Informational Bulletin 2011-03

Installation of Metal Chimneys

The installation and selection of metal chimneys for venting of heating appliances shall be installed in accordance with National Fire Protection Association NFPA 211 and the manufacturer’s installation specifications. If NFPA 211 and the manufacturer’s installation specifications are not followed a fire or collapse of the chimney could occur. Below is only one manufacturer’s installation specification sheet just as reference. No matter which manufacturer’s product is used; it needs to be installed to NFPA standards and the manufacturer’s specifications.

There are many components and steps to proper installation of the chimney. To the left is one typical vertical chimney through one story and attic installation. Different manufacturers of metal chimneys may use different names and terms for their components below are some of the basic terms and what to look at before and during an installation.

- Selecting the proper chimney pipe for what appliance is being vented
- Proper sizing of the chimney pipe for the appliance
- Clearances to combustibles
- Structural framing
- Ceiling support
- Finish support
- Locking bands or screws
- Fire stop
- Attic insulation shield
- Roof flange
- Storm collar
- Chimney cap

Maintaining clearances to combustibles including insulation is critical to preventing fires.