FIRE FACT 088 –INTERIOR FINISH

Interior finish is commonly confused with decorations.

Interior finish is the exposed surface of interior walls, ceilings, and floors. Whereas, decoration is the stuff that is hung on or applied to the exposed surface for decorative purposes.

Interior finish includes but is not limited to:
- Floor tile
- Carpet
- Fixed or movable walls
- Rolling walls
- Partitions
- Wainscoting
- Paneling
- Accoustical tile
- Surface insulation

Interior finish does not include: (See Fire Fact on Decorations)
- Pictures
- Shelves
- Holiday décor
- Curtains and draperies

COMMON ISSUES
Interior finish citations typically involve the use of non-treated wood. Oftentimes inspectors will find wood paneling and wood beams in buildings that have not been inspected previously. Maybe the building was previously used as a general office building and is now being utilized as a child care center. In these instances, the facility must either remove the wood or treat the wood with an approved fire-rated product.

FIRE-TREATMENT PRODUCTS
Prior to purchasing a fire-treatment product, it is recommended that facilities submit the product information and specification sheet to the Office of the for review. The cost of the review is free. This is the only way a facility can guarantee that the product being purchased is acceptable.

REQUIREMENTS BY OCCUPANCY
The following gives a brief summary of the interior finish requirements. However, for more detailed information see the referenced tables in the International Fire Code.

	Corridors - Sprinklered	Corridors - non sprinklered	Rooms & spaces - sprinklered	Rooms & spaces - non sprinklered
Assembly	B	A	C	B/C
Education	C	B	C	C
Healthcare	B/C	A/B	C	B