<<Facility Name>>

POLICY TITLE: WALL AND CEILING FINISHES

| APPROVED BY:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| --- | --- |
|  | Revised Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**I. POLICY**

It is the policy of <<Facility Name>> that all interior wall and ceiling finishes utilized within the building will meet applicable flame resistance requirements. The interior finishes governed by this policy include, but are not limited to, wood (including wood lockers), paneling, wainscoting, wallpaper, vinyl wall coverings and acoustical ceiling tile.

**II.** **PURPOSE**

To ensure that residents, staff and visitors at <<Facility Name>> are protected against the rapid spread of fire by establishing procedures to be followed relating to the purchase and installation of wall and ceiling finishes.

**III. RESPONSIBILITY**

A. Responsibility for development and implementation of this policy rests with the facility safety officer.

B. Responsibility for ensuring that all wall and ceiling finishes procured for use at <<Facility Name>> meet applicable flame resistance requirements rests with the facility purchasing director.

C. Responsibility for approval of wall and ceiling finishes to be used in remodeling projects to ensure compliance with applicable flame resistance requirements rests with the facility environmental services director.

**IV. PROCEDURE**

A. Only wall and ceiling finishes that meet applicable flame resistance requirements will be specified for use as part of a renovation, remodeling or construction project at <<Facility Name>>. This will also apply to the purchase of finishes used to replace existing wall and/or ceiling finishes that are damaged or worn.

B. The vendor will be responsible for providing written documentation for each product purchased identifying the flame spread and smoke development rating achieved by the product based on testing performed in accordance with ASTM E 84 or ANSI/UL 723.

C. Purchasing will mark each piece of documentation to identify the specific location(s) in which the product is present.

D. Purchasing will keep this documentation on file until the product is removed from the building.

E. Carpeting

1. Carpeting will not be used as a ceiling finish unless it meets one of the following:
   1. The vendor can provide written documentation certifying that the carpeting meets the following criteria when tested in accordance with NFPA 286:

* Flames did not spread to the ceiling during the 40 kW exposure.
* The flame did not spread to the outer extremity of the sample on any wall or ceiling.
* Flashover did not occur.
* The peak rate of heat release throughout the test did not exceed 800 kW.
* The total smoke released throughout the test did not exceed 1000 m2.
  1. The room or space in which the carpeting is to be installed is protected with automatic fire sprinklers and the vendor can provide written documentation certifying that the carpeting has a Class A flame spread rating (flame spread 0-25, smoke development 0-450) when tested in accordance with ASTM E 84 or ANSI/UL 723.

2. Carpeting will not be used as a wall finish unless it meets one of the following:

a. The vendor can provide written documentation certifying that the carpeting meets the criteria specified in 1.a above when tested in accordance with NFPA 286;

b. The vendor can provide written documentation certifying that the carpeting has a Class A flame spread rating (flame spread 0-25, smoke development 0-450) when tested in accordance with ASTM E 84 or ANSI/UL 723 and the room or space in which it is to be installed is protected with automatic fire sprinklers;

c. The vendor can provide written documentation certifying that the carpeting meets the following criteria when tested in accordance with method B of NFPA 265:

* Flames did not spread to the ceiling during the 40 kW exposure.
* The flame did not spread to the outer extremities of the samples on the 8 ft x 12 ft walls.
* Flashover did not occur
* The total smoke released throughout the test did not exceed 1000 m2.

3. Purchasing will mark each piece of documentation to identify the specific location(s) in which the carpeting is present.

4. Purchasing will keep this documentation on file until the carpeting is removed from the building.

F. Interior floor-wall base

1. Interior floor trim material not exceeding 6 inches in height used at the junction of the wall and floor to provide a functional or decorative border (e.g. wall base, carpet cove) will meet one of the following criteria:

a. The requirements for interior wall finish applicable to the location in which it is installed – **or**

b. The requirements for Class II interior floor finish when tested in accordance with NFPA 253. In spaces not protected by automatic fire sprinklers, only Class I materials will be allowed to be used.

2. The vendor will be responsible for providing written documentation for each product purchased identifying the rating of the product when tested in accordance with ASTM E 84, ANSI/UL 723 or NFPA 253.

3. Purchasing will mark each piece of documentation to identify the specific location(s) in which the floor-wall base is present.

4. Purchasing will keep this documentation on file until the floor-wall base is removed from the building.