

THE FIRESTOP

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WHAT WILL YOU FIND AT ECA '23?

The better question is what WON'T you find at ECA '23?

ECA '23, the [FCIA Education & Committee Action Conference](#), packs up and heads to **New Orleans, LA** this **May 9-12**. Only five weeks remain until we're bringing the firestop industry the education, testing, networking, jazz, crawfish, and everything else the Big Easy (and FCIA) has to offer.

So, what will you find at ECA '23?

Your Expertise. Attend [education sessions](#) with industry experts on a wide-range of topics related to the firestop industry.

Establish yourself as a firestop expert by taking the [FM & UL-ULC Firestop Exams](#) and pursuing [third-party accreditation programs](#). Arm yourself with knowledge, and fill your arsenal with industry designations that speak to your expertise.

Your Voice. Speak up and advocate for your industry on the issues and topics that affect you. Put your talents to use on the [FCIA Committee](#) that plays to your strengths.

Your Tribe. Network with peers and customers from around North American who share your passion for this industry. You'll be surrounded by other fire and life safety warriors who are just like you, individuals and companies who suit up daily to improve fire and life safety in buildings around the world.

What will you find at ECA '23?
Your future.

What are you waiting for? [Register Now](#)
**Early Bird and Hotel Discounts end April 17.*



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FCIA NEW MEMBER WELCOME

THE ICC CODE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The International Code Council (ICC) recently announced and launched the 2027 ICC Code Development process with its 17 Code Action Committees (CAC's).

The [International Code Council](#) (ICC) develops the International Codes, a coordinated, modern set of building codes used worldwide. Changes to the I-Codes are made through a transparent and inclusive consensus-based process that includes perspectives from all sectors affected by the codes. This creates a set of well-rounded, universal regulations that protect the health, safety, and welfare of people through creating safe buildings and communities around the world.

Stage one of the process involves appointing members to the Code Development Committees, the Code Action Committees (CACs), which preside over the Committee Action Hearings (CAH). Anyone can apply to serve on one of the 17 Code Committees, though appointments are ultimately made by the ICC Board. Members must fall into one of three interest categories: General



(government regulatory agencies), User (building owners, designers, inspection agencies, etc.), or Producer (builders, contractors, manufacturers, distributors). One-third of the committee's members must be public safety officials.

FCIA recently participated in two CAC subcommittees – Passive Fire Protection and Electrification (Electric vehicles, batteries, etc.). Both subcommittees will have discussions over the next several months leading up to the ICC Code Development Submissions, due in January 8, 2024.

On the passive fire protection subcommittee, topics like performance-based structural fire design, air sealing at fire-resistance-rated walls, creating a term for perimeter fire containment systems in the code so the standard name can change at ASTM, corridor continuity, exterior wall systems, fire classification of roofing, fire separation distances, and other topics were discussed.

The FCIA Code development team of Bill Koffel, Rich Walke, and Bill McHugh and the Code Committee are hard at work getting ready for a busy code development season, deciding on what code proposals might make sense for FCIA. Among the issues that the group hopes to address are firestop marking systems (labels, tags, etc.) and the firestop installation and inspection quality process.

Attend [ECA '23](#), the [FCIA Education & Committee Action Conference](#), this May 9-12 in New Orleans, LA for a full report of the process and FCIA's industry initiatives, as well as the open [FCIA Code Committee](#) Meeting.



Upcoming Events

April 11-13	IFMA Facility Fusion
April 12	FCIA Webinar
April 16-19	ASTM E06 Meetings
May 9-12	ECA '23
May 17	FCIA Webinar
May 24-28	CSC Conference



'The Standards Development Process'

Wednesday, April 12
10:00 am - 11:30 am CDT



FCIA BRINGS THE FIELD PERSPECTIVE TO ASTM

Every 6 months, FCIA's Standards Committee travels to face-to-face ASTM meetings, which provides the opportunity for FCIA to bring the field perspective to the Standards Development Process.

The new M-Movement Rating for penetration firestopping was the result of an FCIA request to the firestop product manufacturers to address movement from water hammer vibration, thermal movement, and movement from a floor above where the wall might not be moving.



The ASTM E2174 and ASTM E2393 Firestop Inspection Standards were the result of a FCIA ECA Conference question, which turned into an initiative from the FCIA Standards Committee to develop inspection standards, then the Code Committee set about adding to the IBC.

