

THE FIRESTOP

Volume 24, Issue 8

SUCCESS IN THE SUNSHINE STATE

From the stellar location – Amelia Island, FL – to the interactive exhibition with new exhibitor companies, the dynamite agenda, and expert faculty, FIC '22 was arguably one of the most memorable FCIA events in recent history.



Fresh(ish) off the plane from FIC '22, and what can we say, but WOW! Well done, FCIA Program Committee!

The week of learning began Tuesday, November 1, with the 'FCIA Education for the Firestop Exams' education sessions and the FM & UL-ULC Firestop Exams. More than 30 people participated in the half-day education for the Firestop Exams, setting themselves up for future success on these rigorous industry exams. Both the FM & UL-ULC Firestop Exams were well represented, with more than 20 people writing the exams. Whether new company DRIs or company representatives for new third-party accreditation applications, it

was exciting to see so many companies committed to excellence in their industry.

Wednesday, November 2 marked the start of FIC '22. This year's event featured great speakers from The Irishman Speaks, NFPA, ICC, the Door Opening Industry Training Group, the Sage Policy Group, the Photoluminescent Safety Association, and Gallagher Insurance, as well as FCIA Manufacturer Members, UL, FM Approvals, IPEX America, Leadership for Now, Koffel Associates, CTI, and more. Sessions were both informative and entertaining, providing all attendees, both virtual and in-person, with several actionable take-aways. We can all make a difference in fire and life safety through what was learned at FIC '22.

FIC '22 also showcases the firestop industry's commitment to the future of the fire protection

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SUCCESS IN THE SUNSHINE STATE cont'd



FCIA Members Joe Wilkinson (ARC Firestop Solutions) and Don Donnelly (Hailey Insulation) pose with their sponsor signs at the FCIA Memorial Golf Tournament. FCIA Photo



industry through support of the FCIA Memorial Golf Tournament. FCIA Members support this important initiative through sponsorship opportunities, which fund the FCIA President's Memorial Scholarship for third- or fourth-year or graduate-level Fire Protection Engineering students. This year, supporters had the opportunity to support this worthy cause with upgraded sponsorships, like premium wind sail signage, contest sponsorship, beverage cart sponsorship, awards sponsorship, and the real prize, the Golf with the President sponsorship.

For the first time since 2019, the FCIA Memorial Golf Outing saw a full slate. 84 golfers came together at the Oak Marsh Golf Course for the shotgun-start scramble outing. FCIA Contractor Members, Guests, and Manufacturer reps spent 5-hours in the Florida sunshine enjoying the breathtaking (but tough) course, set amid the marshlands, complete with local wildlife cheering them on.

Congratulations to this year's winners:

- 1st Place: Bryant Bickmore, Chad Carr, Jerry Dugan, Jr., and Jeffrey Weretka
- 2nd Place: Dave Augello, Matthew Mercury, Adam Williams, and Tom Yancy
- Longest Drive: Charles Sackett
- Closest to the Pin: Tom Yancy
- Putting Contest: Bryant Bickmore, Chad Carr, Jerry Dugan, Jr., and Jeffrey Weretka

- Most Honest Golfers: Rod Castillo, Conor Cunneen, Steve Ferrence, and Jim Newell

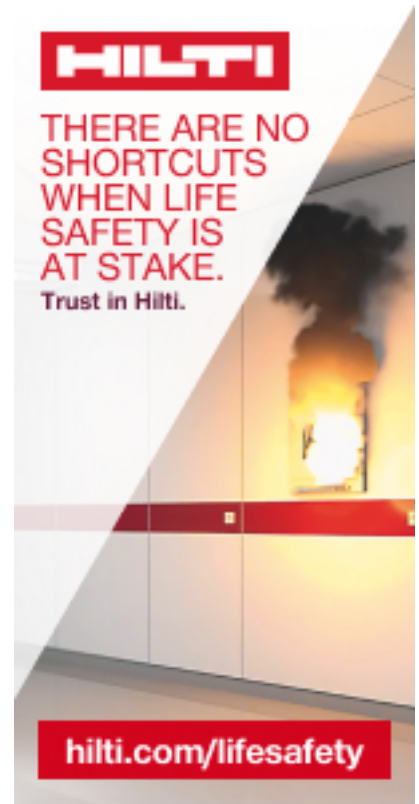
Thursday, November 3 brought the Awards Luncheon, where FCIA Board President Jerry Dugan, Jr. recognized outstanding FCIA Members for their exemplary service to both FCIA and the industry. Although this event has historically been presented in several different formats, from a plated awards luncheon to a plated awards dinner with entertainment, this year's event was held as a working lunch format, so as to include FIC '22 virtual attendees.

