

# THE FIRESTOP

Volume 24, Issue 6



**OWENS CORNING**

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## CALLING ALL FUTURE FCIA BOARD MEMBERS!

The Board of Directors nominations process is under way, and FCIA needs you!

Are you currently an active FCIA committee member? Do you attend FCIA Conferences? Have a passion for fire and life safety?

Then FCIA needs you!

The [FCIA Board of Directors](#) is a diverse and passionate group of FCIA Contractor Member volunteers, who have chosen to give back to the Association and the industry to advance the firestop and effective compartmentation industry. FCIA Board of Directors are elected to 3-year terms, and often volunteer on or Chair additional Committees. Board members are expected to attend four Board meetings per year, one each in the first and third quarters and



one each at ECA and FIC.

Board elections take place each year at the Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show, but FCIA's Nominating Committee meets in August to select candidates for 2023 directors. If you are passionate about the firestop industry, have an interest in influencing the forward growth of the industry, and are willing to donate your time and talents to improve fire and life safety around the world, consider running for the FCIA Board of Directors.

Questions or to nominate yourself or a colleague? Contact [Cathy@FCIA.org](mailto:Cathy@FCIA.org) or [Bill@FCIA.org](mailto:Bill@FCIA.org) to learn more.

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NEW MEMBER WELCOME

## FCIA FIRESTOP CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Looking to give your company and employees a competitive advantage in the marketplace? Then look no further!

The [FCIA Certificate of Achievement Education Program](#) is a comprehensive online education program designed to provide the marketplace a verifiable

Built on decades of experience and technical resources, the Firestop Certificate of Achievement Education Program is a four (4) level deep dive into the world of firestopping. With successful completion of each Course in the FCIA Firestop Certificate of Achievement Education Program, students are awarded a Certificate of Achievement – a recognition of having achieved a benchmark level of firestop industry knowledge.

Start with the [Firestop Level 1 Course](#), which covers 'The 'DIIM' of Firestop for Fire and Life Safety'. Then, move on to the [Firestop Level 2 Course](#), 'Firestop Materials and Systems', which takes Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors and Special Inspection Agency personnel through 20+ modules dedicated to the various firestop systems and materials used for effective compartmentation. Next follows the Firestop Level 3 Course, which covers 'Estimating and Project Management'. Finally, round out your education with the Firestop Level 4 Course, the 'Firestopping Capstone Class'.

And, the FCAEP is gaining traction in the marketplace. It is getting used a lot by Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors and Special Inspection Agencies alike to get better at firestopping and to create a competitive advantage for their company.

For more information, [visit the FCAEP Program online](#).

FCIA Members: Make sure to check out the One-Year Unlimited Annual Subscription option for big savings for your entire team!



## FCIA & FIRESTOP AROUND THE WORLD

Firestopping and effective compartmentation...the universal language for fire and life safety.

FCIA's Bill McHugh, Past President Ben Urcavich, and Vice President Tyler Ferguson have been in conversations with new and old friends from the UK, Australia, New Zealand, and India. We are working on ways to help make buildings safer – through firestopping and barrier management.



# UL QUALIFIED FIRESTOP CONTRACTOR PROGRAM

The UL Qualified Firestop Contractor Program (QFCP) has a unique benefit – the Master Certificate of Compliance (MACC).

Firestop systems serve as critical safeguards against the spread of heat, fire, gases, or smoke through breaches in floors and walls. The [UL-ULC Qualified Firestop Contractor Program \(UL QFCP\)](#) was developed to establish a measurable international standard for installation quality and safety among Firestop Contractors worldwide.