The new Label standard under development at ASTM? Another FCIA initiative derived from the FCIA Recommended Professional Practice for the Identification of Fire-Resistance-Rated and Smoke-Resistant Penetration and Joint Firestopping Systems.

Thanks to FCIA Standards Committee leaders for travelling to make these meetings and keep the field perspective in the standards development process.



THE M-MOVEMENT RATING

The relatively new M-Rating, which speaks to movement of a penetrating item relative to the barrier, is based on ASTM E3037.

You've likely heard about this standard from manufacturer partners, which addresses the movement of penetrating items relative to the barrier they are penetrating. The penetrating item can move perpendicular to or in the plane of the barrier.

A system receives an M-Rating after undergoing extensive fire testing where the penetrating item is subjected to movement through the barrier, followed by standard fire and hose stream tests to determine if the system meets the rating criteria. The M-Rating will specify the movement capabilities of the

system. For M-Ratings within the plane, the rating is based on a percentage of the minimum annular space of the field installation. Those M-Ratings perpendicular to the barrier are based on a dimension.

In general, the fire tests are conducted to simulate real world applications and use of the systems. It is unrealistic to expect the M-Rated firestop systems to be able to handle someone jumping on pipes. This would be considered extreme movement. Plus, because the UL Product iQ specifies that the piping is to be 'rigidly supported', movement of the penetrating item should be minimal; however, there IS movement, as was pointed out to FCIA by a structural engineer almost 15 years ago.

As this "new" M-Rating becomes more widely specified, watch for new requirements for these types of M-Rated Firestop Systems. If the movement is not quantified, put in an RFI to understand how much movement is anticipated where the penetrating item passes through a breach in the fire-resistance-rated wall assembly.

THE BARRIER MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUMS - STILL GOING STRONG

The FCIA Barrier Management Symposium (BMS) – customized for healthcare facility directors and others – started as the FCIA Total Fire Containment Symposium (TFCS) for Code Officials and Fire Marshals.

The first Total Fire Containment Symposium (TFCS) took place at FCIA's 2005 Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show in San Diego, CA. The following year, FCIA hosted their 2nd TFCS at UL's Headquarters in Northbrook, IL.

Since then, the Total Fire Containment Symposium has grown and

changed into the [FCIA Barrier Management Symposium \(BMS\)](#), now focusing on educating healthcare facility directors and their personnel on the various aspects of Barrier Management. The development of this new curriculum was done with FCIA BMS partners UL Solutions, The Joint Commission (TJC), the American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE), FCIA, and our partner speakers.

Over the last 18 years, the BMS programs have educated thousands throughout North America. ASHE even filmed the sessions and made them available to watch for FREE on the ASHE website. Pieces of the program have been produced internationally as well.

And the program is still going strong. FCIA travels to Miami, FL for another BMS for the Florida Fire Marshals Association April 4. It is an honor to have the opportunity to provide fire-resistance education to those who help keep people safe in buildings.

Interested in hosting a BMS for your local ASHE Chapter, municipality, or others? [Contact FCIA Staff](#) to inquire about availability.

FIND LSD AT IFMA FACILITY FUSION IN SAN FRANCISCO

Extraordinary times call for extraordinary leaders.

With sweeping changes in work and workplace, it's imperative for facility management professionals to lead their organizations to higher levels of performance and experience.



Hosted by the association that has provided training, knowledge sharing, and support to FMs globally for more than 40 years, [IFMA's Facility Fusion](#) is about building future-ready leadership skills. It's about exploring what's possible – for facilities, the industry, and careers. It's about synthesizing ideas and industries for a new world of work. It's about fusing methods and mindsets from both within and outside of FM to find answers. It's about having the tools to adapt to rapid change.

And FCIA and Life Safety Digest will be right there to support FMs and their organizations with partnership and information. It's about teamwork, and FCIA is proud to partner with IFMA for this important event.



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

- Architectural Coatings - St. Petersburg, FL
- Firestop Specialties, Inc. - Santa Clara, CA

FCIA New International Contractor Members

- Hasaad Economic Construction Co. - Jeddah, KSA

FCIA New International Contractor Branch Members

- Fire Prevention Safety Engineering Co. - Riyadh, KSA
- FSIME Contracting - Cairo, Egypt

FCIA New Associate Members

- Budinger & Associates - Spokane Valley, WA
- Cowtown Materials - Fort Worth, TX
- Malama Inspection - Honolulu, HI

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