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## **Cover Photo:**

The photograph shows a steel I-beam section, coated with a plastic fire protection material, being inserted into Avco Systems Division's unique subscale fire simulation chamber during a test to determine the effectiveness of the coating. The coating is a relatively thin (0.2 to 0.4 in.), weatherable, tough, intumescent epoxy which is designed to provide one to two h performance time for structural steel when tested according to the ASTM Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials (E 119-71). The fire chamber conditions have been preset to simulate a fully developed large volume fire in terms of temperature and heat flux. The I-beam section is instrumented with thermocouples which are used in recording the temperature-time history of the specimen throughout the fire test. The test about to be conducted represents a "worst case" situation, that is, a sudden flash fire exposure of maximum magnitude. In this issue of the Journal of Testing and Evaluation, D. P. Crowley, F. L. Tempesta, G. K. Castle, E. B. Belason, and L. J. D'Avanzo discuss on pp. 363-368 the subscale fire test facilities which have been developed for evaluating the thermal response of material test specimens exposed to a variety of fire conditions. The photograph was taken by Avco's David Hoyt.