

## STC Box Seal™: Frequently-Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Q: What is the Box Seal made of?

A: Neoprene, a dense and resilient rubber selected for its ability to isolate vibrations through viscous damping. It is also specially compounded to be Class A fire-rated per ASTM E119.

Q: Will there always be a 7-decibel improvement in sound transmission loss?

A: In high-STC partitions the Box Seal will achieve 7-db improvement of sound transmission loss and will return the partition to its full rated performance. In low-STC partitions sound will transmit effectively through the partition as much as through the outlets so the effect is less dramatic. Performance is also affected by sound attenuation batts in the partition, and will always be improved with use of the Box Seal.

Q: Does the Box Seal meet National Electric Code (NFPA 70) requirements?

A: Yes. The Box Seal spans the wall opening just like the wall plate so that it occupies no space inside the electrical box. Specifically, the requirements of Section 314.16 are unaffected by use of the Box Seal.

Q: What configurations are available?

A: NEMA configurations for one-gang and two-gang arrangements are standard for duplex receptacles, toggle switches, Decora-size openings, and data/TV/phone outlets. Custom configurations are available by special order and pricing.

Q: What color is the Box Seal?

A: The standard color is light almond. The edge of the seal is an inconspicuous 1/16-inch thick, and the color blends well with light-colored wall plates. The edge can also be painted once installed.

Q: What sizes are available?

A: Box Seals are made to fit flush to the edge of standard-size wall plates. Midsize and oversize plates also fit; annular space should not exceed 1/8-inch in fire-rated walls.

Q: Can the Box Seal be used in a fire-rated partition?

A: Yes, the Box Seal can be used for existing outlets in fire-rated partitions under any conditions. For new outlets, comply with the "24-inch Rule" of the International Building Code (714.3.2) for protecting recessed outlets on opposite sides of a fire-rated partition.

Q: Does the Box Seal replace putty pads?

A: Yes, for fire-rated partitions up to 1-hour for the most common 1-gang duplex configuration. The Box Seal has been tested per UL 1479 and is listed in the Underwriters Laboratories Fire Resistance Directory as a wall opening protective device. Use with a metal wall plate when outlets on opposite sides of a fire-rated partition are less than 24-inches apart.

May 21, 2019