better understanding of firestopping and some of the resources available to her from STI, Shamekia and team were able to apply that knowledge and repair the scab patching in the boiler room with the SpecSeal Composite Sheet, a simple solution for large openings. Finding the system to use with the [Composite Sheet](#) made repairing the scab patching much simpler than they originally expected.

Conclusion

For the last five years, Specified Technologies has provided Shamekia Holliday and team annual Firestop Training. This training has helped arm her team with the knowledge, products and systems to repair scab patches within the facility. With annual training, hands-on support from STI's local experts, and powerful digital tools like System Search and Submittal Builder, Shamekia and team are now equipped to handle firestopping challenges quickly while maintaining compliance.



Product Field Shots



ES Elastomeric Sealant at Head-of-Wall Joint

Project: Hilton Ka Haku

Location: Honolulu, HI

Contractor: Firetek Pacific



LCI Intumescent Sealant for Metallic Penetrants

Project: Hilton Ka Haku

Location: Honolulu, HI

Contractor: Firetek Pacific

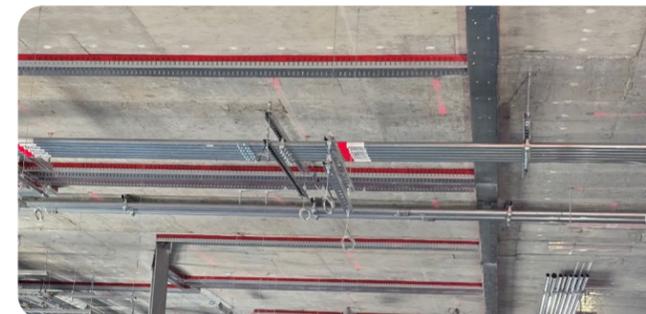


Cast-In Device Installation

Project: Carnegie Mellon University – RKM Hall of Science

Location: Pittsburgh, PA

Contractor: Clista Electric



Track Top Gasket (TTG) Installations at Head-of-Wall Joints

Project: Cowichan District Hospital

Location: Duncan Vancouver Island, BC

Contractor: Dryco Systems Inc.

Upcoming Trade Shows

International Mass Timber Conference

03/31/26 - 04/02/26, Portland, OR
Booth #920

Facades + Washington D.C.

05/15/26, Washington DC

Facades + Toronto

06/04/26, Toronto, ON

AIA 2026

06/10/26 - 06/13/26, San Diego, CA
Booth #1535

Meet the **TEAM**
Dana Buglovsky
Customer Service Manager



What is your role at Specified Technologies Inc. and how long have you been here?

I recently completed my first year as Customer Service Supervisor, and I am very excited to take on my newest role as Customer Service Manager. I've been with STI since March 2021, which has given me a strong understanding of our team, processes and distributors.

What is one bucket list item of yours?

I am a homebody so one day I want to create a landscaped backyard where I can pretend I know anything about gardening. A space where my family and I can relax, share meals, host friends and enjoy time together. I imagine simple moments, like summer evenings, family hangouts, backyard baseball and family hangouts - turning into lasting memories.

What project have you worked on in your career that you are most proud to have been a part of?

Before STI, I spent nearly 20 years in retail. One of my proudest moments was helping lead a store team during a time when mall traffic was at an all-time low and company expectations were tough to meet. By focusing on stronger visual merchandising, hiring great talent, and working toward shared goals, we not only matched the previous year's numbers but turned the store into one of the company's top 100 locations. Along the way, I built lasting relationships with coworkers and customers I still stay in touch with today. It was rewarding to see the collaboration of the entire team make such an impact on our store's results.

What is your favorite part about working in the firestop industry?

What I enjoy most about working in the firestopping industry is supporting both customers and colleagues to ensure projects run smoothly. Firestopping is essential to keeping people safe, and it's important to me that customers feel confident they have exactly what they need without any worry. Knowing that I can help contribute to safety and efficiency makes the work especially rewarding.

What is one fun fact about yourself?

I absolutely love interior design and keeping up with the ever-evolving world of design trends. There's something so exciting about mixing old and new pieces, blending modern with vintage, and playing with everything from minimalist to maximalist, and all in between. I love the idea that a space can reflect different versions of you over time. To me, designing a space isn't just about how it looks; it's about creating a feeling, and making every corner feel like a little piece of who you are. I am constantly moving things around in my home, to the point where I'm sure it drives my family nuts.

“It's an A+!
Definitely a game changer for
curtain wall
insulation.”

Justin Hand, Firestopping Superintendent for Colorado
Colorado Mechanical Insulation



SpecSeal® Quick Clip
Perimeter Fire Containment System