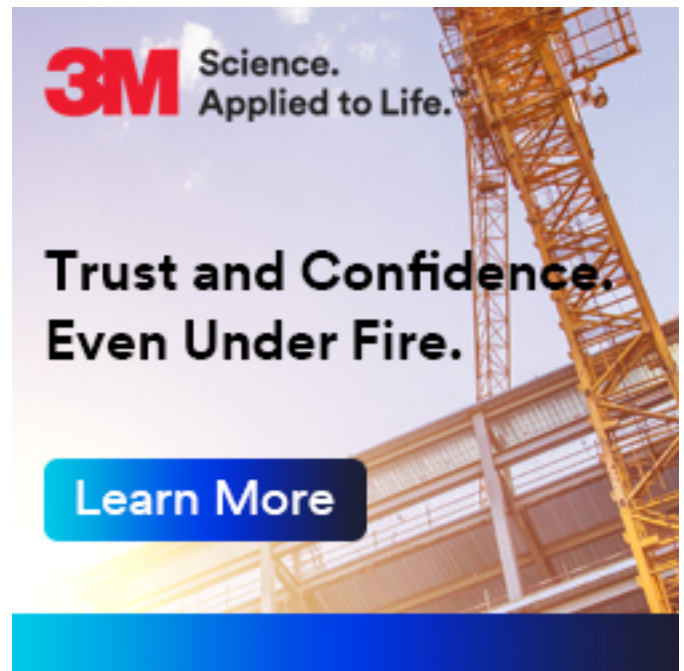
UL-ULC Qualified Firestop Contractors understand this specialty trade. Through accreditation in the UL-ULC Qualified Firestop Contractor Program (UL QFCP), Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors set themselves apart as experts in their field, while offering specifiers, AHJs, Building Owners and Managers a quantifiable qualification of the firm.

Now, UL is proud to offer an optional extension of the UL-ULC QFCP, the [Master Certificate of Compliance \(MACC\)](#). The MACC Program provides Architects, Building Owners and Managers, and AHJs the peace of mind that the firestop systems installed in the building were installed by a UL-ULC QFCP and audited to UL's stringent 10 Element Program Requirements.

This MACC has key benefits for the Building Owner and Manager and FCIA Member Firestop Contractor:

- Add Value – UL-ULC Contractor clients get assurance that the contractors management system was implemented properly on a specific project.
- Annual Renewal – An annual visual inspection of Firestopping is required to renew the MACC, meaning ongoing safety, and repeat business opportunities.
- Declare 'finished' – Once the project is finished, ONLY the UL-ULC QFCP provides the MACC Certificate to the GC, for closeout documents, meaning leverage to get final payment.
- Unique – Only the UL-ULC QFCP has this feature.

Need more info? Not UL-ULC Qualified yet? Contact [Mark.St.Onge@UL.com](mailto:Mark.St.Onge@UL.com) or [RubenSandovalJR@UL.com](mailto:RubenSandovalJR@UL.com).



## FCIA BOARD MEETS IN AUGUST

Fire and life safety education for India is an emerging market, and FCIA is at the forefront.

FCIA's Board of Directors meets face-to-face 4 times yearly. This group of volunteers focuses on strategic direction of the Association. The Board will meet in August for their third quarter meeting.

Stay tuned to future editions of The Firestop for an update on the work accomplished at this meeting.

# FCIA RETURNS TO THE GULF REGION

After three long years, FCIA was finally able to return to the Middle East for in-person events!

This June, FCIA kicked off a week-long tour of the Middle East with the FCIA Fire Code & Firestop & Smoke Barrier 'DIIM' Symposium in Doha, Qatar. For the first time since 2019, FCIA presented the full-day symposium to a group of in-person attendees. The agenda focused on technical education for the firestop industry, and highlighted sessions with Abhishek Chhabra (Thomas Bell-Wright International), Bill Koffel (Koffel Associates), and Adrian Brown (Consultant).



Doha attendees prepare to take the FM & UL Firestop Exams. FCIA Photo

We had great sessions at FCIA's Doha Symposium. FCIA Member Contractors took the FM & UL Firestop Exams after FCIA's Education

Program. It was very special to visit with friends from Qatar during the trip.

Then, FCIA headed to Dubai, UAE for the FCIA Fire Code & Firestop & Effective Compartmentation Membership

Meeting.

It was nice to have FCIA Members back together in-person for the educational symposium, including the first few members from the Middle East



Mohamed Amer addresses Dubai attendees on fire-resistance requirements in existing buildings. FCIA Photo

– Jay Prajapati from Al Swiss, and Ravi Subramanyam from Rise and Shine Insulation & Fire Protection. We were also honored to have almost the whole staff from the Emirates Safety Laboratory attend the sessions on Firestopping on June 22.

Many thanks to faculty members, including Mohamed Amer (ICC), Adrian Brown (Consultant), Abhishek Chhabra (Thomas Bell-Wright International), Bill Koffel (Koffel Associates), and Amr Mahmoud (UL) for taking time out of their busy schedules to partner with us for these events.

We can't wait to be back next year!



