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Ketchum, MacLeod & Grove, Inc.

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August 29, 1969

MEMO TO: S. E. Palazzalo, Engineering Manager
Westinghouse Micarta

SUBJECT: Fire Retardant System Publicity

Per our conversation, enclosed for review and approval is a new product release on the fire retardant wall system, intended for trade publication distribution. I have decided to hold on the new literature announcement until revisions underway are completed.

The outline for an article on the system under your byline will be ready early next week. Hopefully, we can discuss it when you visit Pittsburgh next Thursday.

Ray Fleckenstein
Ray Fleckenstein

/rmd

cc: A. L. Decker
H. W. Kennedy

Enclosure



From: Ketchum MacLeod & Grove, Inc.
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For: Westinghouse Electric Corporation
Micarta Division - Hampton S. C.

A fire retardant wall paneling system, combining safety benefits with ease of installation, has been introduced by Westinghouse Electric Corporation's Micarta Division.

The system includes Micarta laminated plastic panels, joinery and hardware trim. It is designed to meet rigid standards of safety necessary for installation in schools, hospitals, public buildings, buses, railroad cars and ships.

The laminated plastic surface has the lowest combined industry rating for flame spread and smoke developed (UL classification). It meets or exceeds most building codes, NEMA Standard LD-1964 and the United States Coast Guard standards of fire safety in passenger and cargo ships.

Extruded aluminum joinery and hardware trim are supplied in standard lengths. Exposed hardware (battens, and ceiling and floor trim) is available in anodized bright or dull finishes. Standard snap-in inserts are provided for the batten strips, and are available in color-matched or accent on an optional basis.

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Ease of installation is a key feature. The vertical backup strip is attached to the wall after ceiling and floor trim has been fastened. The panel then is lifted into the ceiling trim strip and lowered into the floor trim. Attaching the batten strip to the backup strip and inserting the snap-in trim completes the job.

The fire retardant Micarta panels are available in a wide choice of architectural solids, patterns and woodgrains. They can be supplied in three finishes, ranging from a low reflection surface (gloss meter reading, 4-10), to a satin finish (gloss meter reading, 15-34).

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Outline Palazzalo article

I. Introduction

1. Fire caused tragedies have focused special emphasis on the materials used in interior installations of schools, hospitals, public buildings, ships, buses, railroad cars, etc.
2. Many satisfactory fire-retardant materials have been introduced for these applications, including Westinghouse fire-retardant Micarta paneling, which has the lowest combined industry rating for flame spread and smoke. But installation of these materials was often complicated.
3. Westinghouse now has combined Micarta fire-retardant paneling with carefully-engineered extruded aluminum joinery and trim to provide the industry with the first wall system combining fire safety with ease of installation. Meets or exceeds most building codes.

II. Nature of flame-retardant Micarta

1. Constructed with either .05" or 1/16" Micarta face bonded to fire rated cores.
2. Detail of fire-rated core material.
3. Backed with .045 Micarta backing sheet.
4. Asbestos base instead paper.
5. Flame retardant thermosetting adhesive used for bonding.

III. Joinery and trim

1. Aluminum extrusions for ceiling and floor channels; base for inside and outside corners, and end or divider; batten for inside and outside corners, end, and divider.
2. Snap-in plastic batten trim.

IV. Installation

1. Conventional hand or power tools can be used.
2. Usage of power saw dictates cutting into the face of the decorative surface of panel to avoid chipping; recommended saw blades.
3. Method for cutting necessary openings; drilling of holes and sawing to holes; eliminates crazing or cracking.
4. Wall paneling tends to expand or contract slightly if exposed to abnormal change in moisture condition; panels should adjust to room temperatures by being exposed for 24 hours, separated, before application.
5. Micarta panels have sealed edges, which should be resealed when cuts necessary for installation. Protects softer core from physical damage and water absorption. Recommended sealant.

V. Installation method

1. Furr or shim walls.
2. Measure walls to establish panel width; establish layout guidelines.

3. Install ceiling and floor channel extrusions.
4. Install inside corner base.
5. Install first panel.
6. Install divider base extrusion.
7. Install divider batten extrusion.
8. Repeat 6, 7 for length desired.
9. Install outside corner base extrusion.
10. Install single panel from inside to outside corner
11. Install inside corner batten extrusion.
12. Install panel from outside corner to wall end.
13. Install end base extrusion.
14. Install end cap batten.
15. Install outside corner batten.
16. Affix trim.

VI. Other fire-retardant Micarta features.

1. Meets or exceeds NEMA standard LD 1-1964; USCG standards of fire safety in passenger and cargo ships.

2. Impervious to most chemicals, odors.
3. Easy to clean.
4. Resists chips, cracks, stains, peeling, crazing or fading.
5. Wide variety of architectural colors, patterns and woodgrains.
6. Available in three finishes with varying gloss meter readings.

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