The first thing to realize is the difference in testing methods. For Class A and non-combustible, the panel is tested with an open flame, and measurements are taken on fuel contribution, smoke developed, and flame spread. For the 1-hour fire rating test, a panel wall is constructed and is blasted with flames for an hour. After this, the wall is sprayed with water from a fire hose. If the wall withstands the hosing, it passes. There are also instances where an insurance company may require more than a Class A, but not necessarily 1-hour fire rated. For these situations, Panel Built has also developed a non-combustible panel.

Fire Panels

### Class A
- Polystyrene core with vinyl covered gypsum board.
- Panel is tested with an open flame, and measurements are taken on fuel contribution, smoke developed, and flame spread.
- Vinyl, steel, or a number of other kinds of coverings.

### Non-Combustible
- Gypsum covered mineral wool core.
- Can be laminated together with adhesive.
- Does not require a steel skin.
- Best when insurance companies require more than class A.
- Panel is tested with an open flame, and measurements are taken on fuel contribution, smoke developed, and flame spread.

### 1- Hour Fire Rated
- Mineral wool core covered by mechanically fastened type-x gypsum board to steel studs.
- Panel wall is constructed and is essentially blasted with flames for an hour followed by a blasting from a fire hose. Wall must remain intact.
- Tested and certified by an independent agency.
- Covered with sheeting of your choice.