Among those honored were Jay McGuire and Tracy Smith, recognized with the Outgoing Board Member Award for their outstanding service on the FCIA Board of Directors. Both Smith and McGuire had expiring Board terms. Jay McGuire had served on the Board since 2015. Tracy Smith had served since 2012.

Also honored was Gus Mancini, who was recognized with the



Golf with the President sponsors, Florida Firestop Systems, put their support to good use and took home the top prize. FCIA Photo



SUCCESS IN THE SUNSHINE STATE cont'd

Industry Development Award. This new award recognizes the FCIA Membership Ambassador, the individual who has brought the most, new members to FCIA throughout the year.

Gus Mancini was also awarded with the Outstanding Service Award for his work in his first year as an FCIA Board Member, from Chairing a new Sub-Committee investigating the ASTM Firestop Inspection Standards, to his work as a steward for FCIA, recruiting and forming partnerships in the industry to benefit fire and life safety and FCIA.

Dugan, Jr. was pleased to award a second Outstanding Service Award to Tyler Ferguson for his work in developing and continuing to grow and finesse the FCIA Certificate of

Achievement Education Program (FCAEP). His work as one of the main driving forces behind the vision and creation of the FCAEP Program has taken the educational content to the next level in a way that sticks and is why Ferguson was honored with the award for the second year in a row.

Next up was the Award of Excellence, which was awarded to Ben Urcavich for his work promoting FCIA around the world. He has been a frequent ambassador for FCIA. From working the FCIA Trade Show booth, traveling across the pond to visit with potential partners in Ireland, the UK, and Germany, and participating in numerous video conferences with groups in India, Australia, New Zealand, the Middle East, Latin America, and beyond, Ben's understanding of the global firestop and barrier management industry bring the FCIA Board and Association an amazing perspective for future growth.

The final award was the Presidential Award, one of FCIA's most prestigious awards and not necessarily given out each year.

FCIA Member Gus Mancini (Gleeson Powers) accepts the new FCIA Industry Development Award from 2022 FCIA Board President, Jerry Dugan, Jr. FCIA Photo



FCIA Charter Member, Scott Rankin (American National Insulation dba Insulation Contractors), accepts the FCIA Presidential Award. FCIA Photo



Family members watch as their loved ones are recognized during the FCIA Awards Lunch. FCIA Photo



2022 FCIA Board President, Jerry Dugan, Jr. hands over the gavel to incoming 2023 Board President, Tyler Ferguson. FCIA Photo



SUCCESS IN THE SUNSHINE STATE cont'd

This year's recipient was Scott Rankin, recognized for 20 years of service as an Officer, Director, and Committee Member in support of FCIA and its Members. He is a Charter Member who attended the first FCIA Conference at UL in January 1999, and since then, has not missed an FCIA Conference. He is a Past President, who came back to the FCIA Board of Directors to provide continuity and a calm voice of reason to the Board, as well as a steady hand on the Finance Committee. Also recognized was Scott's ability to mentor new Board members, his complete knowledge of FCIA, and his unending passion for the firestop industry. This award could not have been more well-deserved.

The week's events were capped off with an amazing beach bash complete with footwear-optional, Hawaiian shirt-required attire, beach bonfires, smores, beach games, good friends, and libations galore.

Among the founding principles of FCIA are a commitment to building a body of knowledge (FCIA MOP & Certificate of Achievement Program), to developing programs that separate Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors from those that don't respect listings (FM 4991 Approved

& UL-ULC Qualified Firestop Contractor Programs), to promoting the importance of proper inspection and maintaining protection. The final principle was that there should be somewhere that people in the same industry can build career-long relationships, and nowhere was that more realized than at FIC '22. From the bevy of spouses and kids sitting in the back of the room during the awards lunch to the mass of kids running around at the FCIA Annual Back to the Beach Bash Dinner, it's clear that FCIA is more than just an Association...it's a big, supportive, extended family.

Education, Knowledge, Relationships. That's what FIC and FCIA are all about.

Many thanks to the FCIA Program and Golf Committees for putting together such a wonderful program, and to FCIA's Cathy Burns and Lindsey Dutkiewicz for managing the many details that made FIC '22, the Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show, a success. Thanks, also, to Rich Walke (CTI) for once again partnering to provide the 'Education for the Firestop Exams' sessions, as well as his wealth of expertise and knowledge of Codes and Standards and history to our attendees. And, finally, thanks to the FIC '22 faculty who all came together to collaborate and deliver truly top-notch education and content for the attendees.

Watch [FCIA.org](https://www.fcia.org) Events Page for information on the upcoming ECA '23 Conference, heading to New Orleans next May 9-12, 2023!!



First-time FIC Exhibitors, Dolt, Revelation Door Inspections, and National Guard Products (NGP), meet potential customers during the FIC '22 Trade Show. FCIA Photo



Paul Grein (FGH Insulation Co.), embraces the Back to the Beach Bash theme, while Lee Levy (Commercial Fireproofing & Insulation, LP) looks on. FCIA Photo



Conor Cunneen (The Irishman Speaks) entertains and educates on 'The Gift of GAB' during the FIC '22 keynote session. FCIA Photo

FCIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

The FCIA Board of Directors is a group of elected Contractor member volunteers who have chosen to give back to the industry and Association through serving on the Board, participating on Committee(s), and more.

Each Fall, elections are held, where Voting Contractor and Special Inspection Agency members cast their votes to fill vacant Board positions. This year, votes were cast to fill TWO Board positions for those Directors who were rolling off:

Tracy Smith (Firestop Southwest) and Jay McGuire (Fire Stop Technologies, Inc.).

Congrats to Jay McGuire (Fire Stop Technologies, Inc.) and Joe Wilkinson (ARC Firestop Solutions) on their being elected by the FCIA Membership for a three-year term, which begins January 2023.

Many thanks to Director Tracy Smith (Firestop Southwest), who rotates off the board after 13 years of service. He is Chair of Code Committee, Vice Chair of the Inspection and Standards Committees, Co-Vice Chair of the Accreditation Committee, and is involved in the Education and Life Safety Digest Committees. His actions, vision, and participation will continue at the Committee level. Thank you for your many years of Board service, Tracy.

FCIA BOARD MEETS WITH IFC

FCIA and IFC leadership meet prior to FCIA Conferences.

At FCIA's FIC '22 Conference, the Board of Directors and International Firestop Council leadership met to discuss the construction and firestopping economy in '23/'24, issues at ASTM, and future building code development processes.

FCIA and IFC leadership meet prior to FCIA Conferences, providing insights for planning current and future development and initiatives for the firestop and effective compartmentation industry.



2023 FCIA Board of Directors: Jay McGuire (Director), Scott Rankin (Director), Mark Dietz (Director), Tyler Ferguson (President), Jerry Dugan, Jr. (Past President), Ben Urcavich (Past Past President), Gus Mancini (Director), Alan Mcdurmon (Director), Joe Wilkinson (Director).

FCIA AT ASTM MEETINGS

This October, FCIA Standards Committee Chair, Jay McGuire, and FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, travelled to this Fall's ASTM Meetings in New Orleans, LA.

While there, the two met with manufacturer and inspection agency personnel.

Discussions included ASTM E2174, ASTM E2393 Firestop Inspection Standard adjustments, changing ASTM E3038 to reflect that the individual is the scope of the Inspector Qualification Standard, and much more. Key elements like physical property standards – movement of penetrating items or the assembly – and exposure of firestop materials to various environmental conditions were debated.

Congrats to 3M's Samantha Peterson and Code Red Consultants' Max French for becoming the Co-Chairs of the ASTM E06.21 Subcommittee. The Chairs oversee the task groups.



NEW ASTM FIRESTOP IDENTIFICATION STANDARD

FCIA Standards Chair Jay McGuire is leading the charge for an ASTM Firestop Identification Standard (Labeling).

Fire doors, fire and smoke dampers, and gypsum wallboard are all identified by factory-stamped product markings referring to the listings. Firestopping is not because it's field fabricated. Having the system (listing) number at the penetration, joint, or perimeter fire containment assembly speeds special inspection and maintenance in new construction and through the building life cycle.

We hope to ballot the document in January '23.

FCIA & THE UL MACC CERTIFICATE

Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors looking to provide additional value to Building Owners should look at the UL Master Certificate of Compliance (MACC).

The project-specific MACC is sold by the Specialty Firestop Installation Contractor to the Building Owner. Issued after a successful onsite UL Audit of the firestop installation contractor management system, the Master Certificate of Compliance provides assurance to the Building Owner that processes were followed at that specific jobsite. Because it is annually renewable after the Specialty Firestop Installation Contractor

visually inspects the building, the MACC Certificate provides Fire Marshals evidence of compliance with the International Fire Code requirement for annual visual inspection of firestopping.

Interested? Email Ruben.SandovalJr@ul.com or Mark.St.Onge@UL.com for details.

Upcoming Events

November 16	FCIA Webinar
November 24-25	FCIA Office Closed
December 14	FCIA Webinar

FIRESTOP EDUCATION FOR THE VANCOUVER CONSTRUCTION MARKET

FCIA's Firestop Symposium in Vancouver was another blockbuster program focused on Canadian content.

This October, FCIA was thrilled to return to in-person events in Canada with the FCIA Existing Building Fire-Resistance Symposium. The event, which is held annually, moves around Canada and provides fire-resistance education specific to the building industry in Canada. This year marked the first time the event had ever been held in Vancouver, a market with a



Bill McHugh addresses the Vancouver attendees on the importance of maintaining installed firestop systems. FCIA Photo

booming construction market and a critical need for education on the proper 'DIIM' of firestopping.

Sessions brought together industry experts who collaborated on content-rich programs that focused on various elements of fire-resistance, from Rich Walke and Bill McHugh's programs on firestopping and effective compartmentation, Codes, and Standards,



'Firestopping Basics for Combustible Pipes' panelists field a question from the audience. FCIA Photo

to programs on MWT/CLT and Firestopping, Firestopping Basics for Combustible Pipes, Perimeter Fire Containment, and the importance of proper 'D'esign and 'I'nstallation of firestop systems.

With almost 100 attending, Canada-based Firestop Contractors, Code Officials, Fire Marshals, Architects, and Specifiers brought great questions to an expert lineup of speakers.

Presentations and the event program can be found online in the Presentations Archive at www.FCIA.org.

Stay tuned to www.FCIA.org for more information on the Canada '23 event.



Canada-based Firestop Contractors, Code Officials, Fire Marshals, Architects, Specifiers, and Manufacturer Reps listen during the Canada Symposium. FCIA Photo

FCIA CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT EDUCATION PROGRAM (FCAEP)

FCAEP Certificates AND the FM 4991 Approved and/or UL-ULC Qualified Firestop Contractor Program differentiates contractors from the competition.

The FCAEP also provides evidence to FM and UL that training takes place at your company.



FCIA Firestop Installation Contractor members are buying in on the [FCIA Certificate of Achievement Program](#). The \$1,000 Annual Subscription for Level 1 and Level 2 Courses is a bargain – considering the deep firestop technical content in the program.

NEW UL MANUFACTURER EJ DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

At FCIA's FIC '22 Conference, FCIA Member Firestop Product Manufacturers and UL presented a new program for improving the engineering judgment development process.

The program, called the UL Technical Evaluation Developer Program for Engineering Judgements, was developed with Firestop Manufacturer input and has some similarities to the UL Contractor Qualification Programs. Requirements include EJ development procedures, EJ developer training and continuing education, random testing of EJs by manufacturers/UL, and a lot more.

This evolving "Technical Evaluation" program is now available with most features already in place. Watch for more as we learn it.



Panelists for 'The UL Technical Evaluation Developer Program for Engineering Judgements' tell FIC '22 attendees about the new program. FCIA Photo

FIRE DOORS - FIRESTOP CONTRACTOR ENTRY INTO EXISTING BUILDINGS?

Fire doors are seen every day at buildings. Facility Directors know they need to inspect fire doors every year.

At FCIA's FIC Conference, Laura Frye-Weaver and Paul Anderson teamed up to present about annual fire door inspections and NFPA 80's requirements.

For those Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors not familiar with this discipline, the 4-day education program from the Door Opening Industry Training Group (DoIT) is a great way to get fluent.