## FCIA TOURS EMIRATES SAFETY LABORATORY

Wow, what an impressive investment in fire and life safety in Dubai. FCIA's Bill McHugh had the opportunity to tour the new Emirates Safety Laboratory, complete with full-scale and small-scale furnaces for fire-testing firestopping, structural fire protection, roofing, and much more.

A big thanks to David Campbell for organizing, and Nadia Chahby and the team for the great tour.



FCIA's Bill McHugh meets with Emirates Safety Laboratory's Nadia Chahby to tour the new ESL facility in Dubai. FCIA Photo



# UL BREATHES NEW LIFE INTO ITS BRAND

For over a century, you've known them as Underwriters Laboratories. But just as the times change, so has UL.

With the recent announcement of their re-branding campaign, UL has restructured itself, thereby becoming three separate entities: the nonprofit UL Research Institutes; the nonprofit UL Standards & Engagement; and the global testing, inspection, certificate, and advisory arm, UL Solutions. The brands reflect and clarify the unique role that each organization plays in working for a safer world.

The **UL Research Institutes** brand focuses on independent research on ongoing and emerging human safety risks to advance public safety.

The **UL Standards & Engagement** brand focuses on its longstanding role as a facilitator of Standards-related public-private partnerships around the world.

The **UL Solutions** brand is the for-profit fire testing, inspection and certification services, and other activities branch of business. What you've long referred to as UL Laboratories has now become UL Solutions.

Ready to meet your new starting lineup?  
[Read more about the recent UL announcement here.](#)



# THE FLORIDA CODE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

**FCIA's Rich Walke recently attended the Florida Code Development process meetings.**

**D**id you know...Florida does not adopt The International Building Code's (IBC) Chapter 17, Special Inspections?

During the recent FL Building Code Development process, Rich Walke was present and spoke on behalf of FCIA, attempting to add Firestop Special Inspection and FM/UL Contractors to the FL Building Code in two separate proposals. Unfortunately, both proposals were disapproved. While disappointing, it's not really a big surprise. After all, it took FCIA 8 years before ASTM E2174 and ASTM E2393 were approved to become part of the 2012 IBC.

Even though we weren't successful this time around in getting Firestop Special Inspection and FM/UL Contractors into the FL Building Code, we do continue see 07-84-00 Specifications within Florida, some of which are held for both FM 4991 or UL Qualified Firestop Contractors and Firestop Special Inspection in accordance with ASTM E2174 and/or ASTM E2393. We'll keep trying to get these added into the FL Building Code though. Look for more development on this during the next code development cycle.



The sixth edition Florida Building Code. Be sure to get the current version, the seventh edition (2020). FBPE Photo

# FCIA & THE ASHE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**The ASHE Annual Conference brings together health care professionals from around the US, and FCIA was there.**

**W**e had a great conference with our friends at the American Society for Healthcare Engineering in Boston last week. FCIA Members had booths, as did FCIA. Thanks Aideen Doneski (Gleeson Powers), Chuck Fogg (National Firestop Solutions), and Bill Jannino (Sweeney Drywall) – all FCIA Marketing Committee Members – for working the booth with us.



FCIA Marketing Committee members volunteer at the FCIA booth at ASHE. FCIA Photo

# FCIA MEETS WITH ONTARIO BUILDING OFFICIALS

The jurisdictional inspection community wants to know the details of firestop SYSTEMS.

Many thanks to our friends at the Niagara Falls Chapter of the Ontario Building Officials Association for inviting FCIA to present at their July meeting. FCIA Canada Committee Chair, John Sharpe (Pro-Firestop), was there with FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, for a firestopping seminar July 20.

The two-hour session was presented to an interested group of Building Officials from all around Ontario. Questions from the audience were quite detailed. Things like molly bolts used for plastic pipe devices instead of simple drywall screws, sleeve type and heights, annular space sizes, and much more were among the topics audience members wanted to know more about. It proves the point that the jurisdictional inspection community really wants to know the details of the SYSTEMS – which is how firestopping is evaluated.

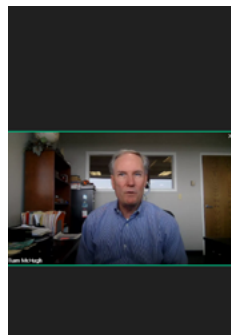


# FCIA TO SPEAK TO INDIA AUDIENCE

Fire and life safety education for India is an emerging market, and FCIA is at the forefront.

The Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar Centre for Safety Engineering is hosting a Design, Installation & Inspection education program on Perimeter and Through Penetration Firestops. This 27 August program has FCIA as a knowledge partner in this important educational program, with FCIA providing a remote presentation.

Looking forward to a great program.



## Future Firestopping Code Development

- NBCC – 2020....to 2025 Goals
  - Firestop Inspection
  - Fire-Resistance Rated Roofs
- Maintain Protection (2027....)
  - National Fire Code of Canada
  - NFPA 1
  - NFPA 101
- Special Inspection – States, Provinces??



# FCIA CANADA SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION OPEN

The FCIA Existing Building Fire-Resistance Symposium heads to Vancouver, BC this October.

This October 3 and 4, where can you find top-level firestop education, the [FM & ULC Firestop Exams](#), and networking opportunities with firestop experts and professionals? At the [FCIA Existing Building Fire-Resistance Symposium](#), of course!

Heading to the Wosk Center for Dialogue in Vancouver, BC this October 3, the full-day agenda features

education to help build knowledge of fire-resistance and fire separations in Canada. Expect to attend sessions on:

- National Research Council of Canada and the NBC
- Fire Separation Code Requirements
- Code Fundamentals for Maintaining Protection
- Mass Wood Timber Construction, Combustible Pipes, and Firestopping
- Best Practices for Maintaining Protection
- and More!

The FM & ULC Firestop Exams and a pre-exam education program rounds out the event.

[Registration is open.](#) Canadian Building Officials and Fire Marshals, AHJs, Architects, Specifiers, and Engineers with Design Firms, and Facility Managers at health care and educational buildings attend for free.

[Register today!](#)



'Maintaining Protection in Existing Buildings'

Wednesday, August 24  
10:00 am - 11:00 am CDT





# FCIA HITS THE ROAD

Trade Show season is in full swing...and FCIA is moving full steam ahead!

For the first time since 2019, trade show season is upon us! From April through October, the FCIA Marketing Committee, leadership, and volunteers are quite busy making sure key audiences know about FCIA Contractor, Inspection Agency, Manufacturer, and other Members.

You'll find the FCIA booth, *Life Safety Digest* publication bins, and sometimes both (!) at the following shows this year:

- IFOC – International Fire Operations Conference & Exhibition – Riyadh, KSA
- IFMA Facility Fusion – International Facility Management Association – Austin, TX



Publication bins at the recent NFPA show. Life Safety Digest is right at the front of the pack!  
FCIA Photo

- NFPA – National Fire Protection Association – Boston, MA
- AIA – The American Institute of Architects – Chicago, IL
- BOMA – Building & Office Managers Association – Nashville, TN
- ASHE - American Society for Healthcare Engineering – Boston, MA
- NASFM – National Association of State Fire Marshals, New Orleans, LA
- ICC – International Code Council Expo & Code Development Hearings – Louisville, KY
- CHES – Canadian Healthcare Engineering Society – Toronto, ON
- IFMA World Workplace – International Facility Management Association – Nashville, TN
- OFSEC – Oman Fire, Safety & Security Event – Muscat, Oman

We always love being at these events and spreading the word about the importance of the 'DIM' of Firestopping. If you are attending any of these events, be sure to stop and say hi!

## Upcoming Events

August 1-2	NASFM Annual Conference	August 24	FCIA Webinar
August 23	FCIA Test Prep Webinar	August 29-30	FCIA Board Meeting



FCIA works hard to spread the word of the 'DIIM' of Firestopping around the world, encouraging all interested Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors, Special Inspection Agencies, Associates, Manufacturers, and more to become involved to grow the industry's call for better fire and life safety.

FCIA proudly welcomes new members, and we thank them for their support and commitment to the Firestop industry.

Thank you to all current members, as well, for helping to grow FCIA and the Specialty Firestop trade, resulting in improved fire- and life-safety systems.

### FCIA New Contractor Members

- Rolling Plains Construction - Henderson, CO
- New Haven Firestop Systems, Inc. - New Haven, CT

### FCIA New International Contractor Members

- Shanghai Weiwang Technology Co., Ltd. - Shanghai, PRC

FCIA Members: Do you have more than one Branch location? Make it easier to be found worldwide with a 'Branch Membership and Listing' at [www.FCIA.org](http://www.FCIA.org). Questions? Email [cathy@fcia.org](mailto:cathy@fcia.org) and we'll fill you in.

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