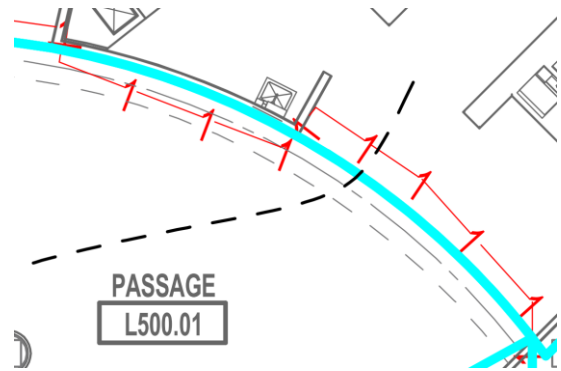




**A curved drywall partition cannot be fire rated...**



Dear Mr. Zussman:

Thank you for contacting UL.

This is in response to your inquiry dated December 22, 2015.

There are no rated partitions that are curved or allowed to be curved in the Fire Resistance Directory.

Please work with the gypsum manufacture and the AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction) for approval.

Should you have any other questions or comments please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Michael B. Koepke  
Customer Service Engineering Associate I

=====

UL  
333 Pfingsten Rd. Northbrook, IL 60062  
T: 877-854-3577, option 5 or ext.49590  
Email [archservices@ul.com](mailto:archservices@ul.com)

Corey,

Thanks for your patience. After research and discussion with our fire engineer, USG and no one (not even UL) can rate a curved wall because they haven't been tested. USG has provided engineering judgments on curved walls recommending PLASTER only. I have attached a letter of reference for U488 as an example. We haven't provided any engineering judgments for fire rated curved gypsum walls because if you stress the 5/8" Type X board it can have detrimental effects on the fire-resistance of the wall. What can potentially happen to 5/8" Type X gypsum board when it is bent is that you can cause micro cracks in the core which would affect the fire rating. If you were to perform a hose stream test on a curved fire rated wall (ASTM E 119) it is very likely the test would fail.

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No. All fire resistance testing is done on flat walls. There is no recognized test method for testing a curved wall.

Robert A. Wessel, PhD, FASTM  
Senior Director, Technical Services - Gypsum Association

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**Please review your drawings and identify if you have any fire rated curved drywall partitions...**

**If you do, let your Architect know ASAP that a drywall partition cannot be curved.**

**We could install a curved fire rated plaster or a CMU wall.**