Paul Anderson (Revelation Door Inspections) presents with Laura Frye Weaver at FIC '22. FCIA Photo



Laura Frye Weaver covers NFPA 80 requirements for annual fire door inspections at FIC '22. FCIA Photo

Fire doors are your opportunity to get into the building Facility Director's office. Once you've gotten your in the door (pun intended), remind them about the International Fire Code requirements for annual visual inspection of all firestopping and fire-resistance-rated and smoke-resistive systems. Your company is already there, which means efficiencies for the Building Owner or Manager having to hire this service. Becoming an expert in this additional fire safety discipline ultimately provides value for your customer, making you an invaluable member of their building safety team.

BARRIER MANAGEMENT SERVICES SECTION

Who is best to review the Firestopping, Fire Doors, Fire Dampers, Fire-Resistance-Rated Walls/Floors, and Fire-Rated Glazing in existing buildings?

FCIA Firestop Contractor Members of course! Market your company as a Barrier Management Services company and differentiate your company from the competition.

For only \$195 USD, FCIA Members can add a Barrier Management Services listing to their member listing and be found in the Barrier Management Services section at [FCIA.org](https://www.fcia.org).

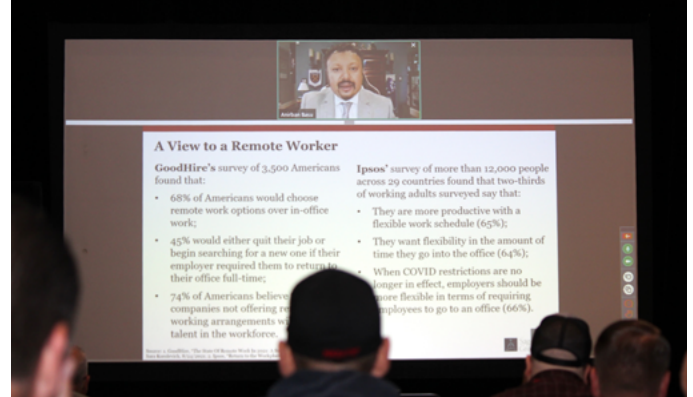
CONSTRUCTION ECONOMY FORECAST FOR '23/'24

One of the annual highlights of the FIC Conference is the session on the current and forecasted economic climate around the world.

The humor-laced session presented by Anirban Basu (Sage Policy Group), an independent Economist who consults to the Associated Builders and Contractors Trade Association, provides top-level economic data and analysis that's both easily digestible and comprehensive.

Anirban's Bond-themed 'No Time to Buy' program stated there's concern on the horizon for the construction industry. FCIA Leaders pointed out that because Firestop Contractor market-share is 50-60%, there is still 'Room to Grow' versus self-performers in a slower construction economy.

Building Owners and Managers continue to learn about their responsibility in maintaining fire-resistance protection in



Anirban Basu (Sage Policy Group) joined the group virtually to deliver his Bond-themed session on the economic forecast for 2023. FCIA Photo

existing buildings. FCIA continues to write articles, present to outside groups, and submit presentation opportunities to educate Building Owners and Managers about maintaining protection in existing buildings.

FM 4991 APPROVED & UL-ULC QFCP CONTRACTOR GROWTH

Specifications exist, and some AHJs request FM 4991 Approved or UL-ULC Qualified Firestop Contractors.

When FCIA first approached FM Approvals and UL about building contractor accreditation programs (the [FM 4991 Approved](#) and [UL-ULC Qualified Firestop Contractor](#) Programs), there was no such thing available in the marketplace.

Now, with over 200 [FM 4991 Approved](#) or [UL-ULC Qualified Firestop Contractors](#) available, the programs are well accepted globally. They are widely specified and accepted as the preferred benchmark in the marketplace for determining competence.

Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors who pursue third-party accreditation stand out as being among the best in the industry and set themselves apart from those who do not specialize in the firestop and effective compartmentation industry. Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors around the world see the value in these third-party accreditation programs, and now, so does the marketplace.

Don't miss out, [Get Accredited](#) ASAP and make your company better at firestopping.



EDUCATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES '22 

'FCIA in Action'

Wednesday, December 14
10:00 am - 11:00 am CST



NEW MEMBER
Welcome



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

- DB Contractors Inc. - Andover, MA
- Elite Fire Stop LLC - Southbury, CT
- Firestop Solutions of Iowa - Tiffin, IA

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 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. Questions? Email cathy@fcia.org and we'll fill you in.



Platinum Level Sponsors